

P.T. - Lunoco. Friday, August 8, 1941.

Berlin claims a stupendous victory in the Ukraine.

That's the latest this evening - a story that has been flashing

on the wire during the past few minutes. An official bulletin

by the Nazi High Command announces that a huge section of

Marshal Budenny's Army on the southern front has been trapped

and destroyed. Twenty-five divisions of the Red Army, more

than two hundred thousand ~~XXXX~~ men encircled and eliminated -

with immense numbers surrendering. Berlin claims a hundred

and three thousand prisoners were taken in this one blitzkrieg

trap.

The High Command bulletin specified that the ~~XXXX~~

forces destroyed consisted of Marshal Budenny's sixth army,

his twelfth and part of his eighteenth army. If the story

be true, it means one of the greatest military victories of

the war.

This late bulletin follows earlier reports about

the same engagement - German claims centering at a town called

Uman, center of communications between Kiev, the Ukrainian

capital, and Odessa. The earlier dispatch claimed the capture


of thirty thousand prisoners. This later one raised it to over

a hundred thousand. The Germans say they captured the
generals in command of the ~~xi~~ sixth and ~~twelfth~~ twelfth armies.
The commanders were taken prisoners along with their troops.

~~Informed sources in London.~~

WAR

Informed sources in London are of the opinion that the German High command may now be planning to drive through the Ukraine and down toward the Black Sea, cutting off the area of Odessa. The impression we get is a shift of German strategy. Hitherto, the major drive has been in the middle of the line, the Smolensk region - toward Moscow. Now there seems to be a switch of objective, with the major blow being delivered against the southern sector of the Red Army line. Maybe the going around



Smolensk became too tough, and the Nazis are tr^uying something else.

8

Moscow ~~is~~ continues to report victory, and tells of the annihilation of a Nazi tank division. A smashing Red Army counter-attack - with complete successes. And one most peculiar bit of information comes out of the Red capital - something about the Stalin line. Moscow now tells us that the Stalin line ~~does~~ not exist, never did exist. A Red army spokesman explains that the Red Army did have various fortifications, but nothing continuous. He adds that the Stalin line was a myth invented by Berlin propoganda - just a Nazi lie. It all sounds ~~is~~ very peculiar, because until recently a good deal of the mention of the Stalin line has come out of Moscow. Maybe the comrades heard about it from the Nazis. Or maybe the Blitzkrieg has broken through~~x~~ the Stalin line, and so Moscow says it never existed.

There's mystification about an air raid on Berlin. The Germans report that last night ⁱarplanes flew over and ^{dropped}~~dropped~~ bombs London denies that any R.A.F. bombers were anywhere near Berlin last ~~in~~ night. So maybe it was the Red air force - making

9
its first raid on Hitler's capital. From Stockholm there's a rumor that three squadrons of long range Soviet bombers blasted the suburbs of Berlin. A twelve hundred mile round trip attack.

London gives an alarming sort of report about Spain which says that all leaves of officers and soldiers in Spanish Morocco have been cancelled until Tuesday. Which leads the British to believe that the Spanish may be about to try a move into French Morocco. Spain has been claiming part of that territory for a long time.

This Spanish rumor coincides with a headline trip made by General Weygand, pro-consul for France in North Africa. He flew from Morocco, ^{and} ~~and~~ arrived at Vichy today. He went immediately into conference with the head of the state, Marshal Petain, and Vice-premier Admiral Darlan. The surmise is that this urgent conference has something to do with the Spanish moves. And there's inevitable reference to suspicions of Nazi machinations in the direction of French West Africa. Especially the important port of Dakar, which is of so much interest to the United States.

SERVICE

The House of Representatives today began its debate on the bill to keep the men in service for more than a year. The opposition led off with a strong attack by Congressman Hamilton Fish of New York ^{who} ~~he~~ charged that the move to extend the service of the men was part of a conspiracy to get the United States into the war - somewhere in Europe, Asia or Africa. This - without the consent of Congress ^{or} ~~of~~ the people. He said the interventionist plan was, in his words - "To raise an army of five million soldiers or more, not for defense, but for foreign war."

He denied that we, right now, are in greater danger than we were when the Selective Service Bill was passed. He pointed to the Nazi war in Soviet Russia, and said that our danger now was less.

Congressman Fish states that he will offer amendments to provide the nation with a ~~maximum~~ army of two million men. The amendments will call for ^{the} ~~the~~ release of all married national guardsmen and ~~the~~ Selective Service men, and the dismissal of the Selective Service group when the term of one year is up. This with one condition - that the War Department may limit the release to forty-five thousand men a month.

51
The Fish proposals were supported by Representative Hallick of Indiana, who charged that Congress was being kept ignorant of the foreign policy of the administration. "Kept in the dark", he declared the Congressman. Then he added:- "If we have to carry the responsibility for the extension of the draftees' service, why aren't we entitled to know the facts in the case - if there are any facts? *Is it,*" he asked, "Because this is a move for another A.E.F. in Europe?"

Congressman Cox of Georgia supported the bill to extend the term of service. He said it was necessary for the security of this nation. Because we are, in his words - "Daily going deeper and deeper into a war." "And," he argued, "To discharge our trained troops now would be silly at a moment when we stand face to face with the enemy."

Last night, the Senate passed the bill to keep the men in the army for a total of two and a half years - and give them an increase of ten dollars a month after the first year. The vote was forty-five to thirty. In the House of Representatives, the issue seems ^{to be} ~~to be~~ in some doubt. Administration leaders are admitting

2
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that the bill for keeping the men in the army is in greater danger of ~~defeat~~ defeat than any administration measure since ^{the} ~~he~~ outbreak of the European War. They say that a poll by the administration leaders indicates that the House of Representatives is wavering - whether or not to accept or turn down the service bill. This - as the devate begins.

TAXES

The Administration today renewed its drive for higher income taxes and lower exemptions. The original program advanced by the administration called for taxation that would bring in three and a half billion dollars next year. The House of Representatives changed various items, and passed a bill three hundred million dollars short of the goal. Now the administration is urging the Senate Financial Committee to rewrite the lower house version and increase the total to the original figure - three and a half billion.

Secretary Morgenthau told the Senate Committee that exemptions should be lowered. The bill passed by the House of Representatives provides an eight hundred dollar exemption for a single person; a two thousand exemption for married people.

53
Secretary Morgenthau wants these figures decreased - seven hundred and fifty for the single, and fifteen hundred for ~~the~~ the married.

This would cause more people ~~in~~ in the lower income groups to pay income tax. The secretary ^{referred to it as giving} ~~said it would give~~ them an opportunity to make a direct contribution to National Defense. "A welcome opportunity," said he - with an arch smile at Joe Doaks.

~~Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sullivan asked the~~

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sullivan asked the Committee to raise the surtax. In the original Administration proposal, the surtax was eleven per ~~cent~~ cent; ^{but Congress} ~~raise it back to~~ scaled that figure down to five per cent. Raise it back to eleven ^{today} the Assistant Secretary, advised the Senate Committee.

The Administration again urges the idea of a single return for married couples. That caused a lot of opposition, and the House of Representatives killed it. Today Secretary Morgenthau proposed a modified version. This would permit husband and wife to file separate returns on money they actually earn, ^{and} ~~but they'd have to make~~ a joint return on income from investments.

UNEMPLOYMENT

54
It may seem strange to talk of ^{unemployment} ~~unemployment~~ nowadays
Sounds like depression times before the defense boom began. But
here's a story from Washington which states that the defense
program threatens to cause a wave of unemployment - with between
two and three million workers thrown out of jobs. This statement
was made today by Price Control Administrator Leon Henderson to the
Banking Committee of the House of Representatives. He said a
new unemployment condition might come about because of the shifts
of civilian industry to defense production - plants changing over
from ordinary ~~mechanical~~ merchandise to armament. Causing them to be
idle for a while. The price administrator pointed out that something
like this happened in Britain. The British had an unemployment
increase of from twenty to twenty-five per cent while they were
getting their armament program in full swing. And we may have the
same experience - temporary unemployment, until things become ~~x~~
adjusted.

STOCKINGS

That delicate article of apparel, the feminine stocking, is in the news again today - because of the silk shortage. Reports that silk stockings will be five dollars a pair by Christmas are ridiculed by the President of the American Federation of Hosery Workers. He says that American women won't pay five dollars for a pair of stockings - even if a way is found to continue making some of them with silk.

He like wise warned ^{women} ~~women~~ who are hoarding silk stockings, laying in a supply. They're likely to find themselves out of style. "Advance fall and winter fashions," says the hosiery president, "Show stockings matching costumes. Solid color hose much in vogue. Greens, browns and vivid shades will be the thing. The stocking hoarders," he commented, "are buying bieges, which will be as out of date as yesterday's newspaper." Sounds like a sad story - ladies collecting a supply of silk stockings for the purpose of being out of style.

There are suggestions that we may ^{even} have a nationwide ^{gathering up} ~~collection~~ of worn out silk stockings - on the order of the aluminum drive. Union officials say that a lot of silk could be

gathered that way, unraveled and rewound. The silk thus collected could be turned into powder bags, such as are used in the firing of giant cannon. From Gertie's dimpled knees to Big Berthas.

In Washington, defense officials were asked about the suggestion -- a nationwide drive to collect worn out silk stockings. They said they hadn't heard about it, and added." But we wouldn't be surprised at anything."

The latest on the stocking front is news that defense officials have arranged to have other kinds of yarns mixed with silk. Right now, the industry has enough silk to keep on making stockings three to six weeks longer. By mixing the other yarns, they will be able to go for three months more.

GOOFY NATIONAL DEFENSE

A great contribution to National Defense was made today- two contributions, in fact. Two new ideas were propounded for winning the war - if we should get into the war. They were divulged at a meeting of the executive committee of the International Association of Acrobats by George Hamid, the acting President of the Acrobats, ~~he~~ explained idea number one as follows; "I suppose," said he, "A man had to get over the enemy's lines to intercept a message or wipe out a machine gun - or for some other vital purpose. "How," he asked, "How could he get there so quickly and surprisingly as by being shot out of a cannon in the way ~~the~~ Zacchini brothers have made famous?" Yes, that would be getting there surprisingly - especially if an enemy soldier happened to be hit by the man shot out of the cannon.

The idea number two is equally astonishing. It concerns the wild animal act. Instead of making a blitzkrieg drive with tanks, do it with a hundred lions, or maybe tigers - or both. The President of the Acrobats suggested that the ~~animal~~ animal act could be taken to the front, and, in his words, "Released at ~~he~~ the enemy." Which certainly does sound like a super Blitz. "The beasts, under a capable master," says he, "could strike terror in the enemy

and perhaps cause them to retreat in panic."

National defense, propounded by a worthy disciple of
Barnum.

BURGLAR

In Los Angeles, the police today arrested a twenty-one year old burglar who committed his robberies with the strangest kind of weapon - a spray of perfume. Breaking into houses and stealing jewelry, he carried no pistol or anything like that. Nothing but an atomizer for spraying the scent of roses and lilac.

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Confessing to the police, he told the story of how he had set out to be a gentleman burglar with a new idea. He thought up an original scheme for fooling the police, throwing the detectives off the trail - committing a robbery, he'd make it appear to have been the doing of a woman - a lady burglar. That would fool the cops. He'd leave behind him a feminine trail - perfume. When he robbed a house, he'd spray perfume all over the place. So, when Sherlock Holmes arrived he'd sniff sagaciously and mutter - "Ah ha, a woman."

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The fragrant burglar was caught, but not because the trick of perfuming the larceny failed to work. His downfall came because he couldn't refrain from showing off before the girls. He tried to dazzle them with a display of the diamonds he had stolen. He gave them jewelry too - but only the least expensive pieces, the

BURGULAR -2

9
junk. They gaped at the real sparklers in vain. Maybe that's why they turned him in. For turn him in they did, informing the cops about the strange amount of jewelry in his possession.

He was right about perfume, but he was wrong about women.

9 1/4
Now here's a man who is usually right about everything -
Who? you hoo! I mean you
Hugh!