

L.T. SUNOCO WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1940

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In Flanders tonight the Allied Army is outnumbered,
hemmed in, jammed into two pockets; completely cut off.

So says the German High Command

Paris admits the position is critical.

The French acknowledge that they have evacuated
Lille, a strong fortress and a great industrial center
abandoned to the Nazis. The Germans also claim the capture
of Ostend, Bruges and the taking of Ypres, historic old
center of the cloth industry. Ypres captured by storm.

The Nazis describe in detail the pockets in which they say

they have the Allies hemmed in. One, ~~of them is~~ a narrow strip on the coast around Dunkirk, reaching as far as Ostend. The other, ~~is~~ southeast of Lille. There, in a space of about a hundred and thirty-six square miles, about the size of the City of Detroit, the battling defenders are completely surrounded, locked in a triangle of death.

P In the pocket on the coast, the French and British have their backs to the sea. ~~The French army, ^{there} is battling desperately to burst through~~
~~But all the movements of the allies are hampered by streams of refugees ^{along} the roads~~
~~that triangle and fight its way to the coast.~~ The Allied High Command has massed a concentration of warships outside Dunkirk, doing its utmost to evacuate the exhausted French and British under a veritable rain of ~~high explosive~~ bombs from huge flocks of Nazi airplanes.

The Germans ~~for once~~ are loud in praise of their enemies. They declare that both the British and the French are putting up an ~~admirable~~, gallant fight. But, they add, they're a lost army, five hundred thousand men with only two fates ahead of them -- annihilation or surrender. And it's only a matter of hours, say the Germans. ~~As~~
~~for the attempts to evacuate them, the Nazis declare it's impossible.~~
~~Dunkirk is ablaze under the fire of German artillery, and blasted by~~
~~dive-bombers. The whole port area is destroyed, the troops cannot~~
~~escape.~~ And the ~~Nazi High Command~~

~~adds that they are among the finest soldiers that the French and British have. Five hundred thousand of the pick of the Allied defenders, apparently doomed. It's a picture without precedent in history, almost without parallel. An army of half a million, men surrounded, being gradually cut to pieces, and, with its back to the sea, and almost unable to use the sea as a means of escape.~~

The Germans add that these Allied remnants, quite sizeable remnants to be sure, are being cut up by attacks in concentric circles, ^a ~~in~~ maneuver not easy to visualize. Individual separate units are being cut ~~up~~ up or captured, whole battalions at a swoop.

47
The French ~~for their part~~ admit that their cut-off armies are in a most critical plight. But they add the claim that they're still strongly entrenched around Dunkirk, with a large fleet, including many categories of vessels, commanded by a vice-admiral, ^{who} is cooperating with the British fleet, off the coast, shelling German positions and ready to evacuate the army that's pocketed southeast of Lille if it can fight its way through the Germans. The battle is a frightful mix-up. British and

French airplanes are pouring bombs on the Germans as fast as they can discharge their ~~deadly~~ cargoes and return for ^{new} ~~fresh~~ loads.

A fresh bulletin a few minutes ago reports that the French forces in that Flanders pocket have opened the flood gates on the Yser River near Nieuport. ~~In~~ So doing, they flooded large areas of ~~that~~ trap. It was just ^{this} ~~that~~ bit of strategem that put a stop to Germany's drive toward the Channel in the World War. ~~This is~~ a desperate last hour attempt to stem the Nazi sweep on Dunkirk.

48
The British declare that their front is still ^{and that} ~~they're~~ ^{are} unbroken, their army undefeated, ~~their~~ ^{are} fighting desperate but ^{orderly} rear guard actions, withdrawing in perfect order. ~~In spite~~ ^{With all} of the terrific odds ~~that they're battling~~, the morale of the British Expeditionary Force is unbroken ⁱⁿ spite of the surrender of King Leopold. And the British Air Ministry announces that the Royal Air Force has thrown every atom of its power into a colossal drive to help those hemmed in armies. Royal Air Force bombers are keeping up their attacks hour after hour, all through the night, all through the day, on the German lines and in the rear

of the lines. ~~They're~~ Bombing railways, roads, bridges. One
British formation ^{met} ~~met~~ a huge force of German bombers near
Dunkirk. They brought down twenty-two Nazi ships without a
single British loss.

~~And there was one bright note in the war news today.~~

^{by the way}
The British [^] have finally captured Narvik, that far off harbor
in the north of Norway. ^{also} ~~as well as the~~ other vital towns on the
railroad leading to the ~~precious~~ iron mines of Sweden. ^{Narvik} ~~It was~~
[^]
captured last night by Allied forces in a surprise attack.

LEOPOLD

49

The most discussed man in the world today is the latest monarch without a throne, Leopold, King of the Belgians. The French tonight have just one word to describe his order to surrender his army. Treachery, ~~is this word~~ ~~they say in so many words,~~ ~~out-and-out treachery.~~

On the other hand, a high ranking British officers speaks up for Leopold. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Keyes, was with the Belgian King all through the hours when he was considering his capitulation. And ~~Admiral of the Fleet~~ Sir Roger Keyes declares that Leopold was right, that anybody who knew the circumstances at first hand would find him justified. ^{TP} Sir Roger was appointed Naval Attache at Brussels, a special liason officer. And ~~Sir Roger~~ ^{Admiral} Keyes pleads in these words:- "Suspend your judgment on a very gallant soldier until all the facts are known."

But the French can find no excuse for their ex-ally.

They claim for one thing, that he did not ask for help until the Germans were already well over the border, when it was already too late. And they say he thus drew the French into a trap when they came to his aid. They repeat that there was no military reason

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for the Belgian surrender, ^{And that} ~~that the Allied High Command only~~
~~last week decided not to try to close the gap in Artois of~~
~~that German column to the sea, north of the Somme. At that time,~~
~~they could have closed it. But,~~ counting upon Belgian support,
they ^{had} determined to keep their strong force in Flanders based on
six Channel ports.

The report in Paris tonight is that Leopold will try to regain his throne as a vassal of Hitler. They charge that he plans to go to Brussels, collect as many members of Parliament as he can find, as many as have not fled to France, and, call a session of the Parliament and establish a government approved by the Nazis.

The refugee Belgian Government which dethroned King Leopold, announces that it will fight on. There are funds to equip an army, twenty-three billion Belgian Francs sent to England and the United States. In France there are some quarter of a million Belgians of military age who can be conscripted.

BLITZKRIEG

~~One of the things that give us food for thought is the bland fashion in which the Germans tell the whole world about~~

~~their fighting methods.~~ ^{Here's a} ~~One~~ ^{which} ~~dispatch from Berlin today~~ describes

~~the blitzkrieg tactics of the Nazi air forces. It tells how the~~

^{how} ~~parachute troops begin their training~~ ^{are trained. They begin} by learning to hang upside

down and fall without injury. They ^{are} ~~are~~ also taught military

tactics, how to keep in contact with each other, how to find cover,

how to seize key places such as factories, ^{and} government buildings; ^{and}

how to blow up railroads and bridges. Each of them is ^{trained} ~~taught~~ to

act on his own initiative. Each ~~of them~~ carries not only

revolvers and ammunition, but an ordinary gun, hand grenades and

sometimes even flame throwers. What is just as significant,

they're taught foreign languages.

^{today also give us} The Nazis ~~also get~~ details about the troops ~~that~~ they

transport behind the enemy lines in ^{big} ~~air~~ ^{are} ~~planes~~. They ~~are~~ taken in

^{air liners that carry 16 armed} ~~Junkers planes, each one carrying fifteen or sixteen~~ men. The

first ~~men~~ landed jump out ~~of the planes~~ and take up skirmishing

formations on the ground, and try to ~~dispose of the protecting~~

~~forces of the defenders:~~ ^{the others as they disembark.}

~~Meanwhile, the planes that have brought them take off and make room for others. In this way several thousand troops can be landed on one flying field or a small spot of ground in an exceedingly short time.~~

From Paris comes a description of a still more novel trick ~~that~~ the Nazis have developed. According to this French description, bomber planes tow behind them long trains of huge gliders. These travel at high altitudes, ^{and at} ~~They're transported at~~ night. When they're a few miles away from the area where they're to land, the gliders are cut loose. Each glider carries six parachute soldiers, with complete field equipment. The gliders soar along through the night without the slightest noise.

52
At a given moment, the parachute soldiers float down to the ground, sometimes sixty miles away from the point where they were cut loose from the planes that were towing them. ~~Parachute soldiers are picked men, volunteers who have been highly trained technically.~~

FIFTH COLUMN

The British have become aroused with a vengeance to the Fifth Column menace. The Speaker of the House of Commons made an extraordinary announcement today. Because of that danger he said special measures must be taken to protect Parliament. Beginning tomorrow, therefore, nobody can get into the House⁵ of Parliament without a pass.

The Churchill Government^{today} also announced curfew laws for all aliens: In Greater London they're forbidden to be out on the streets between midnight and six o'clock in the morning. And elsewhere throughout the island, they ~~have to~~^{must} be in by ten thirty.

~~Another piece of information the Commons received today was of more taxes. Britishers are already being taxed to the tune of somewhere around four billion, eight hundred million a year. Additional taxes, even more exacting, will be levied shortly.~~

I.R.A.

57

News about Ireland comes by way of Pennsylvania. The Irish Republican Army has fifty thousand trained men ready to fight for freedom from Great Britain the moment Hitler starts his invasion. Presumably that means the ~~march~~ upon northern Ireland to consolidate the whole island under one government. The success of it would also mean the destruction of the government of Premier ~~Eamon~~ deValera.

This information comes from J. J. Duignan, who is described as the leader of the Pennsylvania Veterans of the Irish Republican Army. Duignan says the I.R.A. is fully equipped with arms, which have been procured chiefly in the United States. He ~~says~~ ^{adds that they} ~~the I.R.A. are equipped and~~ are trained veterans of the armed forces of the United States, Italy and other countries.

This I.R.A. ^{spokesman} ~~veteran~~ lays down the opinion that the downfall of England automatically means the freeing of Ireland. To the suggestion that Hitler might also want to take over Ireland, he replied that Hitler wouldn't even take ~~it~~ ^{the Emerald Isle} if you gave it to him. ^{a Pennsylvania} That's what ~~say~~ ^{Irishman} says about Ireland.

DEFENSE

5-4
Still more money for Uncle Sam's army. On top of the whopping defense appropriations which the President asked for last week, the generals want several hundred millions more.

The sum is not yet definitely reported but we hear it will boost our total expenses for rearmament to nearly four billion ^s~~dollars~~. However, it isn't certain that Congress will be asked for that huge sum all at once.

This supplementary program is to expand the Army Air Corps and provide mechanization for all the troops.

MARCANTONIO

Just one member of Congress voted against the national defense program of President Roosevelt. Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York is the one who said "No". He's the Congressman who several years ago captured the seat previously held by the turbulent ~~Mayor Fiorello~~ LaGuardia, ~~now the turbulent Mayor of New York~~. In the last election, Marcantonio won his campaign with the help of the American Labor Party. ^{Today} ~~That~~ Party [^] ~~today~~ repudiated him.

Henry Ford is always able to make the country sit up and take notice. But none of his spectacular statements astounded people so much as his latest in which he said that the Ford Company could turn out a thousand war planes a day, just in his River Rouge plant. Of course Henry tied a string to that challenge, an "if". He could do it, he said, if he were allowed to turn them out without government interference.

An amazing promise and in contrast with what we've been hearing about the difficulty of gearing up our industries to turn out all the planes the President thinks we should have. One general told a congressional committee that it would take years, and cost seven billion dollars, for those fifty thousand planes. While Henry Ford says he could cut the cost to a fraction -- by mass production.

The President's Secretary, Steve Early, said the Ford statement would be referred to William S. Knudsen, President of General Motors, who is to be in charge of production on the National Defense Commission. Knudsen came to New York from Detroit by plane today on his way to Washington. Reporters asked him whether

56
he believed that ^{e Ford} ~~statement of Henry Ford's~~ about a thousand planes
a day. Knudsen once upon a time worked for Henry Ford. ^{And} His reply
was, "~~Naturally~~ ["] He can, if he says so." So then they asked Knudsen
could General Motors do it. And ~~the~~ ^t Company's President replied:-
"I guess we could if we laid plans for it. But," he added,
"we are not talking about that now." Then he was asked whether
he thought he could turn out the amount of munitions and armament
that the national defense needs. To that Knudsen answered:-
"Not I, but America can."

BRIDGES

There are no two ways about the intentions of ~~the~~
Congressmen towards ^{C.D.O.} Harry Bridges. They want the West Coast
labor leader ^{sent} back ^{to} Australia where he came from. ~~It's a~~
~~departure without precedent and virtually without parallel,~~
~~As we observed last week, he's~~ ^{Bridges was} mentioned by name in the bill
which orders the Secretary of Labor to deport him. It was
offered by one of the southern members of the House, Allen of
Louisiana. ^{Now} ~~But~~ two committees of the House have approved ^{the} ~~that~~
measure without a single "No" vote - the Committee on Immigration
last week, and today the Rules Committee. It's the Rules Committee
which decides what legislation is to be acted upon immediately,
and that Committee today voted unanimously to send the bill to the
House.

57
The Congressmen don't think much of the work done ^{on the}
^{Bridges} ~~this~~ case by ~~Dr.~~ James Landis, Dean of ~~the~~ Harvard Law School,
who held that Bridges was not a Communist. The Immigration Committee
^{the Australian} describes ~~him~~ as a menace to the best interests of this country and
adds that his close association with known Communists was borne out
and admitted by him in the hearings held by Dean Landis. To that,
the Rules Committee says "Amen", Republicans and Democrats alike.
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~~the Rules Committee says "Amen". Republicans and Democrats alike.~~

ALIEN VETO FOLLOW BRIDGES

That measure is in curious contrast to another one only recently passed by Congress, a bill whose purpose was to give permanent refuge here to a German couple whom the Secretary of Labor had ordered ~~to be~~ deported.

Democratic Senator Prentiss Brown of Michigan put through a bill cancelling the deportation order against His ^{the High Wellborn} Lordship Baron Egan Karl von Mauchenheim and ^{High Wellborn} MUlady, the Baroness [^] von Mauchenheim, ~~Margaret also~~. They came here four years ago from Germany, landed in New York with a temporary visa permitting them to go to Canada. They didn't stay in Canada long because five days later they came to Detroit without any visa or anything. So Madam Perkins bestowed upon them the ancient and noble Order of the Boot. But His ^(High Wellborn) Lordship and Her Ladyship aroused the sympathies of the Michigan Senator. They told congressional committees that an order sending them back to Germany meant a sentence of death, or at the mildest, long terms in concentration camps. Their only offence, they said, was taking money out of Germany, which is a crime against the laws of the Nazis.

The Congressmen believed them, and the bill allowing

them to stay was passed. Then it went up to President Roosevelt.

The President turned the matter over to the State Department,

as a result of which today ^{Mr. Roosevelt} ~~he~~ vetos that bill, saying an

investigation conducted by the State Department discloses that

these aliens made false statements. Furthermore, said the President,

the State Department investigators found out that they're not

political martyrs but ^{have} ~~that they are~~ there are criminal

charges pending against them, charges of fraud in their own

country ^{against} the High well born Baron and
Baroness.

And now Baron Hugh.

59

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