

RUSSIA

L.T. - Sunoco. - Friday, Sept. 25, 1942

7/11  
L. T. Sunoco

The war news from Russia tonight features a key word, the military term -- initiative. Moscow reports that the Red Army defenders of Stalingrad are regaining the initiative, passing from defensive to offensive strategy. In this development we find that a tremendous Nazi attack within the city has been beaten off, while to the northwest of Stalingrad, the Soviet forces are driving wedges into the German line. Moscow ~~is~~ *tells of* ~~states that~~ the Nazi attack ~~was~~ losing momentum. For example, the ferocity of the German air assault has slackened - is now only thirty or forty percent of what it was. All of which produced comment today from a Soviet military expert - that the Stalingrad battle ~~xxx~~ has reached a stalemate with the initiative passing to the Red Army.

46

Over in Russia, Wendell Willkie visited the battlefront of the Red Army today. He was shown the sector northwest of ~~Moscow~~ Moscow. Traveling in an American made ~~ka~~ jeep, Willkie was near enough to the actual fighting to hear the constant roar of artillery. He talked to a number of German prisoners who were captured only yesterday, and these are described by General Bradley - who was one of the Willkie party. He says the Nazi prisoners were a terrible lot - thin, ill fed and stoop shouldered. "there was only one", says the General, "whom I could call a soldier". <sup>R</sup> The Willkie party was much impressed by the quality of Russian equipment and the smartness of the Red Army officers - also by their youth. A Lieutenant-General in command of the sector where they were, was only thirty-eight. Willkie reports an immense confidence of victory in the Soviet men he talked to at the front, and adds that both officers and soldiers anxiously inquired about the prospects of a second front.

CHINA

From the Far East we have news that has great military importance and also a great ring of old romance. Chinese

Chungking informs us <sup>that</sup> ~~of~~ overland transportation from India

to China ~~xxxxx~~ has been established - routes by which United Nations munitions in India can be sent to the valient armies

of the Chinese - by land. <sup>TH</sup> How is this possible? The ~~Japan~~ <sup>Japs</sup>

~~Japs have burma, and that's the normal~~ <sup>hold Burma, and the former</sup> route from India to

<sup>So how now?</sup> China. <sup>^</sup> The answer is, that the new transportation lines go around

the other way, west via Afghanistan and Soviet Siberia through

the heart of Central Asia. <sup>TH</sup> And any traveler will tell you

that that's an astounding distance through ~~extending~~ <sup>astounding</sup> lands.

The description of the transport highways mentions the most

romantic of places -- Lahore and Peshawar through Kabul to

Smarkand, ~~Tashkent~~ Tashkent, Kashgar, Yarkand -- and so on

into ~~xi~~ Sinkiang, the Chinese wild west. Places of ancient

legend.

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48

48

It was revealed today in India that during the rioting <sup>ing</sup> ~~that~~ followed Gandhi's arrest, British military planes attacked Indian mobs. ~~This~~ This was stated at New Delhi by General Sir Alan Hartley, Deputy- Commander-in-chief of the British forces in India. He told how nationalist crowds staged violent outbreaks at railroad points in the provinces of Bengal and Bihar. At five different places the disturbances were so dangerous that British planes attacked the rioters, and machine-gunned them. <sup>TP</sup> The British deputy Commander in chief then went on to talk about a scorched earthy policy in the event of Japanese invasion. He declared that the British Indian government will ~~scorch~~ scorch the earth, ~~but with qualifications. The~~ British will blast ~~the~~ and burn all things of immediate military value - things that might help invading Japs in a military way. But he added that they do not plan to destroy what he called "essentials necessary for the life of the people".

Which certainly looks as if ~~in other words, a scorched earth policy in the path of an invader~~ though they expect the Japs will not include the elimination of supplies needed to keep the to attack India - soon. ~~millions of native Indians alive. "The government of India",~~

49

Over in London, they are having a rumpus not at all unfamiliar to English ears - Lady Astor in another lively argument. Her American born Ladyship has a sharp, outspoken tongue and a gift for controversy, and has engaged in many a verbal bout. This time she is clashing with her old enemies, the Communists. <sup>TR</sup> The row began a little while ago, when Lady Astor made the statement that Soviet Russia was fighting for its own interests. British communists roared at that, and worked up to a climax - this in the form of an editorial in The London Daily Worker. <sup>TR</sup> The demand was made - place the noble woman ~~in~~ ~~member~~ member of Parliament ~~in~~ under arrest. "She is a public menace", proclaimed the London Daily Worker, and added the epithet, "a brazen and shameless woman". And the slogan was - "lock her up". Today, when informed of the Daily Worker attack, Lady Astor responded with a loud laugh. "The communists always pick on me", she said, "but <sup>TR</sup> I am used to it". And then she repeated a previous declaration - one that had made the British Communists boil with anger. "I wouldn't sit on the same platform with the British Communists", she said, "but I would gladly do so

*said she,*  
with the Russian Communists - because, "they are fighting for  
their country", ~~she explained.~~

CONVOY

The British Admiralty today revealed the story of <sup>X</sup>  
the convoy battle about which the Nazis have been making such  
large and extravagant claims. Enemy Berlin has been saying that  
a huge convoy bound with supplies for Soviet Russia was virtually  
destroyed. Today's London account tells of a four day battle  
in the Arctic, <sup>TP</sup>North of Norway - a British victory. <sup>TP</sup>The Germans  
attacked with aircraft and submarines, and suffered heavy losses.  
Forty Nazi planes were shot down. Two U-Boats were sunk - and  
possibly four others. The British lost a destroyer - the Somali;  
~~That warship was torpedoed, and then taken in tow. They were  
trying to get the destroyer to port when the Somali broke in  
two and sank. Another torpedoed vessel was a mine sweeper -~~  
<sup>also</sup>  
~~which sank. <sup>TP</sup>The Admiralty <sup>says</sup> admits that ~~there were some losses~~  
~~among the merchant ships of the convoy though the number of~~  
~~cargo vessels sunk is not given. However,~~ the main part of the  
convoy got to a Soviet port with huge quantities of supplies  
for the Red Army. <sup>TP</sup>This affray of war was followed by a ~~XXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXX~~ secondary action - when the warships escorting the convoy  
bound for Russia turned back to guard another convoy returning~~

51  
home from Russia. This was assailed - but not from the sky.

"It seemed", states the Admiralty report, "as if the German

Air Force had had enough - for the convoy was not attacked

from the air. It was, however, attacked on several occasions

by U-Boats, and <sup>says London</sup> there were some losses to ships in the convoy,"

~~says London.~~



President Roosevelt issued a statement today concerning the nation's program of shipbuilding. He called it - most gratifying. And the President added that the way we are building ships inspires confidence that we shall, in his own words - "achieve ultimate victory over our Axis enemy". The President has been informed by Admiral Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission, that the nation's shipbuilding program is reasonably certain to be fulfilled - eight million tons ~~of~~ this year and sixteen million tons in Nineteen Forty-Three.

96

Morgenstierne.

Sept. 25, 1942.

AMBASSADOR

This weekend, we are celebrating "Victory Fleet Day" -- on the anniversary of the launching of the first Liberty Ship,

the Patrick Henry. ~~That~~ was at Baltimore, a year ago. So let's

us give a salute to the men who build, <sup>also to</sup> ~~and~~ the men who ~~said~~

sail the ships that are so necessary to victory. <sup>Which brings</sup> ~~And now let~~

<sup>me to</sup> ~~we present~~ a gentleman who represents one of the great Maritime

nations of the world, and one of the first countries to suffer

by invasion at the hands of the Nazi aggressors. His Excellency,

(Morgenstierne <sup>uh</sup>)  
Ambassador Morgenstierne of Norway. Mr. Ambassador, <sup>we all know</sup> ~~you are~~

<sup>that you are</sup> ~~no doubt~~ more than casually interested in America's shipbuilding

effort.

AMBASSADOR MORGENSTIERNE: Indeed, I am, Mr. Thomas. We

Norwegians are familiar with your ~~shipping~~ shipping program, and

we are vitally concerned with its success. We know that the

Liberty Ship represents one of America's answers to the submarine

menace. And I understand that the United States Maritime Commission

will build two thousand and three hundred cargo vessels by the

end of Nineteen Forty-Three. I was deeply gratified last April

when one of your splendid victory ships was christened the St. Olaf,

X

in honor of one of my country's early liberators. Her Royal Highness, Crown Princess Martha, christened the ship -- and the people of Norway consider this one of the finest tributes that America could pay them. <sup>TR</sup> We Norwegians are ~~xxx~~ particularly aware of the importance of shipping. When the Nazi invasion struck our country, one of the first things we did was to try to save our merchant marine - the fourth largest in the world.

Fortunately, <sup>almost</sup> ninety per cent of our ships were out of Norway at the time of the invasion. One of the first proclamations of the Nazis was to order all Norwegian ships to German-held ports. I am proud to say, however, that not one Norwegian sailor, and not one Norwegian boat, ~~re~~ deserted our cause.

Instead, they followed orders from the Royal Norwegian Government, <sup>temporarily residing in London,</sup> and proceeded to allied ports. <sup>TR</sup> Today more and more

~~Norwegians~~ Norwegians are secretly leaving their homes to ~~xxxx~~ ship as sailors aboard their own vessels, <sup>In all about</sup> and those of other 25,000 Norwegian sailors are allied nations. ~~Hundreds of them are working on the ships,~~

~~severing~~ <sup>and our common cause. In that cause Norway has lost</sup> the United Nations. <sup>Even under the brutal yoke of</sup>

Nazi domination, the people of Norway are steadfastly continuing

53

54

309 ships & 1600 sailors

X

to help their allies in every way possible.

L.T.

We are gratefully aware of that, Mr. Ambassador --

and <sup>many</sup> ~~let me~~ <sup>s to</sup> thank you for adding your voice to our American

celebration of Victory Fleet Day. The American people -- all of them that I know -- have immense admiration for the Norwegian people and for the way they have refused to buckle-down to the Nazis.

FUEL OIL

55  
People in thirty eastern and midwestern states will have to get along this winter with one-third less fuel oil for their furnaces. This was stated today by Deputy Price Administrator Paul O'Leary. The original plan was to cut fuel oil supplies by twenty-five per cent. But this has been found to be not a sufficient deduction. So now the cut has been increased to thirty-three and a third per cent. The Deputy Price Administrator warns householders that if they think they cannot heat their homes comfortably on two-thirds of the oil they normally use, they should <sup>^</sup>*, if possible,* convert their furnaces to coal.  
~~if this is at all possible~~

INFLATION

The ~~latest~~ <sup>is there</sup> in the inflation fight in Washington

<sup>war</sup> a demand <sup>today</sup> issued by two of the nation's four biggest farm

~~is~~ organizations. They call for the farm block in Congress to put up a showdown fight against the Administration on the issue of farm prices. The two farm organizations (express themselves in a joint letter to congressional leaders, and) insist that

the farm labor costs be included in the calculation of parity - and this the President opposes. <sup>H</sup> The letter argues in the

following words:- "Farmers are straining every effort to

produce the greatest supply of ~~is~~ food, ~~in the country,~~ working

from seventy to a hundred hours per week, yet receiving the

lowest pay of any group in the nation. At the same time,"

the letter goes on, "factory workers on the average are working

only forty-two hours a week, with time and a half and double

time for overtime - in addition to the highest wages in the

history of the nation". <sup>The latest is that</sup> ~~The~~ administration is offering ~~is~~

a compromise, <sup>which may satisfy the senators,</sup> ~~which would leave the figures called parity as~~

~~they are, but which also would direct President Roosevelt to take~~

56

PACKAGES

In Washington today, attorneys of the Treasury Department and officials of the War Department were busy at the task of abolishing some import duties, arranging to get a few things in free through the customs -- no duty. This applies to packages sent to this country by American soldiers and sailors, who are serving abroad -- any package up to the value of fifty dollars to come in duty free. <sup>TP</sup> *all* This follows a fine explosion in a newspaper published by American soldiers away over in India. The troops there are hopping mad because when they send an article back home, the one who receives this article has to pay the regular duty. Christmas <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ approaching, and the troops have ideas of picking up a thing or two in the oriental bazaars and sending them to Mom or the best girl. (As it stands, Mom and the best girl would have to pay the duty. <sup>TP</sup> All of which *speaks up as follows* causes the soldier newspaper to ~~proclaim~~ in an editorial:-

"It would look sort of silly to our girl friends, if they got the jade bracelets we ~~XXXXXX~~ sent - with Treasury due-bills for Fifteen Dollars each attached". <sup>TP</sup> ~~All you girls will understand getting a Christmas present from the boy friend and having to~~

57



~~shell out fifteen bucks.~~ The soldier newspaper summarizes with a scathing phrase, "the Treasury Department is murdering Santa Claus". It says, ~~which certainly is pathetic a stab in the back for Kriss Kringle.~~ As a result, the Treasury Department got busy today with a ~~plan~~ <sup>thus</sup> plan to let the soldier packages in free - and stop murdering Santa Claus.

FIGHT

The big heavyweight championship bout was ~~xxxx~~ cancelled today, the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight. The decision was made and announced late this afternoon by Secretary of War Stimson, who ordered the champion and challenger to return at once to their military duties. - Back to camp for Sergeant Joe Louis and Corporal Billy Conn. <sup>TR</sup> In explanation, the Secretary of War Said:- "The standards and interests of the Army do not permit the proposed contest to be carried out".

58  
He adds that this <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ no reflection on the two fighters, and that the Army appreciates what Louis has done <sup>heretofore -</sup> ~~heretofore -~~ appearing without compensation in bouts for Army and Navy Relief. The secretary also expressed his appreciation of the Service rendered by the Committee of newspaper sports writers who were handling the scheduled championship match - the committee headed by John Kieran.

58 1/2  
The cancellation of the scheduled battle of the Century follows the disclosure of certain financial angles. Over a hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars of the gate receipts

~~was~~ to be given to the boxers to pay their creditors - the principal creditor being Mike Jacobs, promoter of the prize fight. This - instead of all the money being given to Army Emergency Relief, as was supposed to have been done.

And that seems to be final.  
And here's something equally  
final from Hugh Famea.

9