

L.I. - Sunoco. Thursday, Sept. 18, 1941.

WAR

If the claims that Berlin makes tonight are true, the Red Army right now is being engulfed in fearful military disaster. Last night, it was the Southern Front, the Ukraine - with Nazi drives smashing ahead in rapid advances. A huge encirclement East of Kiev, the Blitzkrieg thrusting to the narrow neck of land that connects <sup>the</sup> Crimea with the rest of Russia.

Tonight a new sector of the line is added to the German claim of huge victories, the center, the Smolensk area facing Moscow. Berlin states that the Panzer forces have closed a giant trap east of Smolensk. That's where the Soviet Forces have been launching their headline counter-attacks, day after day, for weeks. But now the Germans claim that armored divisions, stabbing swiftly, have cut off a large part of Marshal Timoshenko's central army. Berlin intimates that the Soviet counter attacks never did disturb the Blitzkrieg forced particularly, and maintain that now the Soviet flanking attacks have given place to a huge flanking operation by the Nazis - a great encirclement east of Smolensk, the area facing Moscow.

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In the Ukraine, the sweep of war is fantastic, if the Berlin accounts be true. The Panzer advance is described with the most extravagant adjectives - ~~irrisistible~~ "irrisistible", "on the biggest scale", "gigantic scope", "successes that will surprise the world." The Berlin bulletin features the word, "surprise" - the Nazi speed-forces driving with astonishing swiftness, the Red Army defenders caught utterly by surprise.

Berlin uses phraseology that is decidedly picturesque. "Leap frog ~~in~~ fashion" is one term they use to describe the method of operation in the Ukraine! The driving columns are described as being made up of the usual tank corps - and speed troops, which lead the way. They dash from hilltop to hilltop, from bridgehead to bridgehead - halting only at night. A series of lightning dashes - hence the leap frog idea.

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The speed troops leave all their heavy equipment behind and take only light anti-tank guns for artillery support. They're often many miles ahead of their Panzer support tanks. Berlin claims they're going so fast they're not bothering to take prisoners, but concentrate instead on the capture of Soviet staff units, high officers - thus leaving Red Army forces without

directing command.

Berlin says that in some instances the speed troops ~~xxxx~~ drove so far to the Red Army rear that they caught Soviet soldiers by surprise, as they were boarding trains to move up to the front. One particular episode is described. The speed troops appeared suddenly, and the Soviet defenders had to blow up a bridge in such haste - that an armored train rushing to the Front could not be informed. So it plunged through the broken bridge and crashed into the river.

Such are the tactics which, we are told, have resulted in the encirclement of a huge Soviet Force East of Kiev - a large section of Marshall Budenny's army. Lightning drives made from the North and South of the city and ending with the junction far to the East that closed the ~~XXXXXXXX~~<sup>pincers</sup> of the trap.

And the same thing applies to the Crimea. It would appear that the Panzers have cut the narrow Isthmus of that ~~is~~<sup>the Crimea,</sup>

exceedingly strategic peninsula. And here's another case where the war gives us an educational look at the map. Consult your

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Atlas and you may be surprised by the Geography of the Crimean Peninsula. Note how it stretches eastward to the Caucasus - ~~that's~~ where the Great oil fields are, *and*, it's the route from Soviet Russia to the ~~Near~~ East, where the British are.

All of which puts a new emphasis on Turkey, which also connects with the British ~~Near~~ East in such an important way. There are reports of a demand that Bulgarian warships be allowed to ~~ex~~ pass through the Dardanelles. But what kind of warships would Bulgaria have? The answer is, Italian naval vessels sold to the Balkan Kingdom. And you know what the meaning of the word "Sold" would be. It's only too apparent that if the Soviet Red army were to collapse, Turkey would be next on the Hitler list.

London appears with news on the bombing of Cairo - interesting because of the suppositions that Rome might be bombed in retaliation. The London story is that the Axis planes which bombed the Cairo area on Monday night did not blast the city proper. They hit objectives in the general Cairo area - *Such as Heliopolis, the great air base.* places ten miles out of the city. So, says London, there's

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<sup>yet</sup>  
no logical reason for British war planes to bomb Rome.

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London also gives us a report that the **Wichy** Government of France has agreed to send five divisions of the regular troops of the French Army to fight with the Nazis on the Russian Front - some eighty thousand men. ~~and~~ One and a half divisions are said to be already there! - such is the rumor.

## CHILE

Today the Republic of Chile received two messages from Nazi Germany -- two that were rather in contrast. One was congratulations from Hitler to the Chilean President on the occasion of the Independence Day of the South American Republic. The other was news of the arrest of a number of Chilean citizens in Germany -- this in retaliation for the arrest of Germans in Chile. This provokes a good deal of South American surprise, because the Germans in Chile were arrested for violation of the laws ! which should not call for political retaliation.

LEND-LEASE

The President's message on Lend-Lease went to Congress today, and the figure is - five billion, nine hundred and eighty-five million dollars. Nearly six billion - to provide nations fighting Nazi Germany with materials of war. The seven billions appropriated for Lend-Lease last Spring have already been exhausted. So more money <sup>is</sup> ~~to~~ needed, bringing the total to thirteen billion dollars.

The Presidential message states that the extra cash is necessary to continue the program until June thirtieth, Nineteen Forty-Three -- which would seem to mean that he expects the war to last that long at least. All of next year and halfway through the following year.

The new appropriation would permit the administration to give Lend-Lease aid to Soviet Russia. <sup>H</sup> Today's message specifies that the money would be used to help any country whose defense the President considers necessary to this Nation's defense. The President uses these words:- "Additional funds are now needed in order that there be no interruption in the flow of aid to those countries whose defense is vital to our own." And that could ~~be~~ include the Soviets.

However, Moscow is at present getting American aid in a different way - by the ~~direct~~ lending of money. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau disclosed today that the Soviets got a bundle of American cash more than a month ago - ten million dollars. He said the money was advanced against gold which the Soviet <sup>s are</sup> ~~was~~ to ship to the United States over a period of ninety days - Stalin to send a hoard of the yellow metal over here to pay off the loan. The Secretary described the deal on these words, "A new type of transaction." ~~He~~ said it had been made with the approval of ~~the~~ Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

Asked whether any of the Soviet gold had yet been received - he said he did not know. But he added that he thought the credit of Moscow was good. "They have met every bill they have contracted in this country," said he, "and <sup>have</sup> ~~lived~~ up to every one of their obligations in their dealings with me."

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The Morgenthau statement of ten-millions-already-advanced-to-the-Soviets followed an announcement by Federal Loan Administrator Jesse H. Jones. He told of more money to be loaned to Moscow - fifty million dollars, altogether. This



to be paid back in the form of strategic raw materials produced in Soviet Russia, articles needed in the Defense Program over here.

## LEGION

The American Legion today adopted a resolution calling for ~~N~~ational unity on all fronts. And the veterans ~~xx~~ received a message from Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain. Churchill <sup>cabled:-</sup> ~~cabled;~~ "We thank ~~xxx~~ you for the help you are bringing to our common cause - providing the weapons for our forces and bringing much needed aid to those who toil in our great arsenals."

One interesting point was brought up by President Green of the American Federation of Labor. In an address to the <sup>Legion</sup> ~~Convention~~ - <sup>Green</sup> ~~he~~ said that labor was being attacked because it seeks better wages, while the soldiers and sailors are getting just a few dollars a month. The President of the A.F. of L. answered that by saying:- The very fact that members of workers' families had been called to service makes it necessary for the remaining wage earners to get more money.

The American Legion reaffirmed its opposition to Communism. Previously, the veterans had declared in favor of aid to the Soviets. But they're against the Red doctrines just the same, and today stigmatized Communism., Fascism and Naziism

as equally false and dangerous. Also - they asked the states of the Union to join in outlawing the Communist party.

With decisions made on these public issues, the Legionnaires proceeded to elect their National commander. The successful candidate <sup>being</sup> was Lynn Stambaugh of Fargo, North Dakota. <sup>To</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> head <sup>^</sup> ~~He's~~ <sup>^</sup> the ~~chief~~ <sup>^</sup> of the <sup>^</sup> Veterans for the coming year.

## OIL

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It was announced in Washington today that restrictions on the sales of gasoline in the Eastern States will not be removed - they won't abolish the curfew rule against night sales, and they'll keep in force the reduction of deliveries to filling stations. The announcement was made by Secretary of the Interior Oil Coordinator Ickes. ~~It's~~ <sup>The</sup> first declaration we've had from him in some time - the oil Coordinator has been away for a month's vacation. In a press conference he said: "To lift all restrictions and yell 'come and get it' would be stupid."

But what about the report of the Senate Committee declaring that there was no Eastern shortage of oil? Coordinator Ickes gave figures to show that gasoline stocks in the East are now two million <sup>and</sup> seven hundred thousand barrels less than they were at the same time last year - a drop of twelve and a half per cent. And he added that the sales of gasoline are eleven per cent greater than last year. "I have no comment on the Maloney Committee Report", said Ickes, "Other than to say

that the whole thing is in the lap of time - and time will tell the story."

He made reference to the proposed pipeline from the Texas Oil Fields to New Jersey - the project that has been halted because it can't get steel. Coordinator Ickes made the following statement: "I can't explain the action of the priorities and Allocation Board in turning down the application for steel plate for the fifteen hundred mile pipeline," said he.

## MONEY

There was a new kind of rain at Aurora, Indiana, today - a rain of five dollar bills.

It happened like this. The Baltimore and Ohio Limited roared throught the town, and somehow a huge mail bag crammed with five and one dollar bills, fell out of the baggage car and under the wheels of the train. There it was ripped apart, the wind caught the money - and thousands of bills went blowing.

One man grabbed three hundred dollars' worth. The station agent stuffed five hundred dollars into his ~~xxxxxxx~~ pockets.

Then the local post master took charge of the situation and began retrieving the cash, getting it back from the somewhat reluctant finders. At last reports, he had recovered two thousand dollars' worth. But he can't tell if that's all, because he doesn't know how much money was in the bag to begin with.

## ROOSTERS

At Mt. Kisco, New York, Lester Ferris, sixty-eight years old, is in a hospital - being treated for wounds inflicted by two roosters. He relates, in a feeble voice, that he has a couple of the fightingest roosters in <sup>Westchester</sup> ~~the~~ County, cantankerous and mean tempered. Several times during the past week they attacked him with their spurs, and one slash became infected. That weakened him, and he collapsed yesterday - when the roosters assaulted him again. They ripped ~~h~~ him so badly with their spurs that he lay helpless. The local ~~sp~~ cops have captured the roosters and locked them in a coop. They're likely next to be in the soup.

SOLDIER

There's a soldier in the maneuvers down south who may have to listen to a few words from his top sergeant. I suppose he'll be patient about it - for he's a Chinese-American soldier. And the celestials of the Far East are renowned for their impassive patience, However, a few high ranking officers in the episode may be expected to ~~display ranking officers in the episode may be expected to~~ display some little annoyance. - and you can't blame them.

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The second army in Louisiana was engaged today in a highly strategic maneuver. Armored columns were moving to the attack in the war games. The Chinese-American soldier, somehow, became separated from his outfit. They were a few miles ahead. So he decided he'd thumb a ride to catch up with them.

Along the road came a powerful motorized column, led by a scout car full of high officers - on their way to a critical point of battle. That was <sup>the car</sup> ~~that~~ the Chinaman selected for thumbing a ride. You know - going that way with your thumb.

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The officers in the armored car, with no thought of hitch-hikers in mind, thought he was a military police directing them down a crossroad. So they made the turn at a fast clip, and kept speeding along, looking for the battle. They went roaring for three miles, before they suspected that something must be wrong - no battle. Then they turned back, and found out what ~~xxxxxx~~ had happened.

So that's how the generals were late for the armored attack - all because of a Chinaman trying to catch a hike.

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*Going like that! with his thumb, to the Generals. No, not like that. I mean like that Hugh. Don't get me wrong.*