

L.T. SUNOCO, MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1941

Good Evening, Everybody:

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Soldiers with fixed bayonets, Uncle Sam's Regulars,  
*North America at Douglas.*  
marched upon a California aircraft factory today, Sending the  
pickets on the run. The soldiers entered the plant, and  
Colonel Charles E. Branshaw of the United States Army Air Corps,  
formally took possession.

It was quick work and evidently had been <sup>carefully</sup> ~~carefully~~  
planned. For the troops were in that factory less than an hour  
after the President signed his name ordering the Army to take  
over.

The President made this move as he phrased it:-  
"pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitutional laws  
of the United States, as President and Commander-in-Chief of the  
Army," and so on.

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The Presidential order started with a reference to his proclamation of the twenty-seventh of May, in which he declared an unlimited national emergency. He then set forth that the North American Aviation Corporation at its Inglewood plant in the city of ~~Los~~ Los Angeles, has contracts with the United States for the manufacture of military aircraft and other material and articles vital to the defense of the United States. The President said also that the United States owns aircraft in the course of production, raw material, machinery and other property ~~situated~~ situated in the Company's plant.

The White House <sup>order</sup> ~~then~~ then pointed out that the strike at the North American plant was in violation of an agreement between the bargaining representatives of the Company and the workers; that production had been interrupted; that the objectives of the Presidential proclamation of May twenty-seventh had been jeopardized; and the ability of the United States to ~~obtain~~ obtain aircraft seriously impaired.

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Therefore, he said, he had directed the Secretary of War to take possession and operate the plant.

Simultaneous with that order, <sup>the</sup> President issued a statement <sup>saying</sup> ~~In this he repeated his assertion~~ that the strike was in violation of an agreement and that it had created a situation seriously detrimental to the defense of the United States.

Therefore, as President and Commander-in-Chief, he determined that the plant must be reopened at once. <sup>Hence he had ordered</sup> ~~So he directed~~ the Secretary of War to take charge and operate <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ plant until normal production shall be resumed.

<sup>The President</sup> ~~Mr. Roosevelt~~ called upon the workers to return to their jobs with full confidence in the desire and ability of this administration to protect their persons and their interests.

And he added that he had instructed the Army to afford protection to all workers not only on entering and leaving the plant, but also

in their own homes. That's a significant point, since it <sup>has been</sup> ~~is an~~

<sup>a</sup> ~~important~~ part of <sup>tactics to</sup> ~~the tactics of~~ Communist ~~labor agitators to~~

<sup>weak</sup> ~~seek~~ vengeance on strikebreakers and their families, <sup>at home,</sup> ~~in their own~~

homes.

Although we had been led to expect this action by the

President, it was none the less a spectacular <sup>when it happened</sup> ~~event in our history.~~  
*today. - So far as I can recall*  
~~Unless I'm sadly mistaken,~~ it has never happened before here, *in*  
*this country.*

Though there were strikes in America after we <sup>went</sup> ~~got~~ into the last war,

none ~~of them~~ were so serious that President Wilson had to order the

*to take over, ~~this~~ <sup>this struggle</sup>*  
Army ~~in~~ ~~this affair~~ at Inglewood, California, had reached a

melodramatic climax. Los Angeles has always been an open shop city.

Early today, Mayor Bowron of Los Angeles had gone to the Inglewood

factory and found there a crowd of a thousand men who wanted to

go back to work but were cowed and hampered by a truculent picket

line. The pickets were marching around <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ front of the gate,

four abreast, in lock step. The Mayor ordered the chief of police

to give the workers protection so they could enter the factory.

The chief asked the Mayor, "Do you mean you want me to bust up the

picket line?" To which the Mayor replied he did; and thereupon

the police scattered the pickets with tear gas bombs. In that

fashion a few men who didn't want to strike got into the plant,

but even some of them were beaten up.

~~It was upon receipt of this news that the President~~

~~ordered the Army in. The text of the order as well as the text~~

*At the same time — around*  
~~of the accompanying statement had been prepared well in advance.~~

~~Even at~~ daybreak, the Army had two thousand five hundred soldiers concentrated nearby. They arrived at Inglewood in big six wheeled armored trucks and also in tiny jeeps. The pickets, both men and women, jeered and abused and heckled the soldiers, who took it with impassive faces. But a few of the pickets who were too slow in getting out of the soldiers' way, were helped along. *For the* ~~with a jolt in~~  
*U.S. Regulars*  
~~the ribs.~~ The soldiers took no nonsense from the pickets.

A voice came from the C.I.O. sound truck that was patrolling outside with the words, "Okay boys, move on back. Remember, the Army can't build airplanes."

Colonel Branshaw immediately issued a statement declaring that the plant was open for work under government control, and that all employees who wanted to return to their jobs would be given every protection.

~~Throughout the day there has been a good deal of speculation,~~  
~~as to what effect the seizure of that plant will have.~~



The President followed up his seizure ~~with~~ order with another. He instructed the Selective Service authorities to reclassify all strikers in defense ~~indus~~ factories. In short, strikers within the Selective Service age limit will be hustled right into the Army at twenty-one dollars a month. This is in line with a famous order issued by Woodrow Wilson twenty-four years ago - "work, or fight!" Hitherto, many had obtained deferment because they were working at an occupation vital to national defense.

Soon after Colonel Branshaw of the Air Corps took charge at the North American plant, Secretary of War Stimson told newspapermen that the strike had broken wide open, that employees were streaming in, and conditions were quite satisfactory. Secretary Stimson then told the press conference that the War Department would act as custodian for the

plant. Whether strikers should be re-hired was a management problem, he said. And Colonel Branshaw will be the management agent.

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A reporter remarked that the stockholders wanted to know how they stood. Said Secretary Stimson: "In due time they will find out." Another reporter, "What about the Company?" To that the Secretary of War replied that the President of the North American Company had a good reputation with the government for making airplanes as well as for being a square-shooter. In fact said the Secretary for War, "There are not enough like him." To which he added: "We do not want to do any injury to such a man and you may draw your own inferences from this." The main objective said the Secretary further, was to get the ~~plant~~ plant as quickly as possible producing planes just as it was before the strike.

Here's late word: The President has been advised that two thousand men have returned to work and that by tomorrow nearly all the men will be back on the job.

MRS. ROOSEVELT

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Mrs. ~~Franklin D.~~ Roosevelt was asked <sup>today</sup> how she felt about that <sup>strike,</sup> Inglewood ~~affair.~~ The First Lady of the Land, ~~you may recall,~~ herself belongs to the C.I.O., being a member of the American Newspaper Guild. She said she thought it was too bad <sup>that</sup> one group could jeopardize the friendly feeling of the country for labor as a whole. At the same time, she said, it's always grievous to see the need of sending soldiers to prevent disturbances in industrial plants, and particularly sad in this instance. The number of strikes that have been called recently, she <sup>added,</sup> ~~said,~~ has brought about a strong feeling against labor. And that, she said, is a pity.



SYRIA

*the classic old city of*  
The British tonight are within thirty miles of Damascus,  
*theatre of wars almost beyond counting.*<sup>^</sup>  
the heart and nerve center of Syria. That's what we learn in a  
dispatch from London. It's a dramatic spectacle in more ways than  
one. For it isn't only fast British columns that are driving into  
that French-occupied country. Free Frenchmen, followers of General  
DeGaulle, are fighting with the British against the French who stick  
to Petain. Then again, echoes of Biblical history keep cropping up  
in these dispatches. One of the first places occupied by the  
Anglo-French was a place called Sur, ~~Perhaps it'll mean more to~~  
~~you if you recall that this is the ancient name of the~~ city we used  
to read about in the Bible and in the history of Alexander the Great,  
*and in the days of the Crusaders,*  
as Tyre. Sur is the original Phoenician name of that once great  
center of civilization. Its traditions go back as far as the  
Twenty-Eighth Century B.C. And tonight it is <sup>again</sup> the scene of a  
military occupation.

THEXKADIE

A radio broadcast from the west coast of Africa reports  
that there are as many as four thousand French followers of General  
DeGaulle fighting in Syria. While one column is advancing on

Damascus, another is pushing up the coast of Lebanon towards Beirut. Still a third column is twenty-five miles inside the southern border of Syria, rolling on from Trans-Jordan.

The Vichy Government admits that the Allied columns have penetrated into Syria at three points, but denies that they are as far in as the British claim. Vich also claims to have destroyed a British tank column, and tells us of a naval engagement. That with the help of planes, two French submarines broke up a big British squadron of warships that was landing forces near Tyre. An announcement of the French high command at Beirut claims that two British naval units were seriously damaged in that engagement. Which doesn't jibe with British reports.

Then there's a dispatch from Jerusalem that the fierce Jebel Druze tribesmen, who have always hated the French, are joyfully welcoming the British and the FreeFrench invaders.

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A report from Turkey carries the rumor that two divisions of Arab troops, led by British officers, are advancing upon Aleppo from Iraq. In Ankara, that column is estimated to

number between twenty and thirty thousand fighting men.

The Vichy Ambassador to Washington called upon Secretary of State Hull today, to tell the Secretary how indignant the French people are at the action of the British in invading Syria. And he told reporters that if one could take a census of the Frenchmen who are ~~not~~ not obeying Marshal Petain, one would find that they are exceedingly few. As for General Weygand, he is loyal to Petain, says the Vichy representative.

Then he asked Secretary Hull to clarify his recent warning about collaboration between Vichy and Hitler. Thereupon, says the report, Secretary Hull turned the tables and told him the Government of the United States was surprised at the failure of the French to stop German infiltration into Syria, although they immediately jumped to arms against the British and Free French. It is further reported that Secretary Hull told the Vichy ambassador that it would be a most regrettable state of affairs if the French should find themselves fighting a former ally to help Germany in mandated territory.

ROBIN MOOR

Another tragedy on the sea lanes between the United States and South Africa. Some weeks ago, the United States freighter ROBIN MOOR, sailed from New York for Capetown. For more than two weeks nothing had been heard of her. Today, there came a message from the master of a Brazilian steamship. He notified ~~the~~ port captain ~~at Fortaleza~~ in Brazil that last night he picked up a lifeboat with eleven members of the crew of that freighter, the ROBIN MOOR. They had been drifting and rowing for almost three weeks. The ROBIN MOOR, a five thousand ton vessel, had foundered on the Twentieth of May only six and a quarter degrees north of the Equator. Those rescued seamen also revealed that three other lifeboats had been lowered from the ROBIN MOOR. They carried twenty-seven persons, including three women passengers and a baby. Nothing has been seen or heard of them.

That's the second time in two weeks we've heard of disaster to a ship on the way to Capetown. The other time it was the Egyptian liner ZAMZAM, and she was destroyed by a Nazi raider. Just what caused the sinking of the ROBIN MOOR we do not know yet.

RELIEF

There are still five and a half million without jobs in the U.S.A.; in spite of our tremendous defense program.

The Appropriations Committee of the House has investigated the facts and recommends a relief appropriation of eight hundred and eighty-five million, nine hundred and five thousand, for the year beginning July First. Almost half a billion less than the amount set aside for this present year.

The casual impression prevails, so the Committee explains, that due to the vast national defense program, there should be employment in private industry for practically every employable person. However, that is not the fact.

One reason is that all the defense contracts have not yet been distributed.



DODGERS

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The Civil Aeronautics Administration is angry with Larry McPhail, General Manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team. You may ask immediately, what could be the connection between aeronautics and baseball? Here's the reason: Two of the Brooklyn Dodgers took lessons in flying, Dolph Camilli and Cookie Lavagetto. Larry McPhail is their boss, and fined each of them five hundred dollars. That's what annoyed the A.C.C. An official of the Aeronautics Administration wrote to Larry McPhail and reminded him that in Nineteen Forty a million miles were flown for every fatal accident, and that, says the C.G.A., is enough mileage for Cookie and Dolph for flying around the world forty times before meeting serious trouble.

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The Aeronautics official then indignantly wants to know:- What's the rate of skull fractures from pop bottles thrown when the Giants are playing in Brooklyn?

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Here's Milton Cross to talk about that or something