

L.J. - Junco. Tuesday, July 15, 1941.

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The focus of war news tonight is on the City of Kiev - capital of the Ukraine. Berlin tells of a terrific battle raging around that most important place. This word does not come in any official bulletin from the German high command. ~~We have next to nothing from the high command. The account is given out by the~~ *It's from the* Nazi News Agency, D.N.B., and claims that German columns are encircling Kiev. That's the latest. An earlier D.N.B. report said that blitzkrieg soldiers were pushing their way into the outskirts of Kiev, ⁱⁿ house-to-house fighting. As long ago as last Saturday, the Germans claims their armies were in front of the capital of the Ukraine.

The latest account today states that Red army units were trapped in the drive on Kiev, and have been trying to cut their way out - get back to the Soviet line. If the Nazi stories are correct, it might appear that the drive ~~on Kiev~~ was made from several directions, resulting in the encirclement of Soviet forces. Anyway, the German news agency tonight tells us the blitzkrieg, in a violent battle, is fighting its way around the City of Kiev.

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Berlin sources today told of ^{a powerful} ~~a violent~~ Soviet

counter-attack somewhere in that general area - with the Nazis declaring that the Red Army thrust had been repelled. Moscow, however, gives us a ~~very~~ different story. The Soviet capital claims that the counter-attack, a huge drive, was a success - and that it hurled the Nazis back for a distance of nearly twenty miles - back across the ~~D~~^Hnieper River. Elsewhere along the thousand mile fighting line, the story is much the same as it has been for the past couple of days! Berlin claiming the panzer divisions have broken through the Stalin Line, and are fighting their way toward Moscow and Leningrad. No precise places are given to indicate the extent of the advance. ^H Moscow counters with repeated statements that its armies are holding ~~its~~^{their} own; ~~feeding~~ [^] ~~effxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ hurling back the attacks.

CHURCHILL

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It's official now - Great Britain and Soviet Russia are allies, full-fledged allies. This was stated formally by Prime Minister Churchill in the House of Commons today. He said - "of course", and intimated that it was a thing to be taken for granted that the British-Soviet agreement was an alliance.

Churchill, however, made clear that it was not a British alliance with Communism - he expressed the British position by quoting Premier Smuts' of South Africa, who proclaimed: "Let no one say we are in league with the Communists and fighting the battle of Communism."

In Syria -- British and Free French forces today occupied Beirut. No fighting, everything peaceful. The British and Free French moved in according to the terms of the Armistice agreed upon.

EXCHANGE

Washington announces the exchange of four Germans held in this country for four Americans held in Germany. The Nazi prisoners over here are charged with failure to register as agents of a foreign government. The best known among them is Manfred Zapp, who was Manager of the American branch of the German Trans-Ocean and News Agency.

Of the four Americans, two were employees of the American Consulate at Oslo, Norway. The other two were newspaper correspondents. The case of one of them, ^{United Press correspondent} Richard Hottelet, attracted quite a stir. He was arrested by the Gestapo on charges that were never made clear. Negotiations have been going on for ^{an} ~~his~~ exchange, and now Washington announces that the four Germans will be returned to ^{Nazidom} ~~Germany~~ in return for the four Americans, ~~who will be sent back home.~~

CONSULS

This was a day of departure for consular officials of Germany and Italy. Some five hundred of them boarded the United States Navy transport WEST POINT, and are sailing tonight, bound for Lisbon.

One Italian representative, however, is not leaving. He is Consul Ortilani, who was stationed at Fort Worth, ^{and} ~~He is~~ still there. He is seventy-two years old, and has been in this country for forty-seven years. His wife is an English woman, and he has two sons in the United States army. When Washington issued the order for Italian consular agents to return home, Ortilani at Fort Worth announced - that he would rather stay in the United States in a concentration camp than return to Italy. Today he received a telegram from the Italian Embassy in Washington, informing him that ~~the~~ State Department had made an exception in his case - ~~and he ~~was to~~ stay could~~ ^{-- that he can} stay.

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There's another Italian consul who is expected to return ^{to} this land - sometime - we hope. He is Enrico Girando of the Consulate at Detroit. Today he boarded the ship that sails tonight. At the pier seeing him off, was a strikingly beautiful brunette. She was asked - was there any romance?

At first she said - No. Then added, "If he doesn't come back
I'll go after him." ~~It~~ Sounds like a lady who'd be an asset
to any diplomatic staff!

Meanwhile, in Italy, American consular officials were
taking their departure - returning to the United States. Their
train from Rome was detained thirty-five minutes, while a girl
^{from New York}
clerk[^] tried vainly to get permission to remain. She's married to
an Italian officer ⁱⁿ at Libya, and wanted to stay behind ^{until} ~~so that~~
^{her hubby's return from the wars.}
~~he could come back to see her.~~ She had to leave however - and go
[^]
with the others.

SPIES

In New York's big spy case, a Brooklyn grand jury today handed down indictments naming thirty-three persons, And something ~~is~~ else was also named -- "The Government of the German Reich." For the first time Germany had been mentioned by name.

The charges allege a huge conspiracy. The indictment relates that the spy ring was formed in Nineteen Thirty-Six, when agents of Nazi espionage began to approach people traveling on ships between the United States and Germany. They paid particular attention to persons of German birth who were naturalized Americans, and enlisted them for the task of gathering military and industrial information.

Today's espionage indictment of thirty-three persons stands as the largest on record in this contry, and is unique in the fact that Germany was named.

REDS

Also, a

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A large sedition indictment was handed down today at St. Paul, Minnesota - twenty-nine persons ~~are~~ accused of engaging in a seditious conspiracy, and of advocating the overthrow of the government by force. The defendants include prominent personalities in labor and in radical politics. Some are C.I.O. union leaders. For example, the president of the Minneapolis Drivers' Union, ~~C.F.O.~~ Others, are members of the Socialist Workers Party - the President of that Red faction is one of those indicted. The Socialist Workers Party is a Communist outfit, Trotskyite - at odds with the Stalin faction in this country.

That Stalin faction issues a pronunciamento from Washington. The Soviet brand of Reds are urged to do their utmost for national defense, American laborers warned to be on guard. Zealously on guard, says the manifesto, against the taint of defeatism and appeasement. In other words, the Stalin boys are out to help Stalin, and they call for the immediate release of Earl Browder, former Secretary of the Communist Party, who is now in jail serving a sentence for passport frauds.

MILITARY SERVICE

The War Department took formal action today in the matter of keeping men in the army for more than a year. Under-Secretary of War Patterson asked Congress to introduce legislation to permit the retention of National Guardsmen, Reservists and Selectees for the duration of the emergency.

Here's the latest: - from the White House.

President Roosevelt voices a warning. He says that the army, that new and vastly expanded military force of ours, faces disintegration - unless Congress changes the law to permit the men to be held for more than a year.

MARSHALL

Chief of Staff, General Marshall comes forward with the Army's request of power to discharge unfit officers. Testifying before the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives he says:- "There is no place in today's army for a man who is slowing down." The plan presented by the General today calls for the creation of a five-man board of general officers, who are to have the authority to recommend the dismissal of such officers as are found to be incompetent.

General Marshall declared ~~ix~~ that the percentage to whom this would apply was exceedingly small. He said the Army now has thirteen thousand officers and less than one per cent of these would be found inefficient.

OIL

The Government of Canada today issued a decree of - gasolineless Sundays. Also - gasolineless nights. Hereafter there'll be no Sunday sales of motor fuel or motor oil to automobile drivers in Canada - nor will there be at nights. No sales on any day between seven in the evening and seven in the morning. The restrictions go into effect tomorrow.

At the same time, the Canadian oil controller called for a reduction of gasoline consumption by fifty per cent - Canadians to use only half as much motor fuel as they used to. If the fifty per cent saving does not happen, Canada will resort to ~~rationing~~

ration cards for gasoline. ~~The Dominion Oil Controller said that if consumption is not reduced, Canada will not be able to continue its program of aid to Britain.~~

The Dominion is threatened with a shortage of two million barrels of oil this year. Moreover, Canada plans to transfer to Great Britain eight oil tankers, and that will increase the shortage. In Canada, as in the United States, there is no question of the amount of oil available. The trouble is a lack of tankers for transportation - this because of the need of ^{transferring} ~~transporting the~~ tankers to the British.

The Canadian Oil Controller said - that if the United States

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would be next. The following are his words:- "The restrictions

which Canada is putting in force will be followed shortly

by the United States," ^{Meaning,} ~~said he. Which would mean~~ gasolineless

Sundays and no purchase of motor fuel at night ^{in this}
country too.

The President today asked Congress for authority to establish daylight saving - but not nationwide. Not all over the country, but only in such areas as may be deemed necessary. The purpose, of course, is to conserve electricity for national defense, and the President points out to Congress the electrical needs for defense varies from section to section - ~~is~~ not the same everywhere. So to decree daylight saving for all the nation would work unnecessary hardships - said the President. ~~He said~~ The plan ^{will} ~~would~~ apply particularly to the southeastern states. That's where the extra hour of daylight would mean the most.

CONVICTS

In New York today there was an episode of grim and dramatic irony. A prison van carrying several convicts, collided with a passing automobile. A violent crash - and the convicts were injured. One of them was a killer just sentenced to death - only a few minutes before. He was hurt so badly, that his execution at Sing Sing will have to be postponed.

He is Morris Mardavich, known as a tough guy. After committing murder in a hold-up -- he bragged to the police. "No one can stop me from getting what I want," he boasted. Today he did not get what he wanted, ^{and} was not such a tough guy, when the judge pronounced the death sentence and named the date as August Twenty-Fifth, ^{he} ~~he~~ burst into tears, blubbering into his handkerchief. He pleaded for mercy, protested tearfully against being executed on that day of doom.

Some degree of mercy was accorded, not by the court - but by ^{this} a twist of fate. The prison van ~~was~~ taking the tough guy and other convicts to the railroad station, bound for Sing Sing - when the accident happened. The tough guy injured so badly that he'll be kept in the hospital for weeks. ^{Hence} ~~And~~ the date of execution will have to be ~~delayed~~.

SCOTTY

5-17
The final solution of a myth was accomplished at Los Angeles today - the bursting of a bubble. A verdict was handed down in a lawsuit against Death Valley Scotty - that singular veteran of the desert who for years has been a legend of fabulous wealth. Gold and gold mines, the rich strike, the big banana - all these have been attributed to Death Valley Scotty. And - admitted by him. He told glowing tales of his gold mines in Death Valley. ~~How he had~~ [^] scattered money like a drunken miner who has struck a million, and ~~he~~ ^{how} lived in an incredible castle built at huge expense.

In the trial at Los Angeles, testimony revealed that Scotty's money was derived from a rich Chicago insurance man, who was induced to finance the fantastic tall talker of the desert, *and the Chicagoan owns the fabulous castle.* Today, the judge, in handing down a verdict, officially called Death Valley Scotty - "a fraud and a cheat". His gold mines, his secrets of treasure - "just a pack of lies."

The suit ~~against Scotty~~ was brought by a man who forty years ago staked Scotty to ten thousand dollars - this on

the strength of the mysterious gold mines in Death Valley. Today the court awarded him all of Scotty's assets - the value of which is exactly nothing. The court awarded to the plaintiff seventeen mining claims in Death Valley, claims which the judge said were - worthless. So that officially explodes the legends of Death Valley Scotty and his tales of secret gold.

But I'll bet they'll never die!

MARRIAGE

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At Graham, North Carolina, Magistrate Charles W. Jones performed a marriage ceremony - a negro couple united in the holy bonds. When the splicing had been duly accomplished, the dusky bridegroom asked the judge what the fee was - the price.

"Oh," responded His Honor, "Whatever you think it's worth."

The bridegroom dug into his pocket and solemnly handed the judge a quarter.

His Honor blinked once or twice. Then, just as solemnly, he dug into his own pocket and gave the colored bridegroom fifteen cents in change.

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There seems to have been some discrepancy about the value of marriage. The bridegroom thought it was worth a quarter, but then bridegrooms have a way of taking a rosy view of such matters. And the judge thought - that marriage was worth a dime. ~~He must be a married man. Some cynics put the value at about a dime a dozen.~~ And what can you buy with a dime, Hugh?

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