

LEAD.

Here is a statement made by President Roosevelt late this afternoon. It reads: "I have accepted General Eisenhower's political arrangements made for the time being in Northern and Western Africa."

In saying this, the President puts an okay on the Eisenhower recognition of Admiral Darlan as political chief in the French North African Colonies now occupied by the United States and Great Britain.

The White House declaration goes on to take cognizance of the many protests against our dealings with Darlan, who for so long was a pro-Nazi collaborationist. "I thoroughly understand and approve of the feeling," says the President, "that in view of the history of the past two years, no permanent arrangements should be made with Admiral Darlan. We are opposed," he adds, "to Frenchmen who support Hitler and the Axis." Then the President goes on to state that there is nothing permanent about the recognition of Darlan. "The present arrangement in Northwestern Africa," says he, "is only a temporary expedient, justified solely by the stress of battle."

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The key to the whole thing lies in those three presidential words:- "Stress of battle" after all, Admiral Darlan, as Commander of the French Military Forces in North and West Africa, did order them to cease resistance to the American and British. And they obeyed - they stopped fighting. And that meant a lot, as the President explains.

"The present temporary arrangement," says he, "has accomplished two military objectives. The first was to save American and British lives on the one hand, and French lives on the other. The second," he continues, "was the vital factor of time. The temporary arrangement has made it possible to avoid a mopping up period in Algiers and Morocco, which might have taken a month or two to consummate. It is also to be noted," the President points out, "that French troops under the command of General Giraud have already been in action in Tunisia, fighting by the side of British and American soldiers for the liberation of that country."

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LEAD (3)

Such is the official <sup>Franklin</sup>~~Frank~~ D. Roosevelt answer to bitter complaints - that our Army is collaborating with the collaborationist Darlan. The protest was particularly angry in the British House of Commons today. There the Darlan business was stigmatized as - a bitter pill. And members of Parliament called Darlan - "a quisling". One Liberal member described the Darlan arrangement in these words: "A Premium to those quislings whether of France or of any other country, who are now carrying on their evil purposes." And the demand was made - get rid of Darlan. <sup>H</sup>"Whatever may be going on behind the diplomatic scenes," declared an M.P., "the view of a large number of people in Britain is that Darlan must go."

In behalf of the Churchill Government, Deputy Prime Minister Attlee was brief. He described the negotiations between American General Eisenhower and French Admiral Darlan as follows: "They concerned the immediate military situation," said he. And that is exactly along the line taken by President Roosevelt. The Darlan deal was a matter, not of political ideology but of the practical business of winning the campaign in North Africa.

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LEAD (4)

That campaign, meanwhile, goes on apace. That is <sup>+</sup> the Americans and British are pushing on into strategic Tunisia.. There is every indication of a rapid and overwhelming advance - with American paratroops leading the way. They are being dropped at important points to seize control, and thereupon followed by the rolling ground troops.

It is not clear whether our men have yet made fighting contact with Nazi forces in Tunisia. One report says - no. Another - yes, American paratroops are fighting with German soldiers dropped by parachute. <sup>and,</sup> London reports clashes between armored units.

In the air, General Doolittle's bombers and fighters are striking at the Axis - and fighting innumerable skybattles with enemy planes.

At the other side of the battle area, where the British are still chasing after the retreating German Afrika Korps, there are signs of a swift across-the-desert movement to trap the beaten forces of Nazi Field Marshal Rommel. The British admit

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that their main army has lost contact with Rommel, so rapid has been the German retreat. So they are trying a short cut across the most difficult sector of the desert, in an effort to get swiftly across Rommel's line of retreat, and trap him.

Cairo states that Rommel may try a stand along a strong natural line, where the Axis twice before stopped a British advance. Rommel may attempt it a third time. Or maybe not. It would all seem to depend on how things go in Tunis.

## SOLOMONS

Today Secretary of the Navy Knox interpreted the Battle of the Solomons in the terms of a prizefight - sort of round by round description. The Secretary had done the same thing in describing an earlier phase of the long drawn-out action on land and sea and in the air. That previous time he said that we had won round one -- with round two still to come.

Today the Secretary, in telling of the latest clash, described the great American victory in these words: "We have won round two of the battle of the Solomons." He said it was a major victory, but not decisive. The Jap losses were great, twenty-three ships destroyed, but these losses were not severe enough to keep the enemy from trying again. "They'll come back. We are making plans for that," said he. Each time it gets more difficult for them to come back. But we know they'll come back." In other words round two will be followed by round three.

President Roosevelt at his press conference late this afternoon described the big battle as - a

major victory. The President went into no details about the action. He concentrated on paying tribute to Rear Admiral Callaghan, the President's former naval aide, who was killed in the battle. He was obviously grieved by the news of the death of his old friend. And he pointed out what a glorious thing Admiral Callaghan had done in taking his ten thousand ton cruiser right up against a thirty-five thousand ton Japanese battleship, shooting it out at point blank range.

The Navy today announced that still another Admiral was killed\* in the big fight of the Solomons - Real Admiral Norman Scott. He was in command of a naval unit during the battle. And Captain Cassin Young was killed. He was captain of the flagship of Admiral Callaghan and presumably both high officers lost their lives when an enemy shell blew away the bridge of the cruiser which may have been the SAN FRANCISCO.

Admiral Scott is the fourth admiral to perish

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in this war. Read Admiral Isaac Kidd was killed aboard the battleship ARIZONA at Pearl Harbor.

Admiral John Wilcox was swept overboard in the Atlantic and now Admirals Callaghan and Scott -- lost in the Battle of the Solomons.

Here's a last minute thriller -- to add to the already  
~~abundant~~ abundant thrill tales about Eddie Rickenbacker. A bulletin  
just in from the War Department tells us how Rick was actually  
picked up. He was on a ~~xx~~ life raft with Colonel Hans Adamson  
and Private John Bartek. They were spotted by a small observation  
plane which landed on the ocean beside the life ~~raft~~ raft. There  
wasn't ~~xx~~ nearly enough room in the two seater plane for the three  
rescued men. Colonel Adamson squeezed into the ~~xx~~ cockpit. Rick  
and Private Bartek had to ride the <sup>w</sup> wings. They were lashed  
to the wings and the plane took off.

## DEFERMENTS

Hereafter, no federal employee will be deferred from military service just because he works for the Government. This was stated by President Roosevelt today - who also called for the cancellation of such deferments as have already been granted. He told his press conference that too many men have been kept out of service because they were in government employ. And added that a month ago he gave instructions that young officers should be removed from Washington and sent to war areas.

SCHRADER

I am broadcasting from Brooklyn tonight, from a celebration in connection with the presentation of another Army-Navy E award. This time to the famous Schrader Valve concern -- a Schrader's son. It wasn't until this afternoon that I knew that the Schrader Valve is the only completely standard piece of automobile equipment that is in worldwide use, used by every automobile everywhere. And the head of the company, W. T. Hunter, has seen the automobile industry grow from a total of three thousand cars in Eighteen Ninety-Nine to more than Thirty-two million in Nineteen Forty, that is, during the forty-three years he has been with Schrader.

But the Schrader people make many things besides valves. They turn out most of the diving equipment in the world, the diving outfits that were rushed across the continent for use at Pearl Harbor, just a little less than a year ago. And now they are making a great deal of secret equipment for both the Army and the Navy,

especially for the Air Force.

Thousands of Schrader employees were jammed around us a little while ago when high officers of the Army and Navy presented the award which so far has only gone to about two per cent of the concerns in America that are making things for our armed forces.

## POLL TAX.

The Senate battle of poll tax went into its fourth day today, <sup>with</sup> <sup>the</sup> Southern Senators <sup>still</sup> <sup>are</sup> fighting the bill to abolish <sup>the</sup> poll tax, which institution has a good deal of bearing on the negro vote in the South. They are blocking it with all sorts of parliamentary maneuvers - technical tricks of delay, to keep the bill from coming up for consideration.

This morning, after the Senate was opened with the usual prayers, a messenger arrived from the White House with a list of nominations from the President. This was entirely a routine thing, and ordinarily the Senate receives the Presidential nominations without comment, and sends them to a committee for consideration.

Today, however, Senator Russell of Georgia arose and demanded that the Senate proceedings of the previous day be read. This is required by Senate rules, but usually, the reading is waived by unanimous consent. Senator Russell refused his consent, and insisted that yesterdays journal be read.

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add poll tax -

~~xxx coming in.~~

The poll tax wrangle was high lighted today by an angry outburst from Senator McKellar of Tennessee. This harked back to the dramatics of last Saturday - when Southern lawmakers stayed away from Senate proceedings to delay the poll tax business. Because of their absence, there was no quorum, and administration leader Barkley ordered the arrest of absent Southern Senators. He said he would have their office doors broken down to get at them. One of the Senators thus threatened was McKellar of Tennessee. And today he shouted that he had been besmirched. "I don't think I deserved that indignity," he cried. To which he added: "of all the roll calls we have had this year, I missed only eight." He charged that Senator Barkley had missed twenty-one. Delivering this blast, Senator McKellar withdrew his name from a letter that he, with other Senators had signed - a letter asking the President to appoint Senator Barkley to the Supreme Court.

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The battle of poll tax was further enlivened today by a declaration from Phil Murray, President of the CIO. Murray sent

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a letter to the Senators, in which he stated:- "The Nation stands aghast and enraged at the tactics of a small bloc in the Senate which is seeking to frustrate majority rule in this Nation."

So there you have it. Tonight the Nation stands aghast and enraged. -- *in spots.*

~~455p~~

## RUMANIANS.

At Detroit, three Rumanians were indicted today, and the accusations against them concern Rumanian independence, ex-King Carol, and eighty million dollars. We all love independence, somebody loves ex-King Carol, and who doesn't love eighty million dollars?

The three Rumanians are described as heads of a movement to accomplish the freedom of their country - freedom from Nazi oppression. And point number one on their program was to get ex-King Carol into the United States. Carol with his long time friend Madame Lupescu, is now in Mexico City. It is known that he would like to sojourn in the land North of the Rio Grande. So far, however, Washington has shown little desire to welcome the ex-sovereign of Rumania.

The three men indicted today were nursing a plan, to have Carol come to the United States and be the head of a free Rumanian government here. The big point was this: If Carol were <sup>recognized</sup> ~~making~~ <sup>again</sup> of Rumania, it would put him in a position to acquire Rumanian funds in this country.

RUMANIANS (2)

At the time the Nazis took over in Rumania, the United States Government froze Rumanian funds over here. They are still frozen - like ice. The funds amount to eighty million dollars - and may be Carol might be able to thaw them out. That would be just too melting - thawing out eighty million dollars.

However, all may end in the cooler - for the three Rumanians are charged with having failed to register as agents of a foreign government. <sup>H</sup> Ex-King Carol is shown to have donated a thousand dollars to their organization for freeing Rumania.

Names.

Over in Holland they have found a new way to annoy the Nazis - a Baptismal way. Patriotic Dutch parents are giving to their children names that have an anti-Nazi sound. A Hitlerite newspaper puts it in these words: "lately it happened repeatedly," says the Nazi paper, "that parents have chosen names for their children to express their political disposition."

For example - Hendrik Cornelius Van Der Groot and his wife Wilhelmina Van Der Groot are having their young hopeful christened. And the name they give him is - Winston. So the young Hollander comes out - Winston Van Der Groot.

There is of course, still another name that anti-Nazi Dutch parents give to their children. But this time we cannot stir any levity by adding a ripe and rich Dutch family name to the baptismal name. Because the baptismal name is Franklin, and what could sound more Dutch than Roosevelt?

And sometimes they combine them, with results like this: - Winston. D. Roosevelt Van Der Groot.

And now Hugh-