

# BOMBED WARSHIP PULLS INTO PORT

Wounded Are Taken Off Illustrious After German Attack; Writer Describes How Waves of Planes Hammered British Fleet in Mediterranean.

LONDON, Jan. 16 (U. P.)—Great Britain's newest aircraft carrier, Illustrious, was safe in port somewhere in the Mediterranean today after taking from German dive-bombing planes one of the heaviest poundings ever delivered from the air against a single ship.

A 1000-pound bomb struck her directly below the bridge and near misses made many perforations above and below its water line.

Before the seven-hour attack ended, Illustrious had started to take in water through holes below its water line. But it arrived in port yesterday under its own power and wounded men were put ashore.

Just before Illustrious entered port, it was disclosed, destroyers near it reported a submarine and dropped depth charges which shook the ship almost as severely as had the German bombs.

#### Writer Describes Attack

An Exchange Telegraph correspondent who was aboard Illustrious during the attack, sent a vivid story of the ordeal through which the big ship went as the German planes, wave upon wave, centered their attack upon her. (A participating German pilot provided the opening chapter of the raid in a dispatch circulated by the German official news agency. The pilot said that the order to attack a British fleet was given a little more than 24 hours after a dive-bombing plane force had arrived at an airfield in Sicily.)

Three Junkers 87 planes approached the British fleet from the clouds.

All of the guns on Illustrious and other ships, opened a furious fire. Then four more planes appeared. The leading plane dropped a 1000-pound bomb which fell slightly astern of Illustrious.

#### 1 Bombers Dive at Fleet

Then the correspondent saw about 15 bombers dive at the fleet. British fighters took off from Illustrious' flight deck to engage them. The last of the British fighters had just left the deck when a 1000-pound bomb struck. A tremendous explosion shook the ship. A dive bomber, diving daringly low, had made the hit.

There was a sudden sheet of flame and a cloud of choking smoke. The correspondent felt a severe blow in his shoulder, presumably from concussion, and saw "millions" of sparks. He made his way to the wireless cabin and was told to lie on the floor.

#### Attack From All Sides

As the correspondent sheltered in the room, coughing with the others because of the thick smoke, the roar of German plane motors made it appear as if they were converging on Illustrious from all sides.

The planes came so low that it seemed to the correspondent almost as if they were landing on the ship's flight deck, and at intervals the ship continued to shudder from near misses.

The correspondent commented that the 1000-pound bomb caused only comparatively slight damage and minor casualties.

He told, however, of seeing splintered and riddled steel pipes and wires before he had stood a few moments before. The decks were covered by foam from fire extinguishers. The Admiral in command was examining the damage on his platform and commented:

#### "That was the longest five minutes I ever had in my life."

The flight deck was covered by debris.

Farther forward the correspondent saw a twisted crane and a heap of bomb splinters and empty shell cases. Electric lights were still functioning but hanging from wires which looked like cowbells, amid smoke and smashed woodwork and ironwork. Water cascaded from hoses.

#### A Space was quickly cleared below

## IN INDIANAPOLIS

### Here Is the Traffic Record

	County City Total	Cases Convic- tions	Fines paid
1940	1 0 1		
1941	1 2 3		
—Jan. 15—			
Injured	11	Accidents	30
Dead	0	Arrests	13
WEDNESDAY TRAFFIC COURT			
Violations tried	43	40	\$24
Speeding	43	40	\$24
Reckless driving	9	7	56
Failure to stop at through street	3	3	36
Disobeying traffic signals	4	3	2
Drunk driving	5	2	35
All others	38	28	14
Totals	102	83	\$381

#### MEETINGS TODAY

Indianapolis Real Estate Board, lunch; Advertising Club of Indianapolis, luncheon; Indianapolis Athletic Club, noon; Indiana Club, luncheon; Murat Temple, noon; Club luncheon, Hotel Sevier, noon; Construction League of Indianapolis, noon; Indian Spunks Hotel, meeting; Indianapolis Camera Club, meeting; Elks Club, Theta Pi, luncheon; Canary Cottage, noon; Indianapolis Conference of Architecture Club, luncheon; Board of Trade, noon; Lambda Alpha Alumni Association, luncheon; Russ Club, noon; Indianapolis Modelers Association Club, Inc., luncheon; Fox's Steak House, noon; Western Publishing Co., luncheon; Elks Club, Theta Pi, luncheon; Hotel Washington, 12:15 p. m.; Indianapolis Barbers Association, luncheon; Indianapolis Conference, Bar Association, luncheon; Indiana Veterans' Medical Association, convention; Hotel Sevier, noon; Indianapolis Barbers Association, meeting; Hotel Sevier, noon; Hotel Sevier, 10 a. m.; 12:30 p. m. and 2 p. m.; Barbers Association, luncheon; Indianapolis Building and Loan Assn., Proprietary meeting and luncheon, 11 a. m. and 12:30 p. m.

#### MEETINGS TOMORROW

Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, concert; Murat Temple, 2:30 p. m.; Exchange Club, luncheon; Hotel Sevier, noon; Optimist Club, luncheon; Columbian Club, noon; Reserve Officers' Association, dinner; Stagmen's Club, Theta, luncheon; Canary Cottage, noon; Delta Tau Delta, luncheon; Columbian Club, noon; Women's Club, 8 a. m.; Federation of Community Civic Clubs, meeting; Indiana Stamp Club, meeting; Antlers Hotel, 8 p. m.; Kappa Sigma, luncheon, Canary Cottage, noon.

## INCREASED NAVY FUND APPROVED

House Group O. K.'s Bill to Spend \$1,209,000,000; Yards on 3 Shifts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (U. P.)—The House Naval Affairs Committee today approved a \$1,209,000,000 emergency authorization program for more ship yards, gun and armor factories and protection of fleet from air attack.

The Committee urged speedy enactment of the final draft of the measure which was worked out after a brief meeting with Navy officials. The bill would authorize:

1. Construction of 40 important auxiliaries at a cost of \$400,000,000. The Navy will build only 280 of the most "urgently needed" craft this year but wants authority for 400.
2. Expenditure of \$315,000,000 to provide the shipyard facilities for these craft and to supply the additional yards facilities needed to push the "two-ocean Navy" ahead of schedule.

#### Defense Probe Lags

3. Allocation of \$194,000,000 to build the factories necessary to meet British demands for cargo ships, guns, and great quantities of ships and armor needed for this nation's naval expansion.

The committee approved a bill yesterday authorizing the Navy to spend \$300,000,000 to improve the fleet's protection from air attack.

Chairman Carl Vinson advised the committee that it would be necessary to postpone its investigation of defense production lags in order to give the right-of-way to a bill he plans to introduce providing more officers for the Navy.

The bill will increase the number of appointments to the U. S. Naval Academy by each Senator and Representative from four to five. Mr. Vinson said the Navy regarded this as very urgent.

#### May Air Merchant Ships

Rear Admiral W. R. Furlong, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, yesterday reported a pressing need for immediate expansion of armor plate and gun factories. He said that among reasons why additional facilities were needed were:

1. British pleas for more three and four-inch guns to arm their merchant ships against submarine attacks.
2. The Navy's desire to have an ample supply of guns to arm 1816 merchant ships if the United States should enter the war. This total included American flag ships and included foreign-owned vessels which would be rechristened in event of war.

His testimony was given as evidence that most of the nation's Navy yards have gone on a six-day

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Greek troops were salvaging much material, including cases of ammunition and bundles of woolen underwear and socks, which they sent back to Greek headquarters for distribution despite their own immediate needs, the dispatch said.

Yesterday, Miss Merlin reported, Italian bombers dropped sacks of food and supplies over Greek positions along the Kisia-Berat road.

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He said that in some instances yards may work two 10-hour shifts to permit overhaul of machinery, but that in all cases workers will be paid overtime for all work in excess of 40 hours—the basic work week.

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Mr. Morgan and six other superintendents from the defense country attended the conference.

Closer co-ordination between NYA and school programs is being sought. At present, 764 youths are participating in the NYA-public school "in-school" work program in Indianapolis.

DeWitt S. Morgan, Indianapolis schools superintendent, told the conference in Washington in an attempt to increase opportunities for unemployed youths.

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