

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I'm broadcasting tonight from a news office, one of the greatest in the world, headquarters of the International News Service, and King Features. There is quite a crowd here, an assemblage of top ranking news men. The occasion is the Tenth Anniversary of Joe Connolly as President of King Features, and I.N.S., the master mind of all activity in this far-flung nerve center of the newspaper world.

I just happen to be helping in the celebration -- and as this is a most appropriate place from which to give a broadcast of the tydings of the day, here with the atmosphere filled with news, let's look out of Joe Connolly's window, look at the world, and see what has been happening today.

## WAR

The biggest thing in the war news today is the report that Soviet Marshal Budenny has pulled his army out of the trap east of Kiev in which the Germans claimed to have caught him. What makes it more credible is that the story comes from military sources in London.

Hitherto these London sources have been pretty accurate about what has been going on in Russia. And if this report is true, it must have been a monumental achievement. Also it means that Budenny has entrenched himself in new lines of defense around Kharkov and the industrial centers of the Ukraine.

The story from London is backed up by the place names in both Russian and German dispatches. For instance, one bulletin reports the Red Army standing off Hitler's divisions near Kherson in the south, at the estuary of the Dnieper River, considerably west of the Crimea, which the Germans claimed they had cut off. If that part of the story is absolutely correct, it is Nazi divisions attacking the Crimea are now cut off from the main body of their army.

Dispatches from Moscow also tell of Red successes around Leningrad, Nazi siege lines driven back.

On the Central Russian front, the Reds claim to have broken through Hitler's panzer units.

The German military spokesman today put the greatest emphasis on the Battle of Leningrad, German troops, he said, are in the suburbs and have smashed the defense ring around the city built by Peter the Great. Weeks ago the Nazis were claiming they were in the suburbs of Leningrad.

The Ministry of Home Security in London has been analyzing the communiques of the German High Command for the last twelve weeks and declares that sixty-one out of a hundred claims published by the Nazis have proven wholly false. The true facts, declares the Ministry, have been hidden from the German people. Then the Ministry's communique goes on to cite chapter and verse.

Today's tale from official quarters in Berlin is that Nazis and Reds are fighting street to street and house to house at Leningrad. Then comes the official news agency with the story that a large town outside Leningrad has been occupied, and that Hitler's foot soldiers have been storming villages and Russian fortifications in the outlying districts. German infantry close enough to Leningrad to see the Nazi artillery shells bursting in the city.

All this appears to be a little incompatible with the claims of actual house to house fighting in the streets of Leningrad.

Hitler's high command issues the warning that if this house to house defense continues, Leningrad will be treated the same as Warsaw.

The Germans apparently have not much to say about Kiev today, ~~at any rate not up to the middle of the afternoon.~~ So the inference is that it's true that Marshal Budenny rescued his army from that trap in the Ukraine and is holding a new line of defense.

## ALLIES

Eleven governments have officially given the seal of their approval to the Eight Points of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, the Eight Points enunciated after that spectacular shipboard meeting. Governments, many of them functioning in exile. There was a meeting in London today, of delegates from Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Soviet Russia and Yugoslavia. There was also a representative from the Free French who joined in approving the so-called Peace Aims Charter.

This approval was voiced in a resolution adopted unanimously a resolution that all those governments adhere to the common principles of policy set forth in the declaration by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. They also expressed their intention to cooperate to the best of their ability in giving effect to the Eight Points. Presiding over the conference was British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden. He said the resolution would add greatly to the influence of the charter and would help encourage the Allied forces now resisting Germany. Eden threw out a special bouquet to the Soviet representative saying that the

Russian government and people had defended themselves with courage, tenacity and skill which have won the admiration of the world.

There was no American present but Foreign Secretary Eden read a message conveyed through our Ambassador Winant. The message stated that the government of the United States has requested the Government of the United Kingdom to state to the meeting that the undertaking is of great prospective usefulness. The message said further that our government contends that the present discussion will be other than an exploiting nature. Furthermore the United States government stands ready at the appropriate time to consider in what respects it can cooperate to accomplish the ends in view. A most carefully worded message which actually doesn't commit us to anything.

PINK STAR

Eleven of the crew of the American freighter PINK STAR are still missing. That's the latest from Washington regarding the American ship sunk on the way to Iceland.

In Berlin the Nazis were throwing off sparks about the statements by President Roosevelt concerning the PINK STAR. One spokesman said it was Wild West justice rather than international law. Still another declared that if American merchant ships are armed, as the President has proposed, it will mean repeal of the Neutrality Act and will affect other related questions. When the spokesman was asked what that means, he replied: "Related questions could cover anything from A to Z."

In Rome Mussolini's Gayda also spoke his piece about arming our merchant vessels. Said he:- "If United States merchant ships are going to be transformed into warcraft, it will make necessary defense measures on the part of ships of the Axis if they meet on the sea routes."

JOE CONNOLLY

I'm going to break into this recital of news, so that you may make the acquaintance of an ace of newspaper men. Joe Connolly has spent his life in the world of the rolling presses. Just to give you an example of how universal his activity has been, let's look at a Bob Ripley Believe-It-Or-Note that appears today in newspapers all over the world. Ripley gives us one of those amazing facts of his in the following words:- "J.V. Connolly, President of King Features, has edited seven hundred and twenty five different newspaper features having a total circulation of four hundred and fifty-eight million."

Ripley's Believe-It-Or-Not is just one of the scores of newspaper tributes paid to Joe Connolly on his Tenth Anniversary as President of King Features. A big luncheon was given to him this noon at the Waldorf and everybody was there -- a glittering company of notables of journalism , more than a thousand representatives of stage, screen, business and politics.

But now let's hear from Joe Connolly himself. What has he to say on this anniversary occasion? Joe, as you look back upon your long and distinguished career in the newspaper profession,



what appeals to you as the most significant thing that you have observed?

JOE CONNOLLY: The thing that impresses me the most on my tenth anniversary as President of King Features is the relection of how things have changed in the realm of journalism during recent years. And, I mean journalism as a world-wide phenomenon -- the newspapers of every nation. We've seen the newspapers of one nation after another lose their freedom -- as in the totalitarian countries. They've lost their right of expression, in rfact they have lost their very souls. The art of getting anddisseminating news has gone back in those countries -- until it has virtually ceased to exist. News has become propaganda, controlled falsehoods. The freedom of news has become an enslavement of lies.

In our own country, and in the ~~the~~ other democracies, on the contrary, the press has developed with intelligence and harmonious progress. All because it has gone on in a condition of freedom. The art of news can only flourish in a state of liberty.

In this country the powers of government tolerate criticism, are benefited by criticism. Take the President in ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> White

House news conference -- he actually enjoys the fire of questions.

The American press, in a dangerous crisis of war, gives the news freely to the people, enlightens to the best of its ability, without control by despotic Government, without any bias or falsification decreed by dictators. And this is of great importance to the morale of the nation. The world has hope that totalitarian morale will crack. Who does not believe that the morale of Britain is better than that of Nazi Germany? Britain has a free press, Germany an enslaved press. Therefore, the British war morale is stronger.

L.T. That I think is iron clad logic, a complete argument for freedom of the press -- given us by Joe Connolly top ranking leader in the American world of newspapers.

Washington is getting set for the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. The chief of police of the District of Columbia has cancelled the leaves of all his men. There'll be a special guard of three hundred and eighty-two officers to protect their Royal Highnesses, and all proper pomp and ceremony. We learn that the Duke who, once was King, ruler over the vast British Empire, will pay a round of official calls in his capacity as Governor-General of the Bahamas. He will visit Secretary of State Hull, and Admiral Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission. One of Uncle Sam's new naval bases is on one of the islands in the Duke's jurisdiction.

The big event of the day will be the luncheon at the White House, providing the health of Mrs. Roosevelt's brother, G.Hall Roosevelt, does not interfere.

## BASEBALL

When the sun rose this morning, the favorite ball player of the Brooklyn fans was Right Fielder Dixie Walker. Tonight he's a triple plated hero.

Things began to look bad today at Boston where Our Bums were playing the Braves. Out at Pittsburgh, the St. Louis Gas House Boys licked the Pirates four to nothing. Not so good for the Dodgers, with the seventh place Boston Braves in that game today with a lead of two to nothing.

In the seventh inning came the big moment. Brooklyn still with no score and two men out. But, the bases were loaded. Up came Dixie Walker! Whamo! He Smacked the ball way over into left field beyond reach, for a triple, and three runs came in. And that was the ball game. The Bums got themselves another run in the next inning and walked off the field the winner, four to two. So, although St. Louis won, the Dodgers are still in the lead by a game and a half. Three games to go now. If they win two they are in!

## SHOWERS

The President of Mount Holyoke College startled the nation the other day. Somehow it leaked out that he had asked the young ladies of Mount Holyoke to quitte bathing. They were to go without not only tub baths but showers. Why? Because of the almost four weeks of drought that has afflicted the Atlantic seaboard causing a water shortage at South Hadley, where famous Mount Holyoke College is. Hence the plea to the young ladies.

Naturally, this wrung the hearts of the chivalrous male undergraduates all over the country. It appealed particularly to the Harvard lads. The editors of the HARVARD CRIMSON sent a telegram to Mount Holyoke which read:- "Crimson extends invitation of all Mount Holyoke girls to come and share our showers." And the telegram added; "The Harvard men find best way to make friends is by sharing common facilities. When bathless Yale men won't come within ten feet of you, Harvard wants to make friends." The telegram concluded: "Our showers are big enough for two.R.S.V.P."

The reply from Mount Holyoke was not only terse but verse. It read as follows: "The unwashed misses regret, no real necessity yet!" P.S. Here's Hugh James