

Paris Now Most Isolated Continental Spot As Nazis Clamp Down Censorship

By JOHN EVANS
Associated Press Chief of Foreign Service

Paris, once the news crossroads of Europe, is today the most isolated spot on the continent.

News comes from German-occupied France as it does from every spot in the world, but usually it takes five days for a dispatch to come to the United States from the old French capital as compared with five minutes before the war. Couriers must carry news from Paris to Berlin by train, plane or auto.

Knowledge of what happens in various countries comes to Associated Press newspapers almost as freely as ever, but war brought changes in gathering news and especially in transmitting it.

Censorship of some sort exists in nearly all European countries. In England it is thorough and often severe. In France it is light. In Germany and Italy there is a censorship of responsibility which means that a correspondent is free to send anything he wishes, telephoning it out of the country, but he is answerable to the government for any breach of impartiality or violation of military secrecy. News from Italy is limited in quantity because officials refrain from discussion of many things. Correspondents in Germany may discuss almost anything with anyone. Some newspapermen whose dispatches were considered hostile by Germany have been asked to leave the country.

Much interesting news comes by transatlantic air mail from all countries except England. This correspondence usually deals with living conditions, reconstruction of devastated areas and such matters which require considerable research and frequently some travel. There is more of that serious kind of reporting than for many years.

Censorship brings out some facts, but not enough to prevent newspaper readers from knowing the essential truth. Military movements are obscured, but the public generally learns of them almost as soon as do opposing armies.

The work of Associated Press reporters in gathering news in the war zones is difficult and often extremely hazardous. Associated Press reporters in London wear "tin hats" much of the time. The Associated Press London office was damaged recently by a bomb that fell just outside. There were no casualties.

Dislocation of normal facilities and the nature of events more than ever require reporters to get their news by going to the scene. That is because there is so much less of routine reporting of political, industrial and personal news. War is the theme today. Much of the war news is reporters' descriptions of what they see.

A constant problem of every foreign correspondent is how to send his dispatches quickly. In peacetime, the job was to reduce transmission time by minutes. Sometimes, now, the task is to get out the news in hours or even days.

When the war began, September 1, 1939, British censors walked suddenly into telephone, cable and wireless offices. A whole system of centralizing news in London for rapid and coordinated forwarding to New York simply vanished.

Before the war, Associated Press bureaus from Moscow to Lisbon telephoned much of the news to London where it went on an American cable, operated by Associated Press men in the London office, and received in the Associated Press New York office without passing through the customary cable terminal relays. All bureaus abroad filed dispatches direct to New York occasionally to have such alternate routes functioning smoothly.

British censors put this system out of action by cutting all normal communications with the European continent, for some days even lines with France, her ally, were interrupted. Soon the British cut the German and Italian cables. Later relaxation of some restrictions were insuffi-

cient to modify London's news isolation.

Immediately London was isolated. Associated Press bureaus in Moscow, Berlin, Rome, Paris and elsewhere began sending all news directly to New York according to previous plan.

Alternate routes were tested with duplicate dispatches to determine comparative speed. From some points one telephone, wireless or cable route proved faster than another. Duplicate messages were sent directly to New York and through some other bureau. Amsterdam, Bern and Copenhagen in neutral Holland, Switzerland and Denmark quickly proved to be good connecting and relay points. Staffs at those points were reinforced.

When the Germans took Holland and Denmark they caused Amsterdam and Copenhagen to be abandoned as relays because free communication with other countries no longer was allowed. For six months Bern has been a forwarding office for much of the Associated Press news from the Balkan area, Berlin and Rome. In the early days of the Vichy French government, most of the news from there was telephoned to Bern or sent there by courier. Now the Vichy wireless sends dispatches direct to New York.

Stockholm in nervous Sweden remains a center for Scandinavian and Baltic news. To it go the scanty reports from Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania now absorbed by Soviet Russia.

Foreign news gathering organizations such as Reuters in the British empire, Itavas in unoccupied France, DNB (Deutsches Nachrichtenbüro) in Germany, Stefani in Italy and others function, but their news naturally deals largely with war from the national point of view. There is missing much of the detailed report of industry, political friction and human activity that formerly pictured nations.

Honest as many of the foreign organizations' reports may be they show a patriotic self-restraint that makes some of their accounts of other than war conditions rather thin. These foreign agencies still are useful as they always have been in distributing government announcements, texts of important documents and speeches and such matter.

The Associated Press and other United States organizations and correspondents, however, get their own news more than ever before. Particularly must they be vigilant to go promptly to the scene of war events so they may describe impartially and with interesting, colorful details the occurrences which official communiques relate later and drably, if at all.

OBITUARY BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LAWSON

Benjamin Franklin Lawson, a resident of Klamath Falls, Ore., for the past 13 years, passed away in this city, on Monday, October 21, 1940, at 5:55 a. m. The deceased was a native of Indiana, and was aged 67 years 10 months and 13 days when called. He was a member of the Apostolic Faith. He is survived by his wife, Cassie, of this city; one son, Austin E., of Walla Walla, Wash., also three grandchildren of Los Angeles, Calif. The remains rest in Ward's Klamath Funeral Home, 925 High street, where friends may call. The notice of the funeral arrangements will be announced later.

BREAKS LEG

ASHLAND, Oct. 21 (P)—Dr. Walter Redford, president of the Southern Oregon College of Education, broke his leg in a fall yesterday.

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HITLER STILL HAS TROUBLES IN PUSH EAST

By DeWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press Writer

Fuehrer Hitler has been moving mightily fast in swinging the Balkans into line with the idea of attacking Britain by means of a drive through the Near East, but it strikes me there's no certainty that he has moved fast enough to permit a full offensive before next spring.

The next chiefest's weekend politico-economic accord with Yugoslavia further consolidates the position which the Berlin-Rome axis is creating for the big smash. With Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia now apparently safely in the sack, the potential battle line of the dictators is right up against the frontiers of Greece and Turkey.

But there comes the hitch. These pro-British, Turko-Greek allies are the hold-outs — the bad lads of the Balkans — who, possibly with the encouragement of Russia, stand between the axis and its near eastern ambition. Unless they change their defiant attitude it will be necessary to manhandle them — and plenty — before it will be possible to force the Dardanelles strait which forms a barrier between Europe and the Near East.

That's a job which can't be done overnight, especially since Britain is bound to fling into the battle every ounce of naval strength which she can spare. The fall rains will be coming any turn the roads and countryside into a fierce winter — and these will into a well-nigh hopeless mess of gumbo — and I mean deep, greasy mud.

I've motored in all those countries after the autumn storms had begun, and have no doubt that it would be making a heavy gamble to inaugurate big military operations in this sea of mud. The Balkan roads as a whole are bad, and many of them become downright dangerous after they are waterlogged. More than once I've traveled along the edge of a near precipice with the rear of my car lashing back and forth like a rattlesnake's tail. Honest.

The axis partners would appear still to have important "political" work to do before unleashing the blitzkrieg. They first want to insure the neutrality of Russia if possible, and in-

dications are they are engaged in this man'size task now. They also have worked on Turkey and Greece, but likely wouldn't hesitate to use force on them, provided the Russia menace were removed.

COSTLY KICK

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., (P)—This dog got kicked in the face by a pheasant and lost a championship.

"Spud," owned by Robert Poggenmeyer, reached the finals in a field trial and was sent out to retrieve a pheasant that had been shot down.

But the pheasant turned on its back and kicked Spud in the face.

His dignity impaired and his mouth gashed, Spud refused to retrieve the bird in the allotted time.

Can't relax? Drink a bottle of **Wieland's Ale** at bedtime!

SKILLED HANDS TO BE LISTED FOR DRAFTING

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21 (P)

The army has completed new elaborate arrangements for identifying skilled draftees so they may be used in the military tasks at which they will be most productive.

Officials said today that the new system would operate "more effectively" than the classification procedure of World War years. Ready now, it will first be applied to conscript soldiers when the initial

contingent of 30,000 is called up November 18.

Essentially, its purpose is to make sure that when the army needs automobile mechanics, electricians or stenographers commanders will know where among the thousands of trainees to find them. In all, there are about 300 specialized military tasks.

Discussion of other plans for induction of trainees, officials said they would be kept as close to home as possible. This, it was explained, will save money and help make the men happier. "Near home" may be anywhere in a corps area, although in some instances as the necessities of army organization require, men undoubtedly will be shifted from one corps area to another.

Tentative quotas by corps areas of the first 800,000 men to be drafted were announced by headquarters here yesterday. Army plans previously made public for calling men to serv-

Dream Leads Man To Skeleton of "Lost" Hunter

GRANGEVILLE, Ida., Oct. 21 (P)—Coroner Glen Allor said today a skeleton, believed that of Grover Wray of Weiser, had been found 35 miles northeast of Kooskia under circumstances which indicated Wray "could not have become lost."

Wray, then 26, disappeared November 2, 1938, in Idaho's primitive area while on a hunting trip.

Allor returned late last night from the Meeker creek area where the remains were found and said the skeleton showed no evidence of gunshot wounds. Allor said Sam Seiber of the Weiser reported he found the skele-

ton as the result of a dream. Seiber went into the area October 11 with the dead youth's father, Grover Wray Sr., and two other men to continue a search which has continued periodically for two years. The coroner said Seiber told him he dreamed Thursday night that he "could locate the body lying in Meeker creek." "To satisfy his curiosity he went to the creek," Allor added. "Pursuing his hunch, he traveled three miles before he found the skeleton. It was practically at the head of the creek." Explaining the skeleton that Wray could not have been lost, Allor said the remains were found in the stream beds which his hunting party had camped just two and a quarter miles downstream, and that it was less than a mile from the spot where the party's horse had been tied the day Wray disappeared.

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