

NAVAL BATTLE SEEN AS LONG SHOT ATTEMPT

By DEWITT MACKENZIE Associated Press Writer

The fantastic disaster inflicted on the Italians by the British in the latest naval engagement in the Mediterranean naturally has given rise to speculation as to whether someone plundered in sending the fascist fleet out to the slaughter.

The British believe the Italian warships were ordered from their bases on the insistence of the Germans, and that would place responsibility for the move pretty close to Herr Hitler. It's difficult to argue against that reasoning, for there's only one boss of the axis these days, and that's the Fuehrer.

Well, then, did the nazi chieftain blunder?

Of course we need more details in order to arrive at a definite answer to that. From what we have on hand, however, there doesn't seem to be much wrong with the idea, though there may have been fumbling in the execution.

Apparently Hitler ventured one of his long-shot gambles—the kind that either make the player a millionaire or deprive him of his shirt, and no half-way business. The gamble didn't come off, but that doesn't prove the plan wasn't justifiable, considering the exceptional circumstances involved.

The nazi leader needed, and still needs, a quick victory somewhere to offset the recent axis setbacks, which have damaged the prestige of the Berlin-Rome partnership no end.

He badly needed a break which would enable him to assert authority over Yugoslavia without resorting to force to make this hardy Balkan state come to terms.

Where could a victory be found that would serve both these pressing purposes without embarking on a land engagement which would open up a new and unwanted battle-front?

There was just one chance, and that was to risk the Italian navy in an effort to catch the British off guard and smash them. Their Mediterranean fleet likely wouldn't be up to strength owing to the demands of the nazi submarine campaign along the Atlantic lanes. This was the time to challenge the Britons, if ever.

It was a long shot, but there was the possibility that the fascists might inflict a staggering blow. If this could be done it not only would restore the axis prestige, but would weaken and might even break England's domination of the eastern Mediterranean. Thus the whole troublesome Balkan picture would be changed over night, and Hitler would be himself again.

Was it a blunder to risk the Italian fleet? Not the way things lie. Italy, navy and all, has lost its striking force. The British already had taken much of the sting out of the fascist fleet. Then why not gamble with the remaining ships in an effort to bring off a big coup?

Mr. Burgoyne and grandson arrived here from Twin Falls, Ida., on Thursday to spend some time with his daughter, Mrs. Joe Horsley and family.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jones arrived home on Saturday after spending the past week with their daughter, Mrs. James Fulton and family of The Dalles.

Albert Burgdorf and son were business visitors at the Theo-

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Barrington were visitors in Klamath Falls Sunday.

Leon Lester, Maxine Bagley, Aldo Pillon and Dolores Wheeler motored to Redding Sunday, where they visited the Shasta dam.

Tommy Ellison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Ellison of Mt. Shasta visited over the weekend at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rocchi.

There are now 76 flying schools in Canada turning out military pilots. Since this training began, the RCAF has had only 29 fatal accidents in 168,000 flying hours.

The British Bristol Blenheim has a range of 1900 miles, a top speed of 295 miles an hour, and can climb to 15,000 feet in 12 minutes.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Shontz spent a few days this week in Grants Pass, where they visited with friends.

Mrs. Mervin Tonkin and baby are home from the Weed hospital and are getting along nicely.

Robert L. Knox, 35, of Weed and Ellen M. Orcutt, 18, of Mt. Shasta were married in Reno, Nev., on March 19, 1941.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Burrill returned last week from a vacation at their former home in Yakima, Wash.

Fern Alexander, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Frank Alexander, motored to Redding Sunday, where they visited with relatives.

Well Known Gal Loses Skirt



Fireball Dancer Eleanor Powell shakes right out of her skirt and jumps into a new dance she created. She calls it "New Shoes" and shows how it's done.

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Mrs. Lyle Archer has accepted a position as clerk at Ford's grocery.

The Camp Fire Girls under the leadership of their guardian, Mrs. Sidney Smith, enjoyed a party at the Weed Community church, March 19.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Kyle have moved into their new home in Stringtown.

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8 OSC STUDENTS GAIN HONOR ROLL

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis — Eight students from Klamath Falls made the honor roll at Oregon State college for winter term. Registrar E. B. Lemon reported. The roll includes only those students who make grade point averages of 3.50 or better while carrying 12 or more credits.

On the straight A list were Melvin Cummings, junior in agriculture, and Ruth Hendricks, freshman in home economics.

On the 3.50 list were Earl C. Reynolds, freshman in engineering; George Stephenson, senior in engineering; Harold Uhlig, freshman in engineering; Fred Eyerly, freshman in forestry; Tom Radcliffe, sophomore in forestry, and Bethel Naomi Hutchinson, freshman in secretarial science.

Only 39 students were on the straight A grade list. Those making 3.5 or better numbered 272.

Tulelake

Charles Coates, who for the past year has been affiliated with the Peyton company here, has resigned, effective April 1. Coates' future plans are indefinite. He serves the city as police judge and for several years was city treasurer.

Religious Ardor Keeps Them Warm



Water temperature: 37. But these Assembly of God converts don't mind icy waters of Big Lake near Council Bluffs, Ia., as they're baptized by the Rev. Charles Blair of Enid, Okla.

DeMolay members of the Tulelake chapter plan to attend a conclave at Albany, Ore., April 11 and 12 with Charles Coates, advisor, also attending.

Ralph A. Hiett, Montague, Calif., has accepted a position as salesmanager for Joseph Zumpfe, of the Minneapolis-Moline Implement company. Hiett has been associated with the sale of farm machinery for a number of years and is well acquainted with the line which Zumpfe has for sale.

BLINDING LIGHTS CAUSE CAR CRASH

Jimmy A. Corman, 4608 South Sixth street, was reported slightly injured in an automobile accident Tuesday at 6:30 p. m. by R. J. McCabe. The accident occurred four or five miles east of Bly on highway 66. McCabe said, Corman, driving McCabe's car, was blinded by lights of an approaching car which apparently crowded them off the road. The car skidded and turned over, McCabe said, and the other vehicle failed to stop. Corman was taken to Hillside hospital for treatment of a broken collar bone.

Added to the list of South Sixth street auto mishaps was one reported Wednesday by Albert Bakken, 801 Martin street. Bakken said one wheel of his car got off the pavement and the car rolled over George Woodruff and Mildred Applebee, passengers, were said to have been slightly injured.

Spain permits her automobile owners to make or have made their own license tags, but requires car registrations just the same.

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Oil Company Head Injured in Auto Accident Tuesday

James Carmen, manager of the Shell Oil company station in St. Francis park, is in Hillside hospital suffering from a bad shoulder injury received in an automobile accident late Tuesday night. Details were not available.

Another accident sent Don Kennerly, 630 Prospect avenue, to Hillside hospital for treatment of a badly broken nose. Kennerly was a passenger in a car which crashed just before midnight Tuesday. He is an employe of the Weyerhaeuser Timber company.

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