

L. T.

SUNOCO, Friday September 27, 1940

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY.

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This afternoon Secretary of State ~~Cordell~~ Hull made an official statement concerning the major news event of the day. The press dispatch that I have here describes him as - "exceptionally grave;" ~~The lean and grim Tennessean, with his firm mouth and hollow cheeks - reminiscent of the stark and stern frontiersmen of old. Cordell Hull, exceptionally grave -~~ and no wonder. He gave his opinion of the Pact of Berlin, which was signed today. What he said was swiftly summarized by a United Press bulletin, which reads as follows; "Washington, September twenty-seventh;- Secretary of State Cordell Hull indicated today that he considers the alliance signed by Japan,

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Germany and Italy as a menace to the United States.

So now let us see exactly what the Secretary said.

He spoke to a State Department press conference. Naturally, newspaper men shot a barrage of questions at him, as why wouldn't they in the face of an event that may mean so much - especially to us. Secretary Hull, speaking with deadly earnestness, told the correspondents he was not prepared to be cross-questioned. He gave them a measured statement. He said the United States Government was not surprised - the Pact of Berlin is basically nothing new. His words were as follows:-

"The reported agreement of an alliance does not, in the view of the Government of the United States, substantially alter the situation which has existed for several years." ~~Text~~

Then he indicated that perhaps today's formal agreement may be no worse than what had already existed. "Announcement of the alliance," said he, "merely makes clear to all, a relationship which has long existed in effect and to which this government has repeatedly called attention."

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How will it affect his nation's policy? That question was more or less covered by the Secretary's final paragraph. "That such an agreement has been in process of conclusion," said he, "has been well known for some time! And that fact has been fully taken into account by the government of the United States in the determination of this country's policies."

One of the policies of the administration has been - aid to Britain short of war. And the immediate indications in Washington tonight are that this policy may be intensified. The Berlin-Rome-Tokyo military alliance may cause increased aid to Britain. ^{TR} Two events are to be noticed -

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A One, a delegation called on President Roosevelt this afternoon, and presented new arguments for giving further assistance to the British. The delegation styled itself as - "A flying squadron." We are not told exactly what transpired at the meeting of the flying squadron and the President, but when they emerged, they described themselves as - "enthusiastically encouraged." And that's an emphatic expression.

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President Roosevelt also conferred today with Lord Lothian, the British Ambassador and Sir Walter Layton, Editor of the London Economist. Lord Lothian revealed later what he had told the President. He quoted himself as saying: "Great Britain needs more of everything - and quickly."

He was asked about a proposal that has been mentioned a good deal of late, army flying fortresses for Britain. These to follow the fifty destroyers. There have been hints that Great Britain really doesn't want ^{over} flying fortresses, because those giant army bombers are lacking in a rear gun ~~xxx~~ turret. No place for guns to fire from the back of the plane, not enough power of resistance - so the rumor has declared. Asked about this, Lord Lothian said: "I don't think we would refuse anything."

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The Pact of Berlin evoked quick comment in congressional circles. Most of the expressions turned to the theme of national defense. Administration leader, Senator Barkley, declared:- "The new development certainly makes it necessary for the United States and the whole western hemisphere to speed up defense preparations and economic cooperation."

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Senator Minton of Indiana spoke his mind in these words:- "It looks like democracy is cornered. This is all the more reason why we should speed up our preparations for defense."

Chairman ~~got~~ Bloom of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, gave his opinion:- "I think it's a case of whistling in the dark while going through a graveyard at night," said he. "Naturally, they are trying to bolster up each other. Personally," he added, "I feel we should just watch our step and mind our own business."

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Isolationist opinion was expressed by Senator Nye of North Dakota. He is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He blamed the policy of the Roosevelt administration. "Our ~~pxx~~ policy," said he "has succeeded in driving Japan into the arms of those who were the last ones we wanted her associated with."

It is of course taken for granted that the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo alliance is directed against the United States. The three powers in the pact admit as much - openly. In Berlin,

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one high Nazi source gave an interpretation of today's treaty in these words:- "An answer to the destroyer deal between the United States and Great Britain." Berlin adds that the alliance ~~between the United States and Great Britain~~ was made as a safeguard against a possible military alliance between the United States and Great Britain. In a speech accompanying the signing of the document, Hitler's foreign minister, Von Ribbentrop, made angry remarks about what he called - war mongers. Official Berlin comment made later named the war mongers - as being largely in the United States."

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In Italy, the plain speaking was even plainer. It was repeated in various ways that the Pact of Berlin was a warning to the United States not to interfere in either the European war or the Japanese invasion of China.

In Tokyo, the verbiage is a good deal smoother. The military alliance, described in these two pleasant words - "Peace Restoration." The United States is referred to in the following statement made by Foreign Minister Matsuoka: "Some

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countries," said he, "have been trying to obstruct Japan's program in East Asia." And he added:- "Although we have tried to remedy the situation, to our regret the situation has become worse." Meaning the U. S. A. of course. The Japanese foreign office, however, issues this reassurance:- "We are not changing our policy toward the United States," it says, "and we are not abandoning hope of readjusting relations with the United States."

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What about Great Britain? There today's treaty is ~~jeer~~ jeered at with the term - "Empty threat." The British government says it is not surprised. Another spokesman used ~~to~~ the words "A blatant attempt to intimidate the United States." British opinion is that Hitler made the pact because his attempt to subjugate Britain is failing. He realizes that he's in for a long war, and is lining up allies. "It proves," says London, "that the Blitzkrieg has gone down the lightning rod."

TEXT OF PACT.

Since that pact of Berlin which was signed today is aimed directly at the United States, every American should be acquainted with the terms it embodies, should give thought to those terms. They are six in number, an even half dozen.

Article one is expressed in these words:- "Japan," it says, "recognizes and respects German and Italian leadership in the creation of a new order in Europe." There we find two significant words - new order. That's what the Japanese have been calling their program in Asia, the slogan they've been employing in the attempt to conquer China. New order - meaning Japanese dominance in the Far East. And now that same slogan is transferred to Europe, with a similar meaning - German and Italian dominance on the European continent. That is - if they can make the grade.

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Article number two is a mere tit-for-tat sort of thing. It reads this way:- "Germany and Italy recognize and respect Japan's leadership in the creation of a new order in the greater Asiatic area." That is - each side guarantees the imperialistic ambitions of the other - if they can get away with it.

TEXT OF PACT - 2.

Article number three is the crux of the whole business. It contains the all-important pledge of alliance. The significant part reads:- "Germany, Italy and Japan undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three contracting parties is attacked by any power not at ~~xxxx~~ present involved in the European war or in the Chinese-Japanese conflict."

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Meaning - they'll help each other if either side gets into a war with any power, except the power it is already fighting - Great Britain on one side, and China on the other. The negative logic is -- they won't interfere in the two wars they are now waging, not as things now stand. Japan will not fight on the side of the Nazi Fascist nations -- unless. That "unless" is the all important thing. There are only two great powers that are not in either the European or the China war. Those two powers are the United States and Soviet Russia. The case of Soviet Russia, however, is included in a subsequent article of today's pact of Berlin.

TEXT OF PACT - 3.

Article four is a mere proviso for joint consultation between the three contracting parties. But article five reads this way: "Germany, Italy and Japan," it says, "affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting parties and Soviet Russia." This of course applies to the famous Nazi-Communist non-aggression treaty, the Hitler-Stalin Pact which really launched the present war. One story from the side of the axis today, presumes that Moscow was informed in advance about today's diplomatic event, and gave Soviet acquiescence.

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Such is the process of logic which narrows down the meaning of today's German-Italian-Japanese combination, narrows it down to one specific aim - the United States. This nation of ours is not mentioned, but the logic of the terms is vividly clear, as all the world immediately recognized. The pact is directed at the United States. And Secretary of State Hull calls it - a menace to us.

Article six is more or less routine. It gives a time

TEXT OF PACT - 4.

limit. It provides that the treaty shall go into effect immediately and shall remain in force for ten years.

SPAIN FOLLOW TEXT OF PACT.

One surprise in the Pact of Berlin is the absence of Spain. It had been widely rumored that Spain was about to join the axis powers - along with Japan. But now - no mention of the Iberian Peninsula. The treaty, however, does invite other nations to join in the alliance and share in the spoils.

REPUBLICANS.

The New York Republicans ~~have~~ ⁱⁿ nominating
Congressman Bruce Barton for the Senate, ~~the nominations~~ ^{made}
~~were accompanied by~~ ^{a and} bitter attacks on the New Deal.

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Candidate Barton himself said that he would make his campaign
on one predominant issue - third term. He declared that a
third term would mean war, and denounced the administration
foreign policy. "This," said he, "had already assured war
in one ocean, but now has assured two wars in two oceans."

The G. O. P. convention at White Plains had a
thundering time, blasting verbally against the Democrats.

AIR WAR.

The war in the air was at its most savage today. Britain reports what was perhaps the heaviest aerial offensive the Nazis have yet launched. The bombers concentrated on London, but also flung a rain of high explosive on Liverpool - and other points. It was the same daily story of havoc and destruction - intensified to a ~~xximax~~ climax. The battles in the air were fierce and prolonged, royal air force fighters slashing savagely at the fleets of German planes.

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The R. A. F. reports that a hundred and twenty-two of the enemy were shot down. And London relates this heavy loss of planes to the thundering intensity of the attack tonight. The latest dispatch from the city on the Thames begins this way:-
~~xxix~~ "Their fury fired by the loss of a hundred and twenty-two planes in the royal air force's greatest daylight victory,

German bombers smashed upon London tonight in roaring waves."
There is pandemonium in London as a result of the bombing and anti-aircraft fire.
Berlin reports huge fires raging in the City. The

British continue to hit back, blow for ~~fix~~ blow. The R. A. F. is said to be using a new strategy of bombing, something secret.

It's called - "A ladder plan," and is said to intensify ^{the} effect^{ive} ~~ive~~ air raids.

Kiel was bombed heavily. A big ship in the harbor is believed to have been hit. (One British pilot ~~uses a picturesque phrase in describing the result of bombs his squadron dropped. He~~ tells of a flare at Kiel of what he calls "A colossal red orange fire." Another pilot says: "The fires started in the dock area were terrific. I have seen lots of fires in my time," he adds, "but those at Kiel would take a lot to beat.")

Also, the French harbor of Le Havre, a number one German invasion port. (Great fires after bombing.) The British pilots left the dock area in what they call - "A mass of wreckage."

BASEBALL.

Baseball history was made today. The New York Yankees playing in Philadelphia got it over more quickly than the Detroit-Cleveland game out in Michigan, ~~than~~ Philadelphia time being an hour earlier. Batting against the more or less feeble athletics, the Yanks were determined to stay in the race, resolved to be in a position to get a tie for the pennant. But the Yankee determination and resolve were not sufficient. The big boys from New York scored two runs, while the Athletics put six tallies across the home plate. So the Yanks are out of the pennant race, after their string of seasons as the king pins of baseball.

After that, all that was left was to wait for the Detroit-Cleveland results an hour later. A win for Detroit would mean the pennant. A win for Cleveland would mean that the Ohio City was still in the fight and would keep on battling.

Well, here's the result, ^{well} almost: - At the end of the ~~match~~ 1st half of the 9th. ^(Score to follow) Detroit was leading 2 to 0. So Detroit won the game, and the national league pennant. So, by now Detroit may have the pennant.

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pennant.

And now I wonder what Hugh is grinning about? What's
the big idea, Hugh?

O.K. SO LONG UNTIL SUNDAY.