

L. J. - Sunoco. Friday, April 12, 1940.

Canon

4.

BOMBING....The British are striking swiftly and incessantly through the sky, ~~minimum~~ hitting at the long supply lines which Nazi Germany must establish to hold on in Norway. One British air raid in particular catches the focus of attention, ^{tonight and} in more ways than one.

A squadron of R. A. F. Bombers flew all the way to the Baltic coastline of Germany, and there bombed a seaplane base. That was the most daring kind of long distance bombing, but mere courage and enterprise is only part of it.

From Germany comes the following statement: That the R.A.F. warplanes bombed a ~~small~~ German railway station. Berlin says that no particular damage was done. A bomb fell near the railroad tracks and shattered the windows of the waiting room. An exceedingly minor event -- except for the implications, and these are large indeed. The official German News agency puts it as follows:

"This is the first case in the present war," it says, "where enemy war-planes have attacked a German communications point."

Yes, bombing a railroad station is something new in the warfare between the allies and the Nazis. The Germans think--maybe it was an accident. If so, all right. But if it was # deliberate--*well,*

10.add bombing.

here's the German statement:

"Germany will be given a complete new basis for waging war against England." Meaning, Nazi bombers will retaliate against British railroad centers and such. And that might bring about the "total war-of-the-air"--so greatly dreaded, bombers striking at EVERY-thing, cities, civilian populations. The Germans add that they will think the attack was deliberate--- if it happens again. A Nazi spokesman said: "If they repeat the attack, we will answer double." And probably the British on their part would answer double--and then *the* lid would be off, the restrictions that have hitherto confined air-bombing to ships and shipping, ~~the~~ sky versus ~~the~~ sea.

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From London comes a statement saying "No" a denial that the R.A.F. bombers, in raiding the Baltic seaplane base, made any attack on a railroad station.

4.

AIR RAIDS FOLLOW BOMBERS....Other British air raids ^{today} struck at Nazi shipping in the Baltic. And one terrific hit was scored. The British account tells of a line of ten German transports steaming north. The bombers attacked and hit a large vessel, an eight-thousand tonner. It was a munitions ship, and it exploded. A tremendous sheet of flame shot skyward, as tons of TNT blew up.

The R.A.F. bombers hit still another vessel. Apparently this was not a munition ship. It did not blow up, but was severely damaged.

12/

AIR BATTLES.....There were a couple of pitched battles of the sky today. London reports that a group of R.A.F. bombers escorted by fighting planes, attacked the airfield at the port of Stavanger. That harbor, which is held by the Germans, has one of the few first class military airports in Norway. The country is too rugged to have more than half a dozen large airdromes. The attacking bombers blasted away with high explosives, and started a huge fire. German fighters soared to the attack, and there was a wild melee in the sky. London reports that the attacking squadron, having done their work of destruction, got safely away, all save one. Only one British plane failed to return.

But London reports heavier losses in another fierce fray of the clouds. British bombers struck at the Norwegian port of Kristiansand. That's a at the entrance of the much embattled Skagerrak. The particular targets were two Nazi warships in the Fjord of Kristiansand.

Bombing, anti-aircraft fire and the clash of fighting planes. The

British ^{admit losing} ~~lost~~ five, five planes shot down. ^{the Germans say eight,} ~~So says London, and adds~~

^{London states} that two German fighters were downed and others were observed to be

15.

SWEDEN.....Reports continue that Nazi Germany is making demands on Sweden, requiring that German troops shall be permitted to pass through Swedish territory on their way to Norway. They say ^{the} Nazis want to use the Swedish railways to rush reinforcements to their various separated units in Norway.

This was formally denied today by the premier of Sweden.

"Fortunately," he said, "~~No demands in this respect have been put~~

~~before us.~~" ^{But} And he added, "If such demands are made, they must be

rejected." He declared that Sweden was ready to defend its neutrality against anybody and everybody.

And Berlin chimes in with a denial, saying that there has been no demand for permission to send German troops across Swedish territory.

~~Note - In the Kristiansand story, the Germans claim they shot down eight British planes. end note.~~

1.
2.

MINES....The situation in the Skagerrak becomes a bit clearer today, with a London announcement the British admiralty has laid a series of huge mine fields in the Skagerrak, the Kattegat and adjacent areas of the North Sea and the Baltic. The purpose of this is obvious--- to stop German transport from Germany and Denmark ^{bound for} ~~to invade~~ Norway. The number one point of British strategy is to isolate the Nazi troops in Norway, cut them off from re-enforcements and Munitions. This supply route lies across water, those narrow straits which are now infested with mines. Though, of course,--there still remains the sky, the air route.

Aviation has transferred many an angle of military strategy, and in this case the Germans can use airplanes to send reenforcements and supplies across the Skagerrak. They are said to have a fleet of transport planes, which are busily ferrying soldiers and equipment to Norway. There's talk of a hundred of these ^{big} Nazi troop ships of the ^{sky} ~~blue~~. Even so, the German army can't ship by air anything like the quantity that ^{might be} ~~is~~ possible by sea. So today the British admiralty issued a detailed notice of ^e ~~mining~~ fields that have been placed as a barrier to keep nazi ships from norway.

2.

4..add mines.

That's how London plans to control the Skagerrak and the Kattegat.

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5.

OSLO FOLLOW MINES....There are still reports of British ships in the Fjord of Oslo, battling fiercely, trying to blast their way past the cannon the Germans have stationed on the shore -- the cliffs. These stories, like the other sensational accounts of the Skagerrak battle, come mostly from Sweden -- not confirmed by London. In fact, they are even denied by London. A British statement declares that there was no fighting in the Fjord of Oslo today.

London provides us with one supposition that may explain a lot of the insistent stories about naval action in the skagerrak. The violent explosions heard may be -- depth bombs, ~~The Germans~~

~~using high explosive charges,~~ trying to blast British submarines.

The British doing it and the Germans too.

London says that British undersea craft have been doing heroic work

in the struggle for Norway. It ^{is} normal strategy to use submarines

in laying mines, creating a mine barrier. And, of course, the Germans

would be out hunting submarines, trying to destroy them with thunder-

ing depth charges.

~~18.~~ Add Oslo

~~Note - Make last part of Oslo story read as follows:~~

~~London provides us with one supposition that may explain a lot about the insistent stories of Naval action in the Skagerrak. The violent explosions heard may be -- depth charges, trying to blast submarines, the British doing it, and the Germans too.~~

There's a swedish report that today a German battleship and three destroyers, with other smaller vessels, arrived at Oslo. Apparently they had been in a battle for they were met by ambulances, which took off wounded men. And today we have another repetition of the report that the German battleship Gneisenau was sunk.

~~end.....~~

8.

TRONDHEIM FOLLOW OSLO....One place where the sea fight is raging is
Trondheim. There British ships and planes are striking at the Nazi
force that seized the port. One story tells of Hitler warships coming
to the scene --- including a pocket battleship, of which the Germans
have two left. And that would indicate ~~that~~ a violent naval engage-
ment ^{is now} ~~is developing~~ at Trondheim.

3
F.
NARVIK FOLLOW TRONDHEIM.....Further north at Narvik, the British navy is making an intense effort to recapture that important arctic harbor. The Germans are said to be strongly fortified. One unconfirmed report today is that the bombardment of British warships has been sinking Nazi destroyers in the harbor. This account represents the Germans as having lost five ^{destroyers.} They had six to begin with. If they have only one left -- the garrison at Narvik will be in a bad spot.

The Norwegians claim that on land they ^{are} ~~are~~ drawing their lines around the city. They tell of bitter successful fighting by Norwegians-- and British. The story states definitely that the British have troops ashore near Narvik, but this is not confirmed by London. Some explanation may be found in a London account of what happened to the crew of the Destroyer Hardy. H. M. S. Hardy is one of the ships the British lost in their first futile attempt to capture Narvik. She was badly shot up and went aground. Her crew got a shore and haven't been definitely heard from since. Today London relates a story that the crew of the Hardy were seen landing from their boats. They were fully armed. And it is believed that they may have joined the Norwegian forces inland.

8. add Narvik.

The crew of the Hardy may be taking part in the Norwegian land attack against Narvik.

13.

GREENLAND....President Roosevelt uttered some ~~good~~ advice today. If we follow the presidential counsel, ^{we will all} ~~we will~~ increase our geographical knowledge. ~~and that's a good thing.~~

The subject of the admonition is Greenland, the world's largest island, which ~~is something of a puzzle just now.~~ It belongs to Denmark, which country has been seized by Nazi Germany. The British talk of taking control of Greenland -- until Denmark is set free. What about the Monroe Doctrine? President Roosevelt declared that any speculation on the subject of the application of the Monroe Doctrine is premature. ~~He added that the possible German occupation of Greenland is too hypothetical to merit discussion.~~

Most Americans have never given any particular thought to Greenland. So said the President today, and he remarked that it would be an excellent thing if we learned a lot about that land of ice which is called Green. F.D.R. remarked that he himself has been studying various books on the subject of the world's largest island; which is also the world's greatest glacier. He said that scientists are agreed that the flora, fauna and geology of Greenland are more closely

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~~It~~..add greenland.

related to those of North America than to the plants, animals and rock formations of Europe. SEVENTEEN thousand people live in GREENLAND, and they are dependent on Danish ships which in the past have made regular trips, bringing supplies. But now will those ships of captured Denmark continue to provision GREENLAND? If not, it will be the duty of the United States to do it -- a duty of charity. The president said the idea of GREENLAND relief was strictly his own and had not been suggested by Danish representatives.

And here I have a suggestion to make:— if— if we do at any time find it advisable to go to the relief of the Danish Colonies in Greenland, let's turn that problem over to Commander Donald Mac Millan, and Capt. Bob Bartlett — two of Admiral Peary's men. Mac Millan and Bartlett go north to Greenland every year. They are authorities on the world's largest island.

1 CONSPIRACY.

Today in the New York trial of the SEVENTEEN alleged plotters-- one of the defendants failed to appear. The defense lawyer said this man could not be located. HE SEEMED to have vanished. Whereupon the judge forfeited the missing defendant's bail.

He's a german named ERNECKE, and is accused of having had a hand in an anti-Jewish plot to overthrow the government of the United States. Previously in the trial, witnesses testified that this ERNECKE had told them he wanted to go back to Germany, so that he could fight against the United States. He said he was sure that the two countries would get into war, and that the new A. E. F. of the second world war would consist largely of Jewish refugees. Now the fellow who talked like ~~this~~ that is missing.

~~There was another adjournment of the conspiracy trial today-- because the chief witness for the prosecution is ill. He had a break down while being cross-questioned.~~

FR.

DIES.....There was drama and pity at the hearing of the Dies committee

today. A Detroit man took the witness stand and accused one of the committee witnesses of killing his son -- and six others.

It all concerns the ^{recent} Spanish civil war and the Americans who went to fight for the Loyalists. Up before the Dies committee today were several Americans who took a prominent part in Spain. One of them --- named Tony Di Maio. He was accused by Maxwell Wallach of Detroit--- accused of wholesale killing.

Wallach testified and told how his son went to Spain in nineteen thirty seven. Nothing was heard from him. The father appealed to the state department, and finally learned that his son had been discharged from the Republican army. But the boy never returned from Spain. The father said he investigated and found that the boy had been taken to a castle outside of Barcelona, and there had been killed.

Wallach accused today's Dies witness, Tony Di Maio. #####

"It was he", testified Maxwell Wallach, "who was the actual killer, I understand -- not only of my boy but of six other American boys."

"There was a plot," the witness declared, "to do away with American boys who served in the Abraham Lincoln brigade so they couldn't

~~He~~ add Dies.

come back and expose the racket over there."

Later Di Maio took the witness stand and denied the charge. He declared he had never known young Wallach, and asserted that he had never sat on a court martial trying Americans in Spain.

~~Another witness was Milton Wolf, who commanded the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He was asked whether he had ever commanded a firing squad. His reply was a denial. "It was beneath my dignity," he said. He added that no Americans were executed in his presence in Loyalist Spain.~~

I am broadcasting from Chicago Eonight - out here for the Twentieth Century Fox Convention. Although it's snowing here, baseball fans are talking about the latest Dizzy Dean squabble. For some kind of baseball misdemeanor, Manager Gabby Hartnett of the Chicago Cubs slapped a hundred dollar fine on Dix. And was the Dizzy one indignant! He said he didn't mind the hundred dollars, but Manager Hartneet imposed the fine in public -- in the presence of baseball players and sports writers. Diz said that public punishment was just too embarrassing. So he quit the team during its exhibition tour, and uttered defiant words. He called Gabby Hartnett -- "A picklepuss", and that's hardly the kind of a compliment to pay to the manager of a big league ball club.

Hartnett said today he wasn't mad. There wasn't any feud so far as he's concerned, if Diz pays the hundred dollar fine. If he shells out the money, everything will be what Gabby called - "Sweetness and light." Now Gabby, how much sweetness and light has a picklepuss got?

The latest from the Dean side of the argument is that Diz is going to pay the fine. He has come to that decision on the advice of Mrs. Dean. She points out to hubby that if he doesn't obey the

managerial orders, he won't play ball. And no play -- no pay.

She's not so dizzy, but then one's wife seldom is.

Hugh am I right? What have you got to say about that back there in New York.