

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## Dressed for Stratosphere Jump



Photograph

Not a man from Mars but a dare-devil parachutist, Arthur H. Starnes is pictured in Chicago as he prepared to make a 35,000-foot leap in the interests of science. The load of instruments he is wearing was designed to reveal his reactions during the descent from the stratosphere and provide data for use in training paratroops.

## Neutral Observer In London Says

# German Attack Halted

## 50 Frenchmen Executed By Nazis

### Assassinate Second Nazi Officer

German Occupation Authorities Order Arrest of Additional 50 Hostages to Be Shot If Assassilants Are Not Arrested.

Vichy, Oct. 22.—(AP)—Marshal Philippe Petain, chief of state, announced to the French nation today that 50 of their countrymen had been shot by German occupation authorities this morning in retaliation for the assassination of German officers.

His broadcast followed news that the second German officer assassinated in 48 hours met death yesterday in Bordeaux.

Admiral Jean Darlan, vice premier, followed his chief on the radio, in a series of emotional appeals to the populace by France's highest authorities.

Both the marshal and the admiral accused "foreign powers" of having instigated the recent series of assassinations.

There were no details on how the first 50 hostages were shot at Nantes. Another 50 are scheduled to die if the two men who shot Lieutenant Colonel Paul Holtz, chief of the Nazi field gendarmerie at Nantes, are not captured by midnight tomorrow.

In measured tones Petain announced to the French:

"Against officers of the army of occupation shots have been fired. Two are dead. Fifty Frenchmen this morning have paid with their lives for these unnamable crimes. Fifty others will be shot tomorrow if the culprits are not found."

The second officer was reported to have been shot by two youths on the Boulevard St. Georges in occupied Bordeaux at 7:45 p. m. last night. The Germans immediately demanded the arrest of 50 more Frenchmen as hostages.

Witnesses of the killings said four youths shot the officer and fled. They described the assailants as resembling workmen and put their ages between 17 and 20.

### British Decorate Two American Eagles



Two members of the American Eagle Squadron, which is serving with the Royal Air Force, are shown (right) in England receiving congratulations from other members of the squadron after being decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroic exploits in the air. They are Flight Officer G. A. Daymond (left) and Flight Lieut. C. G. Peterson. (Central Press)

## Both Armies Exhausted By Fighting

German Offensive Against Moscow and in the North Reported Bugged Down in Howling Gale and Almost Impassable Roads.

London, Oct. 22.—(AP)—A high ranking neutral military observer said today that reliable information from Russia indicated the German attack on Moscow and in the north was definitely halted.

He said indications were that the peak of the German assault had been passed.

"Undoubtedly Hitler will order and carry out new attacks," the source said, "but he will not again be able to muster anything like the strength he has used up in the past two weeks."

He asserted, however, that the Red army, as well as the German army, is "exhausted by the gigantic struggle," which may mean that a small factor may tip the scales one way or the other.

He said that the German army attack in the Donets basin "appears to lack the power of previous attacks" and that the German army now seemed to be "punching here and there looking for a weak spot."

He pointed out that Hitler had failed to achieve the decisive result promised in his speech of Oct. 3, the day after the attack started.

The German offensive was reported bogged down in a howling Russian gale and all but impassable roads on the fiercely defended immediate approaches to Moscow. Advances from the Soviets reported, is being forced to fight off a wider circling threat.

Every yard of the battlefield in the Minsk sector, 57 miles west of the capital, is covered by the bodies of fallen Germans, said a Moscow broadcast of a Tass dispatch which described the repulse of strong Nazi attacks followed by savage hand to hand fighting in Russian counter attacks.

This report said a winter wind was howling across the Russian steppes and piling snow deep on the roads and forests as the eastern war entered its fifth month.

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## British Ships Shell Tobruk Besiegers

### 'Successful' Bombardment Said to Have Removed, at Least Temporarily, One of Sources of Enemy Fire Power.

With British Warships East of Tobruk, Libya, Oct. 22.—(AP)—British warships blasted German long range artillery in the western desert in a surprise night bombardment last night, pumping hundreds of shells into the enemy batteries.

The shells, sweeping close along the coast east of Tobruk, boomed broadside of high explosive shells shortly after midnight.

All the projectiles fell in the target area, seriously damaging, if not destroying, the heavy German guns which for weeks have been throwing eight-inch shells into the British garrison at surrounded Tobruk.

Navy officers described the bombardment as "successful," removing at least temporarily one of the sources of enemy fire power in the western desert.

The navy's sudden shelling of the coast between Salam and Tobruk was the heaviest since the battle fleet plied a thousand tons of steel into Tripoli April 23.

The bombardment was similar to that which paved the way for a British land drive toward Benghazi.

Officers and crew members aboard the ships were "telling for action" and took apparent delight in a chance to turn their big guns seaward.

## FDR Wants Early Action To Lift Ban

Washington, Oct. 22.—(AP)—The White House emphasized today that President Roosevelt wanted early attention by Congress to further neutrality act revision to permit American goods to enter belligerent ports.

Stephen Early, presidential secretary, told reporters that the President in his message asking lifting of the ban against arming American merchantmen did not close the door to eliminating another section, which bans such vessels from combat zones and belligerent ports.

Early brought up the subject at a press conference to clarify a presidential report yesterday to a reporter's question as to whether his joining Secretary of State Hull in favoring repeal of the belligerent port section.

Early said the President replied by saying he had sent a message on that, and that it was re-read it would grow on the reader.

He wanted that cleared up for himself. Early continued, so he asked the President about it this morning.

## Invasion Idea Is Rejected

London, Oct. 22.—(AP)—The idea of an immediate British invasion of German-held western Europe to open a second war front was rejected today by Britain's colonial secretary, who termed such a step madness akin to "committing suicide on our enemy's doorstep."

Lord Moyne, the colonial secretary, told the house of lords that RAF sweeps in recent weeks have forced the Germans to keep more fighter planes along the coast facing Britain than on the Russian front.

At the same time informed sources said the Germans were building heavy fortifications in the Calais area but no immediate Nazi invasion effort was forecast.

## Pope Field 'Destroyed'

Fort Bragg Air Base Put Out of Action by 'Enemy' Bombers in Air Maneuvers.

With the Third Interceptor Command on maneuvers, Oct. 22.—(AP)—Pope Field at Fort Bragg was "destroyed" by a mass flight of "enemy" bombers early today in a continuation of the third interceptor command's testing of the southeastern aircraft warning service.

An Army dispatch to the Charlotte headquarters of Brigadier General Walter H. Frank, commanding the third interceptor command, said Pope Field headquarters had ordered planes which "bombed the bomb" to take refuge at the Florence, S. C., airport and continue operations from that temporary base. Pope Field is a vital center of aerial defense in the Carolinas.

Meanwhile, a communique issued by the command last night indicated that fierce raids were in prospect for Wilmington during the morning and Charleston in the afternoon and night.

Simulating wartime conditions as closely as possible, officers at the command headquarters here released the terse communique:

"Seven enemy transports undulating at Bermuda, 20 at Bahamas. Estimated reinforcements to enemy air forces: six squadrons medium bombers Bermuda, ten squadrons both medium and heavy at Bahamas. Continual reconnaissance of both

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## Hull Calls Sinking 'Piracy'

### Steel Plant Still Struck

### Greensboro Editor Dies

### Ships Save Lehigh Crew

### Vessel Flying American Flag Sunk in Atlantic; Sea War's Toll Now Ten Ships.

### British Bomb Naples

### Huge Damage Caused by Five Hour Raid on Italian Maritime and Industrial City.

### Price Fixing By Leaf Firms Is Denied

### Neutrality Act Repeal Fight Gains Impetus

### Cotton Market Turns Higher

### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Generally fair tonight and Thursday, slightly cooler tonight.

## Steel Plant Still Struck

Detroit Steel Workers Refuse to Work; Birmingham Strike Ended.

(By The Associated Press.)

Strikers at the Great Lakes Steel Corporation refused to return to work today in Detroit after CIO union chiefs refused demands agreed upon by the strikers last night in a vote to resume work and warned that the Army would take over the plant if it remained closed.

In the meantime, however, CIO strikers at a Birmingham steel plant returned to their jobs as disputes continued in airplane industries in California, New York and New Jersey.

The striking members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee at the Great Lakes steel plant voted to return to work only on condition that 16 suspected strike leaders be reinstated by the union and that a new contract be sought with the company. Union officers rejected both demands.

John Doherty, SWOC regional director from Chicago, told the strikers the "Army already has received orders to move in" and the government had notified the SWOC that the strike would not be tolerated before they halted last night.

The plant has heavy orders for high tensile steel used in Army tanks and other defense equipment and employs 8,600 persons.

In voting to go back to their jobs, the union men declared they were prepared to walk out again if new wage adjustments were not negotiated and if the union failed to reinstate 16 suspected strike leaders.

Eight hundred members of the City United Mine Workers decided last night to go back to work at the Sloss-Sheffield Steel and Iron Company furnaces and by-products plant at Birmingham, although terms of the settlement were not immediately announced. Previous reports said the dispute revolved on the UMW's demand for a closed shop contract.

A strike of 20,000 Alabama coal miners, members of a different division of the CIO-UMW, remained in effect despite the Sloss-Sheffield settlement.

Threats of walkouts continued at the Ryan Aeronautical Company, San Diego, Cal., and at the Bell Aircraft Corporation's factories at Buffalo and Niagara Falls, N. Y., where a sheriff again warned of impending violence at the plant of Air Associates, Inc., at Bendix, N. J., where CIO automobile workers struck September 30.

## Ships Save Lehigh Crew

Vessel Flying American Flag Sunk in Atlantic; Sea War's Toll Now Ten Ships.

Washington, Oct. 22.—(AP)—Secretary of State Hull today labeled the torpedoing of the American freighter Lehigh off Africa an act "in harmony with all the definitions of piracy and assassination."

The sinking of a vessel flying the American flag and traveling with oil cargo between Bilbao, Spain, and the African Gold Coast was a perfect example, Hull told his press conference, of the "naïf policy of attempting to create a reign of terror, fearfulness and absolute lawlessness in the high seas, and especially on the Atlantic."

Hull spoke shortly after the maritime commission said it had been advised of the rescue of all the 39 Americans of the Lehigh crew.

Twenty-two men were landed at Bathurst by the British ship Vindex, and 22 at Freetown. Since the crew included only 39, officials expressed the belief that the others were stowaways.

The news gave a measure of relief to this capital, perturbed through it still was over the loss of two more

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## Price Fixing By Leaf Firms Is Denied

Lexington, Ky., Oct. 22.—(AP)—Liggett & Myers counsel told the tobacco anti-trust trial jury today the prosecution had failed to show that the "big three" defendant companies had acted together in setting prices for their products.

Victor A. Bradley of Georgetown, Ky., following counsel for the American Tobacco company and preceding attorneys for the R. J. Reynolds company in argument to the jury for the defense, declared:

"Liggett & Myers has a right—just as you and I have—to sell their products for what they please, or even to give them away, provided that they do it without combining or conspiring with other men."

Bradley said the government had produced no testimony to show that a price-fixing conspiracy existed and that "against that you have sworn testimony of all connected with these companies that no such conspiracy exists."

Liggett & Myers, the lawyer said, has "never inaugurated price changes, and when it made changes, it had done so 'in the exercise of independent business judgment on the part of its executives.'"

## Neutrality Act Repeal Fight Gains Impetus

Washington, Oct. 22.—(AP)—The record of six American-owned ships sunk in as many weeks put fresh impetus today behind a Senate campaign for scrapping the neutrality act completely and authorizing American ships to sail the seven seas anywhere.

Another new factor was the demand made by Wendell L. Willkie and 100 of the country's leading Republican figures for flat repeal of the entire act.

The big question apparently was no longer Senate concurrence in the House-approved revision which would permit the arming of ships, but whether the House resolution would be broadened to end all present prohibitions on the movements of American flag ships to belligerent ports or through combat zones.