

HITLER

C.Y. - Sunoco. Tues., Sept. 19, 1939.

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I for one found Hitler's speech today important and dramatic chiefly in what led up to it. (The dispatches flashing the news that the Nazi Fuehrer was scheduled to make a world-wide radio broadcast at Danzig led to the belief that he might make his bid for peace, might launch that much-awaited peace offensive. Then came other word over the cable that Hitler would speak virtually in the earshot of cannon-fire. Fighting still going on near Danzig, Polish troops still resisting in that long isolated corner. Near the captured ^{Polish harbor} ~~harbor~~ of Gdynia, a hill on the shore of the Baltic, a hill on which stand battered buildings of an officers' school, Polish soldiers still defending those buildings after weeks of bombardment. Today the bombardment went on, artillery shelling the fortress on the hill, the German cruiser Schleswig-Holstein joining in with the thunder of Naval guns. This minor battle ^{going} ~~has been going~~ on only some fifteen miles away from ^{the} Danzig scene of Hitler's speech -- the address which might perhaps be his bid for peace.

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Several points of greater significance were these:-

Russia. Hitler indicated that Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia were working together, with the largest kind of plans for unified action. And he referred to what must have seemed even to himself a ticklish point, Nazi German ambitions in the Ukraine. Over and over again it has been pointed out that in the Hitler Bible, Mein Kampf, the Nazi Chieftain proclaimed a German drive to the Russian Ukraine to be a cardinal point of Nazi gospel. He took all that back today -- in the interest of his new partnership with the Soviets. He spoke it with sarcastic reference to the British. "They," said he, "should be relieved to hear that we do not want the Urals or the Ukraine."

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(Perhaps the most ominous thing of all concerned the present truce in the air -- neither side air-raiding each other's cities and civilians, not even bombing each other's industrial plants or strategic points. Hitler intimated that as long as

the Western Allies refrained from dropping bombs in Germany the Nazi armies would likewise refrain from dropping bombs in Great Britain and France. But he snarled that if there should be Allied air raids against Germany there would be a reply of five hundred Nazi bombs for every Allied bomb.) And that would bring the dreaded horror.

There was no sign of the much-expected peace proposal. Hitler did repeat that he had no war aims at the expense of Great Britain and France. But he added that Germany would fight as long as the others wanted to fight, in no matter how long a war. Instead of a peace offensive today's Hitler harangue took the form of war defiance.

CHAMBERLAIN

The world's Number One reply to Hitler will be made by Chamberlain tomorrow. The Prime Minister of Great Britain in the House of Commons, will present the official British viewpoint. Chamberlain will likewise outline British government policy toward the Soviet invasion of Poland. The London rumor is that he will denounce the Stalin attack, will call it unjustified, and will solemnly repeat Great Britain's unchanging resolve to fulfill her obligations to conquered Poland. But - Great Britain will not declare war on Soviet Russia. Pledged to defend Poland against aggression, the Soviets committing the most flagrant aggression, but no declaration of war. The British viewpoint mostly expressed thus far is that fighting Russia will not help Poland.

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Paris is even more expressive in this opinion than London - no war against Red Dictator Stalin. They still hope that the Soviets will break away from the Nazis, maybe a falling-out between Hitler and Stalin, maybe Stalin can be persuaded to retire to Asia. Nobody ventures any suggestion about the Allies eventually restoring to Poland the territory seized by the Soviets. The opinion is simple - concentrate on Hitler.

The British and French are concerned about the speedy transfer of the huge and victorious German army in Poland to the Western Front. There's some hope that this won't happen, maybe Hitler will have to keep huge forces facing the Russians - but

Allied military men are inclined to the supposition that it will happen. That huge military machine flushed with victory, ~~on the~~ ^{hurled to}

^{the} Western Front, ^{the front that} ~~which~~ is so short. - That is causing worried

speculation. London and Paris are inclined to fear that the

Germans might have designs on neutral countries, like Holland and

Belgium, and perhaps Switzerland - try to break through neutral

nations and then on into France with their blitzkrieg machine.

WESTERN FRONT

On the Western Front - a conference of Allied commanders. The definite location isn't stated by the official dispatch, but it is believed that the Council of War met at the City of Amiens. The high commanders concentrated their discussion chiefly on one problem, we are told - the distribution of French and British forces in the battleline. How much and what part of the front to be held by the French, how much and what part by the British? Where to place the ~~rapidly~~ rapid ^{by} ~~arrival~~ ^{contingents} ~~of continuous~~ ^{sailing} ~~troops~~ from Britain to France.

52
The report is that the British Expeditionary Force is to be assigned mostly to what the French call their secondary Maginot Line. That's the part of the fortification which faces, not Germany but Belgium. It is secondary in the sense that it guards against the possibility of the Germans breaking through Belgium. The bulletin makes it appear as if the British were not to be placed in what is now the active fighting front, so far as it is active. They're to be held in reserve for a possible German drive through Belgium, reminiscent of the World War. In a broader sense, it doesn't seem as if the Allies intend to make any overwhelming charge on the German Siegfried Line. - ^{They are} thinking

about defense mostly, the possibility of the Germans making a huge assault.

These are inferences that seem to be contained in the report about today's conference of Allied commanders.

That is given as six hundred and eighty-one. That leaves five hundred and seventy-nine missing - the tragic loss of the COURAGEOUS when the German U-boat campaign sank its first British warship.

Berlin today denies that the submarine which torpedoed the COURAGEOUS was in turn sunk by British destroyers. The Berlin Admiralty statement reads as follows:- "The sinking of the aircraft carrier COURAGEOUS, which was announced by the British Admiralty, was confirmed through the report by the German U-boat which carried out the attack." The U-boat later reported that it could not have been sunk by the destroyers guarding the COURAGEOUS - that's the German contention.

The submarine sinking of British ships continues, a few reported every day. A report from London tells of a large casualty at sea by unknown submarine - a forty-six hundred ton vessel of the Karnegie Line. Today's London dispatch states that

SUBMARINES

The British Admiralty today released its latest check, and probably the final count, of the casualty list in the sinking of the COURAGEOUS. The great British aircraft carrier, when it was torpedoed, had aboard twelve hundred and sixty men. The rescue list is given as six hundred and eighty-one. That leaves five hundred and seventy-nine missing - the tragic loss ~~of life~~ when the German U-boat campaign ^{present} ~~sank~~ ^{bagged} its first British warship. ~~in the~~ ~~present struggle.~~

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SUBMARINES

there were only eleven survivors -- out of what must have been a much larger crew aboard so big a craft.

Submarines on the American side are still being reported. Once again today; in rather spectacular fashion. Off the coast of Argentina, two Argentine battleships surrounded by U-boats! Four German submarines! A dispatch from Buenos Aires declares that the battleships were steaming along, when four submarines marked with Swastikas, came to the surface. They looked over the battleships, ascertained their identity as Argentinian, then disappeared beneath the surface.

REX

54
Today the big Italian luxury liner REX was about to sail from New York, when there was a sudden stir. ~~Ship~~ The ship's officers passed around ^{an} ~~the~~ order among the passengers - everyone holding a German passport must leave the ship, [^] or a Czech passport, or Slovak, issued by ~~these~~ countries under German control.

The sailing of the vessel was delayed, as people ~~with the wrong kind of passport~~ were sorted out and made to go ashore. ~~a group of them.~~

That sudden action caused all sorts of speculation.

Italian Line officials would give no information save to say that the order had come from the ^{Genoa} ~~general~~ headquarters of the line.

Hitherto, Italian ships have been the ~~only~~ only way home for Germans trying to get back to Germany. The ports of the northern European neutrals are closed to them because of the British blockade declared in northern waters. There the British search vessels and take off Germans. ^{apparently} ~~Now~~ the Italians are afraid of the same thing happening in the case of their own ships - that's the opinion in New York shipping circles. The REX would have to pass through the waters

of Gibraltar, that famous British fortress. And it might be searched, Germans taken off. ~~That's the explanation of today's incident in New York harbor.~~

SOVIET NAVY

55
The Dies Committee went on investigating the story of the Soviet plan to buy warships and naval equipment in the United States. A New York inventions broker today told the Committee how he had split a twenty-five thousand dollar fee - a fee paid to ~~help~~ a purchasing agent operating for Stalin in this country. He split the fee, he testified today, with an employee of the Democratic Party - who was helping in the Soviet plan to purchase naval equipment ^{here.} ~~in the United States.~~

STOCKS

On the New York Stock Exchange, the Hitler speech caused stocks to rise, with gains as much as seven points. Tickers were clogged with transactions. War babies led the way upward, stocks of material likely to be sold to nations at war. Apparently the Hitler declaration did not sound like peace to the buyers of war babies. Later in this evening, this will be on many stations

throughout the United States. Radio stations? Local newspapers will tell that.

MANUFACTURERS - PEACE

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Tonight there's to be a declaration of the attitude of American industry toward the United States and the war situation. What does American industry think of the possibility of the United States entering the European conflict? Howard Coonley, President of the National Association of Manufacturers, will make a radio address later on this evening. This will be on many stations throughout the United States. Which stations? Local newspapers will tell that.

AMERICAN PLANES

Another epic exploit of aviation began today, when fifteen great navy bombers took off from Honolulu. Not to fly to the United States, not steering to the east - but the other way, west. ~~For~~ The first mass flight ever attempted from Hawaii to the Philippine Islands. The formation ~~eight~~ ^{of} bombers ^{is} expected to follow the air route of the Pacific clippers. Four hops, Honolulu to the Midway Islands, to Wake Island, to Guam, and finally to Manila. The whole distance is over forty-seven hundred miles - winging west.

CALIFORNIA

~~There's some~~ Hot news from California - hot weather news.

The Pacific Coast is sweltering in torrid temperatures that have set a record for more than a score of years, the worst heat wave since Nineteen Seventeen. Schools were ordered closed today, and the authorities put a limit on water consumption - because it's dry in California, as well as hot. They've had no real widespread rains since last spring. Crops damaged to an estimated total of a million dollars, ^ tomatoes and cantaloupes, and the grapevines.

The temperature in Los Angeles went up to a hundred and three. In movie studios, with the Kleig lights glaring, the heat went up to a hundred and thirty. Yet the stars and the extras kept on working, some of them keeling over. Martha Ray and Ellen Drew were overcome by the heat, and had to be revived - stars temporarily eclipsed by the thermometer!

Along with the Hollywood heat, the news brings us something about Snow White - snow for contrast, no doubt. Today a decision was rendered in a lawsuit concerning Walt Disney's dainty little Princess and the Seven Dwarfs, Happy, Dopey, Grumpy, etcetra. A Swiss expert on yodeling sued for fifty thousand dollars,

Hence its success.
claiming that he had put the yodeling in the picture. The lovely
and lyrical yodeling was his creation, but, he made the grumpy
protest, *that* he wasn't paid enough for it. The defense retorted ~~with~~ that
the complaint was dokey. It was admitted that the Swiss expert had
been employed as an advisor in putting ^{the} sweet and authentic Swiss
yodeling into the sound tract for "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."
But he was well paid for it, and nobody has any pattern ^{it} on
yodeling. So said the defense, and made this happy statement:-
"Yodeling is as old as the Swiss hills." The judge agreed ^{and} with
that ~~today and~~ dismissed the suit, which leaves various people
grumpy, dokey or happy, as the case may be.

Today California and its heat wave is a state without
heart balm. A new law goes into effect - abolishing suits for
alienation of affection, demands for money as balm for the heart.
The statute became law at midnight last night, with California's
last heart balm suit getting into court just in time, just before
the zero hour. ~~It's~~ *a* six hundred thousand dollar case involving
one of ~~the~~ California's best known names - Pantages. It occurs
in the family of the late Alexander Pantages, the Greek theatre

magnate -- not the theatre of Sophocles and Aristophanes --
movenpitchers and vaudville. He made legends of success and
colorful personality. His widow is being sued by her son's wife -
one of those noisy family squabbles, mother-in-law versus daughter-
in-law. The younger Mrs. Pantages panting that the elder Mrs.
Pantages threatend to disinherit the younger Mr. Pantages unless
he sued the younger Mrs. Pantages for a divorce. It's beginning
to get confused, if not contagious -- Pantages. It has resulted
in a heart balm suit, which gets into court just in time -- as
California abolishes heart balm.