

L.J. - Sunoco. Wed., March 11, 1942.

BRAZIL

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From Rio de Janeiro comes a story that our Brazilian neighbors are about to join us in the war against the Axis. At the Pan-American Conference several weeks ago, the Brazilian delegation was in the front line of all the republics that wanted to sever diplomatic relations with the Nazis, Fascists and Japanese. And every republic in South America except Argentina and Chile, has actually broken off relations.

Several Brazilian ships have been torpedoed, and it is understood that the Vargas government has ordered all Brazilian shipping to make for the nearest ports. ^{TP} But, the action which most ^{foreshadows} ~~indicates~~ a declaration of war was a new constitutional amendment which President Vargas today signed, a measure which authorizes him to declare war without asking permission of any legislative body in case he finds it necessary for the defense of the country.

AM

The Brazilian President is also given the right to take any action ^{he considers necessary} against the nations ^{also} of any country ~~that is~~ endangering the security of Brazil, and he also has the right to declare a state of emergency whenever he finds it necessary.

This announcement at Rio de Janeiro follows immediately upon the news ~~only~~ published ^{to} ^{only} there today, [^] that the Brazilian liner CAYRU had been torpedoed and sunk Sunday evening off the coast of the United States.

TIRPITZ

There has been ^{an engagement} ~~a battle~~ at sea off the Norwegian coast. Hitler's great battleship TIRPITZ, sister ship of the BISMARCK which the British sunk some time ago, ventured out from Trondheim, where she was berthed. She was going north, parallel with the Norwegian coast, presumably to attack a British convoy on its way to Russia by the northern route. British naval planes on a reconnaissance flight spotted the TIRPITZ and promptly swooped down and fired ~~some~~ torpedoes. ~~at her.~~

Evidently ^{these did no} ~~they didn't do any~~ serious damage.

~~because~~ The British Admiralty announces that it was ^{not} ~~it~~ possible to observe the results of the fight definitely.

TP British warships tried to catch up with the TIRPITZ,

but Hitler's battleship fled back to Trondheim under

a heavy smoke screen. The Admiralty tells us, ~~that it~~ though the British planes did not sink her, they at least prevented her from attacking the convoy.

CHURCHILL

It is hardly news that British Sir Stafford-Cripps is going to India. The news is that Prime Minister Churchill made the announcement in the House of Commons as we had been told he would. Churchill told the House that Cripps was going to confer with the leaders in Hindustan and put up to them a plan that the British War Cabinet had evolved for solving the problem of India's freedom. In effect, the Indians are promised dominion status if all the factions of Hindustan make peace and settle the ⁱⁿ squabbles. ~~among them.~~

But Churchill did not go into detail, ^{did not} tell the Commons or the world the exact nature of the arrangement that he proposes. The dispatch from London reports that the Prime Minister left the country with a feeling of doubt that his plan went much further than previous proposals, which ~~the Hindu~~ ^{in India} leaders have turned down.


In fact, he left the decided impression that the whole

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thing is a sto-gap.

Churchill used these words:- "Sir Stafford-Cripps has the full confidence of the government and will try to get the necessary measure of assent from the Hindū majority and the Moslem and other minorities." And he added:- "We must remember also that India is one of the bases from which the strongest counter-blows must be struck at the advance of tyranny and aggression."

Churchill's declaration followed a debate in the House, in which members flung some heavy criticism at the British Admiralty. One speaker accused it of slavish adherence to the traditions of Lord Nelson's days.



The Labor member who brought that up, said the words had been written to him by a group of young naval officers. Gunnery, they told him, had been neglected, and, a lot of time spent on things which have no relation to modern conditions of warfare. ~~And a~~ ^{one} speaker criticized the Admiralty for not having better torpedo planes.

While this debate was going on, a Navy spokesman made known a most ominous fact. ^{That the} ~~The~~ strength of the Japanese Navy has not been impaired seriously. Although it has ^{come through thus far} ~~not been~~ unscathed, its command of the sea and air permits the Nipponese to exploit their successes in any direction they choose.

The British Navy spokesman went on to warn that the Japanese may soon be expected to attack transports and merchantmen in the Indian Ocean, ^{and do that} ~~with~~ ^{attacking with} surface vessels. Submarines have been operating there

already as well as along the western seaboard of Australia. The Japanese, he continued, may soon operate as far west as the Island of Ceylon. [¶] As for our side, the British Navy spokesman pointed out that a lack of enough bases and the absence of a natural defensive barrier from Malaya to New Guinea, makes the development of an Allied defensive far more difficult.

The Japanese claim to have information that the British fleet is no longer based on Ceylon, but has moved to Bombay. A naval spokesman for the Japanese claimed to have found out that the British Admiralty had sent two battleships and two aircraft carriers to the Indian Ocean to prevent ^{the} general collapse of British rule east of Suez.

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BURMA

The news from Burma is that the British are *pulling back still further. They now*
~~retreating, if you can call that news.~~ They've

have
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abandoned the entire delta of the Irrawaddy River,

~~which~~ *is* leaves the coast clear for the Japanese to use

at least the Rangoon airdrome and thus obtained

command of the Gulf of Bengal with their bombers.

Unofficially, it is reported that the British

Imperialists hope to stop the enemy somewhere in

south-central Burma. ~~But~~ *now said* The Japanese are ~~also~~

to be
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threatening ~~a place called~~ *a small place a* Toungoo, ~~a~~ hundred and fifty

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miles north of Rangoon. The withdrawal of the English

is considerably hampered by disaffected Burmese, who

have never become reconciled to British rule. We hear

repeated reports that the Chinese are preparing to

help the British in Burma, and have a considerable army

ready for the job.

CHINA

There has been a fresh outbreak of heavy fighting in China. Chungking reports fierce battles between the armies of Chiang Kai-shek and the Japanese in the

Province of Shantung. *And,* ~~They have been~~ going on for ten days, with heavy casualties on both sides. Spokesmen

for the Chinese report that the Japanese threw thirty thousand men in ^{to} the field against Chinese guerrillas,

^{that} but they did ~~not~~ ^{not} capture any of the Chiang Kai-shek strongholds.

~~L.T.-SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1942~~

~~GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:~~

The Pacific war today ^{drew nearer and} ~~was getting closer~~
~~nearer~~ ^{and closer to} Australia. ~~The~~ threats from Tokyo were
backed up by the approach of a Japanese invading fleet
to Port Moresby, the key position in New Guinea. ~~This~~
^{This} ~~information~~ is not official because actually the
Australian authorities declined either to deny or
confirm the report of that armada. But there were
official reports that relays of Australian planes had
blasted away at a heavy concentration of Japanese
^{And that} naval vessels. [^] From seven to nine of them were either
sunk, set afire, or damaged by ~~the~~ Australian bombs.

So, apparently we may take it that the battle
of Australia has begun, with a Japanese move to get

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control ^{first} of the Straits of Torres, ^{front.} Naturally, ^{the} ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~Japs~~ ^{Japs} enemies are in a hurry. They want to attack and conquer the northern coast of Australia before our ~~reinforcements~~ ^{forces} can get there. The Australians are confident that at least two of the seven-to-nine enemy ships they hit were warships, ~~but that may be wishful thinking.~~

There is a comic if ironic note in the pronouncements about Australia in Tokyo. A spokesman for the Japanese Cabinet said the Japanese would show no mercy in crushing the Australians, "but ^{that} if they come to understand Japan's real intentions, the Japanese will not hesitate to extend their help." One is tempted to ask, what should ^{one} ~~you~~ understand about the real intentions of a man in full armor who comes battering at your ~~front~~ door?

An Australian flyer who fought in Java is urging his countrymen not to go building any fancy airdromes in Australia. He says that was ^{one thing} ~~the~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ^{while} ~~consequence of what~~ he learned fighting in Java.

Then he explained:- "Fancy airdromes are too easy to bomb, and are unnecessary. All that is wanted," he says, "are paddocks, better aircraft, plenty of pep talk, and tons of bombs."

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Later, ^{today} we learned that a fleet of American

bombers also attacked the Japanese invasion fleet off New Guinea. The War Department in Washington issued a communique tonight that a fleet of eight of our big flying fortresses dropped eighteen tons of bombs in a raid on Japanese ships in the harbor of Salamua.

They left two ships ~~in a~~ ^{and} sinking, ~~conditions~~, four in flames, and one on the beach. ^{Running} ~~That ran~~ our total of Japanese vessels crippled or sunk since the start of

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the war to one hundred and forty-five.

This bomber fleet was under the command of Major Richard H. Carmichael. It returned to its base unscathed.

LEND-LEASE

Just a year ago today, we started the Lend-Lease program. And in that time we have spent two billions, five hundred and seventy odd millions to arm, and feed, our Allies. As President Roosevelt mentions in his report to Congress, the figure falls far short of what is needed to turn the tide toward victory. As a matter of fact, those two and a half billions are only a fraction of the forty-eight billions that Congress has authorized for helping our Allies.

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products - arms & food - costing
Defense ~~articles to the tune of~~ one billion,

one hundred millions, have already been transferred,

that means
~~meaning~~ presumably shipped and placed in the hands of

also
our Allies. ~~Four~~ four hundred and eighty-eight million

dollars' worth are waiting to be shipped, and a

hundred and twenty-eight million dollars' worth ^{more} are

2 billion \$70 million
being made. The rest of the ~~money~~ was paid out in

servicing and repairing ships for the Allies, renting and chartering ships, and, providing production ~~plants~~ ^{plants} - facilities in the United States.

~~The President's~~ ^{The President's} ~~Mr. Roosevelt's~~ report does not tell us which country got the most help, but ~~it is a fair assumption~~ ^{we know} that Britain ~~got the lion's share.~~ ^{did.} To carry out the provisions of the Lend-Lease Act, military missions had to be sent to China, Russia, North Africa and Iran.

TP It was the mission to China that encountered the greatest difficulty, for it was obliged ~~to~~ not merely ^{to} arrange for providing the supplies but ^{also it had} to equip and train a huge army for mechanized warfare. ~~It involved~~ ^{And it had} ~~to see about~~ improving the Burma Road, building a railway from Burma to Yunnan, evacuating supplies from Rangoon, and ^{in the East.} diverting ships to other ports. The President's report then adds a long list of the other activities that the mission to China had to carry out.

The North Africa mission is on the job not only in Egypt but also in Eritrea, which the British won away from the Italians. And it's busy in Palestine.

Mr. Roosevelt said further that Lend-Lease has also helped open the way for traffic to Russia. Locomotives and trucks have been supplied to help the Soviets with their transportation problems. The Iran mission has built pipelines, ordnance work shops, food canneries, as well as military depots and repair shops. Also a lot of work has been done in the area between Baghdad and India, work that is now threatened by the prospects of an all-out invasion by the Japanese.

LEAR

A General of the Army has protested against the proposal to draft workers who strike in time of war.

"If an individual is unwilling to work," he said, "we don't want him picked up and sent to us to join combat troops, he isn't good enough. We don't want his spirit, we don't want his presence."

The officer who said that is the now celebrated Lieutenant-General Ben Lear, the ~~yoo-hoo~~ hero of the yoo-hoo incident. *And the General makes an excellent* ~~He makes a~~ suggestion. If you want to discipline and make useful those who have refused to work faithfully with the team, put them into labor *said he;* *that* battalions; set them to work building a highway to Alaska, *or let them work* in Labrador and Greenland. The Army, *the General,* ~~he~~ added, is not a reform school.

FREE DAY

Out on the coast, shipyard workers are spreading a movement to give Uncle Sam one day's work every month without pay. *This* It was begun at the shipyards of the Bethlehem Corporation, where five thousand have signed pledges to ~~that~~ effect, and they expect to have ten thousand signatures in the San Francisco Bay area by tomorrow. The Union officials approve of the movement.

CHESS

Chess, the game of kings, has been played in many curious places and varied circumstances.

Occasionally, we are told, famous generals have been obliged to interrupt their games ^{in order to win} ~~to win~~ or maybe lose a battle.

Out in Los Angeles, a rich man was playing chess with his wife. ^{They were} ~~That game was~~ interrupted by a burglar, ~~who came to rob the home.~~ The rich man, intent on his chess, gave the intruder a look and said imperiously, "Go away!" It turned out that the bandit himself was a chess player, ^{so} ~~so~~ Instead of going away, ^{two men} he took the wife's place, and ~~they~~ finished the game!

All this came out in a Los Angeles law court, where the lady was bringing suit against her husband for divorce. The information was disclosed under cross-examination, but it wasn't continued long enough for the world to find out who won the game.

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MULE

Out in Colorado, gangs of miners have been digging without cease day and night for nine days, to save a life. They had an eighty foot wall of dirt and coal to ~~dig~~ break through at the Crackerjack Mine near

colo.

Boulder, [^] Shortly before noon today, their labors ~~proved~~ *were successful*

~~to be effective~~. They cleared the tunnel and out into the daylight walked old Ted, a little old gray mule

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bleached by years of underground work, the miners' pet for whom they had been digging [^] *frantically* ~~all around the clock~~

since March the Second.

The "super" of the mine reported that the only unexcited creature on the spot was Ted himself. He *just* stumbled around, nuzzling a few of the men, and acted as if he had enjoyed a long [^] *mulish* vacation. Then he started looking for something to eat, [^] *even as you and I,*

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