

P.T. - Sunoco. Friday, Aug. 21, 1942.

DISPUTES

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President Roosevelt today passed out an order pertaining to disputes between government agencies. Differences of opinion are not to be advertised with a lot of wrangling in public. If heads of departments get into an argument, they are not to ventilate their quarrel in the newspapers. If they have controversies, these are to be conducted without benefit of publicity.

The President reveals that he has a report from Elmer Davis, War Information Director, on the subject of discord among high officials. Elmer Davis tells the President that the publicizing of their disputes creates confusion in the public mind and aids the enemy.

So today President Roosevelt sent identical letters to the heads of the big federal departments and agencies. He tells them that hereafter if they have any disagreements, they should keep quiet about them and submit them to the President himself.

The White House letter does not refer to any specific quarrels, but the news has been telling a good deal about lively scraps over such subjects as the oil shortage and synthetic rubber. There has been disharmony between the office of Price Administration

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and the Department of Agriculture on the subject of farm prices.

And we have heard about a conflict between the War ~~Production~~  
Production Board on the one hand and the Army and Navy on the  
other -- a battle for control of armament making.

A good deal of the wrangling has been out-loud, in the  
news; and this the President proposes to stop. In other words, if  
Department Chief <sup>A</sup>~~and A~~ and Agency <sup>B</sup>~~Head B~~ start scrapping, they are  
not to call the newsmen in and do their arguing with blasts of  
publicity. They are to <sup>refrain</sup>~~refrain~~ from making a lot of noise, and  
take their row to the President for a decision

## WILLKIE

The purpose of Wendell Willkie's mission to the near East and Soviet Russia was clarified today, with President Roosevelt explaining. An important part of Willkie's job will be to give reassurance about American War Production. To the leaders of the countries he visits he will convey the truth about the turning out of armament in this country.

8 President Roosevelt states that there is an opinion abroad that American War Production is not all that it should be. ~~This opinion, exaggerating the shortcomings of our armament manufacture, has been spread in Europe and the near East.~~ Stories have been circulated that American Production is being handicapped seriously by Labor troubles.

These false impressions need to be corrected, and Willkie representing the President, will seek to do the correcting by placing American Production facts before a number of national leaders -- including Stalin. ~~He will present to them a picture of American war unity all along the line.~~

In the news conference discussion of all this, the President was reminded that some authorities, like Labor leaders and congressmen are saying that American War Production is actually falling off,

declining. The President passed that off by indicating that such beliefs were largely a matter of prejudice. He said he was not satisfied with the rate of armament manufacture, and never would be. But he added that neither was he blue about the situation.

Later on came an announcement that Chairman Donald Nelson is going to submit to the nation a report of production progress. He will do it tomorrow at a news conference. This will be the second Donald Nelson Production report.

DRAFT

Today the Chief of Selective Service stated that some time before Christmas draft boards will begin calling men with dependents. Brigadier-General Hershey explained that the first to be summoned will be men with what are called -- "Secondary dependents." That is, single men who are supporting dependent relatives. Next will come married men whose wives work. Then such as have dependent wives. And finally -- men with wives and children. They will be summoned in that order.

The Selective Service Director advised all single men with dependents to put their affairs in order, because they probably will be called before Christmas.

## LABOR PARTY

In New York, the American Labor Party is putting a third ticket into the election for Governor. The A.L. P. threatened all along that if Jim Farley won out and Attorney General John J. Bennet were nominated, they would not support him. They would name a candidate of their own -- making it a three-cornered race. The Labor Party is about to hold its own convention, and there has been mention of an A.L.P. attempt to draft Wendell Willkie to run against Democratic candidate Bennett and the undoubted Republican candidate -- Dewey. Willkie, however, is going on that mission to the near East and Soviet Russia, and won't be here.

One-time Postmaster Jim had hopes that, in the end, the



laborites could be persuaded to support Bennett. In an attempt at persuasion, the lesser places on the Bennett ticket, have been given to candidates entirely pleasing to the A.L.P. However, the leaders of the<sup>x</sup> political labor group are not mollified. They are carrying out their threat. <sup>And</sup> Their third ticket is regarded as a definite injury to the chances of Bennett and the Democrats in November. This opinion is supported by the graphic fact that in the last election for Governor, the A.K.P. ~~cast more than four hundred~~ ~~thousand votes and~~ swung the election to Governor Lehman -- who defeated Dewey by a narrow margin.

Today President Roosevelt was asked about his reaction to the nomination of Bennett, the Farley victory in the face of White House opposition. The President replied by borrowing a phrase - - although it is mighty seldom that F.D.R. needs to resort to somebody ~~else's~~ else's verbiage.

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He referred to a newspaper column written by Mark Sullivan. This veteran journalist noted what under-Secretary of War Patterson had to say at a news conference. ~~Asked a question, the Under-Secretary responded --~~ "No worthwhile comment." Which was adding an adjective to the familiar retort - "No comment." Mark Sullivan

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remarked that other officials might shorten news conference conversation by saying -- "No worthwhile comment."

Today the President said he thought it a good idea to take the advice. So his answer to questions about Bennett *that quote from Mark Sullivan: --* and Farley is -- "No wrthwhile comment."

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SPY

Today at Hartford, Connecticut, the Reverend Kurt Mozahn<sup>1</sup> was found <sup>u</sup>guilty<sup>^</sup> of charges that he aided a group of Nazi spies. The Lutheran minister was accused of having employed his parish house in Philadelphia as a post office ~~for~~ for the convicted spy -- Kunze, former leader of the German American Bund. His trial has been going on ~~a~~ for almost a month~~s~~, and today the jury after two hours of deliberation returned a verdict of -- guilty.

## WARNING

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President Roosevelt today issued a warning grim and stern to the Nazis -- this with reference to the barbarities they have been inflicting on people in countries they have conquered. The President told them that they had better stop their atrocities -- such ~~ax~~ acts as the killing of hostages. He stated that the United States Government has been collecting evidence on Axis crimes against civilians, and that evidence is being kept for use after the war -- after the United Nations' victory.

The President pointed out that various nations on our side have declared the Axis criminals will be punished, and the United States has exactly the same idea. ~~They~~ Then he went on with a declaration that was indeed grim and stern. Speaking of the Axis criminals, the President said:- "It seems only fair that they should have this warning -- that the time will come when they will have to stand in courts of law in the very countries which they are now oppressing, and answer for their acts."

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Along with this Washington news comes a story from London stating that in the former Republic of Czechoslovakia, twelve Czech patriots were executed the day before yesterday. One of them was the former head of the Czech premier's press department. The Nazis accused him of espionage.

## GILBERT ISLANDS

There is no confirmation of a Japanese bulletin stating that American forces have landed on an island right in the area where the Japs are the strongest -- an ~~is~~ island in the Gilbert Archipelago. The Gilberts are one of the island groups that are the number one *in the Pacific.* haunt and nest of enemy sea and air power. They were a mark for that brilliant American ship and plane operation of some time ago -- the bombing of the Gilbert and Marshall islands. And now Tokyo broadcasts the statement that American ~~is~~ troops have landed on a bit of land called Makin -- in the Gilberts.

The Japs relate that this occurred four days ago, and say the American Force consisted of only two hundred men. Tokyo claims that they were driven back by a Japanese counterattack.

From the Tokyo story, it might appear that we landed troops to seize Makin Island -- or it might have been a ~~x~~ surprise raid to destroy enemy installations.

Washington gives us now word about all this. Inquiries at the Navy Department today brought a reply that there was no comment to be made. Anything would have to come from fleet Commander Admiral Nimitz in Hawaii.

*I wonder if this is a Yankee  
ruse -- an attempt to draw out the  
Japs -- lure them into a major sea-battle?*

## SOLOMONS

From the far off Solomon Islands we have heartening word about the Marines on those South Sea beaches. The British report that the leathernecks are fighting offensive actions, driving on from the bases that they have established. They now control the southeastern area of the Solomon archipelago, say British sources. The marines dominate the islands there, although there are still plenty of Japs to be dealt with.

And we hear of a powerful blow struck by American flying fortresses against Jap warships trying to poke their noses into the Solomon situation. The big planes, based on Australia, hitting the Japanese vessels in a heavy assault -- the details of which have not yet come in.

## RUSSIA

In Russia, the battles continue with the Germans making headway -- but not at any rapid pace. A fearful four-day struggle continues to storm at the gates of Stalingrad, with the Nazis hammering violently -- yet without making much progress apparently.

To the south, in the Caucasus, the Panzers are still thrusting toward the Grozny oil fields on one side and the Soviet Black Sea naval bases on the other. No startling advances reported.

Moscow is directing some propagandist shots against the Nazis -- using the radio to deny the Goebbels propaganda line about the Commando raid on Dieppe. The Nazis are shouting their loudest to play up the attack as an invasion attempt that failed. Soviet broadcasters are countering this with assurances that it was -- a mere raid, with the second front to be launched soon.

## COMMANDOS

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Last night we were told how British, Canadian and American officers in London were studying masses of data about that *in which Canadian troops played the major role.* biggest of commando raids on Wednesday. Tonight we hear of two conclusions at which some military observers have arrived -- lessons learned from the attack on Dieppe.

These observers think the Commandos would have done much better if they had used dive bombers and paratroops. As it was, they scored a moderate success, says the London story -- but, with the bombers that made the dizzy dive and with troops that descend from the sky, they would have scored a smashing victory.

The contention is that dive bombers would have been exceedingly effective against some of the Nazi strong points along the beaches at Dieppe -- strong points that inflicted heavy losses on the Commandos. They could have been dive bombed out of action, *and most of the* ~~and~~ losses would not have been incurred.

Somehow, the British don't go for dive bombers, which *We, for instance,* are favored so much by the Germans -- by the Americans too. ~~we are~~ *and* turning out some mighty formidable types, and have developed *the dive bomber originated here.* tactics for using them extensively. In the past, the British Air

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Force has been criticized for neglecting dive bombers, and this



seems to be the case againx -- as a result of the great commando raid.

As for paratroopers, the British military observers say a study of the raid indicated that German artillery batteries back of the beaches could have been taken by surprise by parachutists. And these could also have seized bridges and road junctions, and thereby have prevented the enemy from rushing reinforcements to the beaches under attack. The prompt arrival of German reinforcements was a feature of the battle.

The dive bomber and paratroop angle will have to be considered, apparently, in any invasion drive against the Nazis --

*TP* Commando raid lessons to be applied to the problem of Second Front.

## FORTRESSES

Today, over the North Sea, eleven American flying fortresses were winging their way on a mission of war. And they were attacked by a flight of some twenty-five Nazi fighter planes. For twenty minutes there was a swirl of air battle high in the sky, high indeed -- the loftiest kind of altitude. This altitude angle is not stated in <sup>the</sup> news dispatch, but it may readily be inferred. The flying fortresses are famous for their operations ~~■~~ away up there -- twenty thousand feet aloft being an average figure for them. And the fighters that attacked them were of the latest German type -- ~~these~~ also famous for altitude operations.

The result of the battle was -- six Nazi planes destroyed or damaged. How many of the fortresses were lost? None at all. One of the big ships was smashed badly. ~~Am~~ A shell burst in the cockpit, killed the co-pilot, and wounded the pilot. ~~L~~ Other enemy shells and bullets, destroyed two engines, and ripped fuselage and wings. But the big ship managed to get back to its base.

This air encounter over the North Sea has a bearing on things that we have been hearing about the flying fortresses in action. They ~~re so strong and so heavily armed, that they~~ <sup>seem to be strong enough and heavily</sup> ~~enough armed to enable them to~~ fight their own battles against hostile planes -- defending themselves and shooting down ~~the ones who~~ <sup>And now Hugh.</sup> attack them.