

Good Evening, Everybody:

Late this afternoon, the White House made an announcement, short and surprising! It read:- "The President has found the defense of Turkey vital to the defense of the United States and has directed Lend-Lease Administrator Stettinius to see that the defense needs of the Government of Turkey are filled as fast as possible."

Of course the meaning is obvious. For a year there has been much doubt about Turkey, with Hitler's threatening on the one side, and with a strong British Imperial Army on the other. The Turks have had a treaty of alliance with Britain. ~~and~~ On the other hand the country has been overrun with Nazi agents; and some of the high officials of the Turkish Government are pro-Nazi, including the Foreign Minister. So the Germans have had things pretty much their way in Turkey of late.

Hence President Roosevelt's action today undoubtedly means that both Britain and the United States have positive assurances that the Turks will live up to their treaty, and that in case of trouble they'll cast their lot with the British.

The White House announcement also led to the revealing of further information. This lend-lease aid to Turkey is not merely a thing of the future. They are already getting help from us! In fact considerable war material from America has already been sent to Turkey on what is described as "an informal basis." Also, the British have sent both artillery ~~and trucks~~ and trucks to the Turks. So President Roosevelt's announcement simply makes it clear that Turkey is definitely in line with Great Britain and the United States.

Furthermore there already is a United States Army mission in the Middle East, with headquarters at Basra, at the head of the Persian Gulf. The chief of the mission is Brigadier-General Raymond Wheeler. And, we have another in Egypt, under Brigadier-General Russell Maxwell.

WAR

Here's a surprise in today's war news. Hitler now has a third front to fight, ~~and that~~ ^{at this} in Jugoslavia. The report comes ^{near} to be sure, from Cairo, where the Jugoslavs have a ~~Middle~~ ^{near} East headquarters. ^{And} They give considerable corroborative details.

They say there is a ~~real Serbian army~~ ^{The army is} in the field, in the valley of Western Moravia. ~~It is~~ under the command of General Mihavlovic.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ In other words, the Nazis are not ^{just} faced with sporadic guerrilla bands, but ^{by} an organized ^{well} and equipped body of troops. ^{And} The Nazi high command has been obliged to send three

^{tackle} whole divisions to the job. So far the troops under General Mihavlovic have successfully resisted the Germans in the main sector, but to the south German tanks forced them to withdraw.

The development of this army, it seems, has been a matter of steady growth. When the Russian war started, Serb troop units, fully organized, went into the field commanded by former officers of the Yugoslav Army. They fought first guerrilla fashion, but now, according to Yugoslav headquarters at Cairo, it is a full scale war.

That's the most exciting thing in the news today,

except for a report that Field Marshal von Brauchitsch, Commander-in-Chief of Hitler's Army, has gone himself to the southern front ^{in Russia.} ~~That means~~ to the Nazi armies fighting around Rostov. The news comes from London and is not confirmed in Berlin. If it is true, it would indicate that the Reds at Rostov must really have the Nazi armies in a serious plight ^{far} ~~for~~ the Number One man of the German army would ^{otherwise} hardly have gone down there himself.

The Soviet spokesmen claim that the Reds in the south are now fighting in the suburbs of Taganrog, several miles west of the delta of the River Don. ^{TP} A German radio broadcast was overheard today complaining that the Nazis had to evacuate Rostov because ^{of} the Russians' inability to understand that they were defeated. The Nazi declared that the Soviet soldiers continued to fight even when it was impossible for them to do so without being completely destroyed.

The Soviets claim to have recaptured more than forty ^{says} localities, and that the retreating enemy is discarding arms and equipment, and the roads are littered with burned tanks, trucks and whole columns of destroyed vehicles.

Around Moscow, the Reds declare they have gained from twelve and a half to thirteen miles on the front south of the capital.

But the Germans are still maintaining a terrific pressure on Moscow, and the Nazis themselves declare that they are now within twenty-seven miles of the Kremlin. That's a gain of four miles in a week.

The reports on the Libyan desert campaign from general headquarters at Cairo are vague. The experts in London say that means the battlefield in the desert is fluid. ~~But~~ at any rate, the Axis forces are still in command of Sidi Rezegh and have control of the corridor leading to Tobruk. And it is admitted that General Cunningham's time table has been seriously held up. However, the British claim it's only a matter of time for reinforcements to come up and turn the tide.

UNREST

Many people have been speculating that Hitler ^{might be} ~~was~~ getting to the point where he ^{hasn't} ~~didn't have~~ enough fighting men to go around. ^{Some} ~~They~~ figured that the strain of conquering the Red armies, as well as holding the conquered countries, was getting too heavy for even the vast manpower of the Nazi Army, estimated at more than eight million effectives.

A story from London brings word that the Nazi Fuehrer has been withdrawing soldiers from the occupied countries and replacing them with civilian police. For instance, in Norway the military force, which used to be three hundred thousand, has been reduced to a hundred and twenty thousand, but the German Gestapo and regular police in that country has been increased fifty per cent. London also says that the police force in the Reich itself is much larger than it used to be.

51
Secretary of State Hull ^{spoke in} ~~talked in decidedly~~ gloomy ^{tones} ~~fashion~~

today about ~~the~~ relations between ourselves and the Japanese.

At his press conference, he pointed out that the differences between the national policies of the United States and the Mikado's government were fundamental. He drew a picture of Japan as a regime depending on violence, attack, invasion, and warrior despotism over conquered peoples.

Sec. Hull was ~~just as~~ pessimistic as he reviewed the conversations that have been going on, ~~as the President said yesterday,~~

ever since last April. The Secretary said that in all ^{those eight months} ~~that time they~~ ^{they have made virtually no headway,} ~~have never got to first base in the sense of reaching a stage where~~

~~actual negotiations for a peaceful settlement between us could be~~

^{that} ~~even begun,~~ All through ^e those conversations, the Japanese had been

repeatedly informed of the unshakeable American position that weaker

^{and that} countries must be treated fairly, international policy must be based

on justice and morality. The Secretary intimated that so far the

results have been nil, — ^{no basis for a peaceable} ~~settlement of our differences with the Japanese.~~

A broadcast was overheard from Tokyo, reporting that the

United States government had ^{recently} leased three islands from Great Britain

in the Indian Ocean. Secretary Hull ^{when} ~~was~~ asked about that, ^{replied} ~~and he~~

52
 that the Tobys story was completely
~~replied that there wasn't a vestige of truth in it. And he added~~
 and utterly false. And he said
~~that in all probability~~ the Japanese broadcasters knew full well that
 there was no truth in the story. ^{probably}

The lull in the Japanese crisis today was only natural.

It was not to be expected that the Tokyo Government would reply to
^{so soon}
 President Roosevelt's peremptory question, which really calls for a
 showdown. The Japanese newspapers had something to say which might
 or might not be taken as an indication of what the Mikado's
 Government will reply to the President. What they said was
 characteristic of Axis power tactics. They said the French were
 incapable of keeping order in Indo-China and that Thailand had been
 threatened by Britain. ~~Now~~ The President yesterday specifically
 precluded any reply on such lines. He pointed out that that part of
 the world was eminently a peaceful spot. And in saying so he went so
 far as to notify Japan that any such reply would be considered
 unsatisfactory. That's what Washington observers point out.

However, the Japanese newspapers ignored that and ^{claim} ~~insisted that~~

53
~~XXXXXXXX~~ Thailand ^{has been} ~~was~~ threatened with an invasion similar to the

occupation of Iran by the British and ~~the~~ Russians. A dispatch from

Tokyo reports that the Japanese are losing their rather naïve
hope that President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull ~~would knuckle down~~
are likely to bow
before *Milsado's*
to the aggressive schemes of the *war* lords.

The radio at Saigon broadcast an official report that
the Japanese Ambassador had promised the French Resident-General
in Indo-China that no more Japanese troops would be sent there
and that the Japanese would not use bases in Indo-China to attack
either Thailand or the Burma Road. On the other hand, there's a
report that ~~on~~ *to* the contrary, the Japanese have recently built
three large airports in places convenient for bombing the Burma Road.

SUBMARINES

There was a story on Monday, which got crowded out, to the effect that the sinkings of Allied shipping in the Atlantic during the month of November had decreased to a little over two hundred thousand tons. That was a phenomenal drop. The next lowest record was four hundred and fifty thousand tons for July.

54
off

Washington reporters asked Secretary of the Navy Knox about that today. They observed that ~~this big drop came about~~ *the destruction had fallen* after a German submarine sunk the United States destroyer REUBEN JAMES. They asked the Secretary whether there was any connection, whether the sinkings had become fewer because of the heavy patrolling of the North Atlantic sea lanes by not only British, but United States, warships. And to that the Secretary replied: "I'll have ~~to~~ to let you make your own guess about that." Then he added: "There's a good story for you if you want to dig it up, but you'll have to dig it up."

The reporters also asked the Secretary whether he had ~~any~~ any information about the size of the Japanese navy today. To that he answered: "We don't know exactly and we don't like to make any guesses, but we have an idea."

N.A.M.

55
Director Knudsen of the Office of Production Management waxed emphatic on the subject of strikes today, strikes that hamper the national defense program. Said he: "I can't for the life of me understand how, in a declared state of national emergency, such foolishness as this can go on." That's what Knudsen told the Forty-Sixth Annual Congress of American Industry. ~~of the National Association of Manufacturers at New York, at the Waldorf,~~ ^{meeting here in}

He went on to say that up to now he had stoutly maintained that laws were not necessary to obtain top production in the United States. "But," he added, "I am quite frank to confess that with our house on fire we can't have a strike in the Fire Department and refer the dispute to conciliation, and expect the fire to put itself out. If strikes cannot be stopped during the period of unlimited emergency ~~in~~ any other way, then the law ought to step in."

Knudsen ~~then~~ pointed out that we ~~don't~~ had been hearing suggestions for labor's taking a part in management. ^{to which he} ~~then he~~ observed ^{ly} ~~drying~~ that some of them, ^{the unions} to say the least, have not begun to manage their own affairs. "It ~~is~~ absurd," he added, ~~"that we should have to stop and argue about jurisdictional disputes, organization disputes, and God knows what."~~

LABOR FOLLOW N.A.M.

56
Knudsen himself couldn't ask more than what the lower Chamber of Congress did today. The action of the House might almost have been in response to his words. By a large majority, the Representatives passed in short order the strictest, most drastic of all the labor bills that have been up for consideration. It was one written by Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia.

From what we hear, it was much stiffer than the ~~Roosevelt~~ Administration wanted. The Labor Committee of the House had drawn up a mild statute, which would have established voluntary mediation ~~and~~ ^{ing} called for a two-month period of cooling off before any strike could be started. But the House would have none of that. By what is known as a teller vote, it substituted the Smith Bill for the Administration bill, but a roll call vote was still necessary. And shortly after four o'clock this afternoon, the Congressmen passed the Smith Bill lock, stock and barrel, two hundred and twenty-nine to a hundred and fifty-eight.

57/
And here's what it will do if the Senate also passes it:- No more massed picketing. In fact, all picketing on defense jobs ^{would be} ~~is~~ forbidden except for one or two actual working men carrying banners. No pickets ^{to} ~~may~~ be imported from other plants

nor, on the other hand, any strike-breakers, ^{to be brought in.} No more strikes for peculiarly union issues such as the closed shop, no more ~~jurisdictional~~ ^{at all} jurisdictional strikes. Furthermore, no strikes unless they've been voted by a majority of the workers in the particular factory involved, ^{and by secret ballot —} ~~and the voting to be secret,~~ ~~and~~ under government supervision.

The Smith Bill further would compel labor unions to register, to tell the Government how much dues and fees they charge, the names of the officials, and the number of members.

It would also establish a statutory mediation system. ^{And} The Chairman of the mediation board would be able to order a sixty day cooling off period, as in the other bill, ^{with no} ~~but meantime no~~ strikes to be called ^{in the meantime} and no sympathy strikes permitted, ^{at all.} ~~And~~ Finally, any union ~~to~~ to be deprived of its legal status under the Wagner Act if it knowingly or negligently allows any Communist, any member of the German-American Bund, or any person convicted of a felony, to hold office in it. What's more, they ^{would also} ~~will~~ lose their privileges under the Norris-LaGuardia Act, which forbids the stopping of strikes by injunctions. ~~also,~~ Individual members of any offending union

8

would lose their rights not only under the Wagner Act, but all claims for government jobs and unemployment compensation.

FORD

8 1/2
And he's
Here's another advocate of world federation, none other
then Henry Ford. When all this trouble is over, ^{Ford,} he said, all the
countries on the earth will have to get together in a parliament
of man, a federation of the world. If we don't, every new war will
be more horrible than the last.

In the United States, he said, the world has an excellent
practical example of federation. We federated, he pointed out,
because it was the only way to save ourselves from ruin. Europe is
finding out the same thing today. Federation can be brought about,
he ^{added,} ~~declared,~~ if the United States puts its influence behind it.
The prime conditions of such a federation, ~~he said,~~ ^{to} ~~would~~ be, no
trade barriers, ^{no national} ~~no~~ armies, no wars, a universal currency and a
universal economy and a developed industry.

9
Evidently, the venerable tycoon of motors has been reading
^{because he remarked that}
Tennyson. ~~He said~~ it was the great English poet who first put out
this idea in the poem "Locksley Hall."

9 1/4
And now Hugh a few
thoughts from you.