

1941

- May 2, Cabinet reorganization in United Kingdom. Lord Beaverbrook named Minister of State.
- May 7, Vichy announced negotiations with Germany regarding reduction by 25 p.c. of German occupation charges. M. Stalin assumed Premiership of U.S.-S.R. interpreted to indicate closer co-operation between Germany and Russia.
- May 9, U.S.S.R. withdrew recognition of Belgium, Norway and Yugoslavia as independent powers. Admiralty announced German raider *Hansa* had been sunk in Indian Ocean by H.M.S. *Cornwall*.
- May 10, Herr Rudolf Hess landed by parachute in Scotland.
- May 11, Canada issued call for 32,000 volunteers for Army.
- May 12-13, Germany announced Red Sea as combat zone.
- May 14, Vichy Government approved an agreement negotiated by Herr Hitler and Vice-Premier Darlan committing France to closer co-operation with Germany.
- May 15, President Roosevelt appealed to France not to deliver herself up to Germany.
- May 18, Announcement that Egyptian S.S. *Zamzam* sunk by German surface raider in South Atlantic on Apr. 17; over 150 U.S. citizens on board taken to France. Axis Powers set up Kingdom of Croatia, with Duke of Spoleto as King.
- May 21, A further contingent of Empire airmen, graduates of British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, reached England. German war material reported crossing Turkey by rail.
- May 22, R.N. seized French tanker *Sheherazade* en route from U.S. to Casablanca. London warned Vichy that no distinction would be made between occupied and unoccupied France unless policy of helping Germany was abandoned.
- May 23, United Kingdom announced that initial air training would be transferred to Canada and U.S.
- May 25, Admiral Raeder (following sinking of H.M.S. *Hood*, see Battle of the Atlantic, p. 1026), commanding the German Navy, warned that U.S. convoys would be regarded as an act of war.
- May 27, President Roosevelt, in a radio address, announced the proclamation of a state of unlimited national emergency, asserted the doctrine of the freedom of the seas and assured Britain of the delivery of needed supplies.
- May 28, Vichy Ministers met in Paris for collaboration negotiations with Germany.
- May 29, Japan demanded the right to negotiate with the Netherlands East Indies without British or Netherlands Home Government intervention.
- May 30, First British air cadets to be trained in the U.S. arrived in Canada.
- May 31, Three bombs dropped on Dublin 30 persons killed.

The Battle of Britain

1940

- July 10, Admiralty announced the laying of a minefield from the Orkney Islands to Iceland and Greenland.
- July 18, Mr. Churchill stated that further evacuation of British children to Canada not justified by the military situation.
- July 23, R.A.F. stated British aeroplane losses since German aerial attacks on Britain on June 17 as 91 and known German losses as 133.
- Aug. 2, German 'pamphlet raid' on England, copies of Herr Hitler's Reichstag speech of July 19 dropped. Port of Hamburg reported in ruins as result of British bombing raids.
- Aug. 4, R.A.F. reported heavy concentration of German troops at English Channel ports in France.
- Aug. 8-18, First stage in aerial "Battle of Britain", consisting mainly of attacks on shipping and ports.
- Aug. 11, Heavy raids on Britain, including first attack on coastal balloon barrage; 60 German and 26 British machines shot down.
- Aug. 12, First use of cross-channel guns by Germans destroyed some houses in Dover.
- Aug. 12-13, Mass formations of German machines attacked shipping, Dover, Portsmouth, and Isle of Wight; 69 German and 11 British bombers lost in fighting; 16 British bombers failed to return from extended attacks on German bases.