L. I. Sunoco. Thursday Aug. 24, 1939.

Good evening, everybody:- let's see what's happening at Danzig. Events at that old Baltic seaport might cause war to flare out at any hour. It's the immediate cause of the quarrel, and right now Danzig is the focus of danger.

(Today the Danzig Nazis elevated their leader, Albert Forster, to the official position of Fuehrer.) He's been called the Danzig Fuehrer all along, but that was something of a figure of speech. Now he takes the official position, and that may be construed as a beginning of a possible anschluss. It's quite possible that Hitler will start with no armed move in the direction of Danzig. The city itself might take action in joining Germany. Would that civic action mean war? Poland says it would. Warsaw was breathing defiance today, and announced that any Danzig Anschluss would start the fighting. There were immediate Polish protests against the elevation of the Danzig Fuehrer.

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Another bit of news has a most menacing sound (--German troops crossed the Polish border. However it seems to be no more than a case of frontier violation, such as might cause trouble.) It is reported that at one point a German patrol marched a mile into Polish territory, and occupied an agrarian estate. There

are other incidents of reported shooting at Poles. The Warsaw Government has sent a diplomatic complaint to Berlin protesting against these incidents.

The Germans in turn charge that Polish patrols have crossed the border into Germany. The picture is one of armed activity, the sort of feverish excitement that often precedes a war.

France is virtually mobilized. More reservists were called to the army today, the mobilization of millions of troops carried out as fast as transportation will permit. And the French Government today advised people to get out of Paris as far as possible, telling them to leave whenever they can--before military movements monopolize the railway service. This is taken to be the beginning of an evacuation of Paris, which will be made as complete as possible if war should break. There are five million people in the area of greater Paris--and a tremendous exodus it would be.

In London today a permanent blackout was ordered, lights out every night. They won't wait for the air raiders to come. Night will be pitch-black as a regular wartime thing in

London. The ominous likelihood of war is seen in an order given to British ships of every description, mobolizing passenger boats, cruise steamers, all sorts. Why are they being gathered? To transport a British expeditionary force to France on short notice. The British fleet is in war position, blocking the entrance of the Baltic.

Britain is determined to fight if Hitler should take any action in the Danzig affair. That was made clear in London today in ~~by repeated statements. One~~ a world-wide radio address by Foreign Minister Viscount Halifax who ~~He~~ declared with the utmost emphasis that Britain will back up Poland to the extent of war.

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CHAMBERLAIN-WAR PERIL

The menacing state of world affairs was presented in formal and stately fashion in London today--in the solemn and portentous proceedings of the British House of Commons. Parliament so hastily summoned to special session to face the crisis, met today in an atmosphere of the gravest tension. And immediately the Prime Minister rose and related to the Commons the dark and threatening danger. He used four ominous words--"imminent peril of war". He began his address by telling the Parliament that at this moment Great Britain stands--"in imminent peril of war."

No less ominous was his statement of what Hitler wants:- a free hand in Eastern Europe! The Nazi Fuehrer in a tense scene with the British Ambassador in Berlin made the outright and drastic demand:- "Great Britain has no business in eastern Europe," he shouted. "If any nation interferes with German action in eastern Europe, that nation will be responsible for the outbreak of war," he told the Ambassador.

He said Germany would act as it pleased toward Poland, British guaranty or no British guaranty--a free hand. This, declared Chamberlain, Great Britain could not allow--being pledged

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to defend Poland, pledged in such solemn fashion there could be no backing down. Chamberlain added another foreboding statement--~~Germany~~ Britain ready for war. These are his words--"In a condition of complete readiness for war."

The aged Prime Minister, speaking in tones of emotion, faced the war peril squarely, visioned it in all its sombre horror. He spoke of it in these phrases:- "a struggle which is bound to be fraught with suffering and misery for all mankind, and the end of which no man can foresee." He referred to Danzig, the immediate point at issue--the question of that city threatening a world catastrophe. "We shan't be fighting for the political future of a far away city in a ~~fmxi~~ foreign land," he protested. "We shall be fighting," he said, "for the preservation of those principles, the destruction of which would involve the destruction of all possibilities of peace and security, for the peoples of the world." And he added this most pertinent declaration: "We have a united country behind us!" cried Chamberlain.

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That statement seemed to be accurate indeed. The parliamentary opposition ~~t~~ hitherto so bitterly critical of

Chamberlain policies, lined up solidly with the Prime Minister today -- and that was parliamentary evidence of a United Great Britain confronting Nazi Germany. There was little opposition to the bill the Prime Minister introduced -- a bill with the gravest of meanings, Parliament asked to decree emergency powers for war, virtually a wartime dictatorship. ~~And~~ The Commons ~~Parliament~~ quickly voted those dictatorial war powers.

And the bill was also immediately passed by the House of Lords. Then the King placed the great seal on the bill. All done with astonishing speed.

CHAMBERLAIN RUSSIAN-FOLLOW CHAMBERLAIN WAR PERIL

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One part of the Chamberlain address to the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ House of Commons today touched upon that most delicate if not embarrassing subject--the German Soviet treaty, that colossal surprise, one of the most dramatic bits of double-dealing in history. Chamberlain told the Commons about it in grave, reserved words, words that it is interesting to repeat.

He used the terms--"unpleasant surprise" and "bombshell."

Here's what he told the Commons: "I do not attempt to conceal from the House," said he, "that the announcement came to the Government as a surprise of a very unpleasant character." He spoke of the long negotiations for a British and French military alliance with the Soviets, and said that the British and French military missions had been sent to Moscow at the suggestion of Soviet Premier and Foreign Minister Molotov.

"The British mission arrived on August seventh," Chamberlain related. "They were warmly received, in friendly fashion. The discussions were actually in progress on a basis of

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mutual trust," he continued, "when this bombshell was flung." The Prime Minister added that it was highly disturbing to learn that Stalin was negotiating with the British and French missions out

in the open and at the same time was secretly making a deal with Hitler. But he restrained his indignation and was cautious and reserved in talking about the great double-deal. "I do not propose this afternoon," he told the Commons, "to pass any final judgment on this incident."

The terms of the Hitler-Soviet treaty, ~~as the news gives them to us today,~~ are even stronger than had been supposed. There's the non-aggression, as we were ~~'ve been~~ told, ~~with Germany and the Soviets agreeing not to attack each other.~~ But the clauses of the treaty go so far as to provide that neither nation shall join with any group of powers opposing the other, even with diplomatic co-operation. Nobody seems able to guess how closely Hitler and Stalin are now linked. One graphic scene was witnessed today--in Berlin. A crowd of German Nazis, dozens of them, went to the Soviet Embassy and rang the doorbell. They were admitted and walked in solemnly. In the anti-chamber they shouted all together--"Heil Moscow." Then they turned and silently departed. You could hardly symbolize more vividly the strange transformation, which still has the world mystified.

Krivitsky
Aug. 24,
1939.

INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL KRIVITSKY

Several times during recent weeks I have mentioned a sensational series of articles in the Saturday Evening Post:- The revelations of General Krivitsky, a former commander in the Red Army. Tonight the General is sitting beside me. He has only been in this country a few months. He fled here, fled from ~~Sxxix~~ Stalin. Only a ~~few months~~ short time ago he was ~~one of the Russian Generals~~ in charge of Military Intelligence in Europe, one of the heads of the Stalin Secret Service. Now, a hunted man.

Here are just a few of the highlights from his career: A member of the Communist party in Russia since 1919. At the age of twenty ~~he was~~ put in the Secret Service. In 1923 in Central Europe for the Ogpu. ~~in the Ruhr, and other parts of Germany,~~ In 1926 ~~he was~~ given the rank of commander of a brigade. In 1928 ~~given~~ special honors by ~~the~~ Vice-Commissar of War, Kamenev. Then For years he did Secret Service work in Europe. ~~France, Switzerland, Italy and Austria.~~ In 1931, ~~raised to the rank of~~ Commander of a Division. Two years later ~~made~~ Director of the Russian War Industries Institute. And since 1935 he had been one of the top ranking Generals

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of the ~~famous~~ Russian ~~Gen.~~ Int. Service. Most of you have read his startling articles. And now, for the first time he is going to speak, over the radio, not in Russian, I hope.

L.T.: General Krivitsky, how is your English?

GENERAL KRIVITSKY: Not so good, Mr. Lowell Thomas. Or, not so hot, as you say over here. But, I hope your vast radio audience will be able to understand me.

L.T.: General, did the news ~~xx~~ of this non-aggression pact between Hitler and Stalin come as a surprise to you?

GENERAL KRIVITSKY: In the first place, I would not call it a "non-aggression pact". It is much nearer ~~xx~~ an alliance than that. And, it is the most ~~momentous~~ momentous document since the signing of the Versailles Treaty.

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L.T. You mean it really will bring about a fundamental change in the balance of power?

GENERAL KRIVITSKY: It will indeed. And here is something that may surprise you: This pact has been in preparation for years. Ever since Hitler came into power Stalin ~~xx~~ has been trying to

come to terms with him. It is the fullfillment of Stalin's old ambition -- to bring Germany and Russia together.

L.T.: Do you mean that Stalin has been misleading the civilized world all this time?

GENERAL KRIVITSKY: That must be clear now to everybody. The Democracies had been judging Stalin by his words. Hitler and Mussolini wisely had been judging him by his deeds. They knew that he was building fascism in Russia. Now, alas, everybody knows that Stalin is really a totalarian Dictator. Recently Stalin realized that his power, his hold on Russia, would be destroyed in case of a major war. This agreement with Hitler gives him a new grip on Russia. Furthermore, Stalin thinks he has everything to gain from Hitler. He expects now that Germany's technical aid and efficiency will lead the muddled Stalin economy out of its blind alley.

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L.T.: So, you look upon this non-aggression pact as a great deal more than a political instrument, General Krivitsky?

GENERAL KRIVITSKY: I do. In fact, this pact is a platform of Stalin - Nazi collaboration, a plan for Germany and Russia to work together in all fields and for a long time to come. It would be an exceedingly grave mistake if the peoples of the world were to under-estimate this historic event.

L.T.: Many thanks to you General Krivitsky for giving us your slant on the news that is now the topic of conversation from one end of this earth to the other.

PEACE

In all the clamour of threatening war, the word peace was also heard ~~ringing~~ today. There was little of it in the Prime Minister's address to the Commons, just one fervent phrase: "We still hope that reason and sanity will find a way to reassert themselves," said Chamberlain almost in the tone of a prayer.

And, that word peace was flashed by the President of the United States, in an appeal to the sovereign head of one of the nations involved in the crisis -- to ~~xxxxx crisis~~ -- Italy. (President Roosevelt sent a personal message to King Victor Emanuel in behalf of the maintenance of peace, asking the Italian Monarch to use his good offices to avert war.) "It is my belief and that of the American people," said the President, "that ~~xxxx~~ Your Majesty and ~~xxxxx~~ Your Majesty's Government can avert the outbreak of war."

The President, addressing the Italian King, then enunciated a doctrine. One wonders how this presidential ~~xxxxx~~ theory will sound to the ears of Victor Emanuel's own Mussolini and Germany's Hitler. "We accept the fact," said the President, "that nations have an absolute right to maintain their independence if they so desire." (Page Haile Selassie of Ethiopa,

King Zog of ~~Alb~~ Albania, Schussnigg of Austria and Benes of Czechoslovakia.)

8 President Roosevelt made a direct plea for Italian intervention in these words:- "Were it possible," said he, "for Your Majesty's Government to formulate a proposal for a pacific solution of the present crisis, you are assured of the earnest sympathy of the United States."

(A call for peace was addressed to the whole world from the Vatican.) For months Pope Pius the Twelfth has been laboring to avert this very crisis which is at hand. Today the Pontiff spoke out by radio to the peoples of this troubled globe:

8½ "A grave hour is about to sound for the great European family," said he. And he implored the nations in these terms: "Wars of the future will only be causes for bloodshed and the destruction of our fatherlands. (We pray, said Pope Pius, "that the rulers may make their utmost efforts for peace." He spoke not only to the rulers but to all men who may have any influence. "We are now addressing the rulers of the people," the Pontiff spoke over the air waves, "the politicians, soldiers, writers, radio announcers, and all others who may have

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authority over thoughts and actions of their brothers.") It was a solemn appeal in a solemn hour--and may the prayer ~~xxx~~ of the Roman Pontiff be answered. And a-l-u-t-morrow.

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