

RAF BAGS 37 AIRPLANES IN SHORT PERIOD

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record. The British said it was the biggest air victory of the war since last fall when the aerial battle of Britain was fought.

Night Bombing
The situation opened an intriguing line of thought on the solution of one of the major problems of the war—effective defense against night bombing. The royal air force controls the British skies by day. But after nightfall the German bombers swarm across the channel for bombardments which wipe whole cities off the map and gravely threaten the British war effort.

However, London made no claim that the night bombing problem was being solved. In a realistic admission the authorities there attributed the success of the British defenses to the brilliance of a near full moon coupled with the increasing efficiency of fighter planes, among them the American-made Douglas called the Havoc in Britain.

The royal air force, while defending the country, had time and bombs for the offensive as well. British planes made widespread raids on German territory Wednesday night. The stoutest blow was struck at Brest, where unusually heavy armor-piercing bombs were dropped on the 26,000-ton German battle cruiser Gneisenau and Scharnhorst. Direct hits were claimed, and on the basis of British descriptions of the bombs used, the hits hardly could have failed to damage the battleships considerably.

Suez Hit
The British in Cairo reported that axis planes bombed the Suez canal zone for two hours, damaging the Egyptian State railroad and other communications.

Reports reaching London said Italian military experts had arrived in Iraq to try to bolster the rapidly weakening resistance of the natives who were reported fleeing to Baghdad under British air bombardment.

Unconfirmed reports from Cairo said the pro-German premier of Iraq, Rashid Ali Beg Gailani, had fled Baghdad after hostile demonstrations against him broke out.

Vichy dispatches indicated more trouble for the British might be brewing in the Near East. The government of French-mandated Syria was said to have approached French officials with a suggestion of a Pan-Arab movement aimed at provoking nationalist agitation in Arab states under British control.

The Vichy government announced that negotiations with Germany were proceeding with a view to a "preliminary peace pact" to replace the armistice agreement. It said "further modifications relaxing the armistice convention" were expected as result of the Paris bargaining of Admiral Jean Francois Darlan, the vice admiral.

LONDON, May 8 (P)—With hundreds of nazi planes to shoot at in the surging air battle of Britain, the RAF and ground defenses have brought down 36 of the attackers within the past 24

"Mad Dog" Killers Enter Sing Sing—But Under Protest



The "Mad Dog" Exposito brothers—so dubbed by a New York judge after a Fifth avenue holdup killing—fought their way right to the gates of Sing Sing penitentiary where they face death by electrocution. Anthony, left, is being carried and William, right, is being dragged by police and guards after an escape attempt was quelled.

hours, it was reported officially tonight.

This total counted 24 knocked from a moonlit sky last night by interceptor planes, anti-aircraft batteries and the balloon barrage—20, three and one, being the respective credits.

Today, in high altitude combat which reminded Britons of the September fighting when daylight raids were at their short-lived height, RAF fighters knocked down 10 more, according to the joint evening communiqué of the air and home security ministries, and the acknowledgment of two others.

The daylight success cost the British one fighting plane, the communiqué said, but the pilot was reported safe.

BERLIN, May 8 (P)—Large bomber formations pounded the "transit ports" of Liverpool and Hull last night, destroying England's shipping facilities and setting huge fires in the harbor areas, and made other wide-ranging attacks on the ports of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Bristol and Plymouth, the German high command said today.

Submarines and bombers sank 41,950 tons of shipping in the north Atlantic and near England, the daily communiqué said.

By The Associated Press
Axis warplanes delivered a two-hour assault on Britain's vital Suez canal during the night, the British reported today, and struck with mounting violence at the island kingdom itself by daylight.

The raid on Suez was believed to have been the longest there since the war began. British officials in Cairo acknowledged that "some damage" was inflicted on Egyptian state railway property but said there were no casualties.

The role of Americans in the struggle was highlighted, meanwhile, in a report by Robert Hutchinson, chairman of the American Eagle club in London, that 10,000 United States citizens are fighting in the British and allied forces.

Hyde Park Bombing Plot Held Doubtful

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to him when he picked them up in his car after their own car had broken down.

Trooper John Hogan said state police were called to investigate at 7:45 a. m. (EST) today and immediately dispatched four troopers to the state.

"I suppose Mr. Maloney brought down other secret service agents from New York," Hogan added.

He said that by noon no trace had been found either of dynamite or the suspicious men.

The watchman, past 70 years old, had been employed at the estate only a week.

Gaffney indicated, after talking with the secret service agents, that the state police would drop its investigation on the theory there either were no suspicious characters or that two men might have taken advantage of the old man by telling a fake dynamite story.

President Roosevelt had planned to visit Hyde Park this week-end but the trip from Washington was cancelled this morning because of his health.

Four Die in Hotel Fire at Seattle

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from the upper windows when he first saw the fire. Firemen took several ladders.

Waste Basket Flares
The fire started, Chief William Fitzgerald said, in a waste basket in the manager's office about 2 a. m., spreading rapidly up the staircase and filling the hallways with smoke. The hotel is across the street from the new federal courthouse building.

L. J. Nagle, 47, a janitor, struggled through the smoke to a fire escape but was so blinded that he plunged through a glass window. He was badly cut and bruised.

Loose Way
David Katz, 47, most seriously of those burned, said he groped his way towards the fire escape but became confused and lost his way twice. Almost overcome, he finally clambered down the escape, his clothing afire in several places.

Others injured included: Clyde Johnson, 20, bellboy, an injured leg in dropping from a second floor window.

Florence Thomas, 36, severe burns. Hulda Auer, 4, maid, severe bruises in dropping from a third-floor window.

Kiyoshi Kamikawa, 20, student, serious burns, shock. Hannah Kamikawa, 18, pantry maid, shock and exposure.

Mrs. Kusu Hirotsato, wife of James Hirotsato, landlord, shock and hysteria.

The first alarm was sounded at 2:48 a. m. and 21 pieces of fire equipment were rushed to the scene. Although great clouds of smoke spread over the district, the hotel management estimated damage at only \$5000.

The fire was the worst hotel blaze since the Lincoln hotel burned on April 6, 1920, with a loss of five lives.

Looking for Bargains? Turn to the Classified page

PREMIER GONE FROM BAGHDAD, SAYS REPORT

(Continued from Page One)
dad airport yesterday and scored direct hits on a magazine at Washash, near the Iraqi capital, a British royal air force middle east communiqué declared today.

Otherwise, middle east general headquarters said, the Iraq situation, both at the British-held Habbaniyah airport and the port of Basra, has remained quiet since the siege of Habbaniyah was broken two days ago. There was sporadic sniping at Habbaniyah, however.

The air communiqué said "violent explosions occurred" when bombs scored flush hits on the magazine. Other bombs, it said, hit military buildings and were dropped on grounded planes at Hanaidi.

"Heavy and successful raids" against Bengali and the axis-held airdromes at Berka, Benina and Derna, repeated targets for the RAF since German and Italian forces launched their counter-offensive eastward into Egypt, also were reported.

ROME, May 8 (P)—The Italian high command announced today that axis forces had captured an important position before the besieged British stronghold of Tobruk in Libya.

It said Italian troops also had inflicted heavy losses on the British in a fierce three-day battle in the Galla Sidamo area of western Ethiopia.

Axis air offensives in the Mediterranean war zone again were underscored by the war bulletin, including raids Tuesday night and last night by German formations on the British island base of Malta and continued bombardment of Tobruk.

Another Body in Boating Mishap Found in Bay

OAKLAND, Calif., May 8 (UP)—San Francisco bay today yielded up the body of Les Groux, former St. Mary's college football star who was drowned in a motorboating accident 10 days ago.

The body washed ashore near Alameda naval air base. Groux was one of four young people who disappeared from a

SPEECHES FAN CONVOY FIGHT

(Continued from Page One)
Representative Satterfield (D-Va.) today called for immediate use of the United States navy and air force "in convoying and making sure that the supplies, munitions of war and food get through to the British."

"We have come now to the ultimate issue of the war raging overseas," Satterfield told the house.

"We cannot stand in the middle of the road all summer engaging in halfway measures. Our foreign policy to date has been faithfully following after events. Never ahead."

LONDON, May 8 (P)—High British official sources, denying low shipping loss figures discussed in the United States senate, declared tonight that April losses were as severe "almost as in any preceding month"—thus indicating sinking of about 460,000 tons.

Old Baldy Looks Inviting as Heat Hits 97 in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, May 8 (P)—The newcomer gazed off to the north, at Mount Baldy, and for once in his life figured it would be all right to be an old baldy—if his crown were snow capped, too.

Down there in the street it was 97 degrees HOT, Angelenos were mopping perspiring foreheads and everyone who could get away had sped beachward.

It was, in short, the hottest May day in local weather records—22 degrees above normal.

"If only the wind were coming from snow-capped Baldy," the newcomer mused. But it wasn't. The wind was from the desert, hot and dry and stifling.

One little boy, Duane Beall, 4, found a cool spot on the shady shore of Nigger slough. But he crept too close, better to see the ripples, toppled in and drowned.

motorboat in the bay April 26. The body of his wife, Mitzi, was found yesterday and that of Mrs. Bernyce Rivers was found previously. Still missing was the body of J. P. Rivers, Oakland policeman.

The two young couple were believed to have been thrown into the water when the 18-foot boat struck rough water. The boat was found cruising empty near Oakland estuary.

25 ADDITIONAL SHIPS TO AID BRITISH FIGHT

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service between South American and Canadian and United States points to transport cargoes including bauxite, sugar, oil well and miscellaneous supplies.

Payment for use of the vessels will be made by Canadian interests, rather than by the United States whose \$7,000,000, 000 lend-lease fund will be used in part for payment for use of the oil tankers.

The charter approval came as British officials and American non-interventionists disputed the extent of British shipping losses and as swiftly-moving events pushed the United States toward a showdown on the convoy issue.

Ships Sunk
Intensifying the situation were reports confirmed by New York maritime circles that the British liner Ixion and the Norwegian freighter Eastern Star had been torpedoed 150 miles east of the southern tip of Greenland.

This is well within President Roosevelt's newly defined neutrality patrol zone which is said to extend at least 2000 miles out into the Atlantic.

Non-interventionists, vigorously resisting proposals the U. S. navy convoy British war consignments, supported their position with figures tending to show a low rate of sinkings of British ships carrying American war cargoes.

Official British circles countered with a report the April toll alone in the battles of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean would be close to 500,000 tons.

Chairman Walter F. George, (D-Ga.), of the senate foreign relations committee, proposed British settle the controversy by furnishing authentic data on losses, both for congress and the American public.

There was no immediate administration reaction to the Ixion and Eastern Star reports. It was anticipated, however, proximity of the sinkings to Greenland would strengthen the presi-

New Draftees To Be Called To Register

whether they are apt to be called for service this fall so they can arrange their school or employment plans accordingly.

In official quarters here it was expected that a large proportion of them would be called for training within a few months after they are registered and classified as to availability for immediate service.

A decision apparently has yet to be reached on how the order numbers of the July registrants will be incorporated in the existing list of numbers assigned after the selective service lottery last October. Whatever the method, the belief was that it would not hinder plans for drawing on the newly-registered pool of additional manpower almost immediately.

WASHINGTON, May 8 (UP)—The treasury announced today that the first week's cash receipts from sale of the new defense savings stamps and bonds amounted to \$114,880,000. Sale of stamps accounted for \$1,554,000 of the total.

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