

SPURS BRITAIN TO AIR OFFENSE

Ministry Chief Calls Upon Army to Organize Striking Force.

LONDON, Jan. 22 (U. P.)—The main task of the British Army is to organize "the greatest possible striking force for offensive operations on the continent." Air Minister Sir Archibald Sinclair emphasized today in the House of Commons.

The statement was made in connection with the opening of a debate on defense of British airfields and the formation of an RAF regiment to relieve the army of the duty of defending airfields.

RAF Works With Army

Sinclair said the position with respect to defense of British airfields in 1940 was alarming. Since then, however, "we have traveled far," he said.

The Royal Air Force and the Army now work in closest liaison regarding the defense of airfields, he said, but added that the bulk of the garrison at any RAF station must inevitably belong to the air force ground staffs.

Visions Toughest Force

Sinclair said he believed a recently created RAF regiment would "enable us to establish on our airfields a force which will be second to none for its size in toughness, offensive spirit, mobility and hitting power."

Sinclair added that "we must not hide from our minds the reality that although the German bomber force in the west for the past few months has been greatly reduced, there is at this moment and there has been for weeks past large numbers of German bombers within striking distance of this country."

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Fears Burma Capture

Senators Connally and George predicted that British and Australian forces cannot hold out indefinitely against the Japanese thrusts down the Malaya Peninsula and pointed out that loss of Singapore would mean at least temporary Japanese hegemony in the Far East.

"Burma is a weak spot," Mr. George said. "Once Singapore falls the Japs would be in a position to take Burma and threaten India, Australia and New Zealand."

Mr. Connally warned at a press conference that it would be "some months" before we can make our strength felt in the Pacific region.

6th Sub Victim Off East Coast



This official United States Navy picture taken from the air shows the Latvian freighter Ciltvaira sinking off the Atlantic coast after being torpedoed by an Axis submarine. All but two crew members

3 SENATORS SEE PACIFIC LOSSES

Connally and George Say
Singapore Will Fall;
Pepper Optimistic.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (U. P.)—Three ranking members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, stating their own views rather than those of the Government, said today that the United States must prepare for discouraging news from the Far Pacific war region because of the probable fall of Singapore.

First prediction of Japanese conquest of Singapore came from Committee Chairman Tom Connally (D. Tex.).

Former Committee Chairman Walter F. George (D. Ga.) said that if the Burma Road were cut by

subsets of Japanese control of Singapore and the Malaya Peninsula, China might be forced "to make peace with Japan."

Ripped Side Off Ship

The noise that awakened him was the explosion of a German torpedo ripping the side out of the 5269-ton, 38-year-old City of Atlanta.

Only three men out of 46 were known to have survived: Fennell, 22, of Savannah; Second Officer George Tavelle, 34, of Savannah, and Able-Bodied Seaman Early Dowdy, 27, of Savannah. John York, 38, second assistant engineer, of Mountain City, Ga., was picked up by a rescue boat,

Grinning, he reached under his pillow in St. Mary's Hospital last night, brought out the picture of his wife, the former Mary Farrar, and showed it proudly to reporters.

Hurts at Nazis

The sailors clenched their fists and shook them, shouting:

"I'd like to bring your . . . necks, you . . . Heines."

The light soon went off and the submarine glided away. Then those who had survived far began a desperate effort to live until help arrived. They cursed and they prayed. One by one, the men lost consciousness and slipped into the sea.

Before dawn, a vessel passed them, but they were too weak to hail it. They were finally rescued at 7:55 a. m., after having been in the water almost seven hours.

'GOOD NEWS' IN SUB WAR HINTED

Navy Promises Results to
Counteract Heavy Toll
Of U. S. Ships.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (U. P.)—Americans waited patiently today for details of U. S. Navy retaliation against German submarines which in a week have attacked six merchant ships almost within sight of the Atlantic seaboard and brought death to at least 75 seamen.

The Navy has assured the nation that "good news" will be forthcoming to counteract the week of "bad news" about Atlantic shipping. All available naval units—vessels and aircraft—are striking savagely at Hitler's "rattlesnakes."

Fifth and Sixth Victims

It was believed that when the Navy considers the time is right to tell its story, the price German submarines have paid will more than offset the recent attacks.

Late yesterday the Navy reported the fifth and sixth victims of submarine attacks. The American steamer City of Atlanta went to the bottom off Cape Hatteras early Monday with a loss of 43 or 44 men. The Latvian freighter Ciltvaira was attacked and believed sunk off the Atlantic coast with the loss of two of its crew.

Survivors Tell Stories

Survivors of the Ciltvaira arriving in New York and Charleston, S. C., said the ship was "still floating" when they abandoned it and believed it could be salvaged.

The survivors' stories about these attacks by underwater marauders which have infested Atlantic coastal waters for a week disclosed that the pattern of submarine warfare is nearly the same in each case—attack without warning under cover

of darkness—no regard for the safety of the crews.

Only three of the City of Atlanta's crew of 46 or 47 were rescued. The three survivors upon arrival in Hoboken, N. J., told bitterly of the German torpedo crashing into the side of the steamer early Monday morning, and how the submarine then rose to the surface and played a searchlight upon the helpless sailors struggling in the icy waters off Cape Hatteras.

Well Known to Tourists

The City of Atlanta was an old 5269-ton cargo and passenger ship owned and operated by the Ocean Steamship Co. It had been plying between New York and Southern ports and was well known to tourists. The apparent loss of life among its crew was the largest yet suffered by a merchant vessel in Germany's recent submarine campaign.

The Ciltvaira, a 3778-ton steamer, was built in 1905 and was owned by the Latvian Shipping Co. Her home port was Riga, Latvia.

The attacks upon these boats was the first time that submarines have struck at other than oil tankers.

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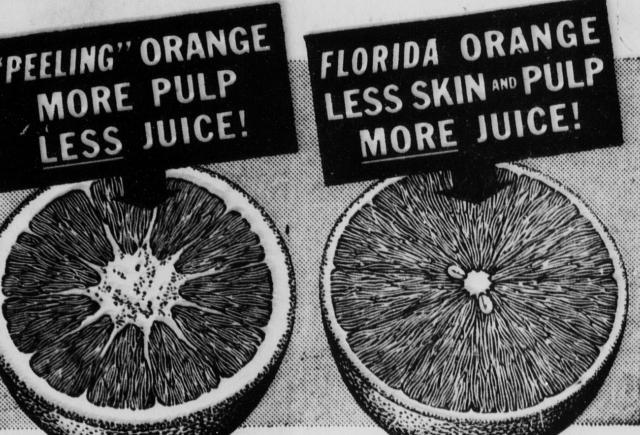
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RAILROADER HURT FATALLY in the Wabash Railroad hospital PERU, Ind., Jan. 22 (U. P.)—Anthony Marino, 25, railroad switchman and former Peru High School football star, died yesterday in his body.

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