

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Germany has just announced what it calls -- "Final Victory". But that does not apply to the great struggle along the Stalin Line. It means final victory in the battle around Minsk. That's where a great Russian army is said to have been encircled early in the Nazi-Soviet War. Apparently the Germans have been busy with that trapped force ever since -- more than two weeks. Now they say the fighting in the Minsk area had ended -- final victory. The German High Command claims more than four hundred thousand prisoners. That vast number captured in the encirclement.

But now let's go to the Stalin Line.

## WAR

Moscow tonight uses a significant word - stable. This is applied to the huge thousand mile battleline. The ~~XXXXXX~~ Red Army has established what Moscow calls - "a fairly stable front".

The importance of the statement is obvious to even those of us who are the least military-minded. A stabilized battlefront would mean a major failure for the German high Command a permanent line of war, armies facing each other with positions unchanged. The one thing that Nazi Germany would want least of all would be - a permanent eastern front.

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The blitzkrieg type of conflict requires movement and speed - rapid drives for encirclement. Even a slackening of pace is bad. ~~If you've got the Blitzkrieg licked.~~ This is common reasoning on the part of military commentators - although, of course, the full theory of the ~~Blitz~~ Blitzkrieg is not known. That kind of battle is too new for the implications to have been worked out fully. Nevertheless, there's vivid and obvious meaning in that word - stable, the Red Army claim of a stabilized front along the Stalin line.

This is really the major Soviet contention tonight, and other Red Army reports are subordinate - details in a general picture. Moscow tells of counter-attacks --three of them, along the vital north and central front. The places are Polotsk, Lepel, and Borisov. A drive through by the panzer divisions along the line of those ~~gm~~ three towns, would mean a vital stab at Moscow and Leningrad. So the Red Army is ~~staging~~ staging its counter-attacks -- with Great success, says Moscow. The Soviet claim is that ~~xxx~~ two entire Panzer divisions have been destroyed..Still another Red Army counter-attack is reported - in a less important area, the south, Bessarabia.

What has Berlin to say about all ~~this~~ this - the possibility of a stabilized front? Nothing; virtually nothing. The German high command is still silent. Today's official communique merely stated that operations in Russia were proceeding - without halt. This veil of Nazi silence has persisted now for days - ever since the panzer divisions crashed through for ~~x~~ a two hundred mile advance, and the Red Army retired all ~~xx~~ along the line, two or three hundred miles to the rear. It may be that the German High Command says nothing, because things are not going well.

Maybe all the reticence is because the Nazi assaults on the Stalin line have been repelled, smashed back by Red Army counter-attacks. On the other hand, we have to remember the policy the Blitzkrieg Army has followed throughout this war - a policy of silence until a phase of the battle has been completed.

Maybe this once again is the case - and we won't have anything <sup>informative</sup> ~~informative~~ from the German high command until things have happened in a big way.

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It is easy to understand that after a swift mechanized advance of two or three hundred miles, it would take some days to get ready for a new drive - organizing, bringing up new forces. So the Germans may be marking time, getting set for a new ~~lightning~~ lightning thrust. Will it succeed - or will the front remain stabilized? The answer to that ~~xxx~~ question may very well be the answer to the whole Nazi-Soviet War.

Moscow gives us a story of German units deserting to the Red forces. We are told of parties of German soldiers approaching soviet positions and displaying signs reading -"Down with bloodthirsty Hitler." This reminds us of previous Nazi stories of large Red forces shooting their communist commissars

and deserting to the Germans. Moscow also tells of Finns going over to the Soviet side - Finnish soldiers saying they don't want to fight against soviet Russia. The official bulletin from Helsinki, on the other hand, tells of advances by the Finns and Germans into Soviet territory. They claim they smashed a Red Army division, and are advancing toward the city of Vipuri. That's the place so much in the news during the ~~Soviet-Finnish~~ Soviet-Finnish War, the winter before last.

SYRIA

Fighting is still going on in Syria. The

Armistice that seemed ~~like~~ close at hand has not materialized.

A radio broadcast from Berlin declares that the terms presented by the British and Free French were unacceptable to defending Commander General Dentz. This may very well be the case, as British headquarters in at Cairo today told of continuing British advances in the French colony.

## SENATE

The Naval Affairs Committee of the Senate today voted to summon Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. This follows a resolution by Senator Wheeler of Montana, demanding that the Secretary of the Navy be called to answer questions about American warships and German submarines. There have been newspaper stories that a United States destroyer aimed a depth charge at a Nazi u-boat. Secretary Knox has already denied that any such thing has occurred. He said there has not been any kind of shooting by the Navy. The Senate Committee wants to question him in detail and he will probably be asked about what he said yesterday - the implication that American warships may have to shoot in carrying out orders issued by President Roosevelt in the occupation of Iceland. The Naval Affairs Committee has also summoned Admiral Stark, chief of Naval operations - for testimony along the same line.

The committee action was accompanied by debate on the Senate floor - with Senator Taft of Ohio criticizing the American occupation of Iceland. This, he said, was part of a policy that would lead to war - the President taking us in. He pointed out that the Constitution gives to Congress alone the right to declare war.



Senator Connally of Texas replied for the administration. He argued that the President has full constitutional authority to send the navy wherever he pleases - he's the Commander-in-chief. He referred to previous American expeditions down ~~the~~ Latin-American way, and added: "If the marines can be sent to Latin-America to protect a banana patch, they certainly can be sent to Iceland to protect the people of the United States."

Senator Taft denied that the Iceland move was simply for National defense. "There has been no attack on the United States, and no threat of attack," he declared. Then he referred to the possibility of American forces going still farther afield. Not Iceland - but Ireland. "Weeks ago," said the senator, "I heard on reliable authority that the United States was constructing a Naval Air base for Great Britain in Northern Ireland."

That's a thing which has been suggested by Wendell Wilkie. He made the proposal recently, and today we have a response from Northern Ireland. The Ulster Premier said - yes. His government would agree to the Wilkie proposition that the United States construct a Naval base for Great Britain ~~in~~ in Northern Ireland. "If the





## APPROPRIATION

President ~~MEERENY~~ Roosevelt today asked Congress for  
~~and~~ an additional four billion ~~and~~ seven hundred million dollars.  
He <sup>wants</sup> ~~wants~~ the money for the Army. The President indicated that  
most of the spending would be for guns and ammunition, to equip  
the hugely expended land forces of this nation. We've had word  
for some time that the President was going to ask for another  
large army appropriation. The supposition was that it would come  
to five or six billion dollars. Today we get the figure - nearly  
five billions. This makes a total of fifteen billions - requested  
for the army this year.

Secretary of the Treasury <sup>Morgenthau</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ says that ~~in~~ the  
new appropriation proposed today may cause a change in the plan  
for taxation. The ~~XXXX~~ tax program drafted by Congress calls  
~~XXXXXX~~ for the raising of three and a half billion. But that,  
apparently will not be enough..More money needed, heavier taxation.  
The secretary, in speaking of the new figures presented to Congress  
today, used these words, "So colossal as to warrant close look at  
the whole fiscal picture."

DRAFT

In Congress today a bill was introduced to permit President Roosevelt to keep men in training for more than a year. Also to empower the President to send them out of the Western Hemisphere if necessary. This applies to National Guardsmen taken into the regular Army and to men conscripted under the selective service law.

The legal period of training is for one year. Congress is asked to remove that time limit. The law puts a limit on places to which the men can be sent -- not out of the Western ~~Hemi~~ Hemisphere. Congress is asked to eliminate that restriction.

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All this has been under discussion during recent days, and now it's up for ~~legislative~~ legislative action. The bill was introduced by Senator Reynolds, Chairman of the Senate military Affairs Committee, who said he was doing so at the request of General Marshall, General Chief of Staff.

## SOLDIER

At Brockton, Massachusetts, today the Judge passed sentence on Private Patuski - gave him six months in jail. That's a good deal of punishment for a soldier on furlough. But then consider the exploit that Private Patusk~~e~~ performed.

He's an artilleryman - and also a boxer. At camp Hulen, Texas, he's heavyweight champion of battery H, two hundred and eleventh regiment of the coast artillery. A powerful soldier is Private Patusk~~i~~ - brawny arms and m<sup>i</sup>ghty fists. He's also a military policeman, which sould be ~~a~~ <sup>his</sup> voucher for excellent conduct - perfect behavior at all times. But Private Patuski also fancies himself as an amateur locomotive driver; <sup>he</sup> and <sup>^</sup> set out to emulate the exploits of the legended Casey Jones.

On leave from Camp Hulen, he went up to his native Massachusetts, and was on a passenger train speeding toward Brockton - when the inspiration seized him. He admits he had a few drinks, and was in something of a haze. However, there's nothing hazy about what happened. Private Patuski climbed out onto the coal tender and then into the cabin of the locomotive. He pushed

request.

I don't know how the commandant feels about that. Maybe he'll reply - "Keep him, and give him the six months," or maybe he'll growl:- "Send him back to us." Private Patuski is deeply concerned. He says he was just about to be promoted to the rank of sergeant.

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The War Department today asked for a statement of facts from Lieutenant-General Ben Lear, Commander of the Second Army stationed at Memphis, Tennessee. This followed a warm discussion in Congress -- with various legislators denouncing ~~discussing~~ the General for the famous Yoo Hoo episode. There was fervid oratory on the subject of the soldiers ~~who~~ whistled and called out at girl golf players wearing shorts -- Yoo Hoo. There were indignant remarks about the general who was playing golf on ~~that same~~ course. ~~He did not~~ The General who did not reply "Yoo Hoo". Instead, he was highly indignant -- especially when the soldiers, in whistling to the girls, made some light remarks to the General ~~who~~ <sup>who</sup> was in civilian clothes. ~~and~~ <sup>so</sup> they didn't know ~~xx~~ who he was.

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A good deal of Congressional heat was focused on the punishment the General inflicted -- making officers and soldiers of the offending division take a fifteen-mile ~~xx~~ hike as a punishment and penance. The General had his defenders today, Congressmen who spoke strongly for the necessity of firm discipline. There was a lively argument -- back and forth. And now the War Department takes action.

Major General Richardson, Chief of ~~the~~ Army

Public Relations, makes the following statement:- "The

War Department never ~~pre~~ prejudices a case," said he.

"Whenever such an incident arises we always telegraph the

officer for his side of the case. General Lear, he

concluded, "has been called upon to make this report and

give a statement of fact".

And now Hugh you too

9 1/4 to you!