

Good Evening, Everybody:

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The President reported an accomplished fact.

The move has been abrewing for some time. On July first, as Mr. Roosevelt told it, he received a message from the Prime

Minister of Iceland, ~~evidently~~ asking for protection, ~~The~~ *As the British need their troops in Iceland*

*the* Icelandic Premier asked the President to guarantee that if he undertook the defense of his country, it must be strong enough to meet every eventuality. The government of Iceland stipulated that there should be sufficient airplanes for defensive purposes wherever they might be required. He also told Mr. Roosevelt that the decision had been made by the Icelandic government as an

*disaster*

absolutely free and sovereign state. And he added that it was considered a matter of course that the United States will ~~recognize~~ recognize the independence of Iceland.

The President <sup>said</sup> ~~replied~~ that the conditions laid down by the Iceland Government were perfectly acceptable to the Government of the United States and would be observed. Furthermore he told the Icelandic Premier that he would ask Congress to agree that diplomatic representatives might be exchanged between the two countries.

The President informed Congress that American naval forces had arrived in Iceland today. For the time being they will merely supplement the British forces now stationed in Iceland, but eventually the British troops will be replaced by Americans.

~~also~~  
Mr. Roosevelt told Congress that he had taken that step in order to maintain the safety of the North Atlantic sea-lanes. He is occupying Iceland for the same reason that he acquired bases at Trinidad, ~~New~~ Newfoundland and British Guiana from Great Britain. The occupation of Iceland by Germany, he

set forth, would constitute a serious threat in three <sup>ways:-</sup> ~~dimensions.~~

First, it would threaten Greenland and the Northern portion of the North American continent. Secondly, it would threaten all ~~the~~ shipping in the North Atlantic, and thirdly, it would threaten the steady flow of munitions to Britain, a matter of broad policy already approved by Congress. It is therefore imperative, the President continued, that the approaches between the Americas and such strategic outposts shall remain open and free from all hostile activity or threat, outposts, the safety of which the country regards as essential to its national security. <sup>TP</sup> And he added that as Commander-in-Chief he had ordered the navy to take all necessary steps to insure the safety of communications in the approaches between Iceland and the United States, as well as on the seas between the United States and all other strategic outposts. <sup>TP In</sup> ~~And in ~~concluded~~~~ conclusion he said that immediately upon the termination of the present international emergency, all American forces would be at once withdrawn, leaving the people of Iceland in full and sovereign control of their own territory.

To a small group of Congressional leaders that spectacular step was not news today. It is understood in Washington that he called a few of them to the White House and tipped them off last night.

And it was evidently no news to Senator Wheeler of Montana. As long ago as last week he declared that our occupation of Iceland was imminent. Tonight he said that if Congress approves what the President has done ~~there~~ <sup>there</sup> it will not be long before our troops are occupying the Cape Verde Islands, the Azores, and Dakar on the west coast of Africa.

## WAR

The Stalin Line has cracked, say the Nazis. The Nazi attack has been hurled back, say the Soviets. Which <sup>leaves us won-</sup> ~~hand will you have?~~ *during just what is happening in Russia.*

The Russian communique is official, comes from the Soviet high command. It says the Red army started a counter-blitz of its own, joined battle with the Nazis in a furious collision of tanks and inflicted heavy losses on the invaders in pitched encounters, <sup>all the way</sup> from Ostrov, near the Latvian frontier, <sup>to</sup> ~~and~~ Polotsk, ~~that's~~ on the Dwina River, near what used to be Poland. The Reds are also holding on the Berezina River, and have thrown back the latest efforts of the Nazis to get through towards Kiev, at Novograd-Volynsk. What's more, the Soviet armies have repulsed the Germans in Bessarabia. That's the ~~real~~ Russian account of it.

The way to test a battle story is by place names. <sup>do</sup> ~~But~~ <sup>and</sup> the towns mentioned by the Moscow communique indicate that Hitler's generals have been brought up short, ~~stymied in a word.~~

The German story that they have broken through the <sup>central</sup> Stalin Line in the Ukraine does not come from the high command. It's a claim put forth by D.N.B., the propaganda news agency.

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The Nazi high command did ~~issue~~ <sup>saying</sup> an official communique ~~and it's~~  
~~ominous.~~ They have captured Cernauti in Bukovina, <sup>would</sup> and that puts  
them right up to ~~xxxx~~ the southwestern border of the Ukraine.

~~And~~ The Nazi generals announce further that they have pushed on  
to the upper reaches of the Dniester River and the Sereth, so the  
panzer legions are now approaching that corner of the map where the  
borders of old Poland, Rumania and the Ukraine used to join.

~~The capture of Cernauti is vital because it was~~ <sup>one</sup> of  
the strong points made by the Soviet high command ~~that~~ up to now <sup>was</sup>  
~~that they had~~  
~~they've~~ been able to throw back all the German attempts to break  
through on the Bessarabian front.

However, neither from the Nazi high command nor D.N.B.  
do we learn any details of this alleged spectacular break-through.  
It is understood that the ~~St~~ Stalin Line, defending the Ukraine,  
is from seventy-five to a hundred miles deep. Observers are  
consequently inferring that all the Nazis have captured so far is  
a preliminary outpost line of pill boxes and bunkers.

## PEOPLES' ARMY

Soviet Russia is preparing to use all its hundreds of millions of population to fight Nazi Germany. A Peoples' Army of gigantic size is being mobilized. ~~we have suddenly that~~ ~~In fact~~ mobilization has ~~been~~ <sup>under way,</sup> ~~progressing.~~ <sup>TP</sup> ~~As a matter of~~ fact, the regular Red army has not yet been mustered up to complete war strength, and This new Peoples' Army will form an almost unlimited source of reserves to reinforce the regular army. The entire available ~~man-power~~ <sup>all men</sup> of the Soviet republics, from seventeen to fifty-five, ~~are~~ <sup>1</sup> ~~is~~ to be enrolled.

~~The~~ women will be drafted for labor regiments. Some of the Soviets have already been mobilizing both women and men from the ages of sixteen up, for work in the fields. Even office workers have been called upon to help bring in the harvest.

There ~~were~~ other indications that the Soviet Government is preparing its people for further disastrous defeats at the hands of the Nazis. A Soviet spokesman today said that Moscow was fully prepared to cope with German air raids. The main shelters will be the subway system which is dug particularly deep in the old <sup>M</sup>oscovite capital. What's more, Moscow has benefited from the



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experiences of London and has trained special brigades and volunteer fire wardens. The same spokesman partially corroborated statements made by the Rome radio last week. Rome announces that Moscow was being evacuated. The Soviet ~~mouthpiece~~ *spokesman merely tells us* ~~didn't admit that much,~~ ~~but he did acknowledge~~ *in* that children were being taken away.

The Nazi high command has published a claim that its advances into Russia were accomplished with small losses on their side. The Soviet high command declares, on the contrary <sup>*that*</sup> in the first twelve days of the Russo-German War, the Nazis lost seven hundred thousand men. ~~The Nazis are not admitting this.~~

## BRITISH RAIDS

5-3  
Meanwhile, ~~the~~ the Royal Air Force has been blasting away over Germany and occupied France. From early in the morning until late this afternoon, great squadrons of British bombers roared across the Channel, and left storms of explosives and fire bombs over the industrial sector of the Ruhr. One German town they left a mass of flames, and started at least fifty fires. Elsewhere, a huge factory was ablaze. In France they set fire to a huge aircraft plant and dropped more ~~armor~~ armor-piercing bombs on Hitler's battleships at the French port of Brest.

In spite of the war in Russia, the Germans had enough bombers left at home to make raids on airfields and factory towns in the Midlands of Britain, ~~and Britain's~~ ~~They also attacked~~ ports on the south ~~and~~ <sup>coast, ports on the</sup> southeast coast.

The Nazis also claim that their bombers made a strong attack on the Suez Canal and the British naval base at Alexandria.

## PALERMO

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The Royal Air Force also pulled off quite a spectacular raid in the Mediterranean. From a base on the north coast of Africa, nine hundred miles away, heavy British bombers winged their way nine hundred miles over the waters, to the picturesque old city of Palermo. ~~it is~~ One of the most ancient and interesting cities in Europe, built by the Phoenicians two thousand, five hundred years ago. It was occupied at various times by <sup>many</sup> ~~more~~ different conquerors and races, ~~than you can shake a stick at~~. Romans, Goths, Byzantines, Saracens, Normans, Germans, French and Spaniards have all had their turn at ruling Palermo, and <sup>have</sup> ~~they've~~ all left their marks behind.

The British bombers left their <sup>s also</sup> ~~marks behind~~ at Palermo; ~~too~~, but principally in the harbor. Being on the coast of Sicily, it's an important shipping base, and the R.A.F. scored hits on five big vessels.

## SHIP

An all-time record in shipbuilding, created today. A great oil tanker slid down the ways at Chester, Pennsylvania, ushering in a new era in the construction of sea-going vessels. It was the tanker W.C. YEAGER, built by the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. Her keel was laid as recently as March Nineteenth, and this is July Seventh. And that's the record -- three months and eighteen days from keel laying to launching.

She was named after the President of the Atlantic Refining Company, W. C. Yeager -- and Mrs. Yeager broke the bottle over her bow and christened her. She'll be put in commission, ready to carry a hundred and fifty thousand barrels of gasoline at a clip, on or before August First, thus setting a record of four months and twelve days from the laying of the keel to the commission of this ultra-modern tanker.

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The new-all-welding process of building modern ships has made this record possible. It used to take one million three hundred and eight thousand rivets to build a tanker. But the W.C. YEAGER has only about two hundred rivets in her.

Which means much in our race to turn out new ships, and win the Battle of the Atlantic.

## LEAVENWORTH

A sit-down strike in a prison! That would seem to rate as the most curious labor dispute since the defense program began.

Uncle Sam's guests at Leavenworth, Kansas, were turning out shoes for the Army, two thousand pairs of shoes a day, working thirty-nine hours a week. On July First, the Bureau of Prisons clapped an extra five hours of work a week on the federal convicts. The prisoners refused. They didn't make any disturbance, they didn't walk out because they couldn't walk out through stone walls and steel bars. They just sat down at their lathes in the penitentiary factory and literally refused to do a stitch. When the prison officials investigated, they learned that the men <sup>in prison</sup> want double pay for all work over thirty-eight hours a week, and an increase in the nominal pay, which they're supposed to get for making those Army shoes, <sup>but which they</sup> ~~They~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~it~~ don't get ~~it~~ until they're released; and even then it's exceedingly small. They also want more time off their sentences for good behavior than they've been getting.

So for the time being the prison factory at Leavenworth, Kansas, is making no shoes.



## MILK STRIKE

That <sup>2</sup> milk strike in New York and surrounding states got into homicide court today. A truckful of milk was ~~trying to~~ <sup>headed</sup> ~~run~~ through a picket line of striking farmers in Vermont. On the truck was a deputy sheriff. There was a scuffle and the deputy was pulled off the truck, ~~at any rate~~ That's what the authorities charged. <sup>The deputy</sup> ~~He~~ fell under the rear wheels and was killed. Today four men were brought into the municipal court at Middlebury, Vermont, charged with manslaughter. They pleaded not guilty.

In New York State, the striking dairy farmers continued to have the support of Farmer Owen D. Young, former advisor of presidents, ~~former wiley corporation lawyer~~, former Chairman of the Board of General Electric, <sup>and</sup> author of the Young Plan. He issued a statement today saying that the dairy farmers needed not only a quick increase in prices but one that could be enforced. Farmer Young has been striking for all he's worth. He owns three farms, and not a quart of milk has gone to market from any one of them in seven days.

## JACKSON

Robert H. Jackson is now a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. But with no thanks to Senator Millard Tydings of Maryland who did his utmost to prevent it. Senator Tydings, till the end, urged the Judiciary Committee not to confirm Attorney General Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Bench. But the Committee recommended it notwithstanding, recommended it unanimously, Democrats and Republicans alike.

This afternoon Jackson's name came up on the floor of the Senate. The only speech about it was made by the Maryland Senator, who set out in detail all about his feud with Jackson, his reasons for maintaining that the Attorney General was unfit to sit on the Supreme Court. ~~Senator Tydings went so far as to say that the Senators ought to be trying Jackson on impeachment charges instead of confirming his nomination. However, when the matter came to a vote in the Senate, there was only one voice heard saying "No," the voice of the Senator from Maryland. In fact there were only twenty Senators on the floor of the Senate Chamber when the vote was taken.~~

## PERUVIAN WAR

Washington is quite concerned about that undeclared war in our own hemisphere, the fighting between Peru and Ecuador.

Sumner Welles, ~~the~~ Acting Secretary of State, told a press conference

8 this afternoon that everybody in the Americas looks <sup>upon the Peru-Ecuador incident</sup> ~~on that rumpus~~

with profound regret. One correspondent asked <sup>Sumner</sup> Welles whether there

might not be some outside influence behind that undeclared war,

<sup>which the Peruvians have charged.</sup>  
meaning of course Nazi influence; To that <sup>act. sec.</sup> Welles gave an indirect

answer, quoting an ancient Spanish proverb which runs that, ~~from~~

very often in muddy waters, fishing is good.

Considering the critical state of the international

situation, that <sup>the</sup> quarrel between Peru and Ecuador is particularly

8/2 regrettable, said <sup>Sumner</sup> Welles. It's <sup>all</sup> an old, old <sup>squabble, and</sup> ~~quarrel~~ that has been

going on for more than a hundred years, one of those difficult

South American boundary disputes. In the last few months, the

governments of three countries, Argentina, Brazil and the United States,

have been trying to mediate, ~~the squabble~~ <sup>difference</sup>. Ecuador accepted the offer;

Peru <sup>also, but</sup> ~~accepted~~ with reservations.

As for the outbreak of hostilities, the Peruvian press

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and government blame them on what they call "an unspeakable  
premeditated act of aggression by Ecuador." The Ecuadoran government  
and newspapers bring the countercharge that Peruvian troops  
attacked frontier towns belonging to Ecuador. But the Ecuadorans  
add that the Peruvian forces haven't <sup>made any headway</sup> ~~got to first base~~.

~~Meanwhile, the incident doesn't help the program of  
hemisphere cooperation among the Americas.~~

And now Hugh will you  
see what headway you can  
make. ~~in over~~

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