

TORPEDO STRIKES SHIP OFF ICELAND

Sept. 13-41
YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER

Second U.S. Freighter Attacked in North—Crew of 26 Non- Americans in Lifeboats

By The United Press.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12 — The American-owned cargo ship Montana was torpedoed midway between Iceland and Greenland yesterday, shortly before President Roosevelt warned Germany and Italy that their war vessels henceforth would be shot on sight in United States defense waters, the State Department said today.

The crew of 26, composed of 18 Danish, 5 Norwegians, 1 Greek, 1 Belgian, 1 Spaniard and no American citizens, took to lifeboats, the department said.

The vessel, one of the Danish ships requisitioned by the Maritime Commission on Aug. 2, was under Panamanian registry. It carried 1,500,000 feet of lumber which was to have been discharged at Reykjavik and three other Icelandic ports.

The torpedoing occurred within waters which have been held essential to the nation's defense.

State Department's Report

The State Department's report of the attack was as follows:

"The Department of State has been informed that the American-owned cargo ship Montana, under Panamanian registry, formerly the Danish ship Paula, which was requisitioned by the Maritime Commission on Aug. 2, 1941, sailed from Wilmington, N. C., for Iceland at 9 A. M., Aug. 29, with a cargo of lumber for the Iceland Government.

"According to a message from the Navy Department received at 12 noon, Sept. 12, the ship was observed by aircraft to be torpedoed in Lat. 63 degrees 40 minutes N. and Long. 35 degrees 50 minutes W. at 13:45 Greenwich Central Time [9:45 A. M. E.D.T.] on Sept. 11.

"The message said that the crew took to their boats.

"The Montana has on board about 1,500,000 feet of lumber and was due in Reykjavik, Iceland, on Sept. 11 and was to discharge her cargo at Reykjavik and three other Iceland ports."

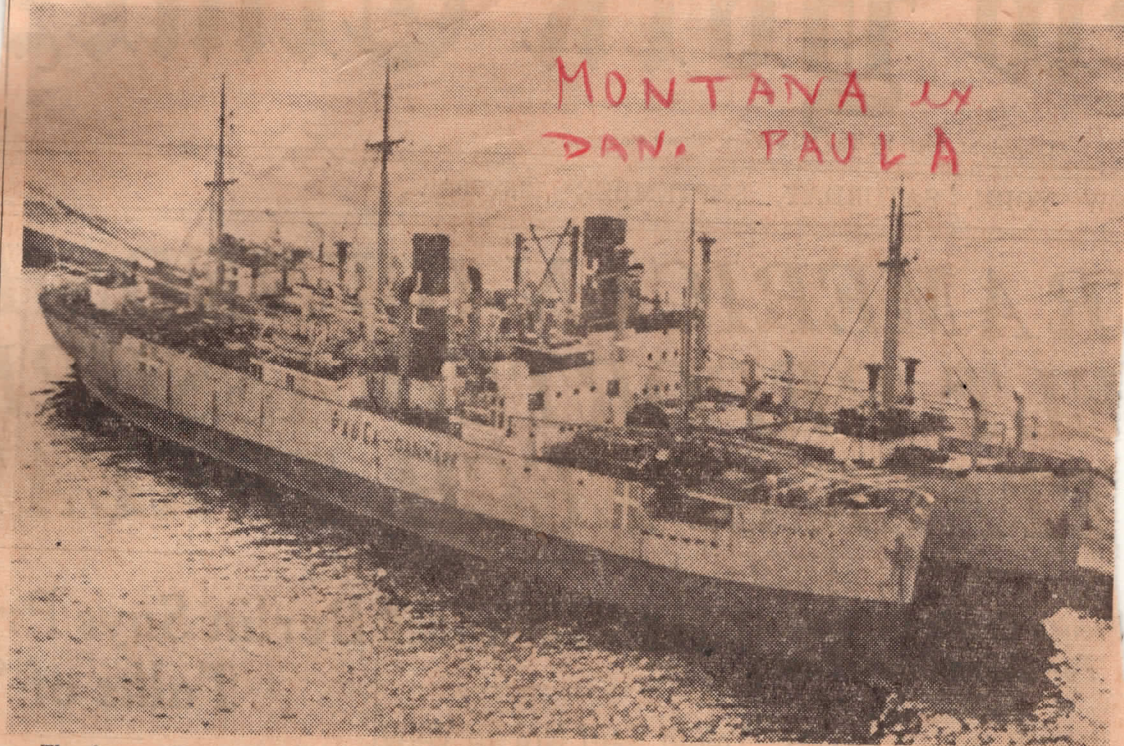
President Roosevelt received a report of the attack during his meeting with the Cabinet this afternoon. Secretary Knox said that a British patrol plane witnessed the torpedoing.

Colonel Knox said that "evidently" none of the crew was injured and added that latest information to the Department indi-

Continued on Page Two

Sept 13-41

ANOTHER VICTIM OF HITLER'S SEA OFFENSIVE



The former Danish freighter, Paula, renamed Montana after the United States Government took her over, which was sunk off Greenland on Thursday, shortly before Mr. Roosevelt's address.

TORPEDO STRIKES SHIP OFF ICELAND

Continued From Page One

cated that they were still afloat in lifeboats.

Asked if American warships were rushed to the scene to hunt the marauder, the Secretary said that apparently no United States warships were in the vicinity. He did not know whether the British plane attacked the U-boat.

The incident, he said, was discussed at the Cabinet meeting.

Sessa Was a Sister Ship

The Montana was the second freighter flying the Panamanian flag to be sunk in Icelandic waters since Germany began what President Roosevelt described in his world broadcast last night as "unrestricted warfare." A sister ship, the Sessa, was torpedoed and sunk Aug. 17 off Iceland, about forty miles from the scene of the attack on the Montana, and three of its crew of twenty-seven were rescued on Sept. 6 by American destroyer.

Like the Sessa, the Montana was a vessel of about 1,900 tons and was under charter to the Marine Operating Company of New York, a subsidiary of the Mallory Lines.

Other attacks on American shipping which precipitated the President's warning to Germany and Italy included the sinking of the Steel Seafarer in the Red Sea on Sept. 7; the sinking of the Robin Moor in the South Atlantic in May, and the attack on the destroyer Greer by a German submarine

Knudsen, a 41-year-old Dane. The address of his wife, Mrs. Lilly Knudsen, was given as 9100 Second Avenue, North Bergen, N. J. The second mate was Niels G. Aarre, also a Dane.

Mr. Knudsen's wife has been living with the two Knudsen children, Margo, 7, and Gunnar, 4, at 9100 Second Avenue, North Bergen, N. J.

The mother and two children came to New York from Denmark for a vacation just before the Nazi legions invaded their country and moved to an apartment in North Bergen three months ago.

The ship's name was changed only last month when it was chartered by the Marine Transport Company of New York.

It was one of the foreign ships in New York Harbor taken over by United States authorities last March under the Anti-Sabotage Act.

Before the war it traded between Atlantic ports and England.

THOMAS ASSAILS SPEECH

Socialist Says We Are to Be Plunged Into 'Disastrous War'

"Only Congress can declare war, but President Roosevelt can make it," said the Socialist party in an official statement issued yesterday by its chairman, Norman Thomas.

"The President's policy of war the moment United States naval vessels already sailing the seas can make contact with the 'enemy,'" Mr. Thomas said.

country is to be plunged into a disastrous war for the seas—one of the Fourteen Points turned down.

The Socialist party is assailing

ences to the Jews in his speech at Des Moines Thursday night.

"Many groups and elements in this country are attempting to drive us into war," the Socialists declared. "This issue cuts across all racial lines. No one race is responsible. The Socialist party has many Jews in its ranks and these take their stand with the party against American involvement. No race or people can be made the scapegoat for this crime."

Commission Submarine Tender

MARE ISLAND, Calif., Sept. 13

(AP)—The submarine tender U. S. S. Fulton was commissioned today by the Navy. The Fulton, one of four submarine tenders transferred at Mare Island, will be ready early in 1942.

MAP OF THE

