

C.I. - Sunoco. Tuesday, June 11, 1940.

WAR

46
Today the City of Paris, so great and famous, was a scene - weird, almost unearthly. The "City of Light", it is called. But last night Paris had the blackest of all blackouts. And today Paris was almost as dark. ~~A dark and dusky~~ ^{A sombre} pall engulfed the capital on the Seine, a heavy cloud, dim and obscure, - smoke! One dispatch ^{that} states you couldn't see across the Place de la Concorde - because of the blinding haze of smoke.

46
The outskirts of Paris on fire, with the smoke covering the whole city. Nazi bombers blasting at ~~the centers of~~ ^{points of} communication on the edges of the city, incendiary bombs setting rows of buildings afire - as Hitler's air force struck to paralyze resistance. Yet, there's another explanation of the pall of smoke, an explanation suggested in Paris itself - that the military authorities might be employing a smoke protection to shield the city from the bombers. It is known that some such device existed, tall towers to emanate a black cloud of concealment from the air.

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All day long, there was an exodus from the capital of France, tens of thousands of refugees streaming to the south. And everywhere there were preparations for defense, barricades

across streets, barbed wire, guns. The army command in control of the city, and the word was - that Paris will resist to the last stone of the last building!

From the German side, came suggestions that the French should make their capital an open city, surrender it without a fight, and save it from bombardment. But London reported that France was determined to defend Paris to the last, The French themselves made the announcement that they would not yield the city - though it be reduced to a heap of smoking ruins. Their attitude is that, rather than hand Paris to Hitler, they would risk one of the stupendous tragedies of history - akin to the destruction of Jerusalem or Carthage.

48
The tremendous Nazi drive continues, the French army resisting bitterly, making counter-attacks, fighting as Frenchmen fight for their homes, But the monstrous mechanized push grinds on. The Germans claim they've destroyed two French armies, though they do not say just where. They claim they're pinning Allied forces against the Channel coast, in the area where masses of tanks have crashed across the line of the Seine. That's one arm reaching

toward Paris, The familiar German strategy of encirclement is obvious - the motorized drive of ^{the} a western wing seeking to cut around the French capital and encircle it on the south. Similarly, another German wedge has been driven on the east, and is fighting in the area of the Marne - that battleground where the legions of the Kaiser met their stupendous defeat twenty-six years ago.

The latest: - Paris reports
~~So it's like two frightful arms of war reaching around Paris to~~
~~that a German column~~
~~grasp the city - to surround it for a siege.~~
reached the River Marne - 25

~~The French declare they'll defend their capital, street~~
miles east of Paris.
~~by street, house by house, to the final stone. Such is the~~

TP

monster tragedy ~~that~~ may befall one of the fairest and most famous cities ~~of~~ on earth, unless the French armies at last succeed in

holding ~~it~~, and stop the juggernaut. The battalions of juggernaut ^{s!}

TP ^{Tonight a}
 A black menace hangs over the City of Light, which ^{was} ~~is~~ covered by
 black smoke ^{all} today - and ^{right now as I speak} tonight is deep in another of those blackest
 of blackouts.

ITALY

The first day in the war for Italy was without any particular dramatic thunder. There were rumors of a sea battle - but no confirmation. Mussolini's warplanes bombed Malta, Britain's island fortress not far from the coast of Italy. The British report - little damage done, and a plane or two shot down.

The British themselves, bombed Libya. London reports widespread air raids over that Italian province today, with the bombing of centers of munitions and supplies, *and air fields,* They say the R.A.F. took the Italians by surprise, and did widespread damage - with little resistance from anti-aircraft fire or hostile fighting planes.

Three R.A.F. ships failed to return, says London. *The British report they have laid mine fields off the coast of Italy.*

Rome reports fighting in East Africa, with the Italians from Ethiopia invading British and French Somaliland - a drive against

50 ~~Ejibexxi~~ Djibouti. Also, air bombing against the stronghold of Aden on the nearby Arabian coast. ~~All of this is~~ near the narrow entrance

of the Red Sea, and it is explained that the Italian strategy is to

close the Red Sea at that point, close it to British ships. This

would have about the same effect as closing the Suez Canal, so far as

the Mediterranean is concerned.

On the French border - no activity apparently. It might have been assumed that the Fascist armies would try to strike at the Alpine frontier of France, and thereby help Hitler's armies advancing toward Paris. But of this there was no sign today - all quiet on the southern front.

After the President's speech of last night, Secretary of State Hull had his say today. He spoke his mind ~~XXXXXX~~ to one person particularly concerned, the Italian Ambassador to Washington, Prince Colona. The Ambassador called on the Secretary about some matter or other - it had nothing to do with the President's "stab in the back," ^{speech,} That wasn't mentioned in the conversation, but the Secretary of State took occasion to tell His Excellency what he thought of the Italian entrance into the war. ^{Mr. Hull} ~~He~~ made no mention of stabbing, but phrased his thought in these measured words - "Mussolini's action," said he, "will be considered one of the greatest of human tragedies."

In Italy, the reaction to the ~~President's~~ indignant rebuke was rather reserved. The newspapers didn't mention it, but in government circles ^{they said, as the} ~~it was said that the statements made~~ ~~by the American President were, as the~~ United Press dispatch phrases it, "the gravest criticism of Italy ever received from the head of a state which was not at war with Italy."

~~In Germany, the opinion was expressed that the United States is no longer neutral, but has taken an attitude of a~~

non-belligerent supporting the Allies. This was precisely the attitude of Italy before declaring war on the Allies.

The British and French

~~The Allies~~ of course are greatly heartened by the

President's promise of all material assistance. Yet in both

London and Paris it is being pointed out - that the assistance

must come soon. What the Allies need is immediate help.

REACTION

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Now about the American response to President Roosevelt's "stab in the back" declaration of last night. The White House reports thousands of telegrams expressing approval of the President's promise to throw the full of this nation's material resources to the help of the Allies. We are told that the deluge of messages was so heavy, the regular White House wire facilities were swamped, and for the first time in this administration the White House telegraphers had to call upon commercial telegraph companies for help -- simply couldn't handle the volume of telegrams by themselves.

The Senate today voted on the proposal to give the President the right to trade military armament for resale to the Allies. The vote was the first test on how the Senate stood with reference to the President's policy of giving the Allies all material aid. The Senate divided sixty-seven to eighteen in favor of aid to the Allies.

A movement also is growing to lift the prohibition of extending credits to the Allies. A number of senators and ~~ex~~ congressmen are saying: "The Johnson Act should be repealed" -- that law which forbids American credits to nations that failed to pay up on their war debts. The argument is that it's inconsistent

RETAKE

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to support the Allies by every means short of war, and still retain the law that compels them to pay cash for everything they get. Senator Johnson, however, says he'll fight to the end for the act he sponsored.

One result of last night's bristling declaration by the President was to strengthen congressional opinion that Congress should stay in session during the war emergency. The Republicans are demanding this, and today the word was that they are getting the support of a number of Democrats. One of these Democrats is ~~Representative~~^{is} Cox of Georgia, leader of Southern conservatives. Said he ~~x~~ today:- "If ever there is need for Congress to remain in session, it is during a time of national excitement." The argument ~~i~~^s that Congress should ~~stay~~ stay on the job while there's danger of our getting into the war.

The administration leaders are working to get Congress to adjourn soon. ~~June Twenty-Second is mentioned as one date - two days before the Republican National Convention opens. However, Administration Leader Senator Barclay is quoted as saying he doesn't think the session can be closed until July First.~~

From the field of possible presidential candidates, two voices of criticism were raised today - criticism ~~x~~ of President

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Roosevelt's "stab in the back" address. One emanates from the campaign headquarters of New York District Attorney Dewey.

"President Roosevelt's speech," says the Dewey statement, "gives cause for grave concern." And it adds:- "The voice is the voice of a belligerent. The President has seldom spoken with more emotion," the Dewey declaration goes on, "and in our admittedly unprepared state, our greatest need is not emotion, but a cool head."

At Rochester, Frank Gannett, publisher and candidate for the Republican nomination, decried the President's speech, ^{and} ~~he~~ described it in these words:- "An inflammatory utterance likely to promote our getting into the war."

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What about the Italian-American reaction? It is estimated that ~~there~~ are some five million citizens of Italian birth or extraction in this country. It is perfectly well known that the vast majority of them have ^{long been in} ~~been decidedly in~~ sympathy with the Mussolini regime. ~~in Italy~~. The attitude of most of them has been something like this -"Fascism is all right in Italy, but it ~~wouldn't~~ wouldn't be anything we'd want over here."

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Today, the principal Italian-American newspapers switched their attitude, and expressed regret that Mussolini had taken Italy into the war with Hitler. ^{And} They called upon Italian-Americans to be absolutely neutral.

New York's Mayor LaGuardia made a speech at Ottawa. LaGuardia has always been hostile to the European dictatorships, though he has been more eloquent in denouncing Hitler than Mussolini. ^{which} ~~That~~ ^{generally} has been characteristic of Italian-American politicians. LaGuardia told the Canadians that President Roosevelt's address represented the attitude of the vast majority of the people of the United States. He denounced both ~~Italian~~ Italy and Germany, and said - "The mental attitude and philosophy of an Al Capone or a Dutch Schultz cannot govern the world."

At Miami, the Italian consular representative resigned today. He declared that he, like four thousand other Italian-Americans in Miami, felt that Italy should not have gone into the war.

STATUES

54

Here's ~~News~~ ^{about} News from Rome - but it's Rome, Georgia. It ~~concerns~~ ^{concerns} Romulus, and Remus and the famous Wolf. ~~Several years ago,~~ Mussolini presented to the Georgia namesake of the Eternal City ~~on the Tiber,~~ a replica of the famous Wolf, ~~of the capital - the Wolf,~~ the Roman twins, and all. A massive ~~sculpture of~~ bronze, seven feet tall.

Now, however, the Romans of Georgia, unlike the Romans ~~in the neighborhood of the Coliseum,~~ do not at all approve of the ~~action~~ ^{of} the Italian Dictator, ~~took yesterday.~~ They're so indignant about the Fascist^s joining the Nazis that today the ~~City Commission~~ passed a unanimous vote - away with Romulus and Remus and the Wolf! So tonight that famous Roman symbol ~~is absent~~ ^{away} from Rome, Georgia!

RED CROSS

Fifty million dollars of government money for the Red Cross - that's a proposal ^{made} ~~being drafted~~ by President Roosevelt. White House Secretary Steve Early said today:- "Of course everyone knows just how acute the refugee problem is." Yes, everyone does know, the millions of homeless in stricken France. They're desperately in need of food and clothing, the charity the Red Cross always gives. That organization of ~~a~~ mercy is now seeking private donations to the amount of twenty million dollars. But the need is greater than that.

Sothe President ^{has sent} ~~Roosevelt is going to send~~ identical communications to Vice-President Garner in the Senate and Speaker Bankhead in the lower House. ^{He} ~~In these, he will~~ request^s that Congress appropriate fifty million dollars, ~~this~~ to be turned over to the Red Cross.

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Part of the fund would most likely be used ~~byxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ to buy surplus commodities in this country - for distribution to the pitiful millions of war refugees.

PRINCESSES

Crown Princess Juliana and her two small daughters are in Halifax tonight. The word is that they will remain there until the arrival of the new Governor-General, the Earl of Athlone and his wife, Lady Alice. The royal refugees are their guests, and will join them in Ottawa when the Governor-General takes his post there.

The Crown Princess and her children left England secretly aboard a Dutch warship. Their departure was rumored, but is now made public only after their arrival. An official statement today declares that immediately after the German seizure of Holland, it was decided to send the daughter and grandchildren of Queen Wilhelmina to Canada, to safeguard the heirs of the dynasty of the Netherlands, *the House of Orange.*

SUBMARINE

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The nationality of the submarine that stopped the S.S. WASHINGTON is unknown - although of course it must have been either German or Italian. Captain Harry Manning of the WASHINGTON states that he was unable to identify the undersea craft, because it was so dark - the dimness of five A.M.

It certainly was dramatic, the WASHINGTON with a thousand American refugees from Europe aboard, halted off the northwest coast of Portugal. The submarine giving the order - take to the lifeboats! The WASHINGTON responding that it was an American ship. The submarine insisting it would torpedo, giving them ten minutes to abandon ship. Nerve-wracking suspense! They were swinging out the lifeboats, passengers getting ready to climb in, when the submarine finally responded that it had made a mistake - go ahead!

58 1/2

All this in the ~~dimness~~ dimmest light of morning - the messages were exchanged by light signals, blinkers. The transcript, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ as wirelessed by the WASHINGTON, makes a dramatic bit of dialogue. It goes like this, ~~xxxxxxxx~~ in the code of blinking lights:- TP Submarine:- "Stop ship! Torpedo ship!"

WASHINGTON - "American ship!" TP Submarine:- "Leave ship!"

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WASHINGTON - "American ship!" Submarine - "Ten minutes!"

WASHINGTON - "American ship!" American ship!"

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Then at last. Submarine - "Thought you were another ship.

Please go on."

And all the while straining eyes were peering at the vague thing on the water, but there was not enough light to distinguish what nationality it was - German or Italian.

59 1/4
And s-l-u-tomorrow.