

*L.T. - Sunco - Thurs. May 30, 1940*

All over the country, Memorial Day was celebrated in suitable observance - honor to the few remaining members of the G.A.R. <sup>H</sup> In Milwaukee, there was a ceremony most appropriate and timely of all. A squadron of thirty civilian planes flew in mass formation, high above a grave - the tomb of General Billy Mitchell. Yes, a fitting, if belated honor - during these days when the European war has shown this nation how right Billy Mitchell was.

44

For years he was the ace advocate of a powerful air ~~force~~ defense for the United States. As a General in the Army, he talked up sky power in season and out, frequently out of season, for Billy Mitchell was far too fiery a character to be discreet. He charged that our military authorities were neglecting the airplane as the coming weapon of war. As Chief of the Air Corps, he demanded planes and more planes for the Army. He was so outspoken that he was demoted, then court-martialed, and forced out of the Army. He died three years ago, regarded by aviators as a martyr, to the cause of aviation.

44

Let's take a look at some of the heresies that caused the downfall of Billy Mitchell. He wrote these words:- "Neither armies nor navies can exist unless the air is controlled over them." To that aphorism he added this:- "No missile throwing weapons," said he, "can actually stop an air attack. The only defenses against aircraft," he added, "are other aircraft, which all contest the supremacy of the air."

47  
Those are the military heresies which Billy Mitchell loudly proclaimed in season and out. Today they seem truisms too obvious even to mention - today when President Roosevelt has called for an American air force of fifty thousand planes, and when sky power is predominant on the ~~entire~~ battlefield in Europe.

ITALY.

Tonight brings a series of indications that Italy is about to enter the war very soon - probably ~~before the end~~ ~~of~~ next week, thinks London. The British have what they consider sound information about the reply that Mussolini made to President Roosevelt, in that exchange of notes in which the American President asked the Black Shirt dictator about Italian intentions. Mussolini is said to have replied - that Italy had pledged her word, and would keep it. Meaning -- the military alliance with Germany, which commits Italy to enter the war on the German side.

It was stated in London likewise, that Mussolini had just turned down the blockade agreement with Great Britain. ~~The Italians have been angry about the way the British have been dealing with Italian ships in enforcing restrictions against goods going to Nazi Germany. A British delegation went to Rome and negotiated with an Italian committee. An agreement satisfactory to both parties was reached. It was submitted to Mussolini and he had rejected it.~~ This London takes as a certain indication of - war. In fact, it is understood in

ITALY - 2.

48  
London that Count Cia ~~mo~~, the Italian Foreign Minister, has informed the allied ambassadors in Rome that Italy would soon enter the conflict.

From Rome comes word that British imperial airways has ordered its staff to <sup>return</sup> ~~leave Italy and come~~ to England at once. Also - the British Institute in Rome is closed, and the staff is leaving for England on Saturday.

~~These~~ Indications today ~~are~~ as definite <sup>as any signs we</sup> ~~signs as we've~~ <sup>soon:</sup> had - that Mussolini will join Hitler, ~~in a mere matter of days.~~

48  
There's ~~a good deal of~~ talk that Italy, in conjunction with Spain, <sup>will</sup> ~~may~~ attack Gibraltar <sup>in a few days.</sup>

WAR.

*As for*  
~~Today~~ the battle of Flanders *today it* approached its end in a  
flame of military terror - and in a cloud of doubt. Berlin  
reports the British expeditionary force is pinned in a narrow  
strip against the coast, with no chance for escape - units  
demoralized under terrific attack, the B. E. F. disintegrating  
as it vainly tries to evacuate by ship. London states to the  
contrary, that the British navy is getting out units of the  
trapped army, taking them aboard ship at Dunkirk and across the  
channel. The British bulletin today says that all the troops  
behind the lines have already been evacuated, all save those  
engaged in fighting. They say that great numbers of soldiers have  
got <sup>ten</sup> away safely and that many more will have the same luck -  
perhaps a large proportion of the B.E. F.

Both London and Berlin are in agreement on the hideous  
terror of war that attends the evacuation - British troops fighting  
a bitter rear guard action against overwhelming masses of Nazi  
armament. Guns of British warships firing incessant  
broad-sides, laying down a curtain of shell fire, twenty miles  
inland, a line of flame shielding the B.E.F. as it seeks to ~~embark~~  
embark.

50

In the sky - a titanic air battle. ~~Berlin~~ Berlin reports that the Nazi flying corps threw a swarm of ~~planes~~ planes into the ~~melee~~ melee today, sky fleets of from five hundred to a thousand planes -, led in person by two ~~generals~~ generals of Goering's air force. High above the desperate scene of embarkation at the flaming port of Dunkirk, the royal air force strikes back with every available plane it has - battling with the Nazi squadrons, swooping inland to bomb the attacking German troops. In the harbor, a rain of bombs, blasting ships and embarking troops - an inferno of war. Such an inferno - that evacuated British soldiers arriving in England are nerveshaken, pale, with staring eyes.

50

There's flat contradiction about the losses of planes and seagoing ships. The British report scores and scores of Nazi aircraft shot down, with small loss to themselves. The Berlin statement is just the opposite. And all day Nazi communiques claimed the bombing and sinking of many British ships taking part in the evacuation - transports and vessels of war. London admits only a small loss - although three destroyers are enumerated as having been sunk by air bombs.. <sup>H</sup>To the south of the harbor of Dunkirk -

WAR - 3.

51  
there's ~~is~~ dispute about the French army units which were separated from the British by the German drive. Paris today reports that a large part of those French forces succeeded in breaking through the Nazi line and in retreating northward to the coast to join the British there. Berlin counters with claims of huge captures in the southern pocket - including the French General there. He is General Prioux, who commanded the First French army. The Berlin dispatch relates that the General and his staff were surrounded, and yielded themselves as prisoners.

OK  
The question tonight is - how many men are the Allies succeeding in getting out at Dunkirk? How many are being evacuated, and how many will remain to be taken prisoners? That, probably, will be long in dispute - a point of doubt ~~is~~ about the final issue of the battle of Flanders.

~~meet its demands, and not compel it to take other steps."~~

~~The latest is that Lithuania has replied saying it will do all it can to clear up the matter and has appointed a commission to investigate.~~

There's a report in Rome that the Vatican has received apprehensive word about the Soviet<sup>S.</sup> The papal nuncio to ~~EMX~~ Lithuania is said to have advised Pope Pius the Twelfth that he believes the Stalin dictatorship is preparing to strike at the Allies. The papal nuncio reports that the ties between Stalin and Hitler have become stronger and that the Soviet policy more and more is becoming one of national expansion, old-time Russian imperialism.



FIFTH COLUMN.

52  
Great Britain grows more and more apprehensive about a possible Fifth Column. Today, the head of the labor supply board declared that the trojan horse in England may be, using his words - "as formidable here as in Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway."

Britain's apprehension increases as the prospect of a Nazi invasion comes closer and closer. The head of the labor-supply-board put it in these terms: - "We are awaiting the moment of the beginning of attacks on this country," said he. "Hitler and his hordes are at our door," he added, "and for the next four months the fate of this country and its institutions is in the balance."

The London government today clamped down on freedom of the press, by giving the Home Secretary the power to "suppress any newspaper publishing defeatist material."

Another regulation issued today forbids radio sets in automobiles, and prohibits the possession of signaling apparatus such as radio transmitters. A youth of eighteen was arrested for damaging machinery essential to the national defense, charged with sabotage which can be punished by a death sentence. The young

51

worker said the damage to the machine he was operating was an accident.

A farmer near the military camp at Salisbury Plain, saw two men in a field - they were consulting maps. He challenged them. They ran to an automobile they had and went speeding away. The farmer noted the license number of the car. The police traced it to the owner, who proved that the automobile had been in the garage all that day. So obviously the car with the two mysterious men had false plates, and the inference is that they were doing a Fifth Column spying job.

In Canada, the police have arrested the chiefs of the Quebec Canada National United Party, which is described as having - "Nazi-Fascist tendencies." They seized what they call "the Quebec Fuehrer," and ~~nine~~ nine of his principal lieutenants. Yesterday leaders of the party were arrested. A whole crowd is being held under a statute which makes it a criminal offence for any person to spread reports that might cause defection in the Army, or hamper the ~~prosecution~~ prosecution of the war."

COMMUNISTS

54

One of the recognized <sup>American</sup> political parties began its national convention today. What party? Why, the communists. Yes, the American Reds gathered to make speeches, adopt a platform, nominate candidates. The comrades don't expect to win the election, but they are carrying on with plenty of Communist doctrine and party line. Twenty-five hundred Red delegates and alternates from all parts of the country assembled in New York <sup>city</sup> today. They say they expect to poll quite a sizeable vote in November. What about the Nazi-Communist Pact? Has the Communist cause in this country been weakened by the alliance between Stalin and Hitler? Not at all, they were saying at the Red Flag Convention today. <sup>They insist that</sup> The Nazi-Communist pact hasn't hurt them at all.

~~They insisted.~~

Their program is - keep the United States out of what

they denounce <sup>as "the</sup> ~~the XIXXX~~ "Imperialist" war. <sup>The war in</sup> ~~They condemn~~ which their <sup>Imperialistic</sup> - Communist <sup>JOE</sup> Stalin is already playing a tremendous part, ~~the policy of the administration.~~ They call it - "~~an~~"

TP "An aggressive, imperialist pro-ally war policy," <sup>is what the American</sup> ~~The comrades~~ Comrades call the policy of Washington just now.

57  
They are against anything pro-ally. <sup>They are pro-Stalin</sup> ~~and that's the old party line~~  
who in turn is Hitler's ally.

~~They are going to adopt these ideas in their platform and~~

~~nominate~~ <sup>IP</sup> Earl Browder <sup>who is</sup> ~~for President. He, of course, is~~

~~under prison sentence for passport frauds,~~ <sup>will again be</sup> ~~The Communist~~  
their candidate for President. Their  
convention will last for four days; and a lot of people <sup>right</sup>  
now are calling it out |  
~~will be calling it~~ Trojan Horse and Fifth Column problem.

DEFENSE.

*And that just naturally brings us to this next item - which tells us that*  
Tomorrow President Roosevelt will ask Congress for another billion dollars to be spent on national armament.

This - in addition to the one billion and a hundred and eighty-two millions requested two weeks ago. Additional also to previous billions put up recently. *Bringing* It brings the defense money for the Nineteen Forty-one fiscal year to a grand total of four billion, ~~and~~ four hundred million dollars.

At his press conference today, President Roosevelt said that the extra billion is made necessary by world events during the past couple of weeks. He didn't say so specifically, but he obviously referred to the defeat the Allies have suffered in Flanders.

Moreover, the President will ask Congress to provide still further huge sums of money with which to train a million men - soldiers, technicians and mechanical experts. This was stated by Presidential Secretary Steve Early, who added that there won't be any conscription. The program for the one million men will be on the basis of voluntary enlistment.

One angle of it will be - the civilian conservation corps. According to the plan, the C. C. C. would be used as a reservoir

for services behind the military lines. Young men enrolling in the C. C. C. hereafter, would be required to pledge themselves to accept non-combatant training. ~~Training in such subjects as cooking, baking, first aid to the injured, the operation of motor vehicles, road construction, photography and signal ~~and~~ communications. These tasks are called, "matters incident to the successful conduct of military and naval activities. The new~~

<sup>The</sup>~~C. C. C.~~ plan is described in these terms:- "This is strictly non-combatant. It will not require any boy to enter the Army or Navy. The C. C. C. lads would get the training so that, if war should come, they could enlist as skilled men in such branches of the service as the medical corps, signal corps and engineering corps.

57

---

Today, the national defense advisory commission appointed by the President held its first meeting. In the President's executive office it went into session with all members of the Cabinet except two, and with chiefs of the Army and Navy. The extraordinary national defense meeting lasted for two hours and twenty-five minutes, and when it broke up Secretary of Agriculture Wallace said - "We're organized."

The American Federation of Labor makes an attack on one appointment that President Roosevelt made to the National Defense Advisory Commission. And it isn't hard to guess which appointment it is that irks the A.F. of L:-

Today, Matthew Woll, vice-President of the A.F.of . fired a bristling b arrage of words at the White House. He described the appointment of ~~ix~~ C.I.O. Sidney Hillman in these terms:-

"acceptable to the President and his coterie of pseddo liberals and fellow travelers at Washington!" So said Matthew Woll.

And he added that the appointment was not acceptable to what he called "patriotic organized workers genuinely interested in national defense," Meaning of course, -- the A.F. of L.

RACE.

The great Indianapolis classic ended in a rather unclassical style today. Wilbur Shaw won the year's great auto race, but his victory was decidedly an anti-climax. For three hundred and seventy-five miles of the required five hundred, it was one of the most exciting of speed thrills. The pace was at its most blistering, cars bunched in a breakneck race at the three hundred and seventy-five mile mark. Then the rain came, and with the rain the yellow flag.

The flag is put out when the track is too wet and slippery for race driving. It means -- slow down and every man keep his place. Slow down to eighty-five miles an hour, and just cruise around. So around and around they went, just for a ride.

Wilbur Shaw was in the lead, and it meant -- his race, if the yellow flag stayed out. Drivers passing the judge's stand waved and made gestures <sup>that</sup> they wanted the yellow flag lowered. Let them start racing with each other again.

But it was no go. The yellow flag stayed out, and for a hundred and twenty-five miles, they kept going round and round

just for the fresh air -- and Wilbur Shaw won the unclassical Classic. *And now Hugh have for anything*

*Classical or unclassical to add?*

58 1/2

59

59 1/4