

JAPAN

L. I. - Sunoco. Friday, Dec. 5, 1941.

46
The White House has just released the contents of the Japanese message, which was delivered to the State Department today by Ambassador Nomura and Special Envoy Kurusu. The official release is about the same as had been reported earlier in the day.

Tokyo's reply deals with the President's question about the meaning of the recent Japanese moves into ~~Indo-China~~

^{But}
Indo-China. It does not give an answer to the much broader matter of the terms that Washington has presented to Tokyo - the no-compromise conditions.

Tokyo flatly denies that the recent landing of troops in Indo-China has any aggressive

significance, ~~the~~ Indo-China reinforcements are not for the purpose of making any new push. They deny ~~Government of the Far Eastern Empire denies~~ the current stories about preparation for an invasion of Siam.

Then what's the reason for the troop movements?

47
Tokyo declares that the Chinese have concentrated heavy forces ~~of troops~~ in the neighboring province of Yunnan - thereby threatening the Japanese garrisons in Indo-China. Hence the need for reinforcements - argues Tokyo.

Moreover, in today's message the Mikado's Government claims that the reports of Japanese troops in Indo-China are exaggerated - not as many as the stories from the Far East would indicate.

Tokyo claims that the troop landings are in accordance with the agreement made between the Japanese and the French colonial authorities. Under that agreement, ^{Japan}~~Tokyo~~ was authorized to station a certain number of troops in Indo-China, and today Tokyo tells President Roosevelt that the agreed number has not been exceeded. This denies the President's

allegation that the Japanese have sent in numbers of troops beyond the limit of the agreement.

Upon emerging from the State Department, the Japanese envoys were secretive, but indicated a desire to continue negotiations. Their attitude was one of friendliness - eager to come to an agreement. And this harmonizes with the tone taken in Tokyo today. Japanese official sources expressed the hope that the

48
negotiations would continue, ~~They continued to say~~ *Still saying*

that the terms demanded by the United States were

"utterly impossible", and an official spokesman ~~spoke~~ *talked*

of "a big mis-
~~of "a big~~ understanding." "We are amazed," said he,

"to find such a big understanding by the United States".

Altogether, It is evident that the Japanese want to keep on talking. And this may be the old dodge of sparring for time - stalling.

These diplomatic developments occurred at a time when the Far Eastern crisis seems to be growing ever darker. In Australia, the War Cabinet today cancelled Christmas leaves for troops of the Commonwealth army. And ~~likewise~~ likewise, the Australian Government ^{put into effect} ~~has authorized~~ plans which ^d ~~have~~ been arranged for collaboration with the United States and the Dutch East Indies in case of war. For example, the Cabinet has moved from the capital city of Canberra to Melbourne. This, so that the Ministers ^{can} ~~could~~ be in closer contact with the main mobilization of the Australian troops.

49
From Russia the news is -- bitter fighting and bitter cold. Berlin speaks of an intense cold wave, ^{which} ~~and~~ *snow and 13 below* ~~is impeding military operations.~~ Yet the fighting goes on, with the Germans claiming new gains around Moscow. And the Soviets admit that the blitz forces crashed through for some ^{advance} ~~gain~~ to the south of the city -- near Tula.

In the Rostov area the Red Army continues those claims of Soviet victory and Nazi defeat -- a pursuit of fleeing German troops, with units encircled. Some reports have the Red Army advancing toward the City of Mariupol.

Berlin reports a series of British ultimatums -- and a rejection of these. This item of news ^(focuses) ~~follows~~ ^{falls} on Finland. German sources declare that today the Finns received a British ultimatum demanding that they get out of the war against the Reds. And similar London

diplomatic messages were sent to ~~the~~ Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania. According to the Germans, each of these nations rejected the ultimatum -- Finland included.

Presumably the rejections will be followed by a British declaration of war.

50
Finland, meanwhile was celebrating the Soviet evacuation of the fortress of Hangoe. The national flag flew throughout the northern republic, ^{ac}claiming the fact that Finland has now taken back the last bit of territory that the Red Army seized winter before last.

In Libya the dying down ^{of the} ~~is a~~ great battle is now followed by a period of brisk moves on a small scale skirmishing and raiding. The nearest thing to a major clash was a violent assault of a point held by the British garrison of Tobruk. The attack is said to have been beaten off with heavy losses. Both sides are bringing up reinforcements and the British say they'll

soon gain the upper hand. ^PIn occupied France new acts of terrorism have occurred, sabotage at various places -- and a German Major was shot and wounded as he walked along the River Seine. The French are anxious, fearing a new wave of terrorism and new German reprisals.

KING

51

From unoccupied France we have a story about King Michael of Rumania. There have been rumors that the young monarch is a prisoner of the Nazis, charged with being the head of an anti-German conspiracy in Rumania. The story from Vichy gives us another version. King Michael right now is in Italy, in Florence, and the reason why is - marriage. TH He is said to have gone to Florence to consult with his mother, Princess Helene, regarding a wedding suggestion that he has received from the Nazis. The Germans are said to be anxious for royal Rumanian wedding bells to ring out, because they want the young King to have an heir - thereby blocking off the possible return of King Carol, the exiled father of Michael who is now in Mexico. Carol is anti-Nazi and Berlin wants to do everything to eliminate the possibility that he may become the ruler of Rumania again.

But who is the bride the Nazis propose?

52
She is German, and decidedly royal - according to the story. The Princess Royal of Bavaria - one of the five daughters of Prince Rupprecht, ~~of Bavaria. He is the~~ head of the ~~ancient~~ kingly House of Wittelsbach, one of the most ancient families of Europe. Prince Rupprecht in the Kaiser's time was one of the highest of the German princes. He was a top-ranking commander in the World War, and lost his throne when defeat and revolution came to Imperial Germany. Now, ~~xxxx~~ we hear, the Nazis want to marry his daughter, the Princess Royal of ^B~~N~~avaria, to young King Michael -
^
thereby making her Queen of Rumania.

REYNOLDS

I have a cablegram here from Quentin Reynolds, war correspondent for COLLIERS MAGAZINE. Our old friend and soft ball player has been having some exciting times. First he was reported among the missing when he flew out of Russia with Soviet Ambassador to Washington, Maxim Litvinov and American Ambassador Lawrence Steinhardt. Quent ~~xxxx~~ Reynolds appeared in due time, along with the two Ambassadors - after ^a~~an~~ [^] ~~exciting~~ ^{wild} airplane voyage ^{along the Caspian.} Since then Quent has been with the British Army of the Nile, covering the battle of the desert. This time he was reported killed. He was among the newspapermen, some of whom were captured by the Axis forces, ~~and~~ some ~~of whom~~ escaped. Quent was said to have lost his life - doing his duty to COLLIERS.

Here's the way his cablegram reads:- "Some idiot published a London report that I'd been killed.

Don't let that story get around New York. I escaped through the Nazi lines and got nothing but a few minor cuts and bruises - and a rather nasty case of sun poisoning. All of which one week in bed will fix. I hardly ever get killed," cables Quent in conclusion.

WAR PLAN

Secretary of War Stimson today indignantly rebuked the CHICAGO TRIBUNE for its war plan story yesterday:-The allegation that the Government intends to send an A.E.F. of five million men to fight abroad. The Secretary of War did not challenge the authenticity of the documents printed by the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. He merely pointed out that it's the part of the job of the Army and Navy to make plans to fit all contingencies, and he charged ^{the Chicago Tribune with} a lack of loyalty and patriotism.

The Stimson contention is summed ^{up} tersely in the form of two questions;"What would you think of an American general staff," demands the Secretary of War, "which in the present condition of the world, did not investigate and study every conceivable type of emergency which may confront this country - and every possible method of meeting the emergency?"

Then the second question: "What do you think," demands Stimson, "of the patriotism of a man or a newspaper that would take those ^{confidential studies} ~~controversial stories~~ and ^{make} ~~use~~ them public to the enemies of this country?"

In all of this controversy, there's one interesting and puzzling point. How did the CHICAGO TRIBUNE get the documents that it published? The word from Washington is that the Government is making an extensive investigation to find out. How did the Chicago newspaper procure the confidential papers?

In Congress, Representative Hamilton Fish of New York called upon President Roosevelt to disavow the statements made in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE - the story of an A.E.F. of five million. "I refuse to believe," cried ~~the~~ Congressman Fish, "that the President has given his support for any proposal of such an expeditionary force. That force," he added, "has been disavowed by every

57

party platform."

And then the New York Congressman went on to argue against an American A.E.F. in these terms;-
"If we crush the German army," said he, "the Russian army will overrun Germany, and this country will be left bankrupt and impoverished. And," he declared,
"Communism will come - bringing chaos and revolution."

CARFARE

Congress today defeated a move to provide carfare home for soldiers at Christmas time. The proposal was made by Congressman Hall of New York as an amendment to the eight billion dollar defense bill before the House. He suggested that of the eight billion dollars, fifteen million should be used to give carfare to soldiers going to visit their families for Christmas. The Congressman said that six hundred thousand men will be given furloughs ~~by~~ at Yuletide. "This," argued the Congressman, "is the last opportunity the House will have to send these boys home to their loved ones ^{this} ~~for~~ Christmas season."

56
The amendment was opposed by Congressman ~~Woodrum~~ ^{who reassembled} Woodrum of Virginia. ~~He said~~ ^{pointed out} that to give the carfare to the soldiers would be unfair to the men in the Navy, "who", said he, "are now fighting in the front lines." And then Congressman Woodrum argued that the men in the

Army wouldn't want gifts of free holiday transportation.

"They're not little boys," said he, "who want rattles

handed to them at Christmas time [^] but are grim,

hardened American citizens ready to do their jobs."

When the Christmas carfare proposal came to a vote it was defeated by a hundred and twenty-seven to eighty.

ARMS

The House defeated another attempt to amend the eight billion dollar appropriation for new defense money. The isolationists propose^d_^ to eliminate from the bill a provision which would permit the government to transfer to foreign nations war materials purchased with the money. Keep the eight billion dollars' worth of armament entirely in this country.

57
Congressman Rich of Pennsylvania charged that the Administration is, in his words - "shipping all our arms out of the country, so that we couldn't defense^d_^ our own shores if we were attacked." The amendment was beaten by a vote of fifty-nine to nineteen.

And here's the latest -
Congress - the House - has just passed the 8 billion appropriation bill.

MANUFACTURERS

The closing session of the conference of the National Association of Manufacturers was featured by a strong defense of the American system of competitive industry. The speaker was J. Howard Pew, President of the Sun Oil Company.

Because of the present war emergency, the all important problem is the turning out of products - armament, defense materials. So, does our system of free enterprise deliver the goods?

Sun Oil's President Pew cited some figures, to show the efficiency of American industry. "Today, with less than seven per cent of the population of the world," said he, "our country enjoys about fifty per cent of the total wealth and income of the world. A hundred and thirty Americans," he went on, "have a greater total income than more than the five hundred millions of Europe and the more than one thousand millions of Asia. We have," he summarized, "seven times our share in proportion to our population."

And the President ~~is~~ of Sun Oil went

on to show that the high living standard in this country is the direct result of the high productive rate of the American industrial system. All of which led him to the conclusion that the American way of free competitive enterprise can~~not~~^{out-} produce any other system in the world.

RAZOR BLADES

58 1/2
A new committee has been formed to help the British people in war-time. It's a division of Bundles for Britain and is called -- Razor Blades for Britain. I happen to be the Chairman.

In the stress of war the embattled island is short of many things, including the sharp steel edges for mowing whiskers. So there's danger of a bearded and bewiskered Britain -- every Englishman a George Bernard Shaw. That would be too awful. So they want to shave - and not be Shavian. Of course, George Bernard Shaw has that Shavian wit, but when it comes to whiskers - he's ~~the direct opposite to anything~~ ^{never been shaved} ~~containing the syllable "shave."~~ So we're asked ^{ing} ~~the~~ people to send - razor blades for Britain. Our goal -- a razor blade for every Britisher, except George Bernard Shaw, that ^e unshaven Shavian. ^H And now allow me to introduce to you another distinguished razor-blade committee, Mr. Hugh James.

59
59 1/4