

L.I. - Sunoco.

Friday, July 18, 1941.

WAR

A new picture of the battle of Russia is given to us tonight. The German high command issues a bulletin a little longer than half a dozen words this time. It states that Smolensk has been in German hands since Wednesday. That was the day the word was given out in Berlin - unofficially. Nazi armored forces have driven on past Smolensk, says today's high command communique, and adds that the Blitzkrieg forces have broken through <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ Stalin line along a front of a hundred and eighty miles. -- that much of the Stalin <sup>Line</sup> ~~cracked~~.

The new ~~px~~ picture of the battle is this:~ Picked forces of Nazi troops are driving at high speed toward Leningrad, ~~Kiev~~ and Moscow. From the Berlin story, these would seem to be flying columns - not very large but fast, motorized. Not the bulk of the Blitzkrieg armies, ~~which~~ are not driving at cities, but are smashing at the mass of the Soviet forces. Such is the picture that Berlin gives us.

From Moscow, we have little that's late. The news wire from the Soviet capital has not produced much since earlier in the day. Then, we were told that the Red army line was holding.

London comes through with a report that Hitler has sent a distress call to Japan - demanding that the ~~Mikado~~ Mikado's armies attack the Soviets in Siberia. London says this is because the German Blitzkrieg attack is not going along according to schedule. It has been slowed down so much, that Hitler is calling upon his Japanese ally.

From Tokyo are hints that Japan may indeed make a move in Siberia. The new cabinet formed by Prince Konoye, is ~~very~~ *-- with* militaristic in tone <sup>high</sup> officers in key ministries. However, it is observed that there are more Navy men than Army functionaries in the new cabinet, and the Japanese Navy is known to be more conservative, less belligerent, than the army. Which would seem to argue a conservative policy.

48  
The new cabinet goes in with something said to be without precedent - a <sup>joint</sup> ~~joint~~ declaration by the Japanese army and the Japanese Navy, <sup>stating</sup> ~~it states~~ that Japan's foreign policy is what it calls "immutable and immoveable."

The hint about possible action against Soviet Russia comes from the new minister of foreign affairs. He is admiral Toyoda, and today he made a rather cryptic statement, saying that he was familiar with some diplomatic matters and unfamiliar with others. He explained that he knew all about the negotiation of the treaty of alliance with the axis powers last year. He's clear in his mind about that. Not so, however, as concerns more recent diplomatic transactions - events of the past few months. So he'll have to study these, and make up his mind. The period of time he mentions, the last few months, covers the negotiating of the Japanese non-aggression pact with Soviet Russia - the treaty arranged by ~~the~~ deposed foreign minister Matsuoka. So that Soviet non-aggression pact is one of the things which the new foreign minister will have to study - make up his mind. All of which conveys the hint that while he is all set about the axis alliance, he's not so sure about Soviet Russia.

## VICTORY

9  
Last night I remarked that the Nazis might try to take over the British "V" campaign for themselves - "V" for victory. This I said jokingly - by way of a comic exaggeration. ~~At least, I thought it was comic,~~ But today it turns out to be quite serious.

The British, in a dramatic campaign of propaganda, are inciting people in the Nazi-controlled countries to write the letter "V" wherever they can, mark it in public places. "V" for victory - British victory and the liberation of the conquered peoples. Last night I quoted a Nazi spokesman as admitting that the letter "V" was being marked around increasingly. He said that in this way people were expressing their enthusiasm for a Nazi victory over Soviet-Russia and communism. Which certainly did sound like a tall one, as I remarked.

But what do we have today? In Berlin, on that official avenue, the Wilhelmstrasse, a <sup>big</sup> ~~big~~ shiny automobile rolled along and on its radiator was a placard inscribed with a big "V". It was a ~~the~~ Nazi police car - Gestapo. And simultaneously the Hitler

radio came out, urging people to display the letter "V" everywhere.

This advice was broadcast to Germany and allied and conquered nations.

TP "V" for victory say the British. <sup>But</sup> The Germans have a similar word

"V" for Viktoria, <sup>And</sup> ~~say they.~~ They're officially adopting the

letter as a symbol for Germany victory - in a <sup>sort</sup> ~~short~~ of propaganda counter-attack against the British campaign.

~~It's~~ a striking battle of propaganda. The British idea of using the twenty-second letter of the alphabet was an inspiration. It caused a rash of "V" signs throughout the territories occupied by the Nazis. And the British plan is to use the ingenious device for all it's worth. They <sup>might</sup> ~~might~~ <sup>even</sup> ~~even~~ overthrow the Hitler power by a bombardment of "VS".

The Germans feel they've got to do something about it - take some counter-measure. This they're trying to do by adopting the "V" campaign as their own. (It's easy enough to see what they're up to. When British sympathizers write the letter "V", the Nazis will pretend that it symbolizes - German victory. Moreover, by having their own people write the

symbolical letter everywhere - the British "Vs" may be submerged

by a swarm of German "Vs", and nobody will know what is what. It

may be a smart <sup>Nazi</sup> move. Anyhow it will ~~move, and it will~~ be interesting to note the issue of

the battle of "Vs."

LIBEL

In London, a lawsuit with large political angles ~~is~~ is being tried. The plaintiff is Captain A.H.M. Ramsay, member of parliament - who is interned in a British concentration camp. His arrest a year ago was a sensation. The charge against him was not revealed, kept a secret - until today. Now, in court proceedings, it is revealed that Captain A.H.M. Ramsay, M.P., was connected ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> Tyler Kent, former English clerk at the United States embassy at London. The case of Tyler Kent was likewise sensational - when he was convicted a year ago on charges of espionage. He is now serving a prison term of seven years.

In today's testimony, there was also mention of the name of - William Joyce, ~~That is to say,~~ Lord Haw Haw. William Joyce is the notorious <sup>renegade</sup> Englishman who in Germany delivers <sup>those pro-Nazi</sup> broadcasts ~~of Nazi propaganda,~~ aimed at Britain.

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Captain A. H. M. Ramsay, M. P. is suing for Libel - suing the New York times. The ground of his complaint is a newspaper article that ~~xxxx~~ accused him of treason. This article was written by Colonel William Donovan - "wild bill" of world war fame; ~~that the~~ same Colonel Donovan who is now coordinator of defense information

in Washington. *Col. Donovan*

~~He~~<sup>^</sup> told of British fifth column activities, and had a good deal to say about Captain A.H.M. Ramsay, M.P.

Today in court it was told how Ramsay, before the war, founded a group called - "The Right Club." Its purpose was to fight communism. Its program was strongly ~~anti~~ anti-Jewish.

In court today Ramsay denied that the right club was pro-German. *But,*

Among its members was William Joyce, Lord Haw Haw. Also - Tyler

Kent, the clerk at the American embassy. Kent was convicted of espionage together with a woman named Anna Wolkoff - *--- and* she too was

a member of the right club. They were caught in an attempt to send a coded letter, ~~secret~~ secret stuff *in cipher - to* ~~in cipher - to~~

William Joyce. Under-cover communication with Lord Haw Haw.

*53*  
The charge against Ramsay was that Kent showed him documents from the American embassy. Ramsay stated today that his purpose was to procure information which he intended to transmit to Prime Minister Chamberlain. He said he was arrested before he was able to pass anything along to Chamberlain.



In the trial proceedings ~~at~~ today, other names were mentioned - and prominent ones. It was testified that the membership of the right club numbered two hundred and seventy-three men and a hundred women. It included some of the most prominent personalities in England -- like the father of the former minister of shipping, Ronald Cross. Also - the Duke of Wellington.

BRITISH TRADE

President Roosevelt today minimized reports that Great Britain is using the lend-lease program to promote British foreign trade. There has been some talk that Britain while getting materials from us gratis, is selling plenty of merchandise to other countries -- at a good profit. Business as usual.

There have been stories that Britain may be reselling good ~~gm~~ obtained from us under the Lend-Lease Program. The President remarked that it wouldn't be according to Hoyle - wouldn't be cricket, and he was sure it wasn't being done.

ROOSEVELT

At the White House press conference today, President Roosevelt neatly contrived the trick of killing two birds with one stone. In the same breath he repeated a statement of national policy and took a dig at an opponent. He said once again that it's the unwavering policy of the United States to protect the ocean communications between this nation and Iceland. Which applies also to Bermuda and other islands where the United States has defense bases.

The president refused to discuss the subject ~~x~~ of troop movements to these various points. That's where he got in a dig, saying: "I don't think it is right that I should pull a wheeler." ~~That R~~ <sup>ing</sup> referred to the disclosure made by the number one ~~isolationist~~ isolationist, Senator Wheeler of Montana, when he told <sup>of U.S.</sup> ~~of the United States~~ occupation of Iceland a week before it happened - the disclosure that was denounced both in Washington and in London.

Having thus paid his ~~x~~ <sup>r</sup> respects to Wheeler, the President turned his attention to the Senator's partner in the campaign against war - Lindbergh. The president said that Lindbergh's

letter has not yet reached the White House - the communication  
in which the world famous aviator asked <sup>for</sup> a presidential investigation  
of charges that he is connected with the interests of a foreign  
power. The fact that Lindbergh's letter was given to the  
newspapers yesterday and has not yet arrived at the White House  
through the mails, is an indication that publicity was the real  
idea - so said the President <sup>today, repeating what</sup>  
<sup>White House Secretary Steve Early</sup>  
said yesterday.

SERVICE

The military affairs committee of the Senate is holding hearings concerning the proposal to let the Army hold national guards <sup>men</sup> and selective service men for more than a year. Testimony in favor of the change was given today by high officers. Major General Williams, chief of the National Guard Bureau of the Army, told the committee that if the guardsmen are demobilized at ~~the~~ the end of one year's service, the result will be - disintegration.

Major general Haskell, commander of the <sup>20</sup>Twenty-seventh national guard division at Fort McClellan, ~~Albany~~ Alabama, stated that if Soviet Russia is beaten by Nazi Germany, the United States will be in what he called "Grave danger of Military invasion."

One high officer stated that in his opinion it would be better for Congress to declare a state of emergency. This instead of passing legislation to permit the President to keep the men in service. As the law is ~~frax~~ framed, the term of service would be automatically extended by the issuance of an emergency decree by Congress. And the word from Washington is that a number of senators are inclined to think emergency would be the best way out of the dilemma.

7  
Testimony against the proposal to ~~keep~~ keep the men in the army for more than a year was given by Norman Thomas, the Socialist leader. He charged that the prestige of General Marshall, Chief of Staff, is being used to lead this nation into war.

at { Senator Downey of California proposed today that men ~~kept in the army for more than a year should get an extra thirty dollars raise after they've been in service for a year.~~

And There's to be White House action, a special presidential message to Congress supporting the Army's demand that the men be kept in service.

It's the Question of the day in domestic news -- as the nation ~~maximize~~ scans the draft numbers drawn last night for young fellows who have just reached twenty-one.

## PIPELINES

In the news concerning the threatened oil shortage in the Eastern states, we have word today that probably ten thousand miles of new pipelines will be laid this year. Pipelines to make up for the oil tanker ships that have been taken over to serve the needs of the British. Moreover, these requisitioned tankers are to be replaced rapidly by the construction of new vessels.

At Chester, Pennsylvania, they've just laid the keel for the first of seventy-two tankers which the sun shipbuilding and drydock company is to build for the maritime commission. The contract for these vessels was signed only seven weeks ago, and the Sun Company must put in twelve new shipways for the job. The first of these is now completed, and on it construction of ~~the~~ the first new tanker has been started - the first of the order for seventy-two.

~~(Request from Philadelphia, and just as well because the news is light.)~~

CENSUS

Tonight we can paraphrase an old saying, and advise --  
go West young lady, go west. That is -- if you want to get  
married. The suggestion is <sup>derived</sup> ~~deriving~~ from figures given out  
by the census bureau today. These disclose that there's an  
over-supply of men in the west <sup>ern</sup> states and an under-supply of  
them in the East. Nevada heads the list of states, where there  
are more men than women. Nevada has a hundred and twenty-four  
men for every hundred women. Wyoming comes next, with a  
hundred and seventeen to a hundred. Montana a hundred and fifteen,  
Idaho a hundred and eleven. North Dakota a hundred and ten.

Now take the east, byway of contrast. Massachusetts  
has the largest surplus of women - ninety-four men to every  
hundred women. Rhode Island, ninety-five. Vermont and New  
Hampshire ninety-nine.

So, for ladies matrimonially inclined, the slogan  
might well be - "Westward ho for wedding bells:"

And for the Blue What ho

9/4 From you Hugh?