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The war news today features a famous historic name, Borodino. That's where Napoleon beat the Russians in a great battle, and opened the road to Moscow - only to meet the disaster of a burning city and the blizzards of winter. Moscow today states that a Red Army counter-attack smashed back a Nazi spearhead to the west of Moscow. The story, as related, would seem to indicate that this happened at the old Napoleonic battlefield of Borodino. There the Soviet forces thrust back a Nazi column for a distance of eleven miles - so says Moscow. Borodino is sixty-two miles west of the Soviet capital - and that indicates how near the blitzkrieg has driven toward its goal.

Berlin claims that its forces are about that far from Moscow - within cannon shot of the outer defenses of the city. The ring of outer defenses is about sixty-~~two~~ miles from Stalin's Kremlin.

The German advance is in the form of three spearheads. One, at the west - the Borodino area. The second, in the southwest - thrusting from Bryansk. Moscow admits that this attack is gaining ground. The third - in the northwest. There, the

blitzkrieg is pounding on toward the Moscow-Leningrad Railroad at a place called Kalinin. The Germans say they're near the

railroad now. *Moscow mentions this in a dispatch just off the wire. And it*

The general impression is that the three-pronged attack appears now that Moscow is about
~~has slowed down, though still making progress. The Nazis, on the~~
~~half encircled, are rapidly~~
~~other hand, maintain that they're pushing on everywhere. (The~~

~~Berlin word would indicate that they'll try to take Moscow by~~

~~circling around it, instead of launching frontal attacks at the~~

~~heavy defenses.~~) The Germans today climaxed their claim by

declaring that they've captured three hundred thousand Red army

troops in the Moscow area during the last few days, and that this

brings the total of Soviet prisoners above three million.

In the London House of Commons, Prime Minister Churchill was queried today about the possibilities of a British invasion to help the Red army. He was pressed for an answer, but ~~he~~ refused to give one. Members of the Labor Party asked for a statement on

the Russian situation. Churchill responded: "No, sir. This obviously must be left to the Russian high command, which is

fighting the great battle. I should not presume to add anything to

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their communiques at this stage," said he. The Laborites, saying how anxious they were about the battle before Moscow, suggested a debate on the question of invasion. Churchill replied: "You should not suppose that you have a monopoly on anxiety." And he added, "I do not see any reason at all for early debate at the present time."

Labor members then launched an attack against Lord Halifax because of a statement that he made in the United States. He said that a British invasion of the continent was not feasible. Churchill defended Halifax, and Labor once again demanded a debate. "I know of no reason why," snapped the Prime Minister - ending it.

The story that a British expeditionary force is in Soviet Russia right now seems to be dissipating ^{-- going} ~~in~~ the way of all rumors. London states that the report may grow out of the fact that a few hundred British soldiers may be at the Soviet port of Archangel. British and American aid to the Soviets is being landed at that port - so some kind of British military guard might be expected to be there. But nothing like a British expeditionary force, merely a few soldiers watching the shipments. London thinks

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that the rumor may be traced to Red army soldiers captured by the Finns. It is known that the Soviets have been withdrawing troops from the Archangel region to fight the Finns - soldiers who may have seen a few British uniforms. And this could easily have been magnified to become a headline - a British expeditionary force in Soviet Russia.

The Italians meanwhile are claiming a success in the sea and air war. Rome declares that off the coast of North Africa, Fascist torpedo planes attacked a British squadron and hit a battleship and a ten thousand ton cruiser - inflicting ~~heavy~~ *heavy torpedo* damage.

RADIO WAR

The word from London is - they ^{are doing} ~~re going to do~~ something about Harrassing Harry. He's the latest personality in the radio angle of the war.

First there was Lord Haw-Haw -- who beguiled British audiences with blatant Nazi propaganda, spoken with an ultra-ultra Oxford accent. Lord Haw-Haw amused the British for a ~~xx~~ quite a while. More recently, there was Ivan the Terrible - the voice that has been cutting in on Nazi news broadcasts with most opporbrrious remarks. ~~The Soviet stunt - most annoying to the Hitler people. A Nazi broadcast with trumpeting tales of victory, and in would come the voice of Ivan the Terrible saying - "It wasn't a victory, it was a defeat."~~

This apparently was such a good idea, that now the Nazis have paid it the compliment of imitation. For the last couple of nights British news broadcasts have been interrupted by a voice - presumably from Germany. The speaker, ~~while~~ talking with an elaborate English accent, has been interrupting British radio news with jeering remarks about Churchill. Also - with cracks about the

British Empire now being run by the United States. They're calling the radio intruder - Harrassing Harry. Englishmen were highly amused when Ivan the Terrible was gumming up the Nazi programs, but now they're not so delighted with Harrassing Harry. And today ^{came} ~~comes~~ word that the British Broadcasting Company ~~x~~ has devised a way to shut him up. They've got some new device - a deep secret. They say it won't completely suppress the mocking voice of the intruder, but it will muffle it - so that the words will not be intelligible. There'll be just so much noise. In that way they ^{would} ~~be going to~~ harass Harrassing Harry.

How is the new and secret device working out? Here's the latest. When the British Broadcasting Company went on the air tonight with a news ~~xxxxx~~ program, Harrassing Harry promptly started to butt in - with jibes ^{at} ~~of~~ cigar-smoking Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The B.B.C. announcer was telling something about the war-time food shortage in Britain, when promptly the heckling voice interrupted. "Well, anyway, Churchill will get his big cigars," said Harrassing Harry. He continued to butt in, but

his voice was weaker than before - and in about fifteen minutes Harrassing Harry was drowned out. The heckling turned into mere noise - the secret radio device was working.

SUBMARINE

From the embattled waters of the Atlantic, comes a story of a baby-kissing U-boat commander. In this country, the osculation of infants is usually practiced by candidates seeking election. However, it also seems to be a part of modern war - kisses, along with bombs and torpedoes.

At Lisbon today arrived six survivors of a Portuguese merchant vessel. They had been ~~THESE WERE~~ passengers, and one of them was an American, Dr. Charles Cant Buffiner of New York.

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The Portuguese craft sailed from Lisbon, and a few hundred miles out at sea was stopped by a Nazi U-boat. The submarine commander ordered crew and passengers to take to the lifeboat, and then he flashed a request to the Portuguese commander. Would the captain kindly open the sea valves, and scuttle his ship. That would save the U-boat commander a torpedo. It was all very polite - ~~if~~ but a bit cheeky. The portuguese captain, however, refused, and the Nazi U-boat skipper had to use one of his torpedoes - sinking the ship.

Meanwhile, however, the crew and passengers were in the lifeboats, and the submarine came over to them. Two of the

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passengers were women, and each had with her a small child, a little girl. The submarine captain, drawing alongside, invited the two women and two children to dinner aboard his undersea craft. They went, and he entertained them to an excellent repast, with wine. Probably a rather nervous dinner for them - but a good one.

While this hospitality was going on, the submarine had taken the two lifeboats in tow, and was hauling them toward the Portuguese coast. When they were twenty miles from shore, and the wining and dining was done - the submarine put the women and children back into the lifeboats. The ~~U~~ U-boat captain said good-bye - kissing the babies.

Such is the story from Lisbon, something ~~like~~ new in the Battle of the Atlantic - baby kissing *pirates*.

PRISONERS

Today two ships put into Boston harbor under conditions of the utmost secrecy. One was a United States patrol boat which had formerly been Admiral Byrd's Antarctic craft - the BEAR. The one-time Byrd boat escorted the Nazi ship seized by the Navy off Greenland. This is the latest in the dramatic discovery of a party of Germans who were trying to set up a radio station in a remote part of the northern island. (Their purpose was to flash secret Greenland weather reports, which would be of the utmost value to sky and sea raiders attacking British shipping in the North Atlantic.) Their ship, named the BUSKO, is Norwegian, and they had sailed from Nazi dominated Norway.

At Boston today there was plenty of interest in the BUSKO. She turned out to be an ancient weather-beaten coal burner, scarred and battered. About twelve feet of her bow had been chipped off on her port side. Aboard were the prisoners - the Nazi party that had set out on a radio mission to Greenland. Were they Germans - or Nazi Norwegians? It was impossible to tell - though one is reputed to be a Gestapo agent.

No newspaper men were allowed to talk to them, or even get

near the BUSKO. A boatload of Boston reporters was kept away - made to stay at a distance of twenty-five feet of the craft.

Federal authorities boarded the BUSKO to question the prisoners - undoubtedly. Later, they had nothing to say. Secrecy is the word - and the supposition is that the members of the party of Nazi

adventurers will be kept in detention along with German sailors who ^{have} ~~had~~ been previously interned in this country.

With this comes word of suspicious boats and airplanes sighted recently near Baffin Land. The word comes from Canada, statement and the ~~statement~~ is that they may possibly be Nazi craft. Baffin Land is two hundred miles west of Greenland, and leads to

Hudson's Bay. ^{HP} Meanwhile, American convoys taking supplies to Iceland are reported to have been spotted by German U-boats - not once, but repeatedly. The Nazi submarines, however, make no attack. Either they've been too cautious to tackle the convoys, or they've been ordered to let American vessels alone.

NEUTRALITY

The Senate non-interventionists are going to fight the change in the Neutrality Law - the provision to permit the arming of American merchant vessels. Eleven isolationists met today in the office of Senator Hiram Johnson of California. There they mapped out ^a strategy and announced that they'll battle the ship-arming plan - down the line. Meanwhile, the lower House is holding Neutrality Law hearings, and heard anti-war witnesses today. These denounced the ship-arming idea as another administration step to get us into the war.

President Roosevelt gives us some figures - about Lend-Lease. He said that during September a hundred and fifty-five million dollars' worth of war materials have been sent abroad. This is a new high for a month of Lend-Lease shipments.

ARGENTINE

Here's late news, just released. The United States today concluded a trade agreement with the Argentine, a commercial pact which is considered of the greatest importance. President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull issued statements extolling the trade treaty as a measure of the largest kind of significance for Western Hemispheric solidarity against Hitler and aggression.

The President of Argentina says: - "of overwhelming historical importance!"

LOUIS

In the prize ring, Champion Joe Louis can hardly be described as timid or bashful. He doesn't shrink from anything. Today, however, Joe was examined by the doctors for the draft -- and was a picture of shrinking timidity. Not that the Brown Bomber is reluctant to go into the Army. He's not at all afraid to be a soldier. Joe shied away from something quite different.

At the draft examination place in Chicago, the doctors went over him, measured him, thumped his chest, listened to his lungs and weighed him on the scales. And into the place crowded newspaper photographers, wanting to get pictures of the champ going through the medical routine of selectice service. Joe was about to climb onto the scales when he saw them -- and that was when he began to shrink.

Ordinarily, the champ is agreeable and good-natured about being photographed for the press, but this time he turned to his manager. "Git them picture fellers away," growled Joe. To which he added in plaintive tones, "I ain't got nothin' on."

Well, any of you fellows who have been through the selective service routine can sympathize with the heavyweight champion. It's all right to go into the prize ring to fight ferocious opponents.

Then at least you've got a pair of boxing trunks on. But when you're getting a medical examination for the Army -- that's no place for a lot of newspaper photographers to snap pictures of a fellow. It's as Joe Louis said, "I ain't got nothin' on."

SOLDIER

The military authorities at Fort Totten, New York, had everything explained to them today -- everything in the case of Private Haywood Wheeler of New York. Last night during the Eastern Air Defense Maneuvers in the New York area Private Wheeler was on strategic duty. He smashed up an army automobile, and in the car at the time he had the girl friend.

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The explanation was given today by Miss Theresa Wojowski. She is eighteen, blond, blue-eyed and beautiful. She said:- "I hope the Army really won't make a fuss about it." She explained that she and Private Wheeler had known each other for about a year, and last night during maneuvers his duty took him to the neighborhood in Queens where Theresa lives. So naturally they met -- for Theresa, as I ~~had~~ remarked, is eighteen, blond, blue-eyed and beautiful. Then they had a drive in Private Wheeler's chariot of war.

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"He was in charge of the car," Theresa explained today, "and we wanted to go and get some coffee. He couldn't abandon the car," she argues reasonably, "and so we took it with us. He was going to take me home later," she adds.

So in the military automobile they went for coffee. It

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was ten minutes after two A.M., and bad luck intervened. They ran into a civilian automobile for a resounding crash. The civilian driver went to the hospital. Theresa herself got a cut over the eye -- a scratch over one of those big blue eyes. Private Wheeler was uninjured - except for the damage done to his regimental record.

The moral would seem to be -- that a general should not send a soldier on battle duty into a neighborhood where the girl friend lives -- especially when she's eighteen, blond, blue-eyed, and beautiful. What, Hugh?

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