

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## In Most Optimistic Review To Date, Churchill Says

# BRITAIN HAS NOW TAKEN INITIATIVE IN AIR

## Roosevelt And Hull Discuss Policies

At Axis Anniversary Celebration

### Willkie For Neutrality Act Change

International Situation in All Phases Considered at Conference; Special Message to Congress Expected This Week.

Washington, Sept. 30.—(AP)—For an hour and 15 minutes, President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull conferred on all phases of the international situation today, presumably with emphasis on revision of the neutrality law.

As he left the White House, the secretary told reporters:

"We were going over all the different phases of the international situation as they affect matters which we thought called for an exchange of ideas and discussion."

Asked whether they had considered the neutrality law in particular, Hull said they had given their attention no more to one thing than to another.

As the discussion of neutrality law revision continued at the capital, Wendell L. Willkie let it be known that he would support Mr. Roosevelt in an effort to repeal or modify it.

"The law never should have been enacted in the first place," informants quoted Willkie as saying. "It ought to be changed now and I believe Congress will change it."

Back from a week-end at Hyde Park, the President planned to follow up his conference with Hull with a talk tomorrow with legislative leaders before starting to work on the special neutrality act message which Congress looks for later this week.

White House officials indicated

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### MARINES ESCAPE INJURY IN WRECK

Charleston, S. C., Sept. 30.—(AP)—A contingent of Marines banded from the Parris Island base to New York escaped unharmed today when their Atlantic Coast Line troop train crashed into the rear of a freight near Oakley, 30 miles north of here, but the engineer and the fireman and baggage master were hurt.

The engineer was identified as Grover J. Glauz of Charleston.

Several freight cars were wrecked and the locomotive of the troop train was reported severely damaged.

One coven of Marines was reported to have left the track but it did not turn over.

### Mica Plant Is Struck

Ashville, Sept. 30.—(AP)—A strike of American Federation of Labor workers at the plant of the Asheville Mica company today curtailed operations and threatened to stop production of numerous articles high on the priorities list.

J. Fuller Brown, secretary-treasurer of the company, said that between 40 and 50 per cent of the output was used in the defense program and included such items as insulation for electrical products, spark plugs and the like.

The strike was called by the Mica Workers Union last night and went into effect today.

Clarence A. Jackson, president of the local, said approximately 100 of the 171 plant employees were out. There was no statement from the company as to the number. Jackson listed grievances as "discrimination of the management against union members, coercion during a recent election and low wages."



C. P. Radiophoto

Representatives of the nations who signed the Axis pact September 27, 1940, are shown in Berlin, according to the Nazi caption sent with this picture from Germany to New York by radio. Left to right are Joachim von Ribbentrop, Nazi foreign minister; Dino Alfieri, Italian ambassador to Berlin, and facing them is Hiroshi Oshima, Japanese ambassador to Berlin.

### Ruffing For Opener

New York, Sept. 30.—(AP)—Charles (Red) Ruffing, veteran right hander, was selected today by Manager Joe McCarthy to pitch the opening game of the World Series for the New York Yankees against the Brooklyn Dodgers tomorrow at the Yankee stadium.

Selection of Ruffing came as no surprise, since the big right-hander was the Yankees' most effective pitcher during the regular season, with a record of 16 victories and 6 defeats.

McCarthy also announced he would return to the regular batting order employed by the Yankees most of the season in spread fielding the American League field.

### Nazis Hint Of Movements On East Front

Berlin, Sept. 30.—(AP)—A German military spokesman declared today there would be "little news from the eastern front for the next few days" because of "certain reasons" which were not disclosed.

He added that "certain importance can be attached" to statements in the German press that the campaign on the Russian front might run into winter months.

Axis forces scored successes on the northern and southern flanks of the battle front, a military commentator said.

Fierce bayonet fighting was said to have developed yesterday at places along the southern front where Germans reported the Red army counter attacked in several sectors but was repulsed with heavy losses.

The high command said Italian troops east of the Dniester river "exterminated strong enemy forces and took several thousand prisoners."

In a northern sector of the eastern front an infantry division captured 210 pill boxes in a successful attack Sunday and Monday.

### WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Considerable cloudiness at night and Wednesday; some likelihood of scattered light showers.

Extended weather forecast for the period from 7:30 p. m. September 30 to 7:30 p. m. October 4.—Temperatures normal or slightly above but somewhat cooler about Thursday and Friday; scattered showers in extreme northern section, little or no rain elsewhere.

### Refrigerator Firms To Cut Production

### 24 Czechs Executed

Germans Accuse London and Moscow of Backing Rebel Outbreaks in Europe.

Berlin, Sept. 30.—(AP)—German firing squads have executed 24 Czechs accused of plotting to throw off German rule, it was announced today as spokesmen blamed Moscow and London for rebel preparations which led to the swart German counter measures in the protectorates of Bohemia and Moravia.

"London especially tried to start something in Paris, Norway and Holland, but it didn't work," a spokesman declared, "and before they got off to a good start in the protectorate we took a hand."

He intimated that German authorities had been aware for some time of "disturbing elements" in the protectorate but had waited patiently to determine who was involved before taking action.

"We wanted to avoid dragging persons who had nothing to do with it into the affair," he said. "Most Czechs saw the purposelessness of such plots. Reasonable Czechs saw the Germans did not intend to put them under the yoke or suppress their culture."

Three former army leaders were among those executed. They were described as "leading men in the opposition group which had as its goal the... of... of an independent Czech state."

### Traffic Deaths Reach Record For All Time

Chicago, Sept. 30.—(AP)—In all-time high for August traffic deaths emphasized the need for a nationwide safety campaign requested by President Roosevelt against accidents hampering the defense program, the National Safety Council said today.

Its report of 3,910 traffic deaths in August, 21 per cent above last year, and an eight months toll of 24,020, 18 per cent higher than the same period in 1940, was issued in advance

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### Rudolf Hess Hungers For Native Land

Two Hunger Strikes Starved in Anger Over Being Treated as Prisoner of War, London Newspaper Reports.

London, Sept. 30.—(AP)—Rudolf Hess, former deputy for Adolf Hitler who made a sensational flight to England last May was reported last night to have started hunger strikes twice in his place of detention in anger because he was being treated as a prisoner of war and not as a "special envoy."

The Star, London evening newspaper, reporting that Hess was being confined "within a very easy custody of London," said he was contending that as an "envoy" he should be allowed to return to Germany at once.

When Hess, then the number three Nazi, flew to Scotland early in May in one of the most sensational episodes of the entire war, he was reported widely to have brought peace overtures from Hitler.

The Star implied that Hess was living in comfortable quarters, saying:

"Some of our very senior officers who have been captured by the enemy now occupy decent villas. Has Hess a villa or something better suited to his higher rank?"

Government officials who have been silent regarding Hess since his spectacular landing nearly five months ago declined to comment on the Star story.

### Jap 'Chute Troops Fail

Chungking, Sept. 30.—(AP)—The Japanese army landed a small detachment of paratroop troops yesterday at Chungking, important rail junction 30 miles south of bitterly-contested Changde, but all were either killed or driven away, a Chinese

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### Cotton Crop Cut Opposed

Growers Object to Wickard's Plan to Reduce Acreage in Favor of Foodstuffs.

Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 30.—(AP)—There were off-the-floor rumblings of dissatisfaction today over Secretary of Agriculture Wickard's proposal to cut cotton acreage as he and farm experts discussed his plan to have the United States serve as the breadbasket for the democracies.

Wickard's plan called for some of this year's cotton, wheat and tobacco

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### Grocery Prices In Raleigh Rise 25 Per Cent In Year

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By HENRY AVERILL.

Raleigh, Sept. 30.—Groceries in Raleigh have increased more than 25 per cent in price in the last year.

Your reporter makes no claim to being any part of a statistician and certainly has no desire to set himself up in opposition to the experts who recently announced that food prices have advanced about 20 per cent since the war started two years ago; but a realistic, if unscientific, survey of his own convinces that the increase is far more than that.

A day or so ago, this bureau re-

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Seized by Nazis



Gen. Alois Elias

Czech Premier Gen. Alois Elias was arrested in Prague on a charge of "preparation for high treason" and a state of civil emergency was decreed for six districts in the German protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia because of a "number of actions hostile to the Reich."

### Reds Gain In North

City on Approaches to Leningrad is Recaptured and Germans Are Driven Back.

Moscow, Sept. 30.—(AP)—The Red army reported today recapture of a city on the approaches to Leningrad and the taking of many other communities in the bloody fighting on the northern front.

As the violent struggle continued all along the front, Red Star, Soviet army newspaper, said the northwestern city of "B" was recaptured after twelve hours of battle which culminated in the bitterest sort of hand to hand and house to house combat.

The Germans thus were driven back "a significant distance" from Leningrad where they have made no gain in a fortnight, Red Star stated.

One German regiment was declared annihilated in this battle, with the Russians losing more than 100 men in dead and wounded.

In other Leningrad front zones, Pravda, communist party paper, said that the Germans were beaten back from numerous villages in the last two days and that at one point the Russians were able to entrench on a new defense line after these counter advances.

TWO RALEIGH MEN KILLED IN CRASH

Raleigh, Sept. 30.—Two Raleigh men were killed and two others were seriously injured here early today when their car skidded off the highway on a curve and smashed into a tree.

The dead are James Stevens, 21, and A. L. Maynard, 22.

Police said the wreck probably happened at about 4 a. m. but was not discovered until 4:30 when a squad car happened to pass the scene.

### Gray Denies Price Fixing

Lexington, Sept. 30.—(AP)—President James A. Gray of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company denied in the tobacco anti-trust trial today that his company attempted to dictate retail prices charged by dealers for its products.

Gray, one of the 20 executive defendants in trial with his company and the Liggett and Myers and American Tobacco companies, said he felt that when goods were sold to the retailer they became his property and he could make his own price.

Gray added, however, that if the prices charged by the retailer showed "discrimination" against Reynolds products in favor of comparable products of other concerns "future relations" between Reynolds and the retailer "might be affected."

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### Shipping Losses Cut Two-Thirds

Hitler Still Retains the Initiative Except in Air 'And We Have Not the Force to Take it From Him,' Churchill Admits.

London, Sept. 30.—(AP)—Britain has seized the initiative from Germany in the air, but cut shipping losses two-thirds in three months and has "several times" considered invasion of the German-dominated continent, Prime Minister Churchill told the house of commons today in a broad war review which was the most optimistic he yet has given.

Adolf Hitler is suffering from a "very serious shortage" in air power, Churchill said, "but for the rest he still retains the initiative and we have not had the force to take it from him."

In every respect except in the air, he said, Germany remains so strong that Britain's own peril of invasion is not past and only "enormous" conversion of United States factories to produce war material can keep Russia on the firing line indefinitely.

"Many important supplies already have been dispatched" to Russia by Britain, Churchill said, adding that "it may be that transportation rather than willingness or ability to give will prove in the end the limiting factor."

If Germany should take a defensive stand in Russia it certainly would be in Hitler's power to launch simultaneously attacks against Britain, Africa and Spain, the prime minister declared.

Despite the grave warnings he gave, emphasizing that winter gives no assurance "that the danger of invasion will be entirely lifted from this island," Churchill said Britain's position in shipping, food reserves and many other ways was better than ever.

Britain, allied and neutral merchant shipping losses during the past three months have dropped two-thirds from the three months before, he said.

Churchill said Britain would "bomb Rome to the best of our ability and as heavily as possible if the course of the war should render such action convenient and helpful."

BRITISH BOMBERS START BIG FIRES

London, Sept. 30.—(AP)—A powerful force of RAF bombers started large fires in an attack on the German port of Stettin last night, the air ministry announced today.

Another force bombed a dock area of Hamburg, while attacks also were made on docks at Cherbourg and Le Havre, a communiqué said.

Eight of the British bombers were announced missing. Two fighters also were announced as missing from offensive patrol operation.

### Switzerland Protests

Passage of British Planes Over Swiss Territory Brings Sharp Condemnation.

Bern, Sept. 30.—(AP)—The Swiss minister to Britain has protested as "a grave violation of Switzerland's air space" the passage of some 50 British planes the night of September 29-29, presumably squadrons which heavily raided Italian cities, the foreign office announced today.

The announcement said the British flights called forth "energetic action" of the Swiss anti-aircraft.

Voicing Switzerland's serious concern, a Swiss newspaper declared: "On the flight to upper Italy and towns on the central Italian seacoast, British fliers Sunday night again violated Swiss air, following only a few days after Britain curtailed supplies to Switzerland and delivered our

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