

P.J. - Sunoco. Friday, July 5, 1940.

France today broke off diplomatic relations with Great Britain. This was announced officially at the City of Vichy, which is now the provisional French capital. The severing ~~of~~ of relations between the two former allies

was preceded by a French note of protest ^{delivered} ~~delivered~~ to the

London Foreign Office. The government of ~~xxxx~~ Marshal Petain bitterly rebuked the ~~British~~ British for the attack on French

warships - the Battle of Oran. ^π The French Embassy in London - *presumably under orders from Hitler* - described the protest in these words:- "As drastic and

stern as it was possible to make." The French today described the Battle of Oran, by that now familiar term - ~~xxxx~~

"a stab in the back." President Roosevelt first applied it ~~to~~ to Italy, as against France. Now France ~~xxx~~ flings the

epithet at Great Britain. The reproach is made in a French Admiralty communique, [^] "The French Navy", it says, "did not

deserve to be stabbed in the back on the order of Mr.

Nazi-French
Churchill." The [^] communique continues with these bitter

words:- "Mr. Churchill, who last winter implored the French Admiralty to lend its principal forces to protect Canadian ships, because the British Admiralty's forces had no longer

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the necessary means." To this is added a statement that the British in yesterday's battle of Oran went into action with blazing guns when the principal French ships were partially demoblized, at anchor, their fires extinguished, no steam up. The French foreign minister [^] used these words:- "It was like shooting rabbits in a pen."

Berlin no doubt -

- still speaking under orders from

It's all now a welter of accusation and insult.

of the Nazi-controlled French Govt.,

The Foreign minister, [^] in a press conference, declared today

that France had been betrayed by Great Britain. He blamed the British for the loss of the war. He contended that the British were ~~xxx~~ responsible for the first mistake, when the Allied Armies rushed up into Belgium. This, said the French Foreign Minister, was demanded by the British, who were eager to hold the Belgian ~~and~~ channel ports, and thus defend Britain. Next, he blamed the British in the failure to close what is called the Artois Gap. That is the gap ^{where} ~~which~~ [^]

~~The~~ German mechanized columns smashed through the allied armies, cutting them in two. We all remember those days of ~~xxxxxx~~ suspense, when everybody wondered - why didn't the allies

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slash through the narrow wedge which the Germans had pushed to the ~~English~~ English Channel? Where was the great counter-offensive? The French Foreign Minister today declared that General Weygand ordered that counter-offensive, asked the British to strike to the South while the French staged a drive to the North. General Sir Edmond Ironside, said the Foreign Minister, consented - but the English Army delayed for two days, and then suddenly raced Northward to the Channel ports. ~~"German divisions,"~~ he added, "poured through the fatal gap. General Weygand's formal opinion is that if the British Army had obeyed orders the gap could have been closed."

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Such is the French statement made today. ^{And,} [^] it goes on with other charges:- That ~~ix~~ in the evacuation of Flanders the British saved four - fifths of their expeditionary Army, while the French saved only half of their forces. The British were accused of using only fourteen thousand troops for rear guard fighting to cover their withdrawal - while two hundred thousand French troops made the rear guard fight, protecting

the British evacuation.

The French Foreign Minister ^(also) declared ^(today) that in the disastrous battle of France, General Weygand asked for British troops and ~~x~~ planes. But, he added, of the forty allied air squadrons engaged in the fight, only five were British, ^{that} And [^] no British troops ever arrived.

And so today, an embittered recrimination ends the historic partnership of the allies - with a wrathful diplomatic protest and a breaking off of diplomatic relations.

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And it may go farther than that. But just how much of this really represents the viewpoint of the French, we don't — probably never will know. For the Pétain Govt. takes its orders from the Nazis and Hitler, Goebbels, & Co. are doing everything they can to widen the breach between those old friends the French and the British.

We do know that many French are now fighting with the British.

~~FR-15~~ Gibraltar

Today Gibraltar was bombed, that famous British stronghold - the Rock. The British say no great damage was done. But here's the startling rumor - from Spain comes the report that the war planes which bombarded Gibraltar today were, French. Bombers of France striking in retaliation for the Battle of Oran - if the story be true.

Meanwhile, the status of the French Fleet still remains in some doubt. Spanish sources declare that fighting went on again today at Oran - though yesterday's account told us that the French warships there had been sunk or badly damaged, save for those that got away. The situation at Alexandria ^{in Egypt} is in doubt. The powerful French squadron there is just waiting, and the British say they don't know whether or not it will try to fight its way out.

In the Far East - British warships based at Singapore are watching French Naval units stationed in the ports of Indo-China. And most interesting of all, interesting to us Americans - Martinique.

In Washington, French sources declared today that British Naval units are blockading French warships ~~at~~ the

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~~in the~~ West Indian Island of Martinique, and fighting may break out ^{there.} The French have some submarines, there, and other craft; and a big French aircraft carrier is supposed to be at the Island. Moreover, at Martinique is a shipment of American airplanes manufactured for France. The story is that these American built planes have been uncrated and assembled, and may take part in the French fight against the British.

It is to be observed that ~~xxx~~ Martinique is well within the safety zone decreed by the Pan-American republics ^{with} the United States taking the lead. ~~The ~~safety zone~~ Safety-Zone-Doctrine~~ holds that European warships shall not be allowed to fight their battles within two hundred miles of the coasts of the Americas. The belligerent nations of Europe, however, have turned down the Safety Zone idea.

And then - what about the Monroe Doctrine? Suppose the British should seize the French possessions in the Caribbean. ~~Our~~ historic Doctrine is against any non-American power taking the colonies of any other non-American power. Like the British taking the French colonies in the Americas - would the Monroe Doctrine apply to that?

GERMAN NOTE

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Today the United States received a reply to the warning issued to Nazi Germany - the warning that this country will not recognize the transfer of American possessions from one European nation to another. Under the Monroe Doctrine, as interpreted by our State Department, colonies held by European powers in America are not to be traded back and forth in any peace settlement. The Berlin reply is - a rejection of the warning.

The rejection is in this form. The Hitler government states that Germany has given no indication of wanting to get territory in the Western ~~xxxxxxx~~ Hemisphere - so why the warning? This is expressed in the following words:-

"In contrast with other countries, especially in contrast to England and France, Germany has no territorial possessions in the American continent, and has given no occasion whatever for the assumption that it intends to acquire such possessions."

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ So reads the German note, and it adds that, therefore, there's no point to the American warning.

~~The communication from Berlin concludes by raising~~

CHILDREN

There's much talk about royal children sent to this hemisphere as refugees from war blasted Europe. First, the Dutch Crown Princess brought her two small daughters to Canada. There have been rumors that the Royal Princesses of Great Britain might be sent across the ocean, - rumors even that the two daughters of King George and Queen Elizabeth are in Canada right now, that is one of those vague and unsubstantial bits of gossip.

well, Today *did* witness ~~the~~ the arrival in New York of two nieces of Queen Elizabeth, children aged ten and eight, daughters of the Queen's brother. They're here as guests of J.P. Morgan.

The two children were among six hundred and fifty others who arrived in ~~the~~ Montreal from Britain - youthful refugees. Promptly, they got an invitation from the head of the House of Morgan. It is explained that J. P. Morgan has known Their Majesties of Great Britain since the King and Queen were children. So it's quite natural for him to

offer hospitality to the nieces of the Queen. They arrived
in New York ^{with} ~~in charge of~~ their grandmother, Mrs. H. H. Spender
Clay. She is the former Pauline Astor, sister of Vicount ^s
Astor. The two little girls, together with three cousins of
theirs, will live at the J. P. Morgan estate at Charlottesville,
Virginia - probably for the duration of the war.

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There are many homes in the United States that
would be open to children from Great Britain. On all sides
Americans are talking about this. I ~~myself~~ have just received
a personal plea from a distinguished Canadian, Major ~~and~~ Ney,
who is ~~is~~ now in Great Britain. He sends ~~me~~ a message in
which he states that it would be of enormous help to the
British people if they could get as many children ^{away} as possible,
~~away from the danger zone.~~ He cables me that it would step
up the moral of the ~~Britx~~ British ~~people~~ if they knew their
safe
children were ~~in~~ ^{safe} in America. The grown folks ~~could go~~
~~on and fight it out to the finish with the Nazis.~~ He asks
that we do everything possible to get ^{an} ~~the~~ American President

to arrange it so that ships carrying merchandise to the British Isles will be made available to bring children back to this continent. Major Ney who seems to be playing a leading role in evacuating the British children, tells me that there will be homes for them in Canada. But, any Americans who want to help may ^{get}~~find~~ encouragement if they write either to our State Department in Washington ~~and~~ ^{and ask} ~~their~~ ^{their} advice - or, ask the British Embassy.

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BOMBING

One of the greatest criminal investigations in the history of the New York Police Department was in full swing today [^] investigation of yesterdays vicious bomb outrage at the British Pavilion, ~~New York~~ ^{at the} World's Fair. All the devices of modern crime detection were employed at the scene where the bomb exploded and killed two detectives after the murderous suitcase had been taken from the British Pavilion. All evidence was studied, particularly the fragments of the infernal machine.

There were wholesale arrests of Nazi sympathizers, Reds, agitators of every sort. Some seventy-five in all, Communists, Hitler sympathizers and what not.

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The police questioned three officials of the German American Bund who yesterday were arrested in New Jersey. They were to lead a Fourth of July celebration at a Hitlerite camp, and the police grabbed them for violating laws against wearing uniforms and ~~g~~ against agitating racial and religious hatred. Today they were interrogated in connection with the British Pavilion explosion, but it seems to have been more

or less of a formality. The detectives call it "merely a matter of police routine." (Routine would seem to be the right word, since the New Jersey bund leaders were arrested yesterday several hours before the explosion occurred.)

Today, the authorities questioned several members of the christian front several of those who were recently tried for an alleged fascist ~~mix~~ plot to overthrow the government. (More than a dozen were tried, nine acquitted, while the jury ~~sixty~~ disagreed on the others. One of the christian fronters questioned today was John A. Cassidy, leader of the men on trial. Nothing much seems to have come out of that.)

Late news tells today that the police are centering their search on a tall, dark man who is described as - "apparently Irish." ~~This tall, dark, apparent Irishman~~ is said to have stolen thirty-nine sticks of dynamite last ~~month~~ month. ~~He~~ ^{it} swiped the dynamite from a supply, used in the building of a synagogue. The authorities said today they believe the explosive in the British pavilion bomb was dynamite taken from that synagogue ~~construction~~ job. The

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description of the suspect "apparently Irish" points to the latest angle in the search - the Irish Republican

army. (That extremist organization is bitterly hostile to the British. It has members and sympathizers in the United States, and the Police believe that some I.R.A. terrorist may have placed the suitcase bomb in the British Pavilion.)

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ROOSEVELT

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President Roosevelt declared today that a part of the American people are willing to compromise with dictators. How large a part? The United Press dispatch uses the expression - "a considerable segment," The President stated that this segment of the American people is not large in relation to the entire population, but it does number a good many people. ~~XXXXX~~ People - willing to compromise with dictators. Why? "Because," said the President, "they are so impressed by the temporary efficiency of the corporative state."

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President Roosevelt said he was talking in Philosophic terms - in a general way, not specific. So, he said he couldn't specify what classes, groups or sections of the people are tolerant of dictatorship. Why are they tolerant? They are dissatisfied said the President, because democracy does not operate with the hair-trigger efficiency of the autocracies of Germany, Italy and Russia. Such people are impatient with the delays ~~ix~~ in a democracy - the time lag.

ROOSEVELT

The President added that a good deal of slowness, is intrinsic in a democracy - just has to be. He pointed for example to the income tax. The income tax law was first approved by President Cleveland, but the income tax amendment didn't get into the constitution until twenty years later. Yes, that was a time lag. But on the other hand, Mr. President, there doesn't seem to be much of a time lag in the income tax right now.

The President said that there must be no philosophic compromise with dictatorship. The ideals of democracy, he added, must be the basis of any just and enduring peace. It was all very philosophical.

But now let's turn to something less philosophical, let's turn to Blue Sunoco and Hugh James.