

L.T. - SUNOCO. - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1945.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Secretary of Labor announces he is going to invite both sides in the General Motors strike to a conciliation meeting in Washington. Secretary Schwellenbach stated this after a conference with President Truman at the White House. So Government intervention in the strike is assured.

In Detroit the word is that General Motors is rejecting a C.I.O. offer to arbitrate the wage dispute. The proposal was made by the union, and we hear that the company answer is - no arbitration.

PEARL HARBOR

The most important part of the testimony given today by former Secretary of State Cordell Hull concerned the American note to Japan eleven days before Pearl Harbor. That note has been called "an ultimatum" and has been described as the communication that touched off the war in the Pacific. This was stated, for example, in the Army and Navy reports on the events that led to Pearl Harbor.

The importance of the point lies in the fact that the Army and Navy were urging that a showdown in the Pacific be delayed -- to give them time to prepare for war. Today former Secretary Hull stated that both Army Chief-of-Staff General Marshall and Admiral Stark, then Chief of Naval Operations, had advised that no decisive action be taken -- no showdown, because the Army and Navy were not ready for war.

The former Secretary of State ~~then~~ emphatically denied that the note was an ultimatum and that it incited the Japs to strike. In the ~~course~~ course of this denial, he gave some profoundly interesting bits of history, as it

was being made in those tense days.

In the background is the fact that the United States, Great Britain and the Netherlands had cut off trade relations with Japan -- which amounted to a virtual blockade. The Japs wanted the trade restrictions to be lifted. That was what the negotiations were about.

The American note of November Twenty-Sixth, Nineteen Forty-One told Tokyo that the virtual embargo would be lifted only if the Japs got out of Indo-China -- and, out of China, withdraw from their conquests of aggression.

Cordell Hull today disclosed that a sort of compromise had been considered. He said it had been planned to include in the note a temporizing measure -- offer the Japs a concession. The idea was to offer to relax the economic sanctions to some extent. The former Secretary said that according to this, the Japs would have been allowed enough oil for civilian needs, six hundred thousand dollars' worth of cotton a month, and other commodities. The idea was that by offering the

Japs that much of a compromise, the showdown in the Pacific might be delayed.

But the concessions were not made, the idea abandoned -- ~~but~~ because of China. That country violently objected. Chiang Kai-Shek declared that any relaxing of the economic measures against Japan would mean -- "appeasement." The Generalissimo sent what Cordell Hull called -- "Numerous hysterical messages" and these annoyed Hull. In any case, the compromise for a delay was omitted from the note to Tokyo.

The former Secretary of State added today that he did not think the concession would have made much difference anyway. The Japs would have thought it only "Chicken Feed", and that the slight prospect of acceptance did not justify the danger of a collapse of Chinese morale, because of -- "Appeasement."

In denying that the note to Tokyo was not an ultimatum, the former Secretary declared that if there was any ultimatum, it was Japan's demand on the United States -- a demand that all economic measures be lifted

and that full freedom of trade be restored. ^{That} ~~Then~~, said Cordell Hull, would in effect have made the United States an ally, an accomplice, in Jap aggressions on the other side of the Pacific.

Most of the Hull testimony ~~was~~ was given today in the form of ^{his} ~~a~~ twenty-two thousand word statement, which the Secretary himself did not read. He appeared before the joint Congressional Investigation Committee, weak and failing -- he has been ill for some time. He answered questions only briefly -- and faintly.

He presented a picture of American Government leaders completely certain that war with Japan was inevitable -- the Japs were determined on a trial by battle -- and that nothing could change their mind. He indicated that just before Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt planned to appear before Congress and make a statement on the gravity of the situation in the Pacific, the apparent ~~xxx~~ inevitability of war. Secretary Hull persuaded him not to do this -- until he had sent a message to the Japanese Emperor, urging the Emperor

to restrain the militarists and preserve peace. The message to the Mikado was sent on the day before Pearl Harbor, and by the time it got to him, the Jap attack had been launched.

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Court by Lieutenant Colonel Eustace Hendrix of Atlanta,
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Hendrix charged that the trial of Yamashita
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YAMASHITA

Today an American Lieutenant Colonel appeared before the Supreme Court of the Philippine Commonwealth to argue a plea -- for Yamashita. The defense of the Jap Lieutenant General, accused of being responsible for ~~hideous~~ hideous atrocities in the Philippines, has asked the Philippine Supreme Court for a writ of Habeas Corpus -- to procure the release of Yamashita. The Jap General is being defended at the trial by ^u counsel that include^s both Japanese and American lawyers, and today his case was argued before the Philippine Supreme Court by Lieutenant Colonel Walter Hendrix of Atlanta, Georgia.

Hendrix charged that the trial of Yamashita has, as he expressed it - "violated every law in the world." He claimed that the military commission instead of considering law, is acting on orders from General MacArthur. He said the Judges trying Yamashita are taking the General's orders as law. "We conten^dt," declared Lieutenant Colonel Hendrix, "That MacArthur has taken over the law into his own hands, disregarding the

laws of the United States and the Constitution -- and that he does not have ^{such} authority from Congress and the President." To which the Lieutenant Colonel added: "He is a great soldier and general, but not a great lawyer."

^{Then he} asked the Philippine Supreme Court to act promptly on the plea for a writ of Habeas Corpus -- no delay. "Because," declared Lieutenant Colonel Hendrix, "General MacArthur has given orders that as soon as Yamashita is declared guilty, he is to be executed." After which, of course, what would be the use of an appeal?

Nine Philippine Justices in black robes listened gravely. One of them asked: "Why don't you appeal to MacArthur?"

Lieutenant Colonel Hendrix coughed as if in some slight embarrassment: "Well, Sir," He replied, "I don't believe I'd do that."

NUREMBERG

While the Pearl Harbor investigation is disclosing diplomatic events ^{preceeding} ~~on the American side,~~ as the war with Japan was developing, the Nuremberg trial is revealing things that happened at the German end of the Japanese Nazi Axis. At the trial of German war criminals, the prosecution today made public ~~some~~ more secret documents from ^{Hitler's} ~~the German Government~~ archives, ~~and~~ ^{documents that have to do with} ~~these reveal~~ negotiations between Japan and Germany on ^{the topic} ~~the subject~~ of war in the Pacific.

In April of Nineteen Forty-One, eight months before Pearl Harbor, the Tokyo Foreign Minister, Matsuoka, was in Berlin. Matsuoka had just negotiated the non-aggression ~~a~~ pact between Japan and Soviet Russia. ^{and,} ~~he~~ ^{and} took the occasion to go on to Germany and see Hitler. Matsuoka told Hitler that in his opinion, war with the United States was inevitable. To which the Nazi Fuehrer ^{did} ~~re~~ replied that, if a conflict ^{break} out in the Pacific, Nazi Germany would declare war on the United States. Hitler ~~xi~~ said he considered hostilities between the United States and Germany -- "Undesirable"; Nevertheless,

he would take action to support his Japanese allies -- and Hitler added that Germany had already made plans for an eventual war with America.

The Nazi Dictator assured Mat^suoka that no American soldier would ever land in Europe -- which certainly ^{plenty} seems ^{now,} ~~ironical~~ ~~today~~ Matsuo^ka, in turn, told Hitler that the war in~~x~~ the Pacific would probably

last for five years and would be fought in the South Seas

-- the Tokyo Foreign Minister ~~never dreaming, apparently,~~ ^{unaware of our latent} ~~strength that would enable us to~~ ~~that American power would~~ drive straight against Japan

itself. ^{then} Matsuo^ka asked Hitler to give Japan some help -- by aiding in the build-up of the Jap Submarine Fleet.

So there you have arrangements made eight months before Pearl Harbor, arrangements for Germany to declare war on the United States as soon as Japan attacked -- which arrangement was carried out later.

The documents revealed today indicate likewise that the Nazis in Nineteen Forty were planning to double-cross the Soviets. This was the time of the Hitler-Stalin Pact, according to which the Germans were

to deliver war equipment to Russia, while the Russians sent raw materials to Germany in return. The Soviets were keeping up their end of the bargain, but the Nazis were having trouble in putting up the materials the Soviets required.

~~At one time Hitler offered to turn over to the Russians a new heavy German cruiser -- but Moscow declined. Whereupon Hitler issued an order giving the Soviets number one priority, ^{for} ~~to~~ materials that were to be shipped to Russia. At the same time Hitler stated to German officials that he was interested in the delivery of war supplies to Russia -- only until the spring of Nineteen Forty-One. This would indicate that, even then, Hitler was planning his attack on the Soviets. ~~The attack~~ was launched as spring ended -- in June of Nineteen Forty-One. The Soviets, on their part, continued the delivery of materials to Germany until a few days before the Nazis hit them.~~

Another angle developed today at the Nuremberg trial was the help that the German industrialists gave

~~a big one~~ Von Ribbentrop, ~~who was Hitler's Foreign Minister,~~ asked the war crimes tribunal to give him permission to call British witnesses in his defense -- six British witnesses and all of top rank. One ~~if~~ is Lord Beaverbrook, the Press Lord and close wartime advisor to Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Another -- Lord Van Sittartt, formerly permanent ~~under~~ under-Secretary of the British Foreign Office and now the number one exponent of a harsh peace for Germany. The others are Lord Derby, who was British newspaper owner, and Jeffrey Dawson~~K~~, who was Editor of the London Times. Jeffrey Dawson has since died, of which Ribbentrop was obviously not aware.

Ribbentrop also ~~prop~~^{re}osed to summon an American General Wood, whom nobody seems to be able to identify. Ribbentrop says that this General Wood made a report to Congress in Washington, in Nineteen Thirty-Six, telling Congress that Winston Churchill had declared that Germany should be destroyed.

And Ribbentrop says that he is considering the

idea of calling Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov -- but he hasn't decided on that. They had a lot of dealings together, Ribbentrop and Molotov, during the days of the Hitler-Stalin Pact -- But I wonder how eager the Soviet Foreign Commissar would be right now ^w~~e~~ to appear as a witness in the ~~xxx~~ defense of Hitler's Foreign Minister.

INDIA

In India the wild outbreak in ~~Calcutta~~ Calcutta still goes on - with Hindu attacks not only against the British but also against Americans. Last night an American Major and three enlisted men were killed when a mob of Hindus attacked and stoned a Thanksgiving day dance at the American officers Club, and threw a hand grenade into the place.

The latest tells of an American hospital besieged by rioting hindus - water supply ~~cut off~~ cut off. Insurgent mobs have set up road blocks to isolate the hospital and the situation is so serious that at last reports the Americans were considering crashing through the blockade with armored cars.

All over Calcutta the picture is one of violence and bloodshed - British and American vehicles ~~overturned~~ overturned and destroyed, and the police firing into mobs. Six more rioters were killed this afternoon. The casualties in the Calcutta disturbances now number twenty 9- one killed and two hundred injured.

DEGAULLE

The political crisis in France came to a formal end today -- at least for the time being. The constituent assembly in Paris gave General DeGaulle a unanimous vote of confidence, when he presented his new Coalition Cabinet.

DeGaulle won the votes, and also the cheers - with the speech outlining his program. He uttered a vigorous demand that France be given an equal voice in all decisions made by the big powers -- including decisions on Atomic Energy.

EISENHOWER

General Eisenhower is in the hospital. Last night we heard how the new Chief of Staff had appeared before a Congressional Committee yesterday to speak in favor of appropriating money for relief and rehabilitation in Europe. The General insisted on appearing -- in spite of a heavy cold and Doctor's orders to stay in bed. Today his cold was worse -- described as "A respiratory ailment." So he went to a hospital at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

The new Chief of Staff had planned to sail today for Europe -- to wind up affairs of his command in the occupation of Germany. But the trip is off.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Eisenhower is in a hospital *out* *in* Iowa, after having had an attack of pneumonia. Her condition is described as -- fine, on her way to recovery.

Ernie Pyle's widow has died. Forty-five years old, she had been failing physically ever since her husband, Ernie, was killed by the bullet of a Jap sniper, toward the end of the war in the Pacific.

They had been inseparable during the days when Ernie Pyle was a traveling reporter, writing homely stories about American life. They drove together by automobile, covering a hundred and fifty thousand miles. He used to call her -- "That girl who rides beside me." Then Ernie went overseas to become the poet laureate of the G.I.'s.

Curiously enough, in spite of the close tie between them, they were divorced once. That was just before Ernie went off to the North African campaign -- to write about the G.I.'s. Their marriage was legally dissolved, but then, over in North Africa, Ernie decided that it had been a mistake. So they were remarried, while he was over there -- remarried by proxy.

RATIONING

No more rationing of meats, butter, fats and oils -- it ends at midnight tonight. This announcement was made by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, who explained that there is no more need of rationing for meat -- *no longer any* ~~meat~~ shortage. *He* added that there still is a problem of fats and oils, and it would be a good idea to ration these for a while longer. But to do that, after taking meat off the list, would require a whole new rationing system -- and that would be too much of a complicated bother.

1/2 So now the only item still rationed is sugar. There is a serious worldwide shortage of sugar, and you're likely to need your sugar stamps for some time to come.

That's good news; and now a little more of the same from you, Hugh. PS - L - u - Monday.