

P.T. - Sunoco. Thursday, July 5, 1941.

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The war/tonight poses a problem of retreat. Huge Soviet armies ~~are~~ are withdrawing. Are they ~~doing~~ doing so in good order, keeping their fighting powers intact? Or are they being broken, cut ~~off~~ off into segments, turned into a disorganized mob? That ^{now is} the number one question in the Nazi-Soviet conflict.

The appeal made by Red Dictator Stalin to the Russian people ^{told} admitted ^{ed} ~~the~~ vast withdrawal - all along the line. Some of it having already been made, some of it being made. Soviet War bulletins today indicate the same thing. In the North, they place the battlefront on the Berezina River, where the Nazi High Command located it two days ago. In that ~~xx~~ area, the Red Army has retreated a couple of hundred miles since the war began, ~~the~~ Sunday before last. Moscow tells of repelling assaults ~~along~~ along the Berezina, - holding the German drive there in check.

In the southern sector, the Red Army bulletin tells of other successes - attacks hurled back. But where ~~t~~ were they hurled back? That's the key question. What are the places, the towns? We have such place ~~xx~~ names as ~~Tarnopol~~ Tarnopol,

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Shepetovka and other Slavic names quite unpronounceable. Looking them up on the map, shows a revealing thing. They're far to the East of the line where the battle began, twelve days ago. They're near the border the Soviets had before they took a deep slice of ~~the~~ Poland. The Red Army has retreated that far. It's common enough for a ~~nation~~ nation to announce a victory at one location today, and another triumph tomorrow - some distance to the rear, victories going back - on the retreat. So we find today that in the southern area, the Soviets forces are far back from where they started battling to hold the fortress of Tarnopol. The blitzkrieg machine has driven around it, to the place called Shepetovka. That's further to the East, within the Russian Ukraine - on the road to the Soviet capital of Kiev.

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Stalin, in his appeal, stated that the ~~bulk~~ bulk of the Red Army was not yet in action. That sounds formidable, it raises the supposition that perhaps the Soviet forces may be retiring to a defending line, and there will be ~~join~~ joined by great ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ accessions of strength. There's talk of powerful

frontier positions which the Red Army established before it took that Eastern slice of Poland, positions that they can now defend. There's mention of a supreme line of Soviet resistance along the Dnieper River and its northern tributary, the Berezina. .That's one hope for Soviet Russia -- the ability to retreat in order for a relatively short distance, and then stand and be powerfully reinforced.

However, Stalin's radio speech today clearly indicated the possibility of much greater Red Army withdrawal, almost unlimited retreat. He proclaimed the policy of what the Chinese call -- the scorched Earth. Leave nothing that might benefit the invader, destroy the crops, remove the cattle, take away all useable equipment. Destroy the country. The scorched earth is a modern Chinese method, but the Russians themselves used it with terrifying effect a hundred and thirty years ago. Against Napoleon, leaving sheer desolation and then bitter winter to defeat the greatest of modern conquerors.

Word from Berlin indicates that Stalin's policy is being followed. A German dispatch tells that Blitzkrieg forces are

pushing across vast areas of utterly devastated land -- every village burned, everything destroyed as far as possible. However, fields and fields of wheat are said to be standing. And today the Nazis showed foreign newspaper men newsreel pictures to prove it, motion pictures of waving fields of Russian grain. /The explanation given is that the wheat fields are now too green to burn. The Soviets cannot apply the scorched earth policy to the source of bread. This is in accord with word we had when the Nazi-Soviet War started -- that Hitler was picking a moment to strike when the vast Russian grain fields would be green, wouldn't burn.

Reprots from Russia tonight tell of measures being taken in Moscow -- the city ~~is~~ being fortified, streets barricaded, preparations for a house to house defense. Women and children are being evacuated -- all the signs of a city expecting attack. Moscow seems to be preparing itself for a Panzer division drive.

The possibilities of continuous retreat are almost unlimited for the Soviet forces -- deep into vast Siberia, if need be. And the Reds may be ready for that. Stalin and his power could retire to the immensity of Central Asia, and there continue

the struggle. A graphic example is available - China. The nationalist armies, Chiang-Kai-Shek, driven far into the interior and there continuing the battle -- despite all the modern military resources of Japan. Could the Soviet regime do this? Could Stalin retain that much support? Against Napoleon, the Russian people stuck with their Czar Alexander to the bitter end. In the World War, it was a different story. Then, in the face of military defeat, they revolted against their Czar Nicholas. That's how the Kaiser's Germany knocked Russia out of the War. What would happen today - if the Red Army were driven on and on? Would Russia hold steadfast to Stalin?

From the German side, the picture of the Soviet retreat is one of disaster. The Red Army's power of resistance seems definitely broken, says Berlin. We are told of disorganization, a general break~~up~~ -- under the smashing drives by the Panzer divisions and incessant bombings from the sky. If the Nazi version be true, the Soviet retreat has become a rout. The Berlin bulletin names no specific places, does not name the objectives the blitzkrieg forces have achieved. The German account is very general - mostly a lot of adjectives, picturing headlong victory and reeling defeat.

SHIPPING

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Today Berlin gives us a figure for British shipping losses during the month of June. Berlin and London are always far apart on the subject of the destruction wrought by the Nazi sea campaign. However, there has been a rough ratio between the German and British figures. Berlin usually claims about twice the tonnage that London admits. So what version does Berlin give us today?

The Nazis claim that during June they sank more than seven hundred and sixty-eight thousand tons of ships. If the usual ratio of two to one ~~is~~ prevails, we may expect a British figure of about half ~~of~~ that, *which would be a* ~~in other words, between three~~ ~~hundred and fifty and four hundred thousand tons. That's a~~ good deal lower than shipping losses announced by London of late. The monthly average ^{has} been around half a ~~million~~ million tons. British figures for June are due in a ~~few~~ few days, and it will be interesting to see how they compare with the German.

SYRIA

The war in Syria is almost forgotten, eclipsed by the titanic violence in Russia. However, the British and Free French are still fighting and advancing in that French colony. It's mighty slow going, and there's a supposition that poor progress ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ the Syrian campaign has something to do with the transferring of General Wavell. We have no explanation ^{of} ~~why~~ Britain's only victorious commander has been removed from the Near Eastern war area and sent to take military charge in India. One guess is that General Wavell did not agree with Prime Minister Churchill about the disastrous campaigns in Greece. In general things have not been going too well with British efforts in the Eastern Mediterranean area - and this includes ~~in~~ the campaign in Syria.

Today, however, the British and Free French scored a success, that brings a flash of historic reminiscence. They're captured Palmyra, the City in the Desert that was once the ~~g~~ glory of the ancient world. Palmyra of the warrior Queen Zenobia, who for years defied the might of the legions of Rome.

Today that historic place is a series of magnificent ruins - important in modern affairs chiefly as an airport. As such, it has been a number one goal for the British and Free French. They drove to Palmyra thirteen days ago, and set siege to the ~~maxxhaia~~ town which was stubbornly defended by the forces/loyal to the Vichy government. Today came the end. After a powerful artillery bombardment, Palmyra fell. British tanks rumbled into the streets, followed by infantry. Modern mechanized war in the age-old capital where Zenobia was Queen.

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JAPAN

In Washington today hope was expressed, and the object of the hopeful sentiment was Japan. Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles made a somewhat optimistic statement about the new Tokyo foreign policy. He said he hoped it would help to keep peace in the Pacific.

What that new Far Eastern foreign policy is, nobody knows. It was formulated at a secret meeting of the Tokyo supreme council, and concerned the new state of affairs created by the Nazi Soviet War. What attitude will Japan take in the Hitler-Stalin clash? That was decided by the Mikado's council; but, they aren't talking about it. The Tokyo word is that the new foreign policy will be disclosed not by words, but by future action.

However, it is hoped that it will tend to preserve peace in the Pacific. So said our own Acting Secretary of State today.

Sumner Welles continued with comment on the action of the Tokyo government in requisitioning two Japanese merchant vessels that were on the way from Manila to the United States. He said the Japanese were within their rights in doing this.

ARMY

The United States Army today made a formal proposal to permit the use of American armed forces outside of the Western hemisphere. As the law now stands, there's a restriction. The bulk of the men in training can't be sent to war outside the Western ~~xxxx~~ Hemisphere. ^{That would be illegal.} No A.E.F. The Army wants that altered. So says Chief of Staff General Marshall in a report to Secretary of War Stimson. Have Congress remove the ~~ix~~ limitation. Make it legal to send American troops anywhere.

The Army makes a second request. Give the military authorities the right to hold men for more than a year. ^{The} Selective Service law specifies one year as the period of military training, ~~and~~ The Army wants that time limit removed. This to ~~xxx~~ apply to men drafted, National Guardsmen, and, reserve officers. ~~but~~ ^{would like to} The military authorities [^] keep them in service as long as they are needed in the emergency.

In calling for these measures, General Mar~~o~~shall cites the perilous state of ~~the~~ world affairs. His report ~~reads~~ reads in part as follows:- "Events of the past few months," ^{says the Chief of Staff,} ~~it says,~~ "are convincing proof of the terrific power possessed by a

that is
nation, administered purely on a military basis. Events of the past few days" it continues, "are even more forcible indications of the suddenness with which conflict can spread to areas hitherto considered free from attack."

This of course applies to the Nazi attack on Soviet Russia. Against such sudden dangers we've got to protect ourselves. **The** Chief of Staff uses these words:- "Protect ourselves ~~again~~ against the coldly calculated secret and sudden action that might be directed against us. Hence the demand that *the "no A. E. F. Law" be revoked; also that* ~~the no A. E. F. law be revoked, and also that~~ the Army be permitted to hold the bulk of the men in service for more than a year.

WOMAN

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Today at Los Angeles, a court of law was asked to hand ~~xx~~ down a decision in an amazing case - a freak of nature, a fantastic transformation of a human being. Edward Price Richards, twenty-nine years old and registered for the draft, petitioned the court to declare him legally a woman - because he has turned into one. He stated that recently he has undergone a singular change - from one sex to another. So he asked the right to wear women's clothing and have his name changed from Edward to -- Barbara Ann.

In his pleas~~s~~ to the court, he said, that as a boy he was normal - though rather sickly. He grew to manhood, and noticed no change until a couple of years ago - when he was twenty-seven. Then things proceeded to happen. "About two years ago," he related, "I realized that some psysiological change was taking place. I used to have such a heavy beard that I had to shave twice a day. 'Now it has stopped growing. I haven't shaved for six weeks," he added. He said the shape of his face changed and his skin became smoother and finer. His voice rose in pitch, became a contralto. "I changed to a woman

mentally, too," he continued. "I wanted to stay around the house. I became fond of cooking and household duties," said he. Or is it - she? The question of pronouns is a puzzler.

Today Edward -- or is it Barbara Ann - appeared in court wearing a smart gown, a modish hat, lipstick and rouge.

An astonishing case - and what could have been the cause? What could have been the reason for the remarkable transformation? A Los Angeles physician stated that such ~~xxxxxxxx~~ a metamorphosis was quite possible, and might have been caused by illness. What kind of illness? The Doctor said - the mumps, for example. That's a good old-fashioned malady - the mumps. Many of us have had them, and never

8 1/2 dreamed of the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ possibilities. So, look out, ^{boys,} ~~fellows.~~
look out for the mumps.
~~If you feel that swelling at the side of the neck coming on,~~

~~beware: And now for a lad whose~~
~~voice is not a contralto. It's~~
~~a full rich baritone. And his~~
~~name is Hugh! James!~~

SAFETY STORY

I wonder how many people will pay any attention to this next bit of advice from the National Safety Council? It's this:- Avoid too much exposure to the sun; avoid over-exercise, and here is the one:- avoid over-eating!

Now, for the one that my Sun Oil sponsors would put first:- When you start out in your car, instead of putting it off to the last minute, fill up with Nu Blue in plenty of time, in fact start a little early, so you won't be tempted to take any chances on the road.

The National Safety Council sums it up this way:- Put Safety First on the Fourth, and be Alive on the Fifth.

And that means you too, Hugh. You too.

Solong until tomorrow - the F^rou_h of July.