

WAR

L.T. - Sunoco Friday, Aug. 1, 1941. 4

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In the War, Berlin claims a couple of victories - one south of Smolensk, and the other northeast of Smolensk. In each case Berlin tells of large Red Army units encircled and trying to break ~~at~~ out. Heavily defeated in the attempt, say the Germans. This followed earlier Berlin bulletins which told of violent Red Army counter-attacks all along the front. The impression being - the blitzkrieg forces were not advancing, were stationary.

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Moscow claims that the Red Army is seizing the initiative - ~~partially~~ particularly in the Smolensk area. We are told that this is largely because of action by the Red Air Fleet, which has been blasting Nazi columns and helping the ground forces in thrusting forward.

Finland today formally broke diplomatic relations with Great Britain. This action has been ~~indif~~ indicated in the news for several days, and today was made formal by the British Minister in London in an interview with British foreign Secretary Anthony Eden. Finland and Britain are recalling their respective diplomatic representatives. British interests in Finland will <sup>be</sup> represented by the United States.

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RUSSIA

President Roosevelt today expressed his opinion about the war in Russia, and described the Soviet fight as - "magnificent". He permitted himself to be quoted as follows on the subject of Red Army resistance: "It is magnificent, and frankly better than any military expert in Germany thought it would be," said the President to the White House news conference.

He was asked whether the Soviets would be given American War materials under the Lend\*-Lease act or whether Moscow would have to pay for what it got. The President replied that American aid to the Soviets is strictly on a cash basis, and he does not foresee Lend-Lease help for Moscow. The Soviet government thus far has not requested any Lend-Lease. Would Moscow qualify as a nation entitled to receive such help - on a non-paying basis? The President said he had not looked into the question.

In Washington, meanwhile, it was indicated that the administration is considering a plan to give Soviet Russia priority on certain kinds of munitions - equipment originally ordered for National Defense and aid to Britain. Let Moscow have the right of way.

RUSSIA -2

The President was asked about Harry Hopkins in Moscow. He said he had received no communication from Hopkins since the latter arrived in the Soviet capital, so he didn't know directly what may have transpired between the Presidential Emmissary and the Soviet chiefs - Stalin, particularly. The return of Harry Hopkins to this country has a bearing on the next request for Lend-Lease money that the President will send to Congress. Seven billion dollars was put up in the first Lend-Lease appropriation, Now there's to be a second. Congress won't get it <sup>until</sup> ~~until~~ after the return of Hopkins. So said the President today.

FLYER

A prominent ex-American in the R.A.F. is missing -  
Wing Commander Whitney Willard Straight. ~~He's a millionaire~~  
~~sportsman who four years ago became a British subject.~~

He has been Air Assistant to the Duke of Kent and prominent  
as a Wing Commander in the air battles. He was leading

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a squadron in a dogfight over the Channel, when his Hurricane  
fighter was hit by Nazi bullets. The motor burst into flames  
and Whitney Willard Straight flashed the wireless message-

"I've been hit and I'm going to force land in France".

Tonight London is hoping that he did make the forced landing

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safely. His father was Willard Straight,  
once of the House of Morgan, and  
founder of that superb publication:  
Asia Magazine!

MEXICO

Nazi-Germany's latest Latin-American move drew some sharp comment in Washington today. Berlin made representations to Mexico about the United States blacklist of axis-controlled ~~XXXXXX~~ commercial firms in the Republics to the South. Berlin threatened reprisals and insinuated that the blacklist was a United States violation of Mexican sovereignty. To this Mexico replied with a scathing rejection - saying that it's up to Mexico to decide whether its sovereignty had been violated.

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The sharpness of the Mexican reply was more than matched by Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles today. He pointed out that Mexico is one of the nations most jealous of its sovereignty, and said it was a piece of ~~impud~~ impudence for Germany to make any remarks on the subject - after the way the Nazis have crushed the sovereignty of one nation after ~~another~~ another.

## JAPAN

The far Eastern crisis becomes still more tense with reports that Japan is demanding military and naval bases in Siam -- the kingdom of the <sup>white</sup>~~white~~ elephant, next door to British Burma. The story is that Tokyo is offering Siam a part of French Indo China -- in return <sup>for</sup> of strategic bases. A Siamese spokesman counters with a statement that his country will never yield to any such demand.

In London the opinion is expressed that Japan's new machinations are the result of the leniency of the United States, Great Britain and the Netherlands. In other words -- no great severity in applying the economic measures taken when Japan acquired bases in French Indo-China. Encouraging Japan to go on.

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Another London opinion, however, points to Tokyo's quick and full apology for the bombing of the American gunboat ~~Tutuila~~ Tutuila. They take this as a sign that the Mikado's Government is cautious about pushing things too far.

In London today the Secretary for India told the House of Commons that the war may spread to Britain's great possession-- Hindustan. "India is at war," said the Secretary, <sup>And</sup> "The menace of

JAPAN-2

war may well draw to her shores from the east and from the west  
in the next few months." From the east -- would of course mean  
from the Direction of Japan.

SILK

The office of Production Management today told the silk industry that it won't get any more ~~silk~~ silk - this because of the crisis with Japan. No more of the soft and glossy fibre used so much in women's clothing - especially stockings. Silk supplies will be cut off entirely, says the O.P.M.

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The textile workers union of the C.I.O. points out that the probable end of the silk industry in this country jeopardizes the jobs of a hundred and seventy-five thousand workers. What to do about it? Union officials today proposed a plan - recommending that immediate steps be taken to promote large scale development of American synthetic yarns - such as nylon. A union spokesman told defense officials "I believe that the American synthetic yarn industry has sufficient resources to render the United States self-sustaining and to eliminate for all time the dependence of American manufacturers on Japan for silk". He added that American companies have been victimized for years on what he called, "wanton manipulations" on the part of the Japanese.

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The union proposal is that a committee be organized,  
a committee representing the government, management and ~~labor~~ labor  
- to plan a new development in the production of synthetic yarns, *to*  
replacing<sup>r</sup><sub>h</sub> silk.

BUSINESS

Today a formal complaint about <sup>the</sup>~~the~~ workings of the defense program was made by little business. The charge is that great corporations are getting the bulk of the defense orders - to the disadvantage of lesser companies. These ~~are~~ cannot go on with their normal business, because they can't get raw materials - said materials being taken for defense.

~~In consequence~~ → Small business firms are faced with wholesale extinction. In New York the American Business Congress is meeting -- an organization that describes itself as representing the average American business man. Today they sent an open letter to directors Knudsen and Hillman of the office of Production Management. The letter reads in part as follows: "Small business concerns who pay out about eighty-five percent of the nation's payrolls, are most seriously affected. Yet, while they face wholesale extinction," the letter continues, "a handful of giant corporations are overloaded with about seventy-five percent of all defense orders."

Several measures are proposed to correct this condition. Sub-contract large defense orders - pass on portions of these orders to the smaller companies. Organize pools of the smaller

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factories to produce ~~for~~ defense equipment. Don't build new big plants until it is certain the smaller ones ~~can~~ cannot do the job. Don't permit existing priorities to play the one business group at the expense of the other.

Little business ~~is~~ making its demands in the National Defense program!

SERVICE

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There's to be a limitation of the Senate debate on legislation to enable the Army to keep the men for more than a year. Beginning on Monday, Senators will be restricted to one thirty-minute speech on the bill itself, and thirty minute speeches on any amendment. This was agreed in the Senate today - unanimously. Administration leader Senator Barkley of Kentucky stated that he had talked to everyone interested in the matter - including the non-interventionist leader, Senator Wheeler of Montana, and there was no objection.

The Senate is considering a <sup>resolution</sup> ~~resolution~~ to declare a state of emergency. This would automatically continue the service of selective service men, national guardsmen and reservists for the duration of the crisis. But, at the same time, the Senate military Affairs Committee, is drafting a compromise measure - a substitute. The Committee went to work today on a plan that would limit the service of the men to two years and a half - extend it eighteen months beyond the original twelve months.

Assistant Administration Leader Senator Hill of Alabama gave the following explanation:- "We're trying to work out a time limit which will meet the needs of the present situation but which will still be acceptable to the Army." To newspapermen, he stated the purpose of the committee compromise in these words:- "Attempting to meet charges that a man could be drafted for life."

Senator Taft of Ohio speaks up with an objection to the two and a half year of service. "Much too long", says she.

OIL

The oil industry is giving its full support to the order issued by Oil Coordinator Ickes yesterday - that there shall be no sale of gasoline between seven P.M. and seven A.M., beginning August third.

I've just received a message from my sponsors, the Sun Oil Company, and they tell me that all the service stations ~~which~~ they operate will close at night, as prescribed<sup>b</sup>. Moreover, the Sun Oil Company, has communicated with all the independently operated stations that use Sunoco products, and has asked them to comply with the closing order issued by Coordinator Ickes.

On the retail side some wonder is expressed. Is the Ickes order optional, a mere request, or is it compulsory? And official of an organization of station owners in Brooklyn and Queens, says the following:- "If Mr. Ickes was making a request, it is my opinion that the request won't go over. If he was issuing a compulsory order, it would work," said he.

The fear is that if the order is not compulsory, it will lead to the bootlegging of motor fuel at night. <sup>And</sup> How could that be controlled?

OIL -2

Another misgiving is expressed - ~~unemployment~~ unemployment.

Walter Burke, President of the Gasoline Station and Parking Attendants Union, said today that night closing would cause ten thousand employees to lose their jobs in New York City alone.

JOHNSON

A bridegroom just married stood in court at Camden, New Jersey, today. A prominent political figure, Enoch Johnson, Republican leader of Atlantic City. Charged with a federal violation, his case has been a New Jersey headline. Facing a term in prison, the fifty-eight year old politician got married, last night; to a former show girl. He was a new bridegroom as the Judge today pronounced sentence -- ten years and a twenty thousand dollar fine. Married last night -- and getting ten years today.



LOUIS

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In Washington today Joe Louis, the heavyweight champion was ordered to pay his wife temporary alimony of two hundred dollars a week. She's suing ~~him~~ for divorce. Joe's lawyer asserted ~~that~~ the missus was ~~what he called~~ - "Extravagant". Right after the matrimonial break-up, she sent Joe a collection of bills totaling three hundred dollars. And she spent two hundred dollars in one night last week. That <sup>drew</sup> ~~drew~~ a prompt denial from the lawyer of Mrs. Louis. He said she lost the two hundred dollars, lost a hand-bag containing the money.

There was a grave threat to the heavyweight prizefight business when Mrs. Louis asked for a writ to prevent the champ from leaving the jurisdiction of the court - which ~~of course~~ would restrict his pugilistic activities to ~~the vicinity of~~ Chicago.

"It would be like killing the goose that laid the golden egg," shouted the Louis lawyer.

"Do you mean," demanded the attorney for the wife, "That Joe is a goose?"

"Yes, if he pays all that money," was the ~~retort~~ retort.

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That's how the matter stood when proceedings were adjourned - a question of who's the goose.

SOFT BALL

I have just received some alarming news from inner circles of the United States Navy. It tells of Admirals, captains of warships, commanders and lieutenant-commanders, running around on the roads at naval bases. Getting into physical condition - not for battle at sea, but for a **soft** ball game.

As manager of a team of cripples known as the Nine Old Men, I made the mistake of accepting a challenge from the Navy. I didn't think that admirals and captains of battleships would be such tough competition - even for my Nine Old Men. What I forgot to think about sufficiently was the fact that the challenge was issued by Lieutenant-Commander Gene Tunney, former heavyweight champion and now athletic director for the Navy. <sup>Naturally he</sup> ~~He~~ would know how to get his team in shape, the pink of physical condition.

<sup>Lieut. Commander</sup>  
My scouts inform me that <sup>L</sup>Gene Tunney has been making the admirals do three miles of road work every morning and forty minutes of setting-up exercises.

Lieutenant-Commander Tunney himself will do the pitching and I hear that he has developed a new style of delivery, called - <sup>coming Sunday on</sup> the torpedo ball. So I'm afraid that this ~~weekend at~~ <sup>at</sup> Quaker Hill I and my Nine Old Men are likely to be torpedoed and sunk. I hope we <sup>have good weather for that Sunday game and</sup>

on hand  
that you'll be ~~be~~ Hugh to save the day for the 9 old men!

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