

BRITAIN

L.T.-Sunoco. Tuesday, July 8, 1941.

An amazing scene was witnessed in London today. A Soviet military mission arrived in the British capital, and was greeted with a wild demonstration. High British officials were at the railroad station - Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Pownall, Vice-Chief of Imperial General Staff, Admiral T.S.V. Phillips, and Air Vice-Marshal Bottomly. They bade welcome to Red army General Golikov, Rear Admiral Kharlmov, and other Soviet military leaders. The official reception was according to schedule. What was astonishing was the popular acclaim. The London metropolitan police were unprepared for the ~~many thousands~~ *huge throng* that ~~formed lines~~ *gathered* ~~at the curb along the street at the railroad station~~. British Communists raised concerted shouts, "Long live the unity of the British and Soviet peoples!"

When the Moscow delegation appeared, the crowd broke through the police lines, cheering, shouting and singing the Internationale. Women dashed forward - with kisses and embraces for the Moscow military men. As the Soviet mission drove off through the London streets, the crowd chanted - "Down with Hitler! Long live the Soviets!"

~~The story from London says that British officials were surprised at the outpouring of enthusiasm for Soviet Russia.~~

Great Britain today listened to an address by - Litvinov. That one-time powerful personality emerged from Soviet shadows to deliver a radio broadcast in English -- a call for Britain and Soviet Russia to stand together to the end.

It is the first public utterance by Maxim Litvinov for a long time -- that Soviet statesman who advocated cooperation with the democracies, and then was removed from power shortly before Stalin signed up with Hitler. Now all is changed, and Litvinov emerges to preach again a policy of British-Soviet Alliance.

"Our struggle," said he, "is for the independence and for the liberation of enslaved peoples."

And he urged Britain to strike in the West, at once, with all her power. An Official plea for an invasion of the Continent.

## WAR

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There is comparatively little war news tonight - this in spite of the fact that a tremendous battle is raging in the great spaces of western Russia. Along that battlefront of a thousand miles, there is action of immense magnitude and terrifying violence. This we know, but only in a vague and general way. Of the ebb and flow of battle, victory and defeat, we have not much more than a blank. Events are hidden by the veil of totalitarian censorship on both sides.

The German general staff has lapsed into another of its periods of silence. Today the official military communique used the fewest and briefest of words in reporting on the giant clash of war. Of the blitzkrieg drives and assaults, it merely says - "Operations continue according to plan." That is the familiar form used by the Nazi high command in withholding the news - until a certain phase of battle has been completed.

The less official word ~~from Berlin~~ is hardly more copious. Berlin stands by previous claims that the blitzkrieg is driving through the Stalin Line in the most critical areas - the middle and northern sectors, the roads leading to Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, and to Moscow. But we get few details - little more than rumor. Just enough

9  
to make us aware that the Nazi forces are waging stupendous battle to break through - at those places where ~~a break-through~~ <sup>it would</sup> count the most. Today's German claims concern a less important area, for the most part. The southern front - where, we are told, the German, Rumanian, Hungarian and Slovak forces have reached what are supposed to be the main series of Red army fortifications ~~in that area~~ the Stalin Line.

Moscow reports that Rumanian, Hungarian and Slovak soldiers are being terrorized by their Nazi comrades. German troops driving them to battle, shooting them when they're unwilling, conducting a reign of terror. ~~Moscow claims that these Nazi allies are unwilling to fight.~~ A Moscow report tells how Soviet forces wiped out an entire regiment of Rumanian ~~national~~ <sup>royal</sup> guards. Also - Red army successes against the Germans and Finns in the north - though Helsinki today states that the Finnish forces have made advances into Soviet territory. Moscow indicates that in the critical sectors of the vast battlefront, the Nazi assaults are   
- with frightful losses, being repelled. This - as a general statement, little specific detail.

~~We are told of a Soviet naval success in the Baltic - a clash~~

~~between boats in which several Nazi craft were sunk. And Berlin announces the blowing up of a Soviet destroyer in the Black Sea.~~

Moscow gives us such picturesque sidelights as this - concerning crossword puzzles. The Soviet Government today issued an edict forbidding anybody to mail crossword puzzles to foreign countries. The reason is to prevent the secret transmission of military and economic information - ~~crossword~~ puzzle ciphers. The same thing applies to chess games and problems; ~~They're not permitted to mail abroad those~~ odd symbols that are used to express the game of chess.

*about all we know is*  
~~So~~ Tonight ~~we know~~ that a giant battle is going on, with all the mechanized horrors of modern war multiplied to proportions that can hardly be imagined. A battle that may be one of the decisive ~~in~~ events in the history of the world. Yet we know so little about it. It's a war concealed by censorship - behind closed doors, <sup>aa</sup>~~and~~ one might say.



## RAIDS

The British today launched another of their incessant daylight raids against Nazi centers in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. Thundering explosions along the Channel coast, with a blasting of military objectives.

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London reports that this afternoon nine German fighting planes were shot down, while the British lost seven. This points to the fact that British plane losses have been increasing during the past few days. <sup>The</sup> Nazi Air Corps is showing more resistance. This is taken to mean obviously that Hitler flying units have been transferred from the Russian area to the British sector. Perhaps the R.A.F. assaults have been so severe that they've compelled the Nazis to shift some amount of air power from the East to the West. Or perhaps the Soviet flying corps has been so largely weakened that the Germans can spare numbers of planes to fight off those continual British raids.

## ICELAND

The United States occupation of Iceland is followed by some lively remarks in Washington -- White House remarks about Senator Wheeler of Montana. Last week the Senator made the public statement that the United States would soon send armed forces to that northern island. The prophecy was excellent. In fact at that time the naval move toward the occupation of Iceland must have been going on.

Today's White House ~~criticism~~ criticism was directed at the propriety of the Montana Senator saying what he did. Secretary Early quoted with approval a NEW YORK TIMES dispatch from London today -- a story reflecting the British attitude toward the Wheeler incident. The TIMES article reads in part like this:-

"What Senator Wheeler said about the movement of American troops is, of course, in the British view, the business of the Senator and the United States. But", continues the Times correspondent, "the British are angry over the fact that he involved their own troops in giving away what was obviously a military secret."

Meaning -- that the Wheeler disclosure of last week might have given the Nazis a tip, and they might have launched an attack.

That's the attitude of London -- and of the White House.

There is no official government comment on remarks being made in Italy and Germany that the United States occupation of Iceland is likely to lead to -- incidents. Which means -- shooting. This, of course, refers to the possibility that American naval forces will seek to clear great areas of the ocean as far East as Iceland - to keep Nazi U-boat and surface raiders out. Which might bring on the shooting kind of war.

Here's the latest from the White House:- The President declares that the United States defense of the Western Hemisphere will not be measured by geographical considerations.



BASEBALL

Pres. Roosevelt also comes out in favor of the Army proposal that the men be kept in service for more than a year if need be!

HP I had a long distance telephone call a few minutes ago, and an excited voice said, "It was the greatest last half of a ninth inning ~~that~~ baseball has ever seen!" Arthur DeLorenzo, the United Press sports expert of Detroit, was talking, telephoning me to pass along some of the excitement of the All-Star game.

34  
The American League up for its last turn at ~~the~~ bat! Two men on base. Two out. ~~And~~ Ted Williams at the ~~bat - slinging~~ <sup>plate - the slugging</sup> outfielder of the Boston Red Sox, ~~who doesn't get half enough acclaim for his tremendous batting.~~ Fifty-four thousand people in an uproar; ~~that's~~ the third biggest crowd ever to see an all-star game. They howled for a home-run -- and Ted Williams obliged. He smacked one against the top of the right field pavilion - and the game was over. An American League victory - seven to five.

United Press Correspondent DeLorenzo tells me how he dashed to the clubhouse to get a quick interview with Williams. Ted said the ball he hit was waist-high, a slider. That's the favorite pitch of Passeau, who was tossing for the ~~National~~ Nationals. Passeau had been using that slider successfully all through the game.

"When I went to the plate," said Ted Williams, "I had a feeling I wouldn't be able to get hold of one." But he did - and ~~how~~ <sup>how</sup> won the gilt edged ball game, at the last moment.

## THIEF

Here's a new kind of crooked game, You might call it - the revolving door robbery. At Springfield, Massachusetts today, Joseph Bolton entered a revolving door comparatively rich - he had four hundred and fifty dollars. He came out flat broke.

55  
It happened at a bank, and the game was played by two thieves. As Bolton approached the revolving door, one of the crooks went in just ahead of him. As Bolton walked into a door section, the second robber jammed in with him. The crook in front pretended to ~~have~~ dropped something, and stooped to pick it up - thereby stopping the revolving of the door. ~~That was a warning.~~ The crook in the section with ~~it~~ Bolton said, "Let's push." So they pushed, and in the process Bolton's pocket was picked - four hundred and fifty dollars taken.

A new trick schemed by clever crooks.

## GYPSY

In New York there's a broken-hearted gypsy. He bought a second-hand car to surprise his <sup>Young wife,</sup> ~~child bride,~~ And then -- was he surprised!

The story tells how Gypsy Siganoff was so devoted to his wife that during the past four years he paid her father a total of fifteen hundred dollars for the privilege of being her husband. She is seventeen now -- after four years. <sup>HP</sup> The young wife wanted an automobile. That was her heart's desire - a car. So Gypsy Siganoff saved his money to buy one for her.)

24  
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Today came the great day. He purchased a second-hand flivver, and intended it to be a surprise. How wifie would laugh and clap her hands, when she saw the automobile! But when Gypsy Siganoff got home with the bus, wifie wasn't there.

The neighbors said she had gone off with a man in a nifty new sports model. She departed with caresses - not for the man, but for the car. She was ween to pat and fondle the shining fender. She looked as if she wanted to kiss the windshield.

Today Gypsy Siganoff asked the police to help him find her. He still wants to give her the second-hand flivver -- as a surprise.

## LIONS

The town of Hardin, in Montana, is having lion trouble.

"Does anybody want eight majestic African lions?" inquire the citizens in perplexity.

The trouble began with the arrival of a carnival and rodeo which included an animal act, featuring the king of beasts. The lion-tamer fell ill, was taken to a local hospital, and had to stay there. So the show moved on, leaving him behind -- also his eight lions. Each lion consumes twenty-five pounds of meat per day.

The lion-tamer, still in the hospital, says he can't pay the leonine dinner bill, and puts it up to the town. A local merchant thought he might use the lions for an advertising stunt -- until he found how much they ate.

The local Lion's Club thought they might use a mascot or two, but on reflection changed their minds -- it might be a case of lion eat lion.

Most pathetic of all is the local truckman. The lions are in a big cage on his truck. He wants the truck, needs it -- but doesn't dare to go near it. *The lions are hungry.* He's out of business temporarily. So if any of you folks could use eight majestic African lions, as pets and playmates, please inform Hardin, Montana.

## CHICKENS

Here's a question -- Did you ever hear of a chicken wearing glasses? Now don't repeat to me that famous line <sup>of</sup> poetry written by Dorothy Parker, the one that goes - "Men seldom make passes at gals that wear glasses." The chickens in this case are the befeathered, egg-laying variety.

<sup>S</sup>  
A new dispatch tells us that Casper Brenden, a Montana farmer has been studying up on theories that hens will lay better in certain colors of light. For example, a rosy glow creates peace and tranquility in the soul of a hen, and that causes her to lay more eggs.

So Casper has provided his leghorns and Plymouth Rocks with rose-colored glasses -- which they wear as they go pecking around for corn or an occasional worm. I wonder whether it's true in <sup>the</sup> barnyards -- that roosters <sup>seldom</sup> ~~never~~ make passes at hens that wear glasses.

NAME

8 1/2  
In Chicago, today a man went to court to have his name changed. He is a merchant, and said his name was such that his customers couldn't remember it, couldn't pronounce it, got it all balled up. So that is why Louis Harris petitioned to have his name changed to Haralampopoulos.. Which certainly does sound like the old story of a man ~~biting~~<sup>biting</sup> a dog.

The answer to the paradox is that the merchant's customers are Greeks, and they find Harris an exceedingly difficult name to remember and pronounce. Amazing, the way they get all tangled up in trying to say -- Harris. But as for Haralampopoulos, they rattle it off with fluent ease. So now the customers are saying -- Okay  
Aristides  
A Haralampopoulos, we sure are glad you got rid of that out-landish jaw-breaker of a name you used to have!

9 1/4  
Now what if Hugh changed his name from James to something easy like Haralampopoulos?