

L.T. SUNOCO. FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1941

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Germans announce the capture of the old Esthonian port of Tallinn and the event was described as something like the burning of Troy. Tallinn in flames, a havoc of explosions and fire. The Soviet forces destroying what they could no longer defend.

When the Red Army pushed through the Baltic provinces during the early days of this war, they transformed Tallinn into an important naval base -- powerfully fortified.

Berlin claims that a part of the Soviet Navy was blasted and sunk. Ships trying to evacuate the garrison, dive bombers swooping to the attack. The harbor of Tallinn littered with the wreckage of many Soviet warships and merchant vessels.

Berlin reports that the railroad from Leningrad to Moscow has now been cut in several places. The Germans claim that Leningrad is now almost encircled, and will soon be under siege.

In France, the condition of Laval s eems to be in some doubt. The bullet that hit him in the chest is lodged near the heart, and the doctors say cannot be removed.

There's hardly any news from far off Iran. Presumably, the Persian government has capitulated to British and Soviet demands.

HITLER - MUSSOLINI

The Roosevelt-Churchill meeting on the Atlantic has been described as - "The World's Worst Kept Secret." The Hitler-Mussolini get-together, as announced today, ~~deserves a different sort of rating.~~ It might well be called - "The World's Best Kept Secret." The two dictators have been conferring for five days, and today's official bulletin from Berlin gives us the first hint that we've had.

The worst kept secret gave a tip to Hitler and Mussolini, and they decided to show just how efficient they were in the business of censorship and ^{cover} ~~XXXX~~ up. Anyway, they've been touring the Russian War front since Monday, and not a rumor has come drifting. I've been next to the news

wire all along, and can vouch for the fact that not even a surmise came across.

Today's official bulletin from Berlin reads in part as follows:- "In the course of this visit the Fuehrer and Duce proceeded to important points on the Eastern Front."

It adds that They were at both the Northern and southern headquarters of the Blitzkrieg army - the Leningrad area

and the Ukraine. It isn't clear at all what this war front touring meant. ^S Maybe Hitler ^{been} was just [^] showing Mussolini around, impressing the black shirt statesman whom Winston Churchill

likes to call - "Hitler's Lackey." Anyway, Mussolini says he was impressed. As the conference broke up today, he issued a statement declaring that, what he had seen on the Russian Front convinced him that the Axis powers have, in his words, "Saved European civilization from the deadly danger of Bolshevism".

The meeting of the two dictators comes as a dramatic follow-up to the formulation of the eight-point peace ~~plan~~ plan, and it's easy to surmise, that the eight points were a major topic of the Hitler-Mussolini palaver. Maybe that's why they

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were together for so long - the subject so important. A ready guess would be that the axis partners tried to figure out some sort of answer - war aims of their own, a peace program in competition with the Roosevelt-Churchill eight points. The official Berlin bulletin mentions the Nazi-Fascist new order, and speaks of removing what it calls, "The causes which in the past have given rise to European wars." Then it continues as follows:- "The destruction of Bolshevist danger and plutocratic exploitation," it says, "will create the possibility of fruitful peaceful and harmonious collaboration by all the peoples of the European Continent."

That covers alot of ground - Bolshevist danger and plutocratic exploitation: it includes both Communism and capitalism - and maybe the destruction of both of these is to be announced as the axis peace program. The official Berlin bulletin is not at all specific. It merely gives a hint that the five-day conference between Hitler and Mussolini may be followed in the near future by the announcement of some sort of program for an after-war settlement.

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Here's a late Italina bulletin that will interest Captain Eddie Rickenbacker who is sitting beside me tonight. It says, Eddie, that Hitler and Mussolini flew over the entire Russian War Front in a German bomber -- with Mussolini at the controls, the pilot.

GERMAN RADIO

The Nazi-Soviet radio skirmish continues with a new twist tonight. For several days now, the Berlin Bulletins of war news have been bedeviled by a voice cutting in and making jeering remarks - a mysterious radio station intruding and spoiling the effect of the victory announcements. Let the Nazi broadcaster pause for breath, and the heckler comes in with a mocking retort. He'll say, "That's just another Goebbels lie." Or - "It wasn't a victory, it was a defeat!"

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London has been listening in to the dialogue and naturally London has been hugely amused. The British call the heckler - Ivan the Terrible. There's more London amusement than ever tonight, because the Berlin victory announcer tried something new - tried to fool the heckler. He began each radio news story with a headline - to get it across before the mocking voice could cut in. But Ivan the terrible still had his say. The announcer began briskly, "Here is the News." Whereupon the mysterious voice promptly snapped: "Here is the old liar again." And so it went on through the program, with Ivan the Terrible playing his usual pranks.

JAPAN

The word from the Far East is that Japan is seriously trying to come to terms with the United States. The tone of the news from across the Pacific might lead us to believe that Tokyo is in a mood to go a considerable distance in an effort to straighten things out with Uncle Sam.

President Roosevelt today gave a hint that there may be news of a special sort on this on Monday. That's Labor Day, and it also happens to be the second anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Europe. At today's White House news conference, the President was reminded of this and asked whether he had any comment to make. He replied, not today, and reminded the newsmen that he plans to make an address to the nation on Monday. This may include an important statement on international affairs, and a likely guess is -- Japanese -American affairs.

It is to be quite a radio program -- marking at the same time, Labor Day and the anniversary of the beginning of the war. I, myself, happen to know something about it, because I'm to lend a hand. Geographically speaking, it will be a nationwide radio event, plus London -- from one to two o'clock Eastern Daylight Time, on Monday afternoon, with a speech by the President.

MISSION

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There's a touch of the dramatic in today's appointment of ~~A~~ Averell Harriman. That son of the Great railroad magnate of the past generation will head the American Military Mission to Soviet Russia. ~~That was~~ announced by President Roosevelt today. Averell Harriman, since last spring, has been in London acting as "expeditor" of the Lend-Lease program, and now he goes to Moscow to play a leading part in conferences for expediting aid to the Soviets. The President did not state who the other members of the American Military Mission would be.

The name of Harriman has an odd ring in connection with Red Moscow, Stalin and Communism. Harriman, the railroad builder, symbolized an exciting era of the rough and tumble capitalism that earned the name of - Frenzied Finance. And now his son heads a military mission to aid the Red Army.

That certainly does point up the old moral - that times do change^e:

Here's one of extra special interest to you cast P - TR.:
Another mission to be sent abroad was announced

today, and among its members we find still another interesting personality. The army announces an aerial mission that will tour the various war fronts, an air corps group that will

study conditions of war aviation for the purpose of promoting the aid-to-Britain aircraft program over here. It will be headed by the Air Corps Chief, General Brett; and one of its members will be our old friend Major James H. Doolittle. Yes, Jimmy Doolittle that flashing figure of the sky who a few years back was blazing air trails in the sky, blazing them with blinding speed for the Army. In army air circles they still talk of that incredible adventure, when Jimmy Doolittle with two broken ankles, was hoisted into a speed plane and proceeded to make an almost incredible solo flight across the Andes in South America.

Here's one down your alley
OIL *also Eddie. You use plenty of*
gas in your big Eastern Air planes.:-

The principal witness at the Senate oil hearing today was Chairman Land of the Maritime Commission - ~~and he~~ *who* suggested the construction of huge barges to ~~xx~~ haul oil. He said that such barges could be built principally of concrete, could be towed by tankers, and could carry enough petroleum to alleviate the shortage in the Eastern states. ~~He gave figures to show that one hundred and ninety-three thousand tons of oil~~ *he said,* ~~a year.~~ A tanker towing two barges could transfer four hundred and fifty thousand tons.

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And Chairman Land ~~said he much~~ *went on to say that* preferred the barges to the projected pipelines! - Firstly - because they could be built more quickly; Secondly - they wouldn't require nearly so much steel. A hundred barges made of reenforced concrete, would take only ~~a~~ *one* hundred thousand tons of steel, while to build pipelines capable of serving the Eastern States would require seven hundred and fifty thousand tons of steel. Where to get all that metal? The chairman of the maritime commission said it would have to be taken from other areas of defense work, such as shipbuilding - where it's needed badly. We simply haven't got the steel to afford the pipelines, he contended.

From the side of the Senate Committee that is conducting the oil shortage investigation, Senator Maloney of Connecticut made the most important statements. He raised the question - should the Latin-American countries be permitted to get as much oil as the Eastern states? That's the arrangement at present - we are supplying the republics to the south with as much petroleum as the Atlantic seaboard states are getting. And that, intimated the Senator, may turn out to be a danger to our National Defense Program, - because of the amount of defense industry in the East.

INTRO TO CAPTAIN RICKENBACKER

I wonder who is going to be the Number One Flyer, the Ace of Aces in this second World War? No man knows. In fact, so far ~~xx~~ we have heard very little about any particular outstanding airman. The number of flyers is so much greater than in the First World War. The sky sometimes ~~is~~ filled with planes; aviation playing a far greater part.

Well, the American Ace of Aces in World War One is sitting beside me. ^{Capt.} Eddie Rickenbacker had his friends and his family and perhaps himself badly worried some months ago -- as we all know. For months Eddie fought for his life -- a thing he has done before. But, this time he was on his back. ~~2x~~ And while he was on his back he has just been telling me he had ~~ix~~ time to do a lot of ~~things~~ thinking about a lot

of things. For instance, Eddie?

*I'm sorry better
do you let me ask him, I would shorten
the war by months or maybe years.*

CAPTAIN RICKENBACKER: For one thing Lowell, I thought a lot

about my friends. I sort of felt that they were helping me out, giving me strength. In fact, I know they were. And, that's one of the reasons why I'm still alive.

L.T.: And, you said you also thought about our country, national defense, and so on?

CAPTAIN R.: I did. Yes indeed, I did. And one of the conclusions I came to was this:- The reason why we have so little national unity -- and we all agree that we need a lot more right now -- is because of our lack of unselfish leaders among Government officials, employers, labor, and *in* almost every walk of our national life. That's why we are not getting enough planes, enough tanks, enough rifles, enough shells and enough of everything so desperately needed right now. In Germany the people belong to the State. They have no choice. They do as they are told -- or else! The same is true in other countries run by dictators. In England it is that way too because the British Empire is fighting for its life.....Here in this country some of us realize the importance of national emergency. Others don't. It all seems a long way off to most Americans. We still go about our daily lives each trying to get as much as he can. The laborer tries to get all he can. Employers the same. So also with

those in political life. As I lay there for months on my back it became plain as daylight to me that our greatest need is for patriotic unselfishness. And if we don't hurry up about it, if we don't all become more unselfish and if we don't all gain in wisdom, then there is a melancholy future ahead of us, and we are^{all}/going to pay a terrific penalty.....I wish I could make that ten times stronger. At any rate, you can take that from a fellow who knows that he's living on borrowed

time! *in a Land where borrowed time is valuable for there is no time to waste time.*

L.T. Thanks Eddie. I hope everybody in America is listening in tonight. There is no man in this country for whom the American people have greater admiration than for Captain Eddie Rickenbacker. Twenty some years ago he gave everything he had for his country. And now he has come back from the edge of the beyond, to urge us all to unite unselfishly and hurryup about it.

PRODUCTION

The new board just appointed in Washington is being called -- the Ministry of Supply. On an alphabetical basis you might style it - S.T.A.B. The full name is Supply, Priorities and Allocations Board. That sound fairly complicated, so let's see if we can get some simple explanation. Yes, here it is -- a statement by William S. Knudsen. Still continuing to be a director of the O.P.M., Knudsen, formerly of General Motors, becomes a member of the new agency -- he's to concentrate on planes and tanks. Today he made the following statement;- "The job of the board," said he, "Is to make an overall survey of materials in the country and then distribute them to the best advantage for National Defense. "I think it will be good," Knudsen declared. "We can sit down and work out all phases of the Defense Program."

Here's hoping he's right. And now, Hugh.