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HENDERSON, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 23, 1941

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FIVE CENTS COPY

Picturing Chaotic Russian Retreat, Axis Reports

50 Red Divisions Destroyed

U. S.-Owned Merchantman Sunk Off Iceland Over Million Troops Dead Or Captured

Germans Say Sinking Was Within Law

U. S. State Department Gives No Hint as to How Vessel Met Her End; Nazis Say No Specific Word of Sinking Received.

Washington, Sept. 23.—(AP)—The sea war added another American-owned merchantman to its toll today and the capital wondered whether this latest challenge to President Roosevelt's slogan on sight order which barred the "defensive waters" of the United States to all Nazi raiders.

The newest victim was the freighter Pink Star, owned by the United States maritime commission and under Panama registry.

The Pink Star went down last Friday night, the State department disclosed, and she met her end south of Iceland in the same

Berlin, Sept. 23.—(AP)—Authorized German sources expressed the opinion today that whatever happened to the American-owned steamer Pink Star "it was done in accordance with the laws of war."

They said, however, that no German submarines or other overseas craft had specifically reported the sinking of the Panama-registered Pink Star, but added that messages had been received concerning sinkings out of a big convoy.

"The vessel was Panamanian, not United States," an authorized source declared, "and we have not heard yet that Panama is part of the United States. The vessel was sunk in waters clearly defined as a German operations area."

These sources declared that Secretary of State Cordell Hull drove America another step nearer war with his statement yesterday that the United States neutrality act should be changed.

(Hull told reporters at a press conference that he and President Roosevelt had said at the time the neutrality law was enacted that it would be as likely to get the United States into war as to keep it out.)

Waters that witnessed the loss of two other American-owned vessels and the unsuccessful submarine attack on the U. S. destroyer Greer.

The announcement of the Pink Star sinking was silent on several details. Nothing was said about the fate of the 24 men in her crew and whether they were rescued or not.

The location of the ship's sinking, however, was definitely placed some 250 miles south of Iceland on the corridor of sea communications which Mr. Roosevelt specifically has ordered the Navy to keep clear.

The ship had no American citizens in her crew.

Texas Coast Is Threatened By Hurricane

Port O'Connor, Tex., Sept. 23.—(AP)—A rapidly dropping barometer and a rising gale blew in dust up to 60 miles an hour at daybreak today indicated a Coast Guard observer here that a howling tropical hurricane was bearing down on this highly exposed gulf coast fishing village.

The United States weather bureau's advisory at 2:30 a. m. (CST) placed the center of the disturbance about 185 miles northeast of Brownsville, moving northwestward. Barometer at Coast Guard stations at

In Doghouse, Honest



Missing for five hours and believed kidnapped, 2½-year-old Helen Erkikila emerges from the doghouse on the Pawling, N. Y., estate of radio commentator Lowell Thomas, where she had retired for a peaceful nap. Her father serves as a butler in the Thomas establishment.

Battleship Is Launched

Secretary Knox Urges Neutrality Act Repeal at Launching of New Warship.

Quincy, Mass., Sept. 23.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox today watched the huge 35,000-ton battleship Massachusetts slide down the ways of the Fore River shipyard and then declared to a crowd of thousands attending the launching that the neutrality act was "crippling the efforts of this country and should be immediately repealed."

"There should be no handicap on those who are trying to keep war away from these shores," the Navy secretary shouted.

"We must waste no time in repealing the neutrality act."

The mighty Massachusetts was launched without a slip up.

The keel of a new cruiser, the U. S. S. Flint, was laid on the spot just vacated by the Massachusetts before the bow of the battleship had entered the water.

Knox asserted that recent events in the Russian front had made "the prospect of victory dim."

He did not elaborate on this except to say that the casualties in Russia were greater than in any other conflict in history and that the fighting in Russia had "a direct bearing on our own situation."

He said it was possible that the battleship just launched might have to "participate in another fight for human liberty."

The Massachusetts and other battleships launched and building would carry the heaviest guns of any ships afloat and would participate in the job handed to the Navy of "seeing that the sea lanes between this country and Great Britain are kept free," he said.

At the same time, however, members said Stettinius explained that it was not the policy of the government now to aid Russia through the lend-lease program, but emphasized a view of the uncertainty of the future any restrictive provisions would be especially undesirable.

Neutrality Repeal Held Act Of War

Senator Norris Expresses Doubt That Congress Would Approve War Declaration; Fish to Present War Resolution Next Week.

Washington, Sept. 23.—(AP)—Senator Norris, Independent, Nebraska, admitted today that repeal of the neutrality act "would mean war" and he voiced his doubts that Congress would approve a declaration of war at the present time.

On the question of a declaration of war, Representative Fish, Republican, New York, was ready with the prediction that the House would "let it down" more than 2 to 1. He announced he intended to seek a showdown next week with a resolution calling for immediate war with Germany.

Norris made it clear that he intended the policy the administration had pursued regarding freedom of the seas. The United States, he remarked, could not recognize any German attempts "to map off the oceans and tell us where we can and cannot go."

The veteran Nebraskan, only surviving member who cast a Senate vote against this country's entrance in the last war, confidently has supported the administration in foreign affairs. He emphasized to reporters today that he thought all possible aid should be given to Great Britain and Russia.

Nevertheless, he contended that "changing the neutrality act to send our ships to belligerent ports would mean war. And if we decided to arm merchant ships that might give Hitler a right to sink them under international law."

Three Killed In Rail Crash

San Francisco, Sept. 23.—(AP)—A heavy freight engine running without cars collided head on with the crack Western Pacific Exposition Flyer in a terrific crash some 40 miles west of here late last night. Three trainmen died and ten other persons, seven of them passengers, were injured.

Engineer Frank Huff and Fireman A. A. Lowen, both of Oakland, were crushed and burned to death in the fire's engine. Oscar Lane, of Oakland, baggageman on the flyer, died in a hospital.

The roadbed was torn up for 300 feet, the rails bent like hairpins and the engines a tangled mass of smoking steel.

Nazis Report Red Offensive

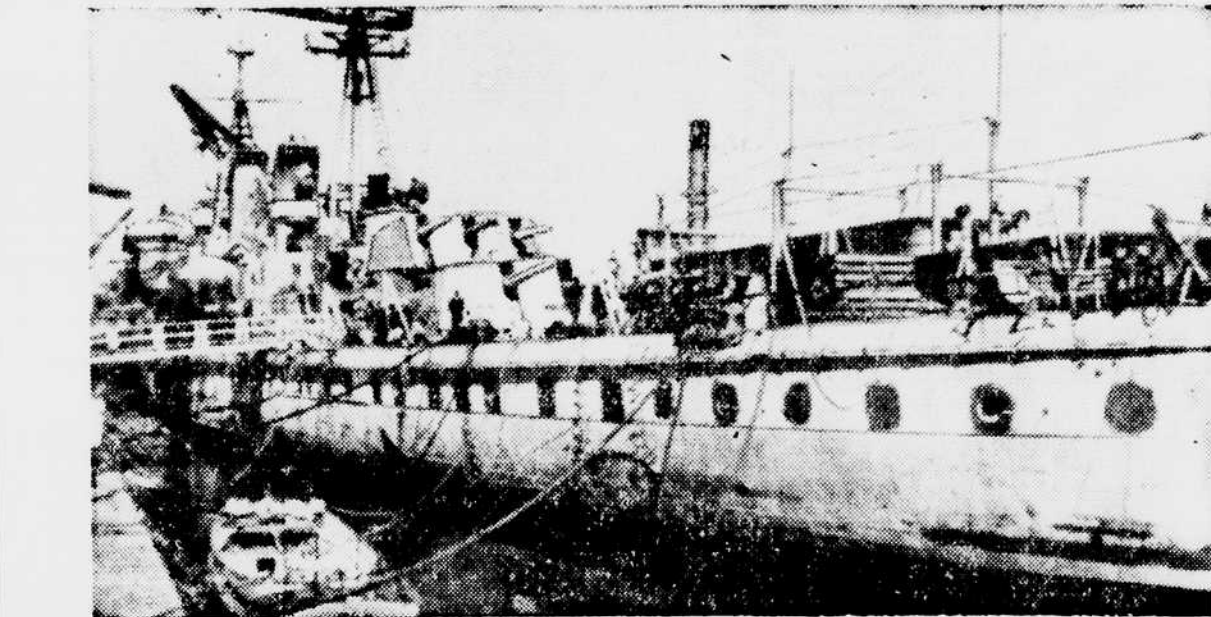
Berlin, Sept. 23.—(AP)—Simultaneous Russian counter-offensives in the north, central and southern sectors were reported in German war dispatches tonight for the first time, although all three were declared to have been repulsed with 300,000 prisoners already taken in the encirclement area carved out by the Germans east of Kiev.

These captures, announced by the high command in a special communique, overshadowed the Soviet counter-thrusts as far as Germany was concerned.

No details of any of the Russian attacks were given except their locations: the Leningrad sector in the north, east of Smolensk in the center and around Poltava in the south, 180 miles southeast of Kiev.

DNB said "Russian advances far east of Smolensk collapsed under German fire."

British Warship Repaired in California



Struck by an Italian aerial torpedo near Crete, the British cruiser Liverpool is shown at the Mare Island navy yard in Vallejo, Cal., where it has been repaired and is ready for return to service. The 8,100-ton warship is one of twelve British fighting ships in United States yards.

SHIP STRIKE SPREADS

Rural Housing Program Is Approved

Raleigh, Sept. 23.—(AP)—The Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority today asked the utilities commission for a certificate of convenience and necessity to allow housing projects to be built in eleven rural counties.

D. L. Ward of New Bern, attorney for the authority, said the Federal government already had allocated \$1,050,000 for the work, which he described as the first rural housing program in the country.

Under present plans \$550,000 of the total would be used for rural houses and \$500,000 would be used for houses in towns of less than 5,000 persons.

Ward predicted that work would begin within 60 days.

Washington, Sept. 23.—(AP)—The United States Housing Authority announced today President Roosevelt had approved United States Housing Authority appropriations totaling \$15,779,600 to provide new homes for 5,000 low income families by construction of them clearance projects in 36 cities and 52 rural counties.

Among the projects approved was Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority, 250 units and \$395,000.

WINDSOBS AT MIAMI
Miami, Sept. 23.—(AP)—The Duke and Duchess of Windsor received Miami by chartered plane today on the first leg of a six weeks tour of the United States and Canada and were greeted by the cheers of several thousand Miamiites.

A meeting in Wayne, probably at Goldsboro, will be held in the very near future to work out final plans for the undertaking which has already been broached and which has secured the endorsement of many local groups.

Back of the whole thing is the universally acknowledged need for improved nutrition. The defense emergency has put into bold relief the fact that a tremendous percentage of the people are undernourished either from lack of enough food or lack of knowledge of the proper food: essential to good diet and good health.

And so the leaders of the State Health Coordinating Service recently set out to see what can be accomplished by a concerted effort on the part of all existing agencies which might be brought into a campaign for proper nutrition.

The State Board of Health, the Department of Public Instruction, the Rural Electrification Authority,

SHIFT ANNOUNCED IN CLOCK CHANGE

Raleigh, Sept. 23.—(AP)—Governor Brroughton asserted today that if North Carolina goes on a daylight saving time basis next summer "it should do so as part of a daylight saving time measure "on a national basis."

The governor made the assertion in announcing a shift in the changing from daylight saving time to eastern standard time from midnight September 28 to 2 a. m. September 28.

Movie Chain Owns British Interests

Washington, Sept. 23.—(AP)—President Franklin D. Roosevelt today announced that the movie chain owned by the Gaumont-British chain of theatres and owned by seven Australian and three Canadian interests.

The testimony was before a Senate subcommittee investigating alleged war propaganda in the movies. The committee previously heard charges that the British picture industry had a vast stake in a British picture.

Schick testified after Senator Dwayne Davis, Democrat, California, had led the committee through the motion picture industry to see if it could be developed as other government property.

Chairman E. A. Tamm, Democrat, Indiana, had been questioning the industry.

The union has sought unspecified bonuses for its men who go into war zones and has demanded \$50 a month bonus for its troops to the West Indies.

At the same time a Seafarers International Union official said Atlantic and Gulf port units would vote in a resolution authorizing a general strike referendum.

At San Diego, American Federation of Labor machinists, announcing the strike vote, said that a conference with Major R. L. Fleck, president of Consolidated Aircraft Corporation, had failed to settle the union's demand for a flat 10-cent hourly wage increase for workers not covered by a minimum pay raise for beginners.

Washington, Sept. 23.—(AP)—On the basis of observations up to 3:30 a. m., the weather bureau issued today this supplementary warning on the storm in the Atlantic ocean off North Carolina.

"The Atlantic storm was central at 1 a. m. (EST) about 35 degrees north and longitude 73 degrees 30 minutes west, or about 120 miles east of Cape Hatteras, moving northward at a little north northeastward about 14 miles per hour, attended by gales near center and strong winds over a wide area."

23 Vessels Now Idle

Maritime Commission Offers to Sponsor Parley; Plane Workers Take Strike Vote.

(By The Associated Press)

A seamen's strike kept more than a score of ships needed for defense and less-land aid riding at anchor today and American Federation of Labor machinists reported a strike vote was being taken at a big west coast bomber plant.

The maritime commission offered to sponsor conferences at Washington in an effort to end a dispute over war bonuses on various sea trades routes—and brought in reply an appeal by the New York unit of the Seafarers International Union (AFU) to President Roosevelt to investigate the commission's "anti-labor activities."

The eleven-day old strike spread to three more vessels in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico last night and Secretary John Hawk of the Seafarers International Union said 23 ships were idle.

Chairman Emory S. Land, sending the commission's offer of aid to unions representing unlicensed personnel unions as well as to ship operators, said the strike was disrupting shipping so vitally needed for national defense and all out aid to them craves."

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London, Sept. 23.—(AP)—Three million Germans—one-third of the Nazi army—have been killed, wounded or are missing after three months of war with Russia, Soviet Ambassador Ivan M. Maisky declared today in an address before the American Chamber of Commerce.

The German high command's announcement last week concerning German losses was "utterly ridiculous," he said.

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Over Million Troops Dead Or Captured

Italian News Agency Declares Russians Fleeing From Dnieper River to New Defense Line of East Bank of Don River.

(By The Associated Press.)

Adolf Hitler's high command today reported the destruction of 50 Soviet army divisions—about 750,000 troops—and the capture of 380,000 prisoners in the bloody trap 125 miles east of Kiev, while Italian dispatches pictured scenes of chaotic retreat by Russian armies in the Ukraine.

The commander in chief of the Soviet fifth army was listed among the prisoners.

The official Italian news agency said that Red troops hurled back from the Dnieper river were fleeing in disorder without artillery toward a new defense line on the east bank of the Don river.

If true, this would mean a huge scale retreat and the abandonment of the great Dnieper river industrial basin.

The news agency quoted prisoners as saying that Marshal Budennyk, commander in chief of the Ukraine forces, had been relieved by his command and temporarily replaced by Marshal Timoshenko, who commanded the central front.

Hitler's field headquarters, in a special bulletin on the fighting east of Kiev, said German troops slashing into four entrapped Russian armies had already captured 570 tanks, 2,100 guns and great stores of other war booty.

Authoritative military quarters in London, acknowledging that the Soviet armies in the south faced "an uglier situation" than ever before in the 94-day old struggle, declared nevertheless that a more optimistic outlook was developing on the northern front.

Second Leningrad, the British said, the situation was not unfavorable, and north of Leningrad on the Karelian isthmus the Russians were said to be holding the German-aided Finns on approximately the line of the pre-1940 frontier.

In the Ukraine, the British admitted that the Russians might find difficulty in withdrawing sufficient forces from the Kiev area to reestablish defenses near Kharkov and Rostov.

DNB official German news agency said Leningrad's defenders were waging a losing battle in attempting to stem Nazi forces steadily closing in on the old czarist capital.

Reds Claim Nazis Halted

Moscow, Sept. 23.—(AP)—In violent fighting around Lake Ilnen, south of Leningrad, Russian troops have brought the German onset to a standstill and driven forward in successful counter attacks, Red Star, organ of the Red army, declared today.

The article by Lieutenant General Vafin said the drive had cost the Germans up to 50,000 killed, wounded and captured, and denied German reports that three Soviet armies had been routed in the sector 150 miles south of Russia's besieged second city.

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