warship was given chase and engaged in action at long range. Visibility decreased rapidly. The enemy withdrew at high speed. The British cruiser *Berwick* sustained slight damage and five casualties.

26th Dec.—The Royal Australian Air Force over the Western Desert shoot down two Italian planes.

Greek troops have entered Lin and are advancing upon Chasasan Chukus. They have also advanced in the northern sector of the Albanian front. Italians have abandoned the line of heights of strategic importance in the Chimarra area. Royal Air Force bomb Krionero.

No air raids over England.

Royal Air Force attack several aerodromes in Brittany and targets in the invasion port of Bordeaux.

Abyssinian resistance to Italians is growing. Abyssinian guerillas are constantly attacking Italian communications.

Any alien in the United States failing to register by midnight on 26th December 1940 is liable to six months' imprisonment and a 1,000 dollar fine.

27th Dec.—Little activity in the Western Desert.

Greeks have pushed forward north-east of Chimarra.

Nazi bombers re-appear over England. A hospital containing 700 patients has been damaged. A few bombs have been dropped in East Anglia and South-east England.

Royal Air Force raid L'Orient, bases in occupied France and Fockewulf, heavy bomber station at Meriganoc near Bordeaux.

Nauru, a defenceless mandated island in the Pacific has been shelled by an enemy raider sailing under a Japanese name and flying the Japanese colours. The raider hoisted the Nazi flag before opening fire.

German long-range guns mounted on French coast shell the Dover coast. No casualties or damages reported.

While the German press has warned the United States not to send ships to Eire, Rome has assured Eire that if she should be "forced to defend herself against British tyranny and aggression" she will receive full support from the Axis.

Germans are confiscating about 10,000 lb. of meat daily in Oslo.

A 4,000-ton supply ship has been set on fire by British planes during an attack on Haguesind area in Norway.

28th Dec.—Large scale attack on Bardia has not yet been launched. Italian prisoners counted to date in the Western Desert number 38,114 of whom 24,845 are Italian officers and other ranks. Fighter aircraft of a South African squadron intercept two Italian aircraft near Gadaref and shoot one down.

Greeks have dislodged the Italians from points north and north-west of Chimarra.

Enemy bombers make a short but sharp attack on a town in South-West England. A large number of shops and houses have been wrecked.

Royal Air Force atack L'Orient, oil targets at Rotterdam and Antwerp and the invasion ports of Boulogne and Cherbourg.

Sixty per cent of the American people today think that it is more important for the United States to help Britain even at the risk of being involved in the war themselves than to keep out of the war, according to the latest poll conducted by the Gallup Institute of Public Opinion.

Admiral Darlan who was comissioned to tell Herr Otto Abetz, Hitler's Ambassador in Paris, of Marshal Petain's firm refusal to surrender the French fleet has returned to Vichy with his report.

29th Dec.—While preparations for the final onslaught on Bardia are continuing British mechanized units are engaged in clearing up enemy concentrations east and south of this port. In reply to British harassing fire Italian artillery becomes more active. Royal Air Force bomb landing grounds at Tmimi, Tobruk, Derna and Gazala.

After fierce fighting in north-east and north of Chimarra, Greeks have captured three more villages. Royal Air Force attack Valona twice.

Nazi raid on London. German raiders make "a deliberate attempt to set fire to the City of London." One thousand firemen spend the night in fighting a ring of fires. St. Paul's Cathedral has been saved again from destruction. But the following nine churches have been damaged:—St. Brides in Fleet street, St. Lawrence in Jewry, St. Stephens in Coleman street, St. Vedasts in Foster lane, St. Mary in Aldermanbury, St. Andrew St. Anne and St. Agnes in Gresham street, Christ Church, Greyfriars and St. Mary Wollnoth in Lombard street. Guild hall, Doctor Johnson's memorial house in Gough Square, Old Bailey and Trinity House have also been damaged.

While German raiders scattered fire bombs indiscriminately on London, British bombing squadrons which crossed to enemy-occupied territory decided that the weather was too bad for accurate bombing and restricted their activities to a small scale. A small squadron attack objectives in Germany as well as invasion ports and military objectives in the Frankfurt area. Royal Air Force attack Naples also and drop bombs and leaflets containing Mr. Churchill's speech.

The Foreign Minister declares that Bulgaria will not depart from her avowed policy of strict neutrality.

President Roosevelt speaks out that America must be the great arsenal of Democracy. He expresses the belief, based on

latest information, that the Axis powers are not going to win the war.

30th Dec.—Italian bombers escorted by raiders raid Malta. No material damage caused, the casualties being two small children slightly wounded.

Fortified positions to the west of Pogradetz have been wrenched by the Greeks from the Italians. During local operations Greeks capture over a thousand Italian prisoners and arms.

Bad weather conditions give whole of Britain a night free from enemy air activity.

Unfavourable weather over the continent prevent the Royal Air Force from carrying out usual operations in Germany and occupied territories.

31st Dec.—British artillery has again been active in the Bardia area. The Italians continue passively to await events.

The Royal Air Force raid Taranto and Naples. Bombs dropped on Torre Annunziata. Valona has again been raided.

Deadly engagements are being fought out in Klisura sector. On the western banks of Lake Ochrida extremely fierce fighting is continuing. The village of Lin proves difficult for the Greeks to capture partly owing to the intense cold and partly on account of some high flanking positions which the Italians are still holding. Italians are however withdrawing their material towards Elbasan.

Air raids over England is confined to a few isolated attacks by single aircraft in Kent and Sussex.

Targets in Germany and the Low Countries have been attacked by British bombers—Cologne, Rotterdam and docts at Ymuiden and Flushing. Two British aircraft are missing The attacks have been made during day-light. No night attack has been made.

President Roosevelt indicated at a Press Conference that his lending and leasing programme to Britain might embrace repayment to America by Britain sending raw materials to the United States.

It is reported that the Vichy Government and Germany have broken off negotiations. It is understood that Marshal Petain's message upheld the view-point that the armistice conditions left him the full right to make whatever changes in the Vichy Cabinet he thinks fit.

A mass levy of fire watchers—some millions of men and women, house-holders and shop-keepers and workers in the office buildings, factories and ware-houses—have been called for by the Home Secretary after the great fire raid on London on Sunday, the 29th December. The principle of compulsion has been affirmed by Government.

A British war ship sinks four Italian supply ships in the Adriatic.

1st Jan.—A new line of fortified positions discounting possible future loss of Tepeleni, Klissura and Valona is being prepared by the Italians across Central Albania. The Greeks are advancing in three main sections, the first towards Berat, the second towards Elbasan and the third based on Pogradetz and Lin also towards Elbasan.

Several enemy aircraft have been active over England and Wales. A small number of people have been killed and some others injured.

Bombs have been dropped in Ireland by an unidentified plane between Droghdea and Julians Town, thirty miles north of Dublin.

Royal Air Force hammer Germany, Bremen coming in for severe battering. Ports in enemy-occupied territory including Flushing, Ostend and Brest have been attacked.

As a result of Marshal Petain's firm action most of the French warships destroyers and submarines stationed at Toulon are reported to have gone to Bizerta, Oran, Casablanca and Dakar. A number of French airmen have also been sent to North Africa.

M. Stalin in a signed article in the *Red Star* says: "The danger of war for Russia has increased. The whole nation must hold itself in a state of preparedness. We are facing danger of military aggression and we must leave no opportunity for our enemies to catch us unawares."

Reports from German frontier state that a new type of Junkers planes made of transparent material and to be scarcely visible at a height of 2,400 feet is being constructed at big aircraft factories.

Five hundred persons including 70 women and 7 children have been rescued from Emirau Island in Bismarck where they have been landed from an enemy raider on December 21. They comprise passengers and crew of seven ships.

2nd Jan.—Bardia is regarded as pretty well cut off and there are no means of escape for Italian troops.

Italo-Greek War. Ominous quiet prevails in Albania. On the Italian frontier, barracks occupied by the Italian garrison at Postumia have been set on fire.

More bombs have been dropped on Eire territory. One of the incendiary bombs picked up has been identified as German.

Enemy air action over England has been confined to coastal areas. Little damage and few minor casualties have been caused by bombs dropped in Kent.

Royal Air Force attack German invasion ports in spite of bad weather conditions in the Straits of Dover.

Sections of the German Air Force have arrived in Italy. It is stated that the German Air Contingent will participate in the air and naval struggle in the Mediterranean.

It is stated that a military regime has been organized by General Antonescu in Rumania superseding the former "Legionary State".

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the fortnight ending 24th December 1940 :—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
December 11, Wednesday.	R. A. F. night raids on Mannheim (power-stations, inland docks, railway yards); invasion bases at Calais, Boulogne, Etaples.	1	..
December 12, Thursday.	R. A. F. night raids on shipping of Dutch coast, naval base at Brest.	..	..
December 13, Friday.	R. A. F. night raids on Bremen (harbour, warehouses, factories, railway stations and yards); Bordeaux (submarine base, warehouses); naval shipbuilding yards at Kiel; invasion bases and aerodromes in Holland.	Nil.	..
December 14, Saturday.	R. A. F. night raids on submarine bases at Brest and L'Orient.	Nil.	..
December 15, Sunday.	R. A. F. night raids on Berlin (arms factories, railway stations, junctions and yards, power stations); Frankfurt (inland port, factories, warehouses, grain elevators, oil plant); naval shipbuilding yards at Kiel and Bremen; shipping off French coast.	3	..
December 16, Monday.	R. A. F. day raids on aerodromes in occupied territory; shipping off French coast. R. A. F. night raids on Mannheim-Ludwigshaven area (aniline and other industrial works, aircraft factory at Speyer, railway yards and other objectives in Neckerstadt and Heilbronn); Bordeaux (submarines and docks).	4	..
December 17, Tuesday.	R. A. F. night raids on industrial targets at Mannheim; invasion bases and aerodromes along Channel.	..	..
December 18, Wednesday.	R. A. F. night raids on Pirelli aero-engine works at Milan; docks at Genoa; industrial plant at Mannheim; aerodromes in N. Germany; submarine base at L'Orient.	Nil.	..
December 19, Thursday.	R. A. F. day raids on aerodromes at Le Touquet and Maupertus. R. A. F. night raids on Bergen-Oslo railway (Norway); industrial objectives in Duisberg-Ruhrort, Bonn and Essen; oil plant at Cologne; A. A. batteries at Dusseldorf.	Nil.	..
December 20, Friday.	R. A. F. day raids on aerodromes and harbours in occupied territory; enemy shipping off Boulogne; gun emplacements and barracks near Cap Griz-Nez. R.A.F. night raids on Berlin (aero-engine and other factories, railway stations, goods and timber yards, inland docks, search lights and A. A. batteries); industrial objectives in the Ruhr; invasion bases at Flushing, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Ostend, Boulogne and Le Havre.	Nil.	..

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
December 21, Saturday.	R. A. F. night raids on Bergen-Oslo railway (Norway); Venice (docks, factories and petroleum plant at Porto Marghera); oil plant in Ruhr and Rhineland; military stores at Cologne; factories inland docks; railways and aerodromes in Germany; oil depots at Amsterdam; invasion bases at Rotterdam, Flushing, Antwerp, Ostend, Calais.	*Nil.*	..
December 22, Sunday.	R. A. F. dawn attacks on naval bases at Wilhelmshaven, Brest, L'Orient. R. A. F. night raids on Mannheim-Ludwigshaven (railways, river docks, industrial objectives); other Rhineland targets; invasion bases at Flushing, Dunkirk, Calais; aerodromes in occupied territory.	One.	..
December 23, Monday.	R. A. F. night raids on invasion bases at Ostend, Dunkirk, Boulogne, industrial targets in Rhineland, including Mannheim-Ludwigshaven.	One.	..
December 24, Tuesday.	No R. A. F. raids over Germany	..	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the fortnight ending 24th December 1940:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
December 11	Nil.	2
December 12	Nil.	6
December 13	..	2
December 14	..	..
December 15	..	2
December 16	..	..
December 17	..	..
December 18	..	..
December 19	..	1
December 20	..	..
December 21	..	4
December 22	2 (Interned in Eire).	3
December 23	..	3
December 24	..	..

TALKING POINTS

POSITION IN GREAT BRITAIN

From all accounts the position of the Allies in 1941 is infinitely superior to that which faced Great Britain in the middle of last year after the Dunkirk episode and the fall of France. There is of course still the prospective German invasion of Great Britain, but now that on land, sea and air the situation has improved remarkably, there is no apprehension about the possible result of such an attempt by Hitler. The shipping losses are serious but measures are being taken to combat the menace to shipping both from the air and from under the water, while the losses are being recouped by new building and acquisition. Several cities in England have gone through severe trials, London especially has had the worst of it. But the people are standing to it and the morale of the people is as high as ever, the indiscriminate bombing only strengthening the determination to fight till victory is won. Mr. Churchill's answer to the question as to when the war will be over, that it will be over when Great Britain has defeated Germany, is significant of the aim and purpose of Great Britain. Mr. Bevin declared a few days ago that the time lost in industrial disputes in Great Britain during the last twelve months was lower than any period in the last 50 years. Contrasting the difference of Great Britain with France which swore by the Maginot Line but failed to maintain a strong reserve, Mr. Churchill said: "We are not making the mistake made by the French General Staff. We have now got a very large army behind this country capable of moving to any place with great rapidity and of coming into action in the strongest counter-offensive."

GERMANY'S DIFFICULTIES

The War is a race against time so far as Hitler is concerned. He tries to have a knock-out blow against Great Britain, but for securing this object he requires the help of France. From all accounts it is clear that France has so far declined, relying upon the Armistice terms, either to hand over what remains of the French Navy or to enable Germany to use the French ports in the Mediterranean for its operations in Africa. Will Hitler, as suggested, by the marching of troops in occupied France, invade unoccupied France and forcibly occupy the French ports? The result of that will be to inflame Marshal Petain's Government against Germany and strengthen De Gaulle's Free French Forces with the almost certain prospect of forcing the great French Colonial Empire being ranged against him. Will he then send his troops through Spain, occupy Gibraltar and thus help Italy, at the same time making the Atlantic unsafe for Great Britain? General Franco has so far shown, though he is a non-belligerent, considerable prudence in refusing to walk into Germany's parlour. One has also got to remember what Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Ambassador in Madrid, said on the 1st January: "Much had already been achieved to remove differences between Spanish and Anglo-Saxon peoples, and he was convinced that in the coming months of the great struggle, the fundamental outlook and interests of the Spanish and Anglo-Saxons were the same." The drive to move into the Balkans is still in the offing. But though Rumania is practically an occupied country and Hungary is practically in Hitler's hands, Bulgaria is distinctly hostile to Hitler's moves. It has declared its neutrality, strengthened of course by Greek successes and encouraged perhaps by Russia. Yugoslavia is likewise unwilling to help Hitler in his plans. But Hitler is still powerful, and what his plans are nobody knows. But the odds are certainly against him. French faith in Britain is steadily increasing. Turkey's friendship to Great Britain is growing. Russia is not over-enthusiastic about Germany and Germany cannot without exposing weak spots remove vast armies from one front to another.

ITALY

Italy is more a liability to Hitler than an asset. Mussolini could have justified his partnership in the Axis by using his navy and army in Libya and drive the British from the Eastern Mediterranean. But the Italian navy preferred port to open sea. Graziani, in spite of his careful preparations, did not launch his attack on Egypt. And what is the position in Libya? The battle of Bardia is now being fought. Bardia is not a war encampment but a strongly fortified base with heavy coastal artillery and land defences prepared in peace up to some seven miles in depth. British armoured units have got in behind Bardia and cut the road to Tobruk. The Royal Navy has bombarded all the positions from Tobruk to Bardia from the sea. Mechanised cavalry is sweeping round in an encircling movement and a frontal attack is being delivered by the infantry, supported on the ground by tanks and field artillery and in the air by aircraft which hold off the dive-bombers of the enemy and rain destruction upon targets. It must be remembered, however, that the swift moves and remarkable successes of British forces are not designed to secure large slices of the Libyan desert, but only to inflict, as such damage as possible on the Italian war machine. There are difficulties of supply and reinforcements in the desert, and it is not possible now to say how far the westward drive will go. But the loss of 38,000 Italian soldiers who have been made prisoners besides a large number of dead and wounded and heavy losses in war materials have resulted in a crushing blow to Italian prestige.

Greek successes, more and more of which are being registered every day, have brought Mussolini no comfort whatsoever. Despite bitter winter weather and heavy falls of snow, the Greek forces are marching onwards; they have gained the commanding heights which

dominate the coast road between Chimarra and Valona, Tepelini, which is an important junction on the road to Valona from Argyrocastro and Klissura, an important supply depot. Valona, therefore, is being threatened by a double converging movement and is being constantly bombarded by the R.A.F. If the Greeks succeed in pushing their way down the valley of Skumbi to Elbasan, the whole Italian position in Albania based on Durazzo would become well nigh perilous. The Italians, however, have strong reinforcements and they have short lines of communication, while the distance of the Greek forces from their supply bases is long. The Italian morale is so low and the prospect of direct German help is so distant that the Greeks, who may well be content until the spring to break the back of the Italians, will be tempted to follow up their successes by quick drives.

The successful operations against the Italians by the Greeks in Albania and the British in North Africa are due primarily to the command of Mediterranean by the Royal Navy, which has always retained the initiative, by the Fleet Air Arm crippling the Italian navy. It will be remembered that the Italian port of Valona was bombarded on the 18th December. British destroyers, cruisers and battleships passed the Straits of Otranto which are only 40 miles wide and which are strongly guarded on the west and the east. The cammand of the Mediterranean means that Libya is cut off from Italy and Eritria from Libya.

AMERICAN ASSISTANCE

The striking pronouncement of recent days was that of President Roosevelt. The number of direct references to totalitarian countries in this speech is evidence of the desire of America to help Great Britain in every possible way. What can be more comforting than his statement that America will become the great arsenal of Democracy and his assertion, based on the latest information, that the Axis Powers were not going to win the war. Here are a few extracts from President Roosevelt's speech :—

> "If Britain goes down, the Axis will control Europe, Asia, Africa, Australasia and the high seas, and it is not an exaggeration to say that all of us in America will be living at the point of a gun, loaded with explosive bullets, economic as well as military."
>
> "The fate of nations, who, despite non-aggression pacts, have been overrun and thrown into a modern form of slavery, tells us what it means to live at the point of the Nazi gun. The Nazis justified such acts by pious frauds like occupying a country to restore order or protect it against aggression."
>
> "Any idea that the Nazis never desired to attack the Western Hemisphere was the same form of dangerous and wishful thinking, which had destroyed the power of resistance of many countries."
>
> "The Nazis have declared that all races are their inferiors and, therefore, subject to their orders and that, most important of all, the vast resources of this Hemisphere constitute the most tempting loot of all the world."
>
> "Experience has proved that none can appease the Nazis. No man can tame a tiger into a kitten by stroking it. Nations can only have peace with the Nazis at the price of total surrender." Replying to the argument that the Axis will win any way and that the United States might as well throw its influence into the scale of a dictated peace and get the best it can out of that negotiated peace, the President said :
>
> "Nonsense! Is it a negotiated peace if a gang of outlaws surrounds your community and, on threat of extermination, makes you pay tribute to save your skins?"
>
> "The Nazis talk of a new order in the world, but what they have in mind is the oldest and worst tyranny, in which there is no liberty, no religion and no hope."
>
> "The people of Europe who are fighting to defend themselves do not ask us to do their fighting. They ask for implements of war, planes, tanks, guns and freighters. Emphatically we must get these weapons to them in sufficient volume and quickly enough so that we and our children will be saved the agony and suffering of war, which others have had to endure."

THE NEW ORDER

In his striking Christmas message, His Majesty the King feelingly referred to the sufferings of his subjects owing to air raids and to the breaking of numerous family circles and to the fact that this time all the people were in the front line and in the danger together. His Majesty said : "To be good comrades and good neighbours in trouble is one of the finest opportunities for the civilian population and by facing hardship and discomfort cheerfully and resolutely not only do they do their own duty, but they play their part in helping the fighting services to win the war." The King continued : "On every side I have seen a new and splendid spirit of good fellowship springing up in adversity, a real desire to share burdens and resources alike. Out of all this suffering there is growing a harmony which we must carry forward into the days to come, when we have endured to the end and victory is ours."

His Majesty added : "We shall need this spirit in each of our own lives as men and women and shall need it even more among the nations of the world. We must go on thinking less about ourselves and more for one another, for so, and so only, can we hope to make the world a better place and life a worthier thing."

(Continued on Page 9)

THE NEW ORDER OF GERMANY

WHAT GERMAN WANTS

Germany boasts of the construction of a "New Order" for Europe and the world. What lies behind the Nazis' loud talk of a future paradise for all who will submit to the yoke? Here are some declared aims of German leaders :

(1) "The future goal of our foreign policy.....ought to be an Eastern policy which will have in view the acquisition of such territory as is necessary for our German people." *Hitler in 'Mein Kampf'.*

(2) "Basic tasks for the future are to prepare our Great German Empire and to make it into.....a vast continental and colonial domain." *Dr. Pfitzner, Propaganda Minister Bohemia-Moravia, Jan, 30, 1940.*

(3) "It is a fight for the destruction of England, the leadership of the world and the domination of our race."—*Dr. Ley, at Chemnitz, Feb. 9, 1940.*

(4) "Adolf Hitler is called upon to be the leader of the world, unhampered by anyone."—*Dr. Frank, Governor of German-occupied Poland, reported Dec. 22, 1940.*

DOES IT MATTER?

Would it matter to the ordinary man if Germany achieved her ends? Would it make much difference to him? The question can be answered by those already suffering under the Nazi "New Order".

Poles.

Last January a Vatican broadcast described "the worst persecution in one thousand years of history.....an almost daily tale of destruction and infamy, horror and inexcusable excesses committed upon helpless and homeless people".

Since that time the Nazi terror in Poland has not abated. The number of Poles who have died as a direct result of the conquerors' brutality runs into millions. More than half a million have been carried off to slave-labour in Germany.

Czechs.

Seven thousand Czechs in Nazi concentration-camps, the Universities and High Schools closed, the students imprisoned, tortured, assassinated, the scientific collections destroyed or taken away, all contact with the outside world prohibited.

Danes.

Plunder admitted in official Nazi publications began with the driving off of 24,000 sheep a few days afer invasion and of 11,000 head of cattle in a subsequent week. It has proceeded systematically ever since.

Norwegians.

Besides submitting to the suppression of all their traditional liberties, the people of Norway are expected to repay within a year the whole cost of invasion, estimated by the Nazis at £14 million sterling.

Belgians.

Short of food, chiefly fats, meat and grain, Belgium has to watch her pasture cut down by 50 per cent to serve the Nazi war-industry, and to feed the German army of occupation in return for worthless paper money specially printed for the purpose.

French.

The cost of maintaining the German troops occupying France is to be paid by France at 146 milliard francs a year, which means that the Nazis are demanding under this head practically 50 per cent of France's pre-war national income.

Dutch.

Nine-tenths of the Dutch stock of butter were removed in the first week of occupation. Holland has been despoiled of textile stocks, leather, hides and skins, petrol and coal. As in all other Nazi-occupied territories, her Trade Unions have been disbanded, their funds confiscated, and labourers transported to Germany.

TALKING POINTS.

(Continued from Page 8)

His Holiness the Pope, in a broadcast on Tuesday, December 24th, said that nations would come to realize the need for a solution of the social problems in the spirit of Christianity, and that the world will leave the hard school of to-day with an improved mind. We must strive for : first, a victory over hatred ; secondly, a victory over lack of trust in international co-operation, thirdly, a victory over the grim principle that force stands for right ; fourthly, a victory over the economic divergencies ; fifthly, victory over egotism. About the coming changes His Holiness said : "Europe and its system of states will not be as they were before. Something new, better, more advanced, more sound, freer and stronger, must replace the past order and eliminate its defects, the weaknesses and deficiencies said to have been convincingly disclosed in recent events." The Pope continued : "With some clear knowledge of the defects of the present and a determined orientation towards a rearrangement that will safeguard the juridical basis of a political international life, no one can be surprised that this pulsating desire is felt more keenly by those larger sections that live by manual labour and so always bound in peace and war to taste more than others the bitter results of economic dislocation, internal and international."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Haw-Haw on Navigation.

Nothing arouses Lord Haw-Haw to greater fury than the British refusal to crack up under indiscriminate and murderous bombardment from the air. On December 17, in the course of a vicious personal attack on Lord Cranbourne for delivering a Christmas-tide address in the Church of St. Martins-in-the-Fields (which itself has suffered from Hun bombing), Haw-Haw professes himself unable to understand why the British people, instead of talking about peace, stupidly prepare themselves to endure even greater trials.

Says Haw-Haw: "A ship's company has good justification for standing by an injured vessel when there is reason to suppose that it will not go down; but if the pumps prove useless and the water rises unchecked, if the captain can hold out no reasonable hope of saving the ship, it is an act of lunacy not to take to the boats."

Since Haw-Haw is obviously an expert in the technique of abandoning ships, perhaps he will tell a puzzled world just why the crews of German vessels caught by the enemy invariably scuttle their craft and take to the boats —often before any damage has been done to the ship itself? Can it be that the Germans (unlike the British) have no confidence in "the captain"—either of the ship, or of the ship of State?

Money Well Spent.

But Haw-Haw's quitter mentality refuses to grasp that the British people are determined to see the war through to the final destruction of Hitlerism. "Fourteen million pounds is a respectable sum," he admits on December 19. "Well may the British workers reflect that their conditions would be vastly different if all this money were spent upon social reform in peace instead of being squandered upon a war."

What does not occur to Haw-Haw is that the British workers—under their trusted leaders Ernest Bevin, Clement Attlee and Herbert Morrison—are grimly content that "all this money" should be spent (*not* squandered) to ensure that the vast measure of social reform achieved under British Trades Unionism shall not be ruthlessly ground under the Nazi heel—as in Germany itself, not to mention those countries whose workers she has murdered, plundered or dragged off to slavery.

Dr. Goebbels Loses His Memory.

The Berlin radio is very angry with the *New York Times* because it "hopes its readers are going to believe that Germany lost 80,000 men in an attempt by the British forces to set German boats on fire." This "fantastic report", as Berlin calls it, doubtless refers to the decisive smashing of Hitler's September invasion plans by the Royal Air Force in the middle of that month, when many thousands of picked Nazi troops perished during the bombing of the North Sea and Channel invasion bases. "The editorial staff of the *New York Times*," bleats the Goebbels gramophone, "should not overlook the fact that if the British forces had scored this success, the British propaganda which is prone to overstatements, would have been only too pleased to draft an official report. It would have been invaluable as a tonic to British morale."

What the editorial staff of the Berlin wireless has evidently overlooked is that the British Government—so far from shewing itself "prone to over-statement"—waited for close on a month before endorsing the story of the German defeat during the week of September 14/15.

The first reports of what had happened at the Nazi invasion ports during that critical week-end came from neutral sources, and the British authorities devoted several weeks to checking up on the story before they themselves issued a statement. But Berlin is right in suggesting that the official report would be a tonic to the British people; it was.

Wearing Them Down.

The Italian troops in North Africa, says the Rome radio (Dec. 19) are "wearing down" their British opponents. Nearly 40,000 of them are doing their "wearing down" in prison camps on the Nile Delta, while another 20,000 besieged in Bardia must, for all their heroism and tenacity, be feeling just a little worn down themselves; the remainder of Marshal Graziani's forces have so far been wary enough to avoid contact with General Wavell's troops. Nevertheless, the Rome radio naively announces: "It appears that Italy is now reaping the benefit of her advance to Sidi Barrani some time ago." The only tangible advantage which the Fascists reaped from that advance was the £60,000 highway built by Graziani's engineers, the "Way of Victory" along which he has retreated into Libya.

From "Attic Fires" to "Decrease of Production."

The Nazi radio still keeps up the pretence that Royal Air Force raids on Germany damage only "private houses" and "non-military institutions," though it is worth noting that the Germans are now giving up their references to "attic fires" in favour of "upper-story blazes." Mentioning one of the current heavy British attacks on the great industrial works at Mannheim, Berlin says that "among other buildings, a palace and a hospital were hit."

Some clue to the identity of those "other buildings" is given in a later sentence, which says: "Decrease of production which occurred in two industrial works is insignificant". That Goebbels' high-powered liars should admit any decrease of production at all is evidence of the extreme weight of this particular attack on Mannheim—which took place on December 16 and lasted eight hours.

Further evidence of the "decreased production" which followed earlier Royal Air Force excursions over Germany came from the Nazi-controlled Dutch radio, which stated at the end of October that no less than 90,000 Dutch building workers had been taken to Germany. More recently the *Deutsche Bergwerkzeitung* revealed that the transfer to Germany of entire Dutch contracting firms, with their own staff and machinery, was being planned.

Berlin Fears Bevin.

Berlin is busy broadcasting alarming figures for industrial strikes in Britain and foreshadowing a labour revolt "against the would-be dictator of British labour, Mr. Bevin", who, the Nazis say, "has not succeeded in settling trade disputes by mediation." Lord Haw-Haw supplements these bogus news bulletins (December 18) with the observation:

"Despite the law forbidding strikes, strikes have broken out. If they have not been suppressed by coercion, the only reason is that the Government is uncertain how far it can go without causing some revolutionary or at least some drastic action on the part of labour which would bring the war to an end."

On December 19, Mr. Bevin was able to tell the world that "the time lost in industrial disputes in Britain during the last twelve months is lower than at any period during the last 50 years." And there is every indication that the phrase "Go to it," coined by Mr. Bevin when he assumed office, has become the motto of British labour in the war against Hitler. Next to Churchill, Bevin is now the man most feared by Germany.

First Aid From Sweden.

Berlin waxes very jubilant (December 23) over an alleged statement by Lt.-Col. Gunnard Johannsen, a Swedish "aeronautical expert", who has just told Stockholm newspapermen that he was unable to discover a single quay, crane or dock in Hamburg which had been damaged by British bombs. "From the tower of St. Michæl's Church", adds Berlin, "he saw that the warehouses of Hamburg were intact."

The gallant Colonel's testimony might have been more impressive had he visited the warehouses themselves—or what was left of them—instead of climbing the tower of St. Michael's, which stands in the heart of the historic Old Town, an area which the R. A. F. (unlike the *Luftwaffe*) would naturally be careful to avoid. Hamburg's 4,095 acres of deep-water docks and warehouses stand at a considerable distance from the fruit and vegetable stalls in the midst of which St. Michael's tower rears its head, and even a Swedish aeronautical expert would be hard put to it to see any portion of the city's main industrial areas from that vantage-point.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Without Comment.

"The British Army had been crippled at the time of its flight from Europe but now its morale is completely shattered"—*German broadcast, December* 17.

"The whole German Press has issued a decisive answer to the succession of fabricated reports which attempt to draw unfavouable conclusions from the recent fighting in Egypt."—*German broadcast, December* 18.

"Detachments of Italian divisions isolated and encircled resisted to the last shot. After having eliminated the troops of General Maletti and those of the Second Libyan Division, the enemy hurled himself against Sidi Barrani where, on January 3, the Black Shirt Division bombarded as well from the sea and air, resisted for two days. The First Libyan Division, after being submitted to intense bombardment from British aircraft and the Fleet, had tried to fall back on Sidi Barrani, but found the road cut by enemy armoured cars. It resisted for a long time, knowing its fate sealed. On the evening of December 15, when mechanized corps were advancing on Sollum, Caba, Faizis and Sidi Omar, and one group had already appealed at Sidi Aziz, our troops withdrew in order on Bardia where they still withstand the enemy's attacks.—*Graziani's report to Mussolini, December* 22.

Sweden Condemns "Nazi Order".

The Nazis threaten the Danish people with exclusion from the "New Order" if they show "any inclination towards Britain" and put this threat in the mouth of an unnamed Danish paper (December 18). These attempts to boost the "New Order" are as pathetic as they are persistent. Those neutral countries which are not afraid of Nazi bullying have already made up their minds about the system of German oppression which the Nazis euphemistically call the "New Order". Speaking on December 18 in Sweden, the Foreign Minister, M. Unden, said that the "New Order" and "division of living spaces" envisaged in the Axis Pact have no attraction for Sweden and other small countries.

This new order, he said, meant that small nations would be placed in an indicated space and would lose their independence. Even the industries of small States would be controlled and directed to suit the great

powers. A durable peace could not be made, said M. Unden, by a partition of the world along the lines which made small States pauper inmates of the living space of some great power. This candid expression of opinion is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that Sweden is within arms reach of the Nazi bully.

1917 and Now.

The Germans' approvingly quote an American naval expert (Dec. 20) as saying that the German U-Boats have become as big a menace to Britain as they were in 1917. "It should be borne in mind," they add, "that the situation was very critical for Britain in that year."

Comparisons with the situation in 1917 should hardly be encouraging to the Nazis for they cannot have forgotten who won the war in 1918 in spite of the U-Boat campaign of 1917.

Actually the shipping situation now is far better than it was in 1917. In April 1917 the Germans destroyed 880,000 tons of shipping. The worst recent period of 4 weeks was that ending on October 20 during which 374,502 tons of shipping was lost.

What They Fear.

Both the Italians and the Nazis have often made statements which seem to show that they dread having to meet Indian soldiers in battle. On December 20, for example, the Nazis complained, apropos of the achievements of Indian soldiers in the Western Desert, that Britain has the habit of placing soldiers belonging to other countries at danger points.

Indian troops have always shared equally with other Imperial troops the dangers and the glory of battle. In the Western Desert when the orders for the major advance were given, Indian troops took up positions by night and at dawn both British and Indian troops made a lightning advance in co-operation with tanks and artillery.

British Imports.

The Nazi allegation in Hindustani (Dec. 19) that the difficulty of importing foodstuffs and raw materials has rendered Britain impotent is exploded by the fact that (*a*) Britain is by no means impotent, as events are decisively showing and (*b*) British imports are increasing.

The net value of British imports between November 1, 1939 and October 31, 1940, amounted to £1,120 millions. For the first ten months of 1940, Britain's imports amounted to £953·7 millions, which is £236·5 millions, or, to put it another way, 33 per cent more than in the period January to October 1939. Incidentally, of this increase, £105 millions went into raw materials. Most other categories also, excluding some luxuries, registered increases.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 2 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, Jan. 11, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

3rd Jan.—Australian forces, supported by tanks, penetrate a sector of the defences of Bardia. Later on they penetrate the centre defences of Bardia to a depth of two miles on a frontage of nine miles.

The Greeks are continuing to nibble their way forward in all sectors in Albania. They cross the river Bence in the southern sector. The advance threatens to cut the road from Tepelini to Valona. In the central sector they have occupied Dobranje.

The full force of the *Luftwaffe's* fire raid falls on Bristol. Many buildings which would otherwise have been destroyed have been saved by the prompt action of civilians. A nursing home, a municipal clinic, a convent, a cinema and a hotel were hit. Four churches and four schools were damaged. Four firemen and two soldiers are believed to have been killed.

Royal Air Force bombers attack the industrial area in Bremen and set ablaze factories. Other targets in the enemy and enemy-occupied territory have also been attacked.

A reorganization of the Vichy Cabinet is announced. A Triumvirate, consisting of Admiral Darlan, General Huntziger and M. Flandin, has been formed to direct the affairs of the country under Marshal Petain's orders. M. Baudoin has resigned his office as Secretary of State to the Presidency of the Council.

President Roosevelt discloses that he is sending Mr. Harry Hopkins, former Secretary for Commerce, to Britain, as his personal representative, until a new Ambassador is appointed to succeed Mr. Kennedy. There is probably no man in America so close to the President as Mr. Hopkins who is therefore in an excellent position to inform Mr. Churchill very precisely where the President stands.

It is reported that German troops are massed along the line separating occupied and non-occupied France and are only restrained from occupying the whole country by Marshal Petain's threat to go to Africa with the French Fleet.

It is announced that the cut in the meat ration in England was the result of some ships which carried meat having been utilized for taking munitions to Libya. Explaining the meat position in the country, Lord Woolton, Food Minister, declares that he is deliberately sacrificing meat at home for munitions in Libya.

The American liner *President Coolidge* has arrived in Kobe to evacuate the wives and children of the crews of the United States fleet in the Far East. This evacuation of American women and children "reflects deeply the stirring international situation."

The British submarine, *Thunderbolt*, sinks an Italian submarine proceeding under escort to its base in enemy-occupied territory.

4th Jan.—General Wavell has tightened his stranglehold on Bardia. Over 15,000 of the Italian garrison are prisoners in British hands. Operations to mop up the remaining centres of resistance are continuing satisfactorily.

Desperate Italian counter-attacks against positions recently captured by the Greeks have been repulsed by the Greeks with heavy Italian losses. One of the most vigorous of these counter-attacks has been in the region of Klisura. On the north front the Greeks occupy important heights at nearly 5,000 feet.

British bombers raid successfully road junctions and other military objectives at Elbasan.

Night raids on England by enemy aircraft. The attack has been directed against a West England town where some damage has been done. A number of people have been killed or injured. Bombs have also been dropped at places in South Wales but the damage is not extensive nor casualties numerous. Losses: Enemy 2; British 1 missing.

Royal Air Force attack repeatedly in daylight and at dusk Brest, one of Germany's chief 'invasion' ports on the French coast. One German fighter plane has been hit and broken up in the air. One British plane fails to return. Targets in Hamburg have also been attacked. Direct hits have been scored in another operation on two enemy merchantships off the south-west coast of Norway.

A spokesman of the Foreign Office in Berlin denies that the Germans had anything to do with the bombing of Eire. He goes so far as to say that those bombs are English or else they are imaginary.

Franco-German negotiations are proceeding slowly owing to Marshal Petain's resolute resistance to everything not included in the Armistice terms.

A new anti-submarine weapon is being used by the British navy, namely, a vessel called "Corvette", a small speedy ship

whose prototype is the whale catcher. The "Corvette" is specially built to protect merchant shipping.

5th Jan.—The Italian garrison at Bardia surrenders. Thirty thousand prisoners with quantities of tanks, guns, equipment and stores of all sorts have been captured.

The Greeks have captured further positions particularly in the coastal sector of the Albanian front. Gunfire from both sides indicates that the Greeks and the Italians are both preparing for a major battle in the Elbasan-Pogradetz sector.

A Greek submarine, "*The Katsonia*" sinks an Italian tanker in the Adriatic off Sangiovannidimedu.

Free French Africa, a vast zone supporting General de Gaulle, has now definitely come into the war against Germany and Italy.

British official recognition has been given to the "Council of Defence of the Empire" established by General de Gaulle at Brazzaville.

It is reported that the Germans have demanded from the Vichy Government control of the Mont Cenis route to Italy.

One enemy raider attacks East Anglia in daylight and drops a few bombs causing a small amount of damage and injury to a few people. Machine-gun attacks by single raiders have also been reported. At night London has been the main target of the *Luftwaffe*. Fires started at several points have been promptly dealt with. Casualties are believed to be not heavy.

The internal position of Rumania is worsening and the administration is scarcely able to maintain control, according to information from the Bulgarian-Rumanian frontier.

Brest has been bombed again in daylight by British bombers. Shipping in the docks and the enemy aerodrome have been the targets. One German plane has been shot down.

6th Jan.—Elements of the Imperial Forces are approaching Tobruk. Royal Air Force rain bombs on Tobruk. There has been increased air activity over Eastern Libya. Royal Air Force fighters engage in several combats, destroy seven Fiat biplane fighters and four Savoia bombers and badly damage several others. Royal Air Force also raid Massawa, Italy's East African naval base.

A thaw in the northern sector of the Albanian front has enabled the Greeks to resume their advance. Their artillery has been very effective in weakening enemy positions.

Bombs have been dropped in the London area, in Kent and the Eastern Counties by single German aircraft. Some damage is done to houses and shops and a small number of people killed.

President Roosevelt addresses Congress. In the course of his address he states that the purpose and pledge of the Americans to the Democracies are that the Americans are vitally concerned in the defence of freedom and that they would put forth their energies, resources and organizing powers to give the Democracies strength to regain and maintain a free world and that they would send them in ever-increasing numbers, ships, planes, tanks and guns. He also adds that in fulfilment of that purpose the Americans will not be intimidated by the threats of Dictators that they will regard as breach of international law and as an act of war America's aid to Democracies which dare resist their aggression.

Vichy's Labour Minister M. Belin is reported to have handed in his resignation. Official circles in Berlin admit that the deterioration in the relations between Berlin and Vichy is increasing and that this will possibly lead to an "entirely new situation."

Rumania is completely cut off from the outside world as a result of demonstrations in the country against the Germans. All telephone calls to the outside world have been stopped including diplomatic ones.

A War Production Executive Committee is to be set up in London consisting of the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Alexander, the Minister of Aircraft Production, Lord Beaverbrook, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Bevin, and the Minister of Supply, Sir Andrew Duncan.

General de Gaulle has conferred on General Catroux the title of the Delegate General for Egypt and High Commissioner for the Middle East and the Balkan States.

Owing to adverse weather conditions no bombing operations have been carried out by the Royal Air Force on the continent.

Blenheim aircraft of the Coastal Command attack three enemy merchant vessels off the Norwegian Coast and badly damage one. Bomber Blenheims attack enemy tankers off the Dutch Coast and score a direct hit on one of them.

Australian Navy authorities announce that seven Europeans and one Filipino are known to have been killed aboard the vessels sunk by Nazi raiders in southern waters. Sixty-seven Europeans are missing and are believed to be prisoners and four Filipinos are believed to be killed.

7th Jan.—British mechanised forces are now in contact with the outer defence of Tobruk. So far 94,000 Italian troops have been captured. Huge quantities of material have been taken. The aerodrome of El Adem near Tobruk has been evacuated by the Italians and 40 aeroplanes (unserviceable owing to Royal Air Force bombing) have been captured by the British forces.

Despite intense cold the Greek Northern Army is relentlessly "nibbling" at Italian positions in the Skumbi valley. Lin is practically in ruins. Royal Air Force bomb Valona.

The cost of the war accounts for the greater part of Italy's heavy deficit of 28,000 million lire of which exceptional military expenditure and Empire development account for 22,000 million lire, on last year's budget.

German "nuisance" raiders appear over London and part of East Coast regions at intervals during the day. England has a blitz-free night.

It is understood that Von Ribbentrop saw Professor Filoff, the Bulgarian Prime Minister. The refusal of Wilhelmstrasse, however, to discuss the state of Bulgarian-German relations indicates that the negotiations have had negative results.

Greek destroyers sailing unmolested into the Adriatic have heavily bombarded the Albanian port of Valona. This is the third time that Greek surface craft has penetrated the Straits of Otranto, which divide the "heel" of Italy from the Albanian coast. Throughout the operations not a single enemy warship was sighted.

Many Iron Guardists have been killed in fighting in Rumania. Fighting is reported to be between two Iron Guardist factions—one supporting General Antonescu's Government and the other of extremist Legionary elements.

A supreme directorate for the United States defence programme to speed up arms production was established by President Roosevelt. The Directorate comprises Mr. William Knudsen as Director-General, Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War and Colonel Knox, Secretary for the Navy. President Roosevelt announces that the Directorate has been given full authority to formulate and execute policies for armament production. By an executive order, he has established an office of Production Management for Defence which will be only nominally under his control.

American troops are "occupying" Greenland and American police are posted in the town of Ivigtul, according to Croyolite miners who have just returned to Copenhagen.

There were no Royal Air Force activities over the continent.

Field Marshal List, Germany's blitz-krieg expert is to arrive in Rumania shortly with a staff of five Generals to take over the command of German troops there, says a Bucharest dispatch.

8th Jan.—British advance troops are about 15 miles from Tobruk. Tobruk is now partly cut off from the west and it is practically impossible for any large formations of Italian troops either to leave or enter. Concentration of British forces is continuing.

Royal Air Force raid military stores and buildings in Elbasan. The Italians raid Koritza, destroy forty houses and cause more than one hundred casualties.

Nazi air raids on Britain. Damage was done to houses at several points in the London area, in a town in the Midlands and in a few other places. A small number of people have been injured and others killed. It is also disclosed that Westminster Cathedral and Westminster City Hall and Temple have been damaged during a recent air-raid.

At President Roosevelt's personal request, the British Government have agreed to allow a special shipload of foodstuffs and clothing to pass through their blockade from the United States to Unoccupied France for distribution under the strict control of the American Red Cross. If the present shipment safely reaches its proper destination further quantities of such relief goods for children in Unoccupied France will be allowed through the blockade from time to time. It is added that President Roosevelt is well aware of the distinction of such cases between Occupied and Unoccupied France.

A census taken in December shows that five per cent of the population of the London region occupy public shelters, 19 per cent domestic and communal shelters and the rest are living in their own homes.

It is three days since Rumania has been cut off from the outside world. The latest reports indicate that the country is still in a state of turmoil.

The Thailand (Siamese) Government have proclaimed "a state of war" on the frontier with French Indo-China, according to a Bangkok report. It is also reported that Admiral Decoux, Governor-General of Indo-China, has announced that because of Thailand's "challenging attitude", Indo-China must "take up arms"; but France is ready for a friendly solution.

Royal Air Force raid naval dockyards at Wilhelmshaven, Emden and an aerodrome on the island of Borkum. Naples and Palermo have also been raided.

Lull in raids over Britain.

The British submarine *Regulus* is overdue and must be considered lost.

The loss of the Free French submarine *Narval* sunk by enemy action is announced.

President Roosevelt presents budget. Under what will be "a New Deal plus national defence" budget, the United States will be spending 25,000 million dollars (Rs. 7,500 crores) for defence within a three-year period unless, as President Roosevelt has made clear, future circumstances require more.

The German wireless broadcast a report from the Stockholm newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*

alleging that an invasion of Eire was to be "carried out from Ulster in a few weeks" by Britain. The report adds: "In such an event, Berlin is determined to react in the same manner as in the case of Norway and Belgium." It will be recalled that the Nazis invaded Norway and Belgium on the pretext that their neutrality was threatened by the Allies.

9th Jan.—The Imperial Forces have now reached Gazala, a point between thirty and forty miles west of Tobruk. Thirty-five Italian aircraft, all rendered unserviceable as a result of attacks of the Royal Air Force have been taken. The Royal Air Force bomb heavily a hundred Italian planes grounded at Benina air port in Eastern Libya. A particularly heavy raid has been made on Benghazi. Four or five ships receive direct hits and a number of fires have been started in warehouses.

Italo-Greek War. The Italians make an abortive attempt to use ski troops behind the Greek lines. The new tactics fail owing to the vigilance of the Greeks and the Italians' ignorance of local geography. Numbers of ski troops have been rounded up.

Supported by the Royal Air Force the Abyssinians have driven Italians from the post of Gubba on the Blue Nile, west of Lake Tana and are now closing around the fleeing Italians. As a result of British patrol activities on the Sudan frontier, an enemy post north-east of Kassala has been evacuated and occupied by the British. British troops are reported to be waiting on the Kenya-Abyssinia border for the end of the rainy season before invading Abyssinia.

Thailand troops are reported to be advancing in the direction of Angkor, the ruined city and ancient capital of Cambodia and the "Mecca" of world tourists, and have penetrated 20 miles into French Indo-China. French aircraft bomb two towns in Thailand as a reprisal for raids by Siamese planes on Donghene in Indo-China. Indo-China Frontier Guards rout Thai (Siamese) detachments at Ampil, twelve miles north-east of Poipet.

President Roosevelt meets democratic leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives to discuss legislation to give him unlimited authority to lend and lease war material to Britain and other nations warring against the Axis.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 31st December 1940:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
December 25, Wednesday.	No day or night raids	..	..
December 26, Thursday.	R. A. F. day raids on aerodromes in Brittany; submarine base at L'Orient. R. A. F. night raid on Focke-Wulff aerodrome at Marignac, near Bordeaux.	1	..
December 27, Friday.	R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm raids on Haugesund, Norway (shipping, warehouses, jetties, A.A. batteries); shipping at Egersund (Norway); aerodromes in Brittany; submarine base at L'Orient. R. A. F. night raids on L'Orient (submarine base, dry dock, barracks, stores, (power-station); naval docks at Cherbourg, Focke-Wulff aerodrome at Marignac; ship-building yards at St. Nagair and St. Luglebert; other targets on French coast, including Le. Havre.	2	..
December 28, Saturday.	R. A. F. day raids on submarine base at L'Orient, oil targets at Antwerp and Rotterdam; invasion bases at Boulogne and Cherbourgh. R. A. F. night raids on invasion bases on North Sea and Channel; submarine base at L'Orient; gun emplacements near Cap Gris-Nez.	..	..
December 29, Sunday.	R. A. F. night raids on military objective in Frankfurt area; aerodromes and invasion bases in occupied territory.	2	..
December 30, Monday.	Raids cancelled owing to weather	..	..
December 31, Tuesday.	R. A. F. day raids on factory at Cologne; aerodromes at Haamstede, bridge near Emmerick; docks at Ymuiden; shipping off Flushing; oil stores at Rotterdam. Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	2	..

No figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain have so far been issued for the week ending 31st December 1940.

TALKING POINTS

WAR SITUATION

One of the familiar methods of Nazis is, by setting up rumours, to create confusion among neutrals and bellgerents alike so as to smoke-screen Nazi plans. This technique was adopted in the invasion of Norway and at the beginning of the Italo-Greek war. German-inspired rumours emanated from neutral capitals. It is well, therefore, that foreign agencies' reports, especially those coming directly or indirectly from countries under Axis influence, should be read with caution. For instance, the latest is the threat by Germany that, if the threatened invasion of Eire from Northern Ireland does occur, the Nazis would have necessarily to follow the methods which they did in regard to Denmark and Norway. This report of British desire to enter Eire is a deliberate falsehood, probably the fore-runner of some action contemplated by the Nazis.

The present situation is very complicated and fraught with great possibilities. It is just possible that the War may assume a profoundly different aspect in the immediate future, despite the fact that, though Germany has promised the world some striking adventures, the initiative has been steadily passing to Great Britain. The Royal Air Force has won great victory equal to that of the battle of Marne. Thwarted by British strategy Hitler launched a grand diplomatic offensive. The Tri-Partite pact between Germany, Italy and Japan has failed because Russia refused to allow Japan a free play in the South and the policy of the United States towards Japan has become firmer than ever.

The Italian failure both in Greece and Libya, the resistence to Axis powers on the part of Bulgaria and Yugoslovia, the refusal of the Vichy Government to allow a free passage to German troops through occupied France and hand over the French Fleet and the French Ports in the Mediterranean to the Nazis, and President Roosevelt's epoch-making utterances promising help to the Democracies as against the Totalitarian Powers, all these have created a situation of the utmost complexity. Two things are clear :—Hitler's desire to strike at Britain and that on a scale hitherto not attempted by him; and secondly his attempt to make France his chosen instrument by subjecting it to severe pressure. This is with a view to close the Western Mediterranean, bottle up the British Fleet, isolate the British armies in the Middle East, cut British communications across the North and South of the Atlantic and then, after massed air attacks on Britain by night, invade the British Isles. But the thing to note is that, whatever happens, Great Britain is strong enough to face the perils with resolution and confidence.

ITALY'S WOES

The remarkable success of General Wavell in the battles of Sidi Barrani, Sollum and Bardia have greatly weakened Italy. The story of these " express marches " has been told and need not be repeated here. Italy has lost 90,000 soldiers in these decisive actions and 72,000 of them are prisoners. It is computed that this loss amounts to one-third of the total of a quarter million soldiers Marshal Graziani has been credited as commanding in North Africa. But the loss of war material has been half of the total equipment. Tobruk, the strongly fortified port, is now the object of General Wavell's attention. Already the even more marked constituting, as it does, one British forces are in the west of Tobruk preventing reinforcements from reaching that place, and, as in the case of Bardia, first-class staff work and remarkable co-operation between the land, air and sea forces may well be expected to bring about the fall of Tobruk sooner than may be supposed. Units of the forces of the Commonwealth, including Free French Forces, have been at work in these regions. But the Australians have, by their daring and courage, won name and fame. The Minister of War in Australia who has visited the Western Desert in recent days, forecasts the fall of Italy in six months if the British keep on hitting her. However that may be, it is now clear that Mussolini has completely failed to carry out his allotted share of the Axis programme. And his folly has destroyed the legend of Axis invincibility and greatly strengthened the spirit of resistance in South Eastern Mediterranean.

AMERICA

The achievements of the Royal Air Force, the failure of the invasion of Great Britain and the terrorist methods of Nazis in occupied countries, have brought about a great revulsion of feeling in America. The people of the United States no longer look upon the Atlantic Ocean as a safe Maginot line. They recognize the fact that only the British Fleet prevents the Nazis from an adventure across the Atlantic. The fire-side talk of President Roosevelt has been followed by a historic speech made to the 77th Congress on Monday last on the state of the nation. Here are few points made by the President :—

(1) American security has never been so seriously threatened as it was that day.

(2) The peace of 1919 was far less unjust than the kind of pacification being carried out under the new order of tyranny which seeks to spread over every country to-day.

(3) The democratic way of life is, at this moment, being directly assailed in every part of the world.

(4) An armed defence of democratic existence is now being gallantly waged in four continents.

(5) International generosity, the return of true independence, world disarmament or good business cannot be expected from a dictated peace.

(6) Therefore, we must beware of that small group of selfish men who would clip the wings of the American eagle in order to feather their own nests.

(7) It must be remembered that, as long as the British Navy retains its power, there is no danger of direct invasion. America, therefore, should bring about all-inclusive national defence to afford full support to all those people who are resisting aggression.

(8) Non-acquiescence in a dictated peace by aggressors and sponsored by appeasers is demanded on the highest principles of morality and considerations of America's security.

(9) America will not be intimidated by the threats of dictators that they will regard as a breach of international law and as an act of war, any help to Great Britain.

(10) Here are four essential human freedoms to be secured, freedom of speech and expression everywhere, freedom of and right to worship God in their own way everywhere, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

The President further said that America was committed to the full support of all democracies now in trouble. " We shall send you in ever-increasing numbers ships, planes, tanks and guns. This is our purpose and our pledge."

He would ask the Congress for new authorizations to carry out this large scheme because America was to act as an arsenal for democracies. This promise is already being implemented in the following ways : (1) 200 merchant ships are to be built each of about 7,500 tons costing 350 million dollars. It is expected that Great Britain will also be benefited by the scheme. (2) America will be spending 25,000 million dollars within the three-year period and will possess the most modern mechanized army. (3) A Supreme Directorate for the new Defence programme has been set up. The new office will have three divisions, namely a Producing Division, a Purchasing Division and a Priority Division. (4) The United States Navy expects to add about 4,000 planes to its fleet during the current year. (5) There will be three fleets namely Atlantic, Pacific and the Asiatic. (6) America is helping in the policing of the town of Ivigtul, obviously to prevent Greenland from being used as a spring board by the Tatalitarian Powers. (7) It is expected that the Administration will ask Congress for the appropriation of 10,000 million dollars for the "Aid to Britain" programme.

EFFECTS OF AIR BOMBING

It is well known that tremendous damage has been inflicted on vital industrial areas of North-West Germany as well as to the Reich's entire system of rail and canal communications by the Royal Air Force. For instance, Hamm has the largest railway marshalling yards in Europe and has been visited by the Royal Air Force nearly on 100 occasions. It is now been virtually deserted and therefore it has not been raided recently. The Royal Air Force will resume its visits if the place is got into working order again. Hamburg is the largest port of Germany, but now, as the result of the repeated bombing raids by the Royal Air Force, it has been closed. Germany has refused to afford facilities to neutral press representatives to visit places of military importance which have been damaged by the Royal Air Force and that is why the exact nature of the injury inflicted is not known to the outside world. But there is no such rigid censorship in regard to the damage inflicted on English towns. The descriptions are vivid and the reports leave out only such details as would be valuable to the enemies. Bombing is by night and therefore very indiscriminate. But neutral observers have stated that Germans have so far adversely affected only one per cent of Britain's entire industrial output in all branches of war supply; the damage to actual military (as apart from industrial) objectives may be gauged from the remarkably small number of service casualties compared with civilian raid victims. If, therefore, some doubt exists in the public mind as to the effect of British raids on Germany and the occupied territories as compared with the effect of German raids on Britain, it must be remembered that reticence and sobriety of statement are the features of British communiques and these will be found to be justified by events.

BRITISH NATIONAL WAR BONDS

The following facts about the 2½ per cent national bonds now being issued in Great Britain will be of interest. They are being issued at the same or an even slightly lower rate of interest (relative to dates of maturity) than previous issues and this demonstrates the confidence of the public and the determination of Government to stick to " three per cent War." One of the new loans is for a long period and this shows that the Government are providing ample savings for the task of reconstruction after the war. The total savings since November 1939 is £1,269 millions. It is equal to the total revenue for the current year. This shows complete faith in victory of the British public. Nearly one half of the total is due to the savings by persons of small means. The efforts of the authorities to restrict unnecessary consumption are having the desired effect and a large part of the wages is going back to Government in the form of savings. The huge saving especially of the lesser income groups is a good guarantee against inflation. The danger of inflation would become still less if the American proposals for the loan of arms and munitions of Britain are carried out.

NAZI PROPAGANDA

MORE LIGHT ON THE METHODS.

German propaganda methods are well-known, their main features being the spread of untruth and mutal contradiction—one office contradicting what is put out by another. It was stated, for instance, that Hitler had moved to his headquarters in Northern France, that Goring had been standing Napolean-like on the cliffs opposite Dover and that neutral correspondents had been invited to witness the conquest of England about to begin. "By Sunday," it was stated, "all arrangements had to be complete, ready for the order to advance against Great Britain by air, sea and land forces." The Diplomatic Correspondent of the 'Times', who writes upon this topic, refers also to what several other Government spokesmen have said on the same subject. It was stated, for example, that an invasion was unnecessary in bringing about the defeat of Great Britain and that more bombing of London and more destruction of the docks with widespread attacks on other parts of the country would force Great Britain to sue for peace.

Similar contradictions were observed in regard to raids on Buckingham Palace. These were denied and it was stated that bombs were intended to explode petrol tanks near the Palace. But when it was pointed out that there were no such tanks near the Palace, it was said that every German workman's home bombed by British aeroplanes was more to them than the dwelling of the British Royal Family.

As regards the indiscriminate bombing of the civilian population, the German communiqué declared very frankly that the raids were reprisals for British raids, and that "the district of Poplar and westward of the East India Docks were targets in last night's attack on London." The German Official news agency also stated that "another wave of bombers dropped their bombs on the Greenwich district, on the station and railway track, and a large gasworks on the Thames." And because Mr. Churchill had stated that every inch of ground would be contested in Great Britain, Germany stated in reply that every inch of British ground must be counted a military objective.

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN.

Mr. W. A. Sinclair, in a book entitled "The Voice of the Nazi" in which his broadcast talks on the subject have been brought together, points out the true inwardness of Nazi propaganda. He writes: "When we hear Nazi propaganda mentioned, we tend to think mainly of the Nazi broadcasts in English, for they are in our language, and we are the people they are aimed at. We must, however, remember that propaganda in English is only a comparatively small part of the Nazis' total output, and not necessarily the most important part. They are sending out steady streams of propaganda of every kind, by wireless, by pamphlets, by newspapers and by films, to every country in the world, and twenty-four hours a day.

> 'The peoples of those various countries are all different. The Nazi Propaganda Ministry, therefore, sitting in its offices in Berlin, designs different propaganda talks, and different "News Bulletins," to send out to each of the different countries it intends to work upon. For that reason, the propaganda sent out to each separate country usually sounds fairly convincing when considered by itself, because it has been specially made up to sound convincing to that particular people. If we, for instance, hear only the propaganda intended for our country, we may quite easily be taken in by it. If, however, we compare the propaganda sent to one country with the propaganda sent to other countries, then that gives the show away.'

"Here is an instance from one of the Nazi propaganda talks meant for France. The purpose of these talks is to mislead the French into thinking that Germany really wants to be at peace with France, and would be so, if it were not for the wicked British. Therefore the Nazis spend a lot of time trying to explain away those very prominent passages in *Mein Kampf* in which Herr Hitler asserts his intention of attacking and utterly destroying France. Here is what was said in a Nazi broadcast in French on the 18th of last month (April 1940) :—

> 'French listeners . . . you are told that in this book Hitler decided on the destruction of France. You are too logical not to understand that *Mein Kampf*, being a human work, has its human side, in this case an echo of the popular anti-French feeling which prevailed in 1924 . . . There are reasons for modifications of *Mein Kampf* which you can see for yourselves . . . You must see that policy towards France has changed, when you see that Hitler concluded an agreement with Russia . . . If in a few days, facing the British danger, the German State could make an alliance with Russia, you must see that no preconceived ideas exist in Hitler's mind, and that he directs German policy according to events and circumstances.'

"If you had heard that talk, and that talk, only, you would probably think it was frank, honest, and fairly convincing. But it turns out to be very different, when we hear what was being said from other Nazi wireless stations at the same time. The Germans were being urged to give copies of *Mein Kampf* as Christmas presents to soldiers, and two days after that French talk, the Deutschlandsender station said this in a German talk :—

> 'Not a word of this book has changed, just as Hitler has not changed. The new pocket edition makes it possible for every soldier to have the Fuehrer's words at hand at all times.'

THE GRAF SPEE STORY

"Here is another example—about ourselves this time. It is interesting because it has an ingenious additional twist in it. Last month the Nazis were busily trying in every way to reduce the prestige of the British Navy; so on the 21st they sent out this "news" bulletin :—

> 'The most unbelievable scenes took place during the funeral service of the thirty-six sailors of the *Graf Spee*. The crews of several British ships anchored in Montevideo spat on the coffins of German sailors as the funeral procession passed, and made cat-calls during the funeral service. This indescribable cynicism, if one calls it nothing else, reached its height when, immediately after the funeral service, the British sailors threw the body of a dead dog on the grave of the German sailors.'

"This item of 'news' was sent out for Asia and the Far East at half-past nine in the morning; in Dutch at mid-day; in Spanish at two in the afternoon; in Arabic for the Near East and Middle East at half-past four; and in French at a quarter-past eight. The story was the same each time, except that for some countries where cats are regarded as unclean, it was a dead cat. But this story was not included in the Nazi broadcasts in English.

"Then the speaker from the Deutschlandsender station, at a quarter to seven that same evening, flatly denied that any such story had been broadcast at all. This is where the characteristic additional twist comes in, for he went on to accuse the British wireless of lying. In a tone of injured innocence and righteous indignation, he said this :—

> 'The British wireless goes so far as to assert that we tried to make propaganda beside the open graves of dead sailors, with allegations about dead dogs.'

Then, as if addressing us, he went on :—

> 'No, no, gentlemen, the German people are a people of soldiers. They not only act in that manner, they also speak in that manner, and we are only too glad to leave abuse of this kind to you.'

> "To any one who did not know about those other German broadcasts which had been going out all that same day, this talk might have carried some weight. It might even have achieved the purpose for which it was given, which was of course to make those who heard it think that the British wireless was unreliable."

GERMAN ATROCITIES

In a communication to the 'Times' Mr. Cecil Walsh has narrated two incidents calculated to expose the methods employed by Nazis to terrorise the people of England. He writes: "Recently two young women, out for a walk in a South Coast town, were passing a school and were making for home as the siren had sounded. An aeroplane came racing towards them at a height of about 100 feet. Looking up they caught sight of the swastika, and before they had time to do anything a machine gun opened fire. Fortunately the aim was poor, and a gateway was handy. They flung themselves down under the hedge in the gateway and escaped injury.

"At a later date three Germans surpassed this ghastly piece of frightfulness. Three fighters flew low over the same town. On their way to the front, which was apparently their main target, they had to cross over a recreation ground where about 30 children were playing. They opened fire with their machine guns, but again showed but poor marksmanship. The children scattered; some fell on their faces, others ran to the ordinary weather shelters on the boundaries. One bullet went through a boy's cap, probably after it had fallen on the ground, and another struck the ground 18 inches from a second boy's head. These miraculous escapes, which seem to be not infrequent in such cases, have no bearing on such methods of warfare, which sound quite incredible."

GERMAN GAINS AND FAILURES

Hitler now admits that his invasions of Scandinavia and the Low Countries, for which Goebbels and Ribbentrop manufactured every kind of specious excuse, were undertaken in order to obtain bases for attacking Britain.

These bases stretch from the Bay of Biscay to the Arctic. They enable German submarines and surface-raiders to operate in the Atlantic. They enable German warplanes to attack Britain at short range, and German coastal guns to fire across the Channel. To these strategic advantages, which Germany never enjoyed in the last war, is added the neutrality of Eire, which Britain has respected. Meanwhile the ruthless plunder of conquered territory temporarily relieved some of Germany's pressing problems of supply.

Theoretically, Britain could not survive such a situation. Mussolini thought so, and began to move towards Alexandria. Hitler thought so, and prophesied the collapse of Britain first for August 15, then for September 15, then for "the autumn" and now in far less confident terms for some unspecified time.

MUSSOLINI, THE "PROTECTOR OF ISLAM"

AS AN AMERICAN SEES IT.

The arrogant claim that Italy is the chosen instrument for the emancipation of Muslims has been repudiated by the followers of Islam in numerous countries, in Egypt, in Turkey, in Syria, in Iraq and in India. Such an assertion ill-accords with the treatment meted out by the " Synthetic Napolean " to Muslim countries. Mr. Edward Kleinbrer, writing recently in an American weekly, reviews the relations of Italy with Muslims in many places in language which is strong, passionate and perfectly justified.

It is no secret, he says, that when Ramon Serrano Suner, emissary from Franco, visited Rome recently, he was urged, among other things, to assist Mussolini—the " Protector of Islam "—in the task of winning over the Arab population of Northern Africa.

The writer proceeds: " Mussolini's propagandists have ballyhooed him as ' the invincible warrior ' throughout Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey and even Afghanistan and India. Every international event has been exploited to point out the ' weakness ' and the ' perfidy ' of the French and the English, as contrasted with the ' dynamism ' and ' magnanimity ' of Imperial Italy. Much of this propaganda was carried on with proper diplomatic discretion—and in this the Italians were abetted by the incredible passivity of the British and the French—but the bulk of it has been brazenly carried on in the press and over the radio.

" It was some three years ago that Mussolini conceived the idea of anointing himself ' Protector of Islam '. The investiture took place during his spectacular tour of Libya in March 1937. The public square of Tripoli was chosen for the ceremony. The details had been carefully prepared by Fascist officials. The Arab population had been ordered to decorate their houses and shops with Italian banners, which Marshal Balbo's carabineers distributed profusely. The ' Sword of Islam ', which was to be presented to Mussolini, had been bought in Florence with government funds; to make it look more authentic, Libyan Jewish goldsmiths had been paid to engrave Arabic designs on it.

" The Protector-Elect, mounted on a pure-white Arab charger, awaited the approach of two hundred Libyan chieftains, herded together from the most distant corners of Tripolitania. The first of these carried the sword, which had only that moment been handed to him by Marshal Balbo. He presented it humbly to Mussolini, who accepted it with dignity of a Caesar.

" ' Mohammedans! ' shouted Il Duce, from his saddle: ' You have presented me with the most acceptable of all gifts —this sword, symbol of force and justice.'

" ' Fascist Italy ', he continued, resting the weapon upright on his harness, ' wishes to prove its solidarity with Islam and its sympathy with the Moslems of the whole world. Rome will show you with her laws how she cares for your increasingly greater destiny.'

" Then, unsheathing the sword, he raised it straight above his head. ' Mohammedans! ' he cried again. ' Spread these, my words, in all the homes of your cities and villages even to the last shepherd's tent. You know that I am a man sparing in promises, but when I promise, I fulfil.'

WHAT IS THE TRUTH.

" But the Arabs of Libya knew only too well how much Mussolini's promises and professions of friendship were worth. The very day after Mussolini's spectacular investiture, one of the most prominent Arabs of Tripoli complained to me that thousands of young Arabs had been taken from their homes during the night to be enrolled in the Libyan divisions of the Italian Army. He spoke bitterly about the treatment accorded to Moslem notables and religious leaders who had been compelled to stand for hours in the Tripoli city square waiting for Mussolini's arrival, and had then been led like slaves before the ' Protector '.

" From Palestine to the Himalayas the word was carried that Islam had found a new protector, and that Mussolini was the friend of the Arab peoples. Italy's entire consular and diplomatic service in the Near East, operating with the assistance of whole corps of paid propagandists, was set to work to convince the Arab countries that Italy, like them, was a victim of the " robber powers, " England and France. The Italian radio in Bari informed the natives that they were being exploited by Imperialist masters, and that England and France hoped to keep them in subjection.

" A *leit-motif* of the Italian propaganda was to contrast the welfare of the Moslems in Libya and Italian Somaliland with the treatment meted out to their co-religionists in Palestine under the ' Anglo-Jewish yoke.' The Fascists obviously banked on the expectation that the Arab masses had already forgotten the brutality with which General Rodolfo Graziani—the same Graziani who is today in charge of the Italian campaign in Egypt—suppressed the Arab revolt of 1922–29 in Cyrenaica. But in this expectation they were mistaken: for the pacification of Cyrenaica was something that could not easily be forgotten. In the course of the ' pacification ' hundreds of villages were sacked and burned and uncounted thousands were executed; in seven terrible years the population of the territory fell from 1,300,000 to 800,000 terrorized human beings. The bloody measures of ' the butcher ' Graziani aroused the fiercest indignation throughout the Arabic world and this indignation still smolders.

" I toured Italian Africa shortly after the final suppression of the Arab rebellion and I was permitted to visit one of the many concentration camps that spotted the Libyan desert. In the camp of Sidi Ahmed-el-Magrun alone more than 15,000 men, women and children were herded together. Entire villagers from the mountain range of Jebel, where the rebellion against Italian rule had been particularly violent, were interned under conditions of unbelievable misery and degradation. The Italian officer who conducted me praised the ' justice and tolerance ' of the Fascist Government, and explained that it was all a matter of ' liberating ' the Arabs from the tyrannical rule of the Senussi family and their tribesmen."

" There are many potent reasons why Egypt should shun the fate of becoming an Italian protectorate. Among the mass of the people there is no love lost on the Italians, because Italian small traders, professional men, artisans and farmers are their most serious competitors.

" ' The real protector of Islam is Allah,' declared Sheik Mustafa El Maraghi, renowned rector of the Al Azhar Moslem University in Cairo,. after Mussolini's pompous investiture on the public square of Tripoli, ' and it is not proper to ask the protection of an infidel whose only intention is to use the devoted sons of Allah for his own purposes.' "

WHEELED CAVALRY

Rough-riding of a new kind is being adopted as part of the defence of Great Britain against invaders. Members of this new and extremely mobile unit consist of crack motor cyclists, heroes of many a dirt track and hill-climbing trial. They will be stationed at strategic points, ready to tear off at top-speed to deal with parachute or plane landings. If necessary they will cut straight across country. Tests which were recently made in the Western Command were of the most gruelling nature, but so experienced are these young riders in roaring up mountain sides, leaping ditches and ponds and emerging safely from spectacular skids that this unit of cavalry on wheel will prove a formidable obstacle to enemy troops ill-advised enough to attempt a landing from the air.

TERRORISM IN THE PROTECTORATE

Fifty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty-one Czechs are imprisoned in various Nazi jails and concentration camps, according to a detailed report from Nazi sources. Concentration camps in Germany have the largest group of Czech prison population, namely, 43,284. Nine thousand six hundred and thirteen persons were jailed by the Nazis in Bohemia and Moravia in Schutzhaft (protective custody). Eight hundred and fifty-four Czechs have been indicted for political " crimes " and sentenced. These data are by no means complete. They merely account for the known cases. The actual number of jailed Czechs was estimated recently at about 70,000 by the Czechoslovak National Committee in Paris. According to Nazi sources the percentage of jailed persons in Czechoslovakia is much greater than in Germany and the other countries occupied by Germans in this war. That alone is sufficient to prove that Czechoslovak opposition to the Nazis remains unbroken.

The first anniversary of the second war was celebrated by the Gestapo in Bohemia and Maravia by arresting about 600 Czechs. One hundred and fifty Czechs were taken to jail in Prague and 500 in smaller cities in the round-up of Benes " adherents." Some of them were accused of concealing arms and munitions or anti-Nazi leaflets, according to Overseas News Agency. It is said that the Germans never discovered the hidden Czech arms and munitions (about 20 per cent of the total), in spite of the most ingenious methods used by the Nazis to locate them.

GERMANISATION PROCEEDS

By a new decree, the Nazi authorities have made the instruction of the German language compulsory in all Czech grammar-schools. At the same time great pressure is being brought to bear on all parents in regions with German minorities or majorities, to send their children to German schools. Often the head of the family is threatened with expulsion from that territory, unless he agrees to give his child a German education and have him enter the Nazi-youth organizations. This pressure is specially heavy in the Sudeten territory, where about 800,000 Czechs are ruthlessly being germanized or forced to emigrate to the Protectorate.

The Government authorities of the Protectorate have been instructed by the Nazis to prepare a decree compelling all Czech residents of Prague whose presence is not necessary (for instance all pensioners), to leave Prague as soon as possible. They will be replaced by 30,000 Germans who are already prepared to move in. In this way, the capital of Czechoslovakia is to be germanized.

A MAGNIFICENT OFFER

It was stated a few weeks ago that Italians had made a magnificent offer, a gift of the British Dominions to America, in case that country should cease to help Great Britain in the prosecution of the present war. At that time hopes ran high in Rome that England's end was near, though, one may presume, that Italy would refrain from making such boasts now that it has had such sad experience of what British might really is in the battle on the Western Desert.

This offer was made by Mario Appelius in Mussolini's newspaper "Popolo D'Italia", promising to give America, Canada Newfoundland, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, and even Australia and New Zealand, if the United States should stand aside and allow the totalitarian powers to establish their new order in Europe and in Asia. The New York correspondent of the 'Times' in reporting the reactions of American opinion to this offer said, as follows:—

> "It is quite the most munificent offer that has ever been made to this country, and Americans feel great regret in having to decline it. But, in a way, they are a realistic people, and they know only too well how ill-fitted they are by training and temperament to engage in such a bargain. All too few of them have had the cultural advantages of their Al Capone and their Dutch Schultz. **Fascist Italy, both geographically and in ideas, however, is so far away from democratic America that** Appelius can well be excused for not knowing how helplessly enchained Americans are by such parochial notions as honesty and decency and how in their naivety they find it impossible to distinguish between the glorious aggression of the Axis Powers and plain, wholesale robbery and murder.
>
> Regrettably, there are a few Americans, too, who have been rude enough to question whether Singnor Appelius and his friends can deliver the goods he has generously promised this country. There have been others—a great many others, one is bound to report—for whom Appelius's offer, by some strange perversion, has become a rich source of amusement. It is unfortunate, but that is the way it is."

HUNGARIAN "AUTONOMY" OF SUBCARPATHIAN RUSSIA

Subcarpathian Russia or Carpathoukraine as the eastern province of Czechoslovakia was also called had been promised by Hungary absolute autonomy within the framework of Hungary. The pupil Hungary followed in the fulfilment of his promises exactly the glorious example of his Nazi tutor and the province is suffering under a most brutal Hungarian regime. About the local happenings, it is difficult to obtain news, except what appears in Hungary's directed press, but even that gives an idea of the political and cultural autonomy.

In Czechoslovakia all members of Parliament from this province were Carpatho-Russians with the exception of one Czech, one Jew and one Hungarian representing the minorities of the province. Now the representation of the province in the Hungarian Chamber consists of six Hungarians for the small Hungarian minority and five Carpatho-Russians for the remaining majority.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Christmas Greetings.

Assuming the mantle of Christian piety, Dr. Goebbels instructs his radio propagandists to announce (December 27) that it was out of veneration for the Christmas season that the *Luftwaffe* did not raid Britain on December 25—whereas the wicked Royal Air Force bombed Germany and German-occupied territory. In point of fact, the Royal Air Force carried out no raids on the Continent on December 24 and 25; but the British characteristically claimed no special virtue for this lull, attributing it chiefly to unfavourable weather conditions.

In any case, Christian piety sits uneasily on the crooked shoulders of Josef Goebbels, who in March 1936, declared: "Our Leader now becomes the intermediary between his people and the Throne of God"; and who later authorized the publication in the *Saarbruckener Landeszeitung* of this blasphemous assertion: "Hitler is a new, a greater, a more powerful Jesus Christ."

Lots of Aluminium.

The Germans allege (December 24) that as a result of the damage they claim to have inflicted recently on aluminium factories at Fort William, Scotland, *plus* the shortage of that metal in America, Britain's aluminium supply has been seriously affected. In fact they go so far as to estimate the loss at "between 70 to 80 per cent" of the total supply. Despite all Nazi attempts to elicit precise statements on these and other supplies, the British Government obstinately refuse to give away secrets; but on December 30 Mr. Layton Bennett, Chairman of the Aluminium Appeal Committee, made an announcement in London which can hardly afford much comfort to the enemy. "More than half the aluminium which thousands of householders gave towards war production has been turned into the manufacture of aeroplanes" he said. "The next will be ready to take the sky at the end of January. Five hundred tons of aluminium pots and pans from Army kitchens—sufficient for 500 planes—will shortly be handed over to the Ministry of Aircraft Production by the War Office".

As to the Nazi claim to have inflicted so much damage during a single raid on a single aluminium factory (if the raid ever took place) neutral sources recently described the *Luftwaffe* as having adversely affected only one per cent of Britain's entire industrial output in all branches of war supply. America's 1939 production of aluminium was 148,000 tons, and in that year U. S. manufacturers completed a 26,000,000 dollar expansion programme and initiated another expansion which will cost 30,000,000 dollars. In addition, the British Empire has immense aluminium resources. Under an agreement concluded early in 1940, the whole exportable aluminium surplus of Canada—some 90 per cent of her total production—goes to the British Government; while British Guiana, which has quadrupled its production in the last five years—is another fertile source.

Lots of Haw-Haw

Lord Haw-Haw, who last week wasted many a crocodile-tear in trying to get the British people to renounce Mr. Churchill and sue for peace, changes his tune somewhat sharply on December 24. But first of all, to explain the failure of his blandishments, he reveals that the British are suffering from amnesia which makes them indifferent to "stark reality".

From these generalities, Haw-Haw descends sharply to his usual vituperative personalities. Mr. Churchill is "Mr. Hyde, ugly, malicious, and evil", Mr. Eden, a notorious war-monger; Lord Halifax, "this long, dreary, sententious streak of aberrant mysticism". The recent British Cabinet changes are mere "kitchen politics"—how these Nazis harp on food!—and there is a cryptic remark that "the evacuation of the British Government" will be a big problem.

It has certainly proved a problem to Haw-Haw, who described it as "imminent" as long ago as September 15.

Haw-Haw then pokes ponderous fun at the new press attaché to the British Legation at Stockholm, who, he says, can only reach his destination *via* Captetown, Durban, Cairo and Moscow. It is tactless of Haw-Haw to admit that Britons can still travel to the ends of the earth, and to forget that no German could set foot to-day in Durban, Capetown or Cairo, or prevent an Englishman from setting foot in Moscow. Finally, after yet another gibe at those 50 U. S. destroyers—whose acquisition by Britain seems to have annoyed the Germans more than any other incident of the war—he warns the British people against "the illusion that they are going to be saved by the United States", which does not regard the war "as an occasion for philanthropy".

Just how America regards the war was subsequently explained (to Lord Haw-Haw and others) by President Roosevelt on December 30.

Churchill Scores a Hit

The Axis radio dismisses Mr. Churchill's broadcast to the Italian people as "an insignificant speech", but evidently both Rome and Berlin have thought it significant enough to broadcast many hundreds of words upon it during the past week. Rome insists that "Mr. Churchill's words had a much effect on the Fascist Italian nation as water on a duck's back"; their effect on the non-Fascist Italian nation, however, was such that—within 48 hours of the Premier's suggestion that Italians should rally round the house of Savoy—the Rome Radio found it necessary to deny that differences existed between King Victor Emmanuel and the Duce.

"Mr. Churchill's entirely insincere assurance about the friendly intentions of Great Britain towards Italy are contradicted by the facts" says Berlin. "Italy possesses no unrestricted freedom of action within her own sea—the Mediterranean. This vital issue was not even mentioned in Mr. Churchill's speech." While the phrase "no unrestricted freedom of action" is certainly applicable to the Fascist Fleet and mercantile marine to-day, it is worth remembering that, besides Italy, many other countries have Mediterranean seaboards, including Spain, France, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Palestine and Egypt. The freedom of action of these countries has been menaced—and worse than menaced—by Mussolini; never by Britain.

The Germans whose Fuehrer laid down in *Mein Kampf*, that "when nations are fighting for their existence . . . all humane and aesthetic considerations must be set aside", at last appear to have discovered a competitor in barbarism. On reports that copies of Mr. Churchill's speech were to be distributed among captured Italians, Berlin observes (December 27): "The speech insults Italy to such a degree that it would be inhuman to hand its contents to Italian prisoners of war".

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Flowers of Speech

The Rome Radio continued through the week to indulge in its weakness for invective. The words "blackguards", "bastards", "fawning dogs", were repeatedly used for political leaders belonging to *all parties* and all *communities*. "The permanent place for them" we were told "is hell". As for Indians, an appeal to them (December 24) began "You asses!...."

The Mediterranean

After a long silence (necessitated, presumably, by what the Nazis delicately called the "Taranto Episode" and by the subsequent naval encounter off Sardinia) the Italians once

again seek to ridicule the claim that the British Fleet dominates the seas (December 27). They go on to say that the claim can only be accepted by "toadies or poor fools or illiterates". The Editor of the *Ikdam* of Turkey (an independent neutral country) will not be accused by the Italians, one hopes, of being any of these things.

On December 2, the *Ikdam* wrote:— "The best proof of the British Navy's mastery of the Mediterranean is the fact that British merchantmen sail everywhere in that sea in convoy and frequently unescorted. British and Greek ships continue to call at Turkish ports whereas not a single Italian vessel has done so since June 10" (Italy entered the war on June 10).

Frenzied Building

That the Nazis lack material with which to build propaganda is proved by their attempt to make capital out of the fact that the British Government have employed large numbers of labourers to repair the damage done to London by aerial attacks (December 29). If employing labour to repair damage is such a reprehensible practice, will the Nazis deign to explain Hitler's decree of November 15 in which he ordered Dr. Ley, the Nazi Labur leader, "to build at least 300 houses for workers by the end of this year", and thousands more subsequently. "The decree has been issued", we were told by Berlin on November 19 "because at the end of the war Germany's requirements of labour will increase and in order to increase population and make people healthy and strong proper houses are essential".

But the hurry with which 300 houses were ordered to be built—in less than 45 days—pointed rather to the problems created by the Roval Air Force's bombardment of places like Krupps at Essen and Gelsenkirchen and Leuna synthetic oil plants, where factories and worker's houses are interspersed together, than to any distant hope of increasing the population at the end of the war.

Rationing in Germany and Britain

"Nowadays," savs Berlin, (Arabic, December 27) "the quantity of ration allowance *per capita* in Britain is lower than that in Germany".

But, while in Britain only a few articles of food are rationed, in Germany nearly the whole menu is restricted. Tea and coffee are unobtainable in Germany, while bread, flour, meat, fat, milk, eggs, sugar, jam, rice macaroni, apples, and substitutes for tea and coffee are among the things that can only be obtained with ration coupons.

Meat rations in both countries are about equal. Germans get a rather bigger butter ration, but their margarine and cooking fat allowances are smaller and most people in Germany must be content with skimmed milk. Bread is not rationed at all in Britain.

People in Britain can make up on the things that are not rationed; in Germany that is impossible because consumption of practically everything is restricted.

Comprehensive as is the German rationing system, food would be far more restricted but for the policy of plundering the conquered peoples. Not only have quantities of food (including 9/10ths of Holland's butter-stocks) been carried off, but the conquered peoples are subject to stricter rationing than the Germans. Unemployed who refuse to go to Germany for forced labour are actually deprived of all ration-cards.

Tailpiece

A typical case of misstatement and misrepresentation was provided by the Nazis on December 27. They alleged that the British Minister of Supply who has just returned from America says that no large help can be received from the U. S. A., and the British people should not expect America to perform a miracle.

To begin with the Minister of Supply never went to America. Sir Walter Layton, the famous economist, went there on behalf of the Ministry of Supply. He returned from America recently and speaking in London he said: "The constantly growing volume of war material which America can produce gives certainty of ultimate victory."

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

10th Jan.—The iron ring of the British Imperial Forces is now closing in on Tobruk.

Royal Air Force bombers raid enemy aerodromes in Benina and Berka causing considerable damage. Caproni workshops at Maidaga in Italian East Africa have been attacked. A large number of bombs has been observed to burst among buildings in Asmara.

Greeks capture Klissura and find it empty of inhabitants, sacked and burned. The town falls after a very hard battle lasting several days. In addition to the occupation of Klissura the Greeks have captured certain other fortified Italian positions. British Air Forces in Greece successfully attack Italian troops and mechanised convoys—all in full retreat north of Klissura and on the road to Berat. Albanian soldiers forcibly mobilised into the Italian army mutiny. The mutiny is extinguished by Italians. Majority of those who participated in the revolt succeed in escaping to the hills where they are joined by relations and other deserters. They are forming a considerable force under the leadership of an Albanian.

Troops from the Belgium Congo will shortly be taking part in the war in Africa.

A Soviet-German agreement on the Soviet-German frontier between River Igork (Lithuania) and the Baltic has been signed. The agreement fixes the Polish, German and Lithuanian frontiers. Agreement for the mutual repatriation of Germans and Russians in each other's territories also signed.

German bombers concentrate on Portsmouth. A number of people have been killed and others injured. Considerable damage has been done to houses and commercial premises. Two enemy aircraft have been destroyed.

Royal Air Force bombers attack the naval base at Brest. Protected by an escort of over a hundred fighter planes, British bombers cross the French coast in daylight and bomb aerodromes in Northern France and machine-gun aircraft on the ground in Forest De Guines near Calais. The Royal Air Force have thus struck the first blow in their great struggle with the *Luftwaffe* in 1941.

President Roosevelt's Bill to aid Democracies known as "British Aid Bill" is introduced by the Administration leaders in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. This measure authorises appropriation of funds in such manner as may be necessary to carry out its provisions. Estimates of the eventual cost have reached 10,000 million dollars.

German dive-bombers aid Italians in Central Mediterranean in an attack on an important British convoy taking supplies to Greece. The aircraft-carrier, *H.M.S. Illustrious* and cruiser *H.M.S. Southampton* have been hit. *H. M. S. Southampton* is a total loss. In flames after being hit she had to be sunk by British forces when she could not be towed to port. Twelve enemy planes have been shot down and the convoy gets through.

11th Jan.—Preparatory activities in the Tobruk area are continuing. Operating east of Gallabat British troops carry out successful raids on Italian positions about Metemma. El-wak on the border of Kenya and Italian Somaliland has been captured by the British Gold Coast troops through the use of tanks. The British troops capture a mobile Italian bakery among other booty. The bakery "included rolls of bread and an Italian officer who was hidden in a barrel of flour". Yet another of Blackshirt Generals who absented himself just before the capture of Bardia has been "retrieved" while trying to escape on foot towards Tobruk.

Despite heavy rain the Greeks score a success west of Kukush in the direction of Elbasan where they capture the strategic point of Garvani. In the Moskopolis region Greeks capture the village of Opari.

A second batch of German police has arrived in Rome "for training at the Italian Colonial Police School."

A fresh wave of political arrests has been sweeping over France. Some forty persons have been arrested in Paris under a decree providing for the internment of persons dangerous to public security. In other parts ninety-six persons have been arrested.

Over thirty Free French warships are participating in operations. The Free French now have 80 merchantmen sailing the seas, thirty of which are manned by purely French crews.

High explosive as well as incendiary bombs have been dropped in various parts of London. A number of people have been killed or injured. Fires started by incendiary bombs have been promptly dealt with and most of them put out. Bombs dropped at places in South and South-East England. Very few of these bombs did damage and nobody was killed. A number of casualties occurred when

high explosive bombs fell on a London subway where a number of people were sheltering. One enemy bomber has been destroyed.

The Home Guard will in future be used for dealing with fire-boms at the discretion of the military commander and on the request of local authorities.

Batteries of anti-aircraft guns ranged on Italian slopes of the Alps open fire on Royal Air Force bombers going to attack the royal arsenal at Turin. The raiders, however, reach their objective one after another and bomb the railways and arsenal. Wilhelmshaven shipbuilding yard, German-occupied Dutch and Belgium coast, mole at Zeebrugge have also been attacked.

12th Jan.—Thai forces continue their advance into Cambodia. Thai bombers raid important towns in Indo-China.

Despite dfficult terrain, the Greek advance still continues.

Final agreement has been reached on the sites for the United States Naval, Army and Air bases in the Island of Trinidad. A plan to construct a series of air bases between the United States border and Alaska will shortly be announced by the Canadian Government. The bases would be built by the Canadian Government but would be available for use by the United States military planes. An agreement has been reached between the United States and Britain on sites for eight American Air and Naval bases to be constructed in British possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

There is much discontent among Rumanian leaders at General Antonescu's policy. The peasant leader Dr. Maniu has sent a protest to the Rumanian Government declaring that German troops are depriving the people of their bread and that the country is heading for a revolution.

The Bulgarian Prime Minister points out, according to a Sofia telegram, that despite Bulgarian desire for peace she might have to go through a tragic time. He adds that the question of peace or war does not depend on small countries. He also remarks that " the gigantic cataclysm caused by the speeches and decisions of President Roosevelt may provoke a world war. Bulgaria must be cautious, for it is necessary to know not only who will conquer but how victory will be achieved. It is essential that Bulgarians must be neither Germanophile nor Anglophile but only ready to sacrifice all for Bulgaria."

Bombers of the Royal Air Force and Coastal Command raid shipping and invasion bases at Channel ports, aerodromes in occupied France, and oil depots in Italy and Belgium. Brest docks, Le Havre, L'Orient, aerodromes including Varnes, Chartres, Evreaux and Morlaix have also been attacked with good results.

London appeared to be the main target of the German air-force for the second night in succession. Bombs dropped in various parts of the capital and over the Thames estuary. Other raiders were reported from Liverpool. Some people were killed and others injured.

13th Jan.—Concentration of British troops round Tobruk continues in preparation for the final assault. An Italian garrison has been trapped by the British forces at Jerabub in the interior on the Egyption-Libyan border. A British patrol has routed an Italian force in the Metemma area in Abyssinia, east of Gallabat. The Italians withdraw after slight resistance leaving forty dead and many wounded.

Italians at Tepelini, the Albanian town, are placed in a very awkward predicament as the result of a slight Greek advance north and north-west of Klissura.

The Italian Commander-in-Chief in Albania, General Soddu, has resigned. General Cabellero, Chief of the General Staff, succeeds.

Emperor Haile Selassie who is in Khartoum discloses that he recently visited the Abyssinian frontiers and met chieftains from the interior who, at the risk of their lives, went to swear fealty.

Fifteen thousand people will shortly be required to leave Vichy and the surrounding district as a result of a decree of the Vichy Government requiring all French people and foreigners who came to Vichy district after the armistice to prove to the police the necessity for their presence there.

A big air battle between Thailand and French planes has taken place. Three French machines are reported to have been brought down in flames, while one Thai plane has been lost.

A barter agreement between Russia and China has been concluded. Soviet military supplies will be supplied to the Chinese Government in exchange for tea to the value of a hundred million Chinese dollars. It also provides for the exchange of Chinese mineral products for Soviet machinery.

Four different kinds of American bombers including the Lockheed Hudson long-range bomber and the four-engined Boeing bomber are being flown to England in large numbers.

An attack was made on a town in south-west Engand. Several fires started and a number of buildings were damaged. Some people were killed and others injured. Thousands of incendiaries and high explosive bombs have been dropped on Plymouth. Two hospitals, a church and two surface shelters have been hit. It is thought that the casualties may be heavy.

Royal Air Force raid Turin, Venice and Catania. British planes drop a number of bombs in Southern Germany, Beyrought being among the places attacked. Royal Air Force attack submarine base at L'Orient.

14th Jan.—British advance in Libya. British artillery continues to pound the perimeter defences of Tobruk, preparatory to the final onslaught on the town. General Argentina, who commanded the Italian forces at Sidi Barrani, is the latest Italian General to fall into British hands. A Rome Radio speaker in a broadcast to North America says: " We shall not deny that the British have given us hard knocks in North Africa. Our losses have been considerable, both in men and material. The British offensive was well organized and the British forces were magnificiently equipped. We are quite prepared to take off our hats to them."

A violent surprise attack by Greek troops dislodge the Italians from strongly fortified positions in the central sector of the front. Desperate efforts by the Italians to reinforce positions in the coastal sector north of Chimara have been nullified by the spirited Greek offensive. Italian planes raid a small port south of Corfu.

British troops supported by artillery carry out a strong night raid on prepared Italian positions in the Gallabat sector of the Sudan-Abyssinia front. British patrols are also continuing strong pressure against Italian positions in the Kassala sector. It is learned that the British Government is prepared to grant facilities and safe-conduct for all Italian women and children in Italian East Africa if their evacuation is agreed to by Rome.

South African warships are co-operating with the British Navy outside South African waters for the first time.

There has been no enemy air activity over the British Isles and the lull is probably accounted for by the persistent bad weather over the German bases.

The Royal Air Force did not carry out any raids over Germany owing to bad weather on the continent.

Japan's concern at the increased aid by the United States both to Great Britain and to China is shown by the Japanese Prime Minister, Prince Konoye, when he addressed Government leaders, representatives of the Diet, press, finance and industry. He said that the " present emergency " might lead to a world-wide disturbance. This disturbance was threatened by the growing pressure brought to bear upon Japan by the United States' increased aid to Britain and the Chungking regime.

Princess Hohenlohe-Waldenburg who is now in the United States is to be served immediately with a deportation warrant. The Princess has been ordered to leave the United States.

15th Jan.—Sandstorms are reported in the area round Tobruk. " Successful patrol activity on all front continues."

After the failure of two Italian counter-attacks the Greeks continue their advance in spite of a heavy snow-storm and intense cold.

The Italians have withdrawn from strong natural positions north of Klissura and they are making desperate efforts to stem the Greek drive.

A French attempt to invade Siam is repulsed with heavy losses. The large number of French Indo-Chinese troops killed included one officer of French nationality. No casualties are said to have been suffered on the Thai side. The Thai Deputy Foreign Minister has been asked by the French Charge d'Affaires, M. Garreaux, for a " cease fire " order to be given, according to the Bangkok wireless. There have been a series of conferences between the two men but with no result so far.

It is reported that General Antonescu will arrive in Salzburg on Thursday from Rumania and meet Herr von Ribbentrop, the German Foreign Minister.

The French steamer *Mendoza* has failed in her third attempt to run the British blockade. The *Mendoza* sailed out of Montevideo harbour on 14th but has returned to Uruguayan waters as she was intercepted by a British warship.

There has been little air activity over London during daylight. Bombs were dropped in one area in Kent but little damage and no casualties have been reported. The whole of Great Britain had the night entirely free from air raids.

A small number of aircraft of the Coastal Command attack air bases at Mandal and Forus in Norway.

Forty-five thousand Germans in Lithuania and 12,000 in Estonia and Latvia who did not leave in the autumn of 1939 will, it is reported, return to the Reich under the German-Soviet territorial agreement.

Sicily is occupied by German troops, Air Force men and technicians. It is reported that Italy has made a request for German aid and the price to be paid appears so far in Northern Italy as Trieste.

Despite continued snow and cold the Greeks have registered several more successes in local actions. In the central sector the Greeks take by surprise a fortified height capturing numerous machine-guns, mortar, etc.

Royal Air Force make a concentrated and highly successful attack on the naval base in Wilhelmshaven. The harbour at Brest, docks at Emden, Bremerhaven, Rotterdam and Flushing have also been bombed as well as aerodromes and other targets in north-west Germany and Holland. One British aircraft is missing. British planes bomb Catania on the eastern shore of Sicily.

16th Jan.—The sandstorm in Libya has subsided and the attack on Tobruk is expected to increase in intensity.

Royal Air Force planes drop thousands of leaflets over Abyssinia containing Haile Selassie's proclamation that he would personally lead the Patriot Abyssinian Army to victory.

An insurrectionary movement in Albania is centred mainly in the district between Berat and Elbasan but is spreading both north and south.

There was very little enemy air activity over England during daylight but during night a fire-raising attack was made on London. Incendiaries were showered in several areas, but the firemen easily controlled all the fires which were quickly put out. There were also two raids on Midland areas and high explosive bombs were dropped in widely scattered areas. Casualties were very few and the damage throughout the country was not very extensive. Two German aircraft were destroyed.

Royal Air Force is now engaged in the task of pushing back the air frontier. This is the meaning of daylight bombing operations which British aircraft have been undertaking in the last few days.

Great Britain is now getting 90 per cent of American production of fighter planes.

British submarine *Pandora* has sunk two Italian supply ships each of about 5,000 tons in the Central Mediterranean.

Reports are coming in that Germans are entering Bulgaria in hundreds as tourists and commercial travellers.

Greatest uneasiness is felt in Rumania at the increasing arrivals of fresh German troops which are now estimated to total 12 divisions. The troops are in four main groups, one in Moldavia opposite the Soviet frontier, the second in the region of Bucharest and Pleosti guarding the oil zone, the third apparently reserved in Banat and the fourth group along the line of the Danube opposite Bulgaria.

The number of German soldiers now in Holland is much bigger than even the most extensive army of occupation would justify. A great number have been stationed in the coastal districts which have been declared defence areas.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 7th January 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 1, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, Atlas and other naval ship and submarine building yards, Deutsche vacuum oil refineries, Focke-Wulff air-frame works and other factories, Gerbruder-Nielsen rice and starch mills, railway stations and yards); submarine bases in occupied territory; invasion bases, including Flushing, Ostend, Brest.	Nil.	..
January 2, Thursday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, ship-building yards, railways); oil plant at Emden and Amsterdam; Channel invasion bases, including Calais and Boulogne.	1	..
January 3, Friday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, ship-building yards, factories, warehouses, railways); other targets in Germany and occupied territory.	1	..
January 4, Saturday.	R. A. F. day attacks on shipping off Lister and Onrestad (Norway); naval base at Brest. R.A.F. night raid on Hamburg.	1	..
January 5, Sunday.	R.A.F. day raid on Brest (Naval base, aerodrome). Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	Nil.	1
January 6, Monday.	R.A.F. day attacks on shipping off Norway and Holland. Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	Nil.	..
January 7, Tuesday.	Bombing operations cancelled owing to weather ..	..	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 7th January 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 1	..	..
January 2	..	..
January 3	..	1
January 4	1	2
January 5	..	..
January 6	..	..
January 7	..	1

TALKING POINTS

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL.

The "Lease and Lend Bill" has already been started on its career through the United States Congress and informed opinion expects its successful emergence in about a month. Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, who was the first witness before the Committee examining the Bill, was as vehement and thorough-going as the President in his denunciation of the Axis Powers, who, he said, were determined to destroy the foundation of civilization by armed conquest, by subjugation of weaker peoples and by tyrannical rule over them. America's clear duty both to herself and to humanity was therefore, he pointed out, to provide all necessary things with the help of which Great Britain could successfully wage the war on which she was engaged. In the speediest possible manner, he said, these things will be done and overwhelming speed, he urged, was their greatest need to-day.

Even Mr. Henry Ford is now for quick help to Great Britain. The gradual emancipation of America's opinion from the bondage of isolationism has been due to the appreciation of the fact that Great Britain was engaged in the struggle not for herself alone but for Democracy all the world over. If the United States, which is in a position of apparent security 3,000 miles away from bombs and Gestapo agents and in the enjoyment of remarkable prosperity, feels with regard to war, as it does to-day, then it is obvious that other nations and other peoples who may be far away from the scene of the present conflict should similarly have a correct and sympathetic understanding of the moral issues at stake.

It is well to remember that the American plan for lending Democracies arms, ships and other requirements to be returned or replaced, is progressing so satisfactorily because it keeps aloof from the difficult problems involved in dollar loans and debts which isolationists would very much like to be raised in order to delay America's help to Great Britain. The essence of this scheme is that American manufacturers would be paid in dollars, that the question of Great Britain's indebtedness would not arise until she has either consumed or damaged materials given to her and that this indebtedness would be ultimately cleared by deliveries in kind, not in cash. In order to speed up such assistance, it has been definitely laid down in the Bill that the rate of allocation of America's production to Britain would be determined by executive and not by legislative decision. Of course, if necessity arose England might well secure all that America may produce, including naval units.

JAPAN AND THE NEW ORDER.

Mr. Cordell Hull was no less severe in regard to his indictment of Japanese policy. The so-called New Order in the Pacific, he said, meant the domination by one country to the exclusion of the interests of other nations. The New Order, he pointed out would further lead economically to the impoverishment of the invaded parts of the Orient and socially to the destruction of personal liberties and reduction of the conquered peoples to the role of inferiors. Japan has been told by the United States, Mr. Hull continued, that her best interests lay in maintaining friendly relations with America but she has sought to ally herself with the Axis Powers. Until this alliance was contracted America desisted from taking any definite action. But now that Japan has well nigh shot her bolt, the United States wished to be on the aggressive because, in the face of the threat of the New Order in the East, appeasement was not the policy, but aggression by strong action. American opinion, therefore, is veering round to the view that the cutting off of the supply of scrap iron to Japan and giving financial aid to China should be followed by placing an embargo on all shipments of oil to Japan. American newspapers point out that the future of the Far East was really being determined in the British Isles and not in the China Sea and that, if Great Britain came through, the Japanese menace can be laid automatically, and then Japan would have no choice but to accept a negotiated settlement upon all questions, including China.

But Japan is now truculent. She professes to think that America's help to Great Britain and to China should be countered by herself building the largest fleet in the world and by organizing the largest army ready for two or three-front war, according to a newspaper. The Japanese League for the Emancipation of South-Eastern Asiatic Nations, we are told, is engaged in the emancipation of five hundred million people from their white conquerors, and among those people are those in Malay, Burma, India and the Philippines. It is, therefore, absolutely clear that Japan wishes to conquer Eastern Asia for herself; but what are the prospects? The China affair is still going on even after three years' of heavy losses for Japan in men, money, material and prestige. The Soviet continues to help China and the Soviet-Japanese relations have not yet improved. She has, of course, got a stranglehold of Indo-China and is egging on Thailand to become a nuisance to the French authorities. But the Japanese Government, now really controlled by war Lords, is indulging in threats. Any further disturbance of the *status quo* in the Netherlands or in the Philippines or further East or South will be immediately followed by action on the part of America and Great Britain, if not also by Russia.

One often hears from Japanese sources of her intention to be on friendly terms with Great Britain and America, of her desire to have friendly relations with Australia, of her intentions to trade more largely with India. One does not know what value to attach to these statements and whether they are the repetition of the Nazi technique of lulling other nations into a sense of false security. One can only hope that it is not so.

ITALY, THE NEXT VICTIM OF GERMANY.

The first engagement of the Luftwaffe with British forces occurred a few days ago in the Central Mediterranean when German dive bombers attacked a convoy of vessels taking important war materials to Greece. As a result of this action the British aircraft carrier "Illustrious" was hit and somewhat damaged, but it reached its base after a magnificent engagement. Great Britain has lost the cruiser "Southampton"; but German aircraft lost heavily. More of such actions may perhaps be expected. But very little improvement in the general offensive power of Italy need be expected from this development. Germany is not yet war with Greece and German bombers, unless war is declared, are not yet likely to go to Albania in support of Italy. For that would set the Balkans ablaze and Turkey will not remain silent. The Italian position in Lybia is already hopeless, and German aircraft would have to depend for fuel and spare parts on the sea route from Italy which is not free from danger. But Mussolini's S. O. S. to Germany has, of course, had a most disastrous effect on its prestige. It has brought her down in the estimation of the world and Italians are not likely to welcome the Nazi's penetration in view of the experience which other countries have had of such infiltration. Is this the beginning of the enslavement of Italy, Italians may well ask themselves. Hitler, of course, has welcomed this call for help on the part of Mussolini. He first tried to secure the help of the French navy. The battleship of "Strasbourg", and the cruisers, "Galisonniere", "Jean de Yienne" and "Marseillaise," are in Toulon. Torpedo boats and submarines are at Casablanca. "Richelieu" and the cruisers and the destroyers sent to reinforce it against General De Gaulle's landing are at Dakar. Oran still harbours the "Dunkerque" which is apparently being repaired. If Hitler had been successful in this attempt, Britain's control of the Mediterranean would have been endangered. Hence Nazi's help to Italy can be construed to be a measure both of Hitler's diplomatic failure in France and his conviction that, without help in the air, Italy would be lost. The political effect of this latest move on the part of Germany may very likely be the practical reduction of Italy to the status of a conquered country. Many Germans are now to be found in various Italian organizations, including factories, and control is being secured in various ways. If, as is likely to happen: the political control of Gemany is strengthend, then a situation would arise when Italians would be compelled to adopt the same policy of sabotage and underground activities and other manifestations of ill-will and hatred towards Nazis which are the conspicuous features of the conquered countries in Europe to-day.

SURFACE-RAIDERS.

If the Royal Navy, it may be asked, is vigilant, then why should one hear of the activities of Germany's surface-raiders? The answer is simple. No navy, however large and powerful, could possibly hope to keep under observation the immense stretches of open sea. There are besides thousands of miles of neutral coastal waters in which the German raiders may find a refuge though temporarily. Regular units of the enemy have been driven out of the high seas. But high-speed warships and converted merchantmen carry on naval warfare, and their exploits, in which they exhibit humanity and sportsmanship, gain notoriety from the very infrequency with which they occur. Germany had taken care to distribute, at the outbreak of the war, many commerce-raiders in the guise of merchant ships and a few raiders in neutral ports all over the world. One of the pocket-battleships, "Admiral Graf Spee," has been accounted for and the other two, "Deutschland" and "Admiral Von Scheer" have made their appearance here and there and have often changed their appearance so that it has not been possible to identify them. These ships do slip through blockade because it is clearly a most difficult task for the British Navy to patrol every square mile of the Atlantic or the North Sea; especially in winter is this operation very difficult and there is the additional handicap felt by Great Britain by the loss of the French Fleet. Further, there is in the Far East a maritime country allied to Germany which is capable of assisting the Nazi-raiders operating in the Pacific. The fact, however, that these commerce-raiders cannot exist without fuel and ammunition and food, must tell in the end against any large operations on their part, and one by one they will find their grave.

RESCUED AFTER SEVENTEEN HOURS

A graphic description has been given of a driver named Jack Reaves, aged 32, being rescued from a car in the basement of a West End garage after 17 hours of continuous efforts to rescue him:—

> "The car was buried in a pile of broken bricks and iron girders 20 feet high. Reaves did not know that his wife, who was sitting next to him, had been killed. They were married two months ago. Jacks, levers, and pick-axes and ropes were used by the rescue workers, who ignored the successive air raid alarms throughout the day. At one stage a nurse was able to reach Reaves and dress his wounds, and he was fed with a tube. Eventually steel girders were pulled away by hoists, a stretcher was lowered, four men crawled with it to the car, and the stretcher was hauled up on planks."

BATTLE OF THE BOMBERS

DAMAGE AND DEFENCE.

For eight months the Royal Air Force has been systematically bombing military and industrial targets in Germany and Nazi-occupied territories. Last August the *Luftwaffe's* sporadic attempts to attack Britain developed into a Blitz from newly acquired bases. Despite tremendous losses the *Luftwaffe* is still numerically stronger than the Royal Air Force and it enjoys the advantage of shorter range.

Why are the words of the *New York Herald Tribune*, written on August 17, 1940, still true :—that the Nazis "have launched an overwhelming attack and it has failed utterly to overwhelm"?

Why is the Royal Air Force's "master-plan" of bombing over Germany achieving steady results?

German Bombers.

1. **In one of the air battles of Britain a Spitfire pilot found German bombers in the stratosphere at a height of 37,000 feet—8,000 feet higher than the summit of Mt. Everest.** To escape the anti-aircraft barrage the Nazis customarily fly and bomb at great heights "by the clock", *i.e.*, with a given direction and speed to bring them somewhere near a map-square in which their target is supposed to lie.

2. **The German air force is less highly trained than the Royal Air Force and has been produced primarily for co-operation with land-forces in** *Blitzkrieg*.

3. **The German offensive has been a series of attempted knock-out blows, interspersed with hit-and-run raids.** When one intended prelude to invasion failed (the day-attacks on ports and aerodromes) they tried another (mass daylight raids on London). When that failed they again changed their tactics to indiscriminate night-raids on London and other big towns designed to wear down civilian morale and affect incidental damage to targets in the area.

4. **Not more than half-a-dozen times under eight months bombing have the Nazis admitted even slight damage to military or industrial objectives.** Last summer the American Warren Irving described the restrictions on neutral journalists in Germany. "Those who play the game are sure of being rewarded, but those who don't are equally sure of being disciplined . . . . We had to submit our scripts to three separate censorships". Since then the Nazis have expressly forbidden neutral journalists to make any reference to military or industrial damage.

Watch the British bombing-plans as revealed by changing targets to see how effective the raids must be.

British Bombers.

1. **The bombing of the Dortmund-Ems Canal last autumn was carried out at lower than 1,000 feet. A common height for British attacks is 2,000 feet.** Before every raid the crew is "briefed" with full information of a precise military objective. Exact large-scale models assist identification, and the pilots fly "by the clock" only on the first part of their journey. High-quality construction and good piloting enable Royal Air Force bombers to face the enemy Air Attack which is concentrated rather than scientifically laid.

2. **The Royal Air Force had months of valuable training over enemy territory in reconnaissance and leaflet raids during the first part of the war.**

3. **The British offensive is based upon a well worked out plan from which there has never been any deviation—night bombing of selected objectives by unaccompanied bombers at ranges up to 600 miles.** When the Royal Air Force's disorganization of rail-communication over the enemy's extended lines led to the transfer of traffic to waterways, the canal-system was attacked at vital points. When the damage to Hamm marshalling-yards had been partly repaired, it was visited again. When Hamburg docks had been put out of action they were left alone for a period. A certain secretly built and specially camouflaged ammunition factory was bombed by the Royal Air Force exactly three hours after it had started work.

4. **Neutral witnesses say: "British reports are about as correct as it is possible to make them"** (*James MacDonald in the New York Times*). **"The fact is that the Royal Air Force. . . . . reports are not only as accurate as man can make them, but understate the advantage the British are gaining over the Germans".** (*W. R. Knickerbocker, Hearst Press.*) British communiqués report damage when it occurs, omitting only details which would assist the enemy. A neutral correspondent recently reported that less than one per cent of Britain's industrial output had been adversely affected by bombing.

Watch the supply of war material to distant fronts such as the Western Desert to see how ineffective German raids must be.

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

HITLER'S TECHNIQUE DESCRIBED.

The great weapon in the hands of Hitler throughout his career has been to discover the weak points existing within the communities he desires to disintegrate and then carry on intensive propaganda among the different sections of the communities and then destroy them. He followed this tactics in regard to his own country when the people had become desperate and hopeless owing to the economic depression and the failure of the super-imposed democracy to adjust itself to new conditions; his aim being to completely disintegrate the unity of the country and then attack it. That explains France's failure and Hitler's success in applying to France the lessons which he had learnt in his own country.

A few days ago he talked to German workers in right socialist style promising them many things after the war. This created serious discontent among German industrial magnates who regarded Hitler's speech to workers as being dangerously radical. He had to pacify these industrialists and without any hesitation he told them that if he were somewhat liberal in his promises it was because war exigencies required him to talk to German workers in that strain. He assured them at the same time that the masses would be properly dealt with after the war. The factory workers could not possibly have been gratified at this change of front. What steps Hitler is taking to re-pacify the workers is not known yet, but it may be fairly guessed that he would follow the same technique. Writing about the working of this well-known method of Hitler, Mr. Francis Williams writes in his recent book "War by Revolution" :—

> "He set himself to increase and exploit the fear of Communism which had been the reaction of the rich and industrially powerful to the economic crisis, and persuade them that revolution was imminent and that the only bulwark against it was National Socialism which would curb the power of organized labour and destroy Bolshevism. At the same time he exploited the anger and anxiety of the unemployed workers by preaching that Germany had been betrayed by international finance and by the great commercial combines for their own purposes. He promised that National Socialism would give freedom and security to the common people; he told the small shopkeeper and the business men that they were being ruined by a conspiracy of the great monopolies to crush them and promised them that National Socialism would destroy the Trusts and give them security. He told the middle-classes that they were being ruined by international Jewry which worked at one and the same time to crush them from above by a conspiracy of international finance and to destroy them from below by a conspiracy of international Communism and that National Socialism would guard them against both. To the women of Germany he promised husbands and homes security; to the army a vast programme of war which would re-establish the ascendency of the Reichswehr; to the disillusioned companies of youth he offered the double spur of a great crusade for the spiritual regeneration of Germany and the chance of revenging themselves upon their public and private enemies in a chartered campaign of terrorism; to the great capitalists and landowners he promised a return to the economic feudalism which had existed in Germany before the Republic; to the peasants a state programme of land development in their interests; to the socialists national control of industry and social reform.
>
> "That each new promise contradicted almost every other did not matter, for he was not concerned with obtaining support for a rational programme. He was concerned to appeal to the sub-rational desires and fears and self-deceptions of all classes and groups, to set the hand of each against the others, to sow disunity, to work for that moment of anarchy when confidence in all established government would go and his own intervention would be possible.
>
> "Moreover, he knew that each group to which he made promises could be persuaded to believe that the promises made to them were alone genuine and that the contradictory ones were merely to deceive their enemies.
>
> "France was hopelessly divided before the war and the Nazi political propaganda found in such fissiparous tendency plenty of opportunity to still further divide French men against themselves. In this work he had been greatly assisted by Nazi agents who had been kept busy for years in discovering people among all classes and communities whose needs could be greased for betraying their country."

HITLER'S LITTLE BILL.

A correspondent, writing to a London paper, draws a very interesting comparison between the demands now being made by Hitler on France and the claim for reparations made on Germany by France after the Great War :—

> "The Germans are asking for 20,000,000 marks a day, not as the peace terms, but for the costs of maintenance of their army of occupation. As it stands at present it means an annual payment of 7,300,000,000

(*Continued on Page* 10)

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

New Year Wishes.

The Fuehrer has addressed a 3,000-word New Year message to the German people. It is largely a repetition of the old thread-bare arguments in favour of the continuation—with the assumed approval of the Almighty—of the war against the greedy, plutocratic capitalists of the hypocritical democracies. Hitler paints himself as the Great Peacemaker resorting to war only to safeguard the menaced existence of the German people. In Hitler's early days, Communism was the big bad wolf; now British capitalism fills the role. Without a villain there could be no hero, and Hitler is desperately anxious to appear as the hero.

Let us examine some of his statements as he dips into history.

Pre-War Disarmament.

" Every attempt to bring about restriction of armament was rejected with disdain by these criminal elements of the capitalist democracies."

An international disarmament conference met at Geneva in 1932. On March 16, 1933, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, then British Prime Minister, presented to the conference a draft-convention of 96 articles, providing for a substantial measure of disarmament over a period of 8 years. The plan was unanimously adopted on June 8, 1933. It would have given Germany parity with the other Powers by 1941. But Germany was determined to re-arm and left the Conference on October 14, 1933.

No Claims.

" My attempt to avoid the outbreak of war with England and France in 1939 was not only coldly rejected by the entire democratic world, but also evoked a storm of indignation . . . Germany made no claims on England or France, and this was entirely unnecessary."

Hitler could have avoided war by keeping his troops outside Poland. That he knew the risk he was taking is proved by his pact with Russia a week before he began the invasion of Poland. The only reason no claims were made on France or England was that Hitler was not yet ready to make them.

Peace Offensive.

" On October 6, 1939, I invited France and England to lay down arms. This attempt proved futile."

Since Germany refused to withdraw from Poland, Britain and France were bound both in honour and in self-defence to continue the fight.

Fall of France.

" The first units which retired from the struggle were British divisions. They were animated by one desire—to evacuate the Continent under cover of Dutch, Belgian and French troops."

If their one desire was to evacuate the Continent, why were British troops shipped to France at all? When the B. E. F. was evacuated from Dunkirk, Dutch troops had ceased to offer resistance, King Leopold of the Belgians had capitulated and French troops were defending another section of the Front.

The " Fundamental Anglo-German Struggle."

" Immediately after the termination of the campaign in Western Europe, I expressed to Great Britain my desire to terminate this senseless war. A wave of indignation and fury seized the capitalist war profiteers of all democracies."

That wave of indignation, or rather, determination to carry on to the end, was not confined to the " capitalist war profiteers," nor to any particular class of people.

Threat to Friends of Britain.

" It is our inexorable determination that a Day of Judgment shall be held to secure for Europe internal peace. Whatever may happen, Germany will adopt all measures necessary

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HITLER'S LITTLE BILL

(*Continued from Page 9*)

marks. It may be recalled that the decision made at Versailles in 1921 was that reparations should start at 2,000,000,000 marks a year, and rise in 11 years to 6,000,000,000. That maximum it will be noted is 1,300,000,000 marks less than the present demand. But under the Dawes scheme in 1924 reparations were reduced to 1,000,000,000 marks yearly, rising after four years to 2,500,000,000. The total sum Germany paid as reparation was 17,000,000,000 marks, and she succeeded in borrowing 27,000,000,000 from the Allies, thus remaining 10,000,000,000 marks to the good.

The value of German exports in 1913 was roughly 10,000,000,000 marks and of French exports in 1938 was 1,530,000,000. The population of Germany (1919 census) was 58,000,000 and of France (1939) 42,000,000. Presumably payment will have to be effected by unoccupied France, whose productive capacity is only a small fraction of that of former France.

Statistics show that the yield from taxation of unoccupied France in 1934 was less than 20 per cent of the yield from the whole country. It may therefore be reckoned that a territory with one-thirtieth of the paying power of 1913 Germany is being called upon on pay three times the maximum annuity fixed (but not actually paid) under the Dawes scheme."

for the achievement of this aim. Every power which has anything to do with the democracies will be the victims of these relations."

Apart from the fact that it is for the Almighty, and not Hitler, to determine when (and on whom). Days of Judgment shall be held, threats of this type have long been part of the Nazi technique, but the free world refuses to be bullied. The Axis Pact with Japan did not deter America from continuing her aid to Britain. Greece has taken her stand against the Axis and Turkey is ready.

Axis Partner.

" Since the beginning of June, Fascist Italy has been fighting on our side. The conception of the war-mongers that they can influence the result of this struggle by isolated operations is childish."

Axis propaganda has repeatedly boosted the part played by Graziani in " binding " the " cream " of the British Imperial Forces in Egypt. The " isolated operation " in the Western Desert, carried to a successful conclusion, would release these troops for the final drive against the real enemy. The success of the " isolated operation " in Albania has provided Britain once more with a foothold on the Continent.

Agreed!

" In this war, not good fortune, but justice, is going to triumph. Justice is on the side of those peoples who are fighting to safeguard their menaced existence. This struggle will encourage them to the greatest and most unheard of efforts in world history."

We agree. The soldiers, sailors and airmen of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium and France who escaped from Nazi tyranny are fighting side by side with the British Empire to safeguard their menaced existence and re-establish their independence.

Italy's " Living Space."

The German radio reports (January 2nd) a speech made in Florence by the Italian Education Minister, Signor Pavolini, who said " the 100-years-long struggle of the Italian people for sufficient living-space must now be crowned with success," and concluded that the present war was the " only logical conclusion " of Fascist achievements.

When Italy entered the war, her Empire comprised 2·8 per cent of the area of the world and only 2·5 per cent of the world's population. In other words, she had more than her share of living space.

In an article on *Lebensraum*, published in January 1939, Professor Obet, of the German University of Breslau, described the living-space of the Italian Empire as " more than sufficient."

Mussolini himself, on the 5th of May 1936, declared that, with the settlement of the Abyssinian question, Italy joined the ranks of the satisfied nations. She has, however, left those ranks since.

Italian forces, seeking more living-space tried to invade Egypt, which is already over-populated, with 0·7 per cent of the world-area and 0·8 per cent of the world-population.

Spain and Tangier

The Nazi radio (January 2nd) twists Senor Suner's statement on the Tangier situation to make it appear that Spain's action was not dictated by Axis threats. Berlin reports Senor Suner as having said, " The Powers who fought on the side of Spain in the War of Liberation had fully recognized that Spain was entitled to Tangier."

In actual fact, the Spanish Foreign Minister said that the difficult situation caused in Tangier at the outbreak of war was aggravated by Italy's entry. " This critical and very dangerous moment required immediate action on Spain's part."

So it becomes evident that at least one of Spain's motives in taking over control of Tangier was to prevent the Italian fleet from using it as a base.

Naval Occasions

Reviewing naval warfare during 1940, the German Supreme Command (quoted by the Berlin radio on January 3rd), says :—

" Wherever the enemy tried to put an end to the activities of German warships he was engaged and was often obliged to leave the scene of these encounters, apparently battered and with heavy losses, in order to seek refuge in the nearest port."

The only British warship to withdraw into a neutral port for repairs after an encounter with the enemy was the armed liner *Carnarvon Castle*, which last month entered Montevideo harbour after putting to flight a more heavily-armed Nazi raider. Unlike the *Graf Spee*, the *Carnarvon Castle* sailed again—well within the 72-hour limit allotted her by the Uruguayan Government. The *Rawalpindi* and the *Jervis Bay*, both of which went down with guns blazing and colours flying in the face of overwhelming odds, were other examples of British auxiliary warships which took part in " these encounters."

Without Comment

" Italian submarine commanders and crews are sharing the same risks as their German comrades in the Atlantic, because, since the Italian Fleet has made the Mediterranean prohibited to British shipping, we do not need so many submarines in that sea."

—*Rome Radio, January 3rd.*

Berlin radio reports (December 31) a collision between a British cargo steamer and two Italian steamers at the entrance to Buenos Aires harbour. "The harbour authorities," we are told, " suspect foul play and eye-witnesses have declared that they were greatly surprised when they saw the English steamer making straight for the Italian vessels."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Who wanted the War?

The Germans repeat again on December 31, 1940, that Mr. Churchill was solely responsible for the war, and the Italians (January 2) are indignant over the wrongs perpetuated by the pluto-democracy of Great Britain. M. Oeri, the political editor of the Swiss newspaper, *Basler Nachrichten*, however, remarks that Herr Hitler wrongly accuses Mr. Churchill of having wanted war for the last seven years. This, M. Oeri, says, is not true. Mr. Churchill constantly said that he did not want war, but that the armaments of Great Britain should be on the same level as Germany's.

As for Britain's being a plutocracy, the writer goes on to say, expert workers are now the masters of the Anglo-Saxon world and not, as in the 18th century, lords and big capitalists. Anglo-Saxon capitalism, according to this neutral observer, was the first to acknowledge the decisive importance of the people's prosperity to capital itself.

Britain's Food Position

The German broadcast of January 1 referred to the message of the British Minister for Food, and gloated over England's alleged difficulties in respect of supplies. If the German claims were correct, imports of food would be expected to occupy an increasingly large share out of the total imports since the war, particularly in recent months. In actual fact, recent statistics show that precisely the opposite tendency is working. Thus, while in the ten months ended October 31, 1938, imports of food, drink and tobacco represented in value 46·5 per cent of the total imports into Britain, this had fallen in the same period of 1939 (which included two war months) to 44·4 per cent and in the same period in 1940 were as low as 38·8 per cent. These figures show that so far from the food supply being endangered by enemy action against shipping and ports, Britain has been able to devote a substantially increased proportion of her shipping and foreign exchange resources to materials of war.

Further, if the threat to British shipping were ever to become serious, it is always open to Britain, by virtue of this increased margin, to ensure her food supplies by a temporary reversal of the present tendency to concentrate on imports of war materials.

Plot against Ibn Saud

The Italian and the German propagandists who recently accused Britain of having murdered her own distinguished Ambassador to the United States, the late Lord Lothian, have during the week, come forward with the equally absurd suggestion that the British Secret Service had a hand in the attack on Britain's honoured friend—King Ibn Saud. The Italians had, in fact, given the game away by their haste to accuse Britain even before the world had been told of the conspirators' arrest.

It is now known, however, that Sherif Adel Hamid Ibn Saud, leader of the plot to assassinate King Ibn Saud, was in Berlin interviewing high Nazi officials in the summer of last year. He returned to Egypt only three months ago, and obtained a visa to go to Arabia on the grounds that he wanted to take part in the pilgrimage to Mecca. It is also established that the other five men implicated in the plot were all his servants.

Kenya's Gesture

A lie direct is given to the recent Italian radio propaganda alleging "unrest" in Kenya, by the splendid gesture made by Kenya Moslems who have informed the authorities that they will buy Kenya War Loan on one condition—that no interest be paid.

The President of the Kenya Muslim community in his letter says: "When it is realized that the interest on these loans is going to be paid by the British tax-payer, who is already heavily taxed, it appears highly selfish that we should expect interest on our savings."

Plight of Holland and Belgium

The Nazis on January 1 roundly claimed that "responsibility for the sufferings of Belgium and Holland rests on the shoulders of Great Britain." What happened in German-dominated Holland within a week of the invasion was that over 17½ million pounds of butter, about 90 per cent of the total reserves, were removed. Payment, of course, was given in useless paper marks and the goods disappeared into Germany. The same thing happened in varying degrees to other stocks of food, clothing and raw materials.

In Belgium, according to Sigrid Schultz, reporting from Germany in the *New York Daily News*, Belgian farmers were informed that all potato crops, excepting an allowance for themselves, live-stock and replanting, must be sent to the authorities. Each member of the household was allowed 1½ lb. of potatoes daily.

The Norwegian legation in New York has also revealed that about 10,000 pounds of meat are being confiscated by the Nazis in Oslo.

'Might' of the Luftwaffe

On January 2, the Nazi broadcast pompously proclaimed that the German Air Force was mightier than the British Air Force.

In spite of the facts that Germany has been re-arming for the last six years and that her *Luftwaffe* is numerically stronger, Britain has more than held her own, both in defence and attack. During 1940, German losses in raids over Britain numbered 2,993, while losses of British fighters over Britain numbered 847. In the Western Front and France the British last 375 machines and the Germans 945.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 4 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, Jan. 25, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

17th Jan.—Greeks capture by shock tactics an Italian post. Important heights in the southern sector and some fortified positions have been occupied while one Italian division is holding a height of great strategic importance in the central sector. A thousand prisoners have been taken among whom are many officers including Col. Manengetti, commanding the 77th regiment of the "Wolves of Tuscany."

Italian liners "*Liguria*" (15,000 tons) and "*Lombardia*" (20,000 tons) carrying troops to Albania have been torpedoed and sunk in the Adriatic. Italian prisoners have been taken by the Greeks.

Mr. Lemas, the Minister of Supplies, reveals in the debate in the Dail that a total of nine ships of Irish registration flying the Irish flag had been sunk off the Irish coast.

Crown Prince Umberto has been promoted to the rank of General in the Italian Army.

After a lull German propaganda is again active about the reconstruction of the Vichy Government and the reinstatement of M. Laval.

Air raids over Britain. A German bomber has been brought down off the south coast of Scotland. A London railway station was attacked. South Wales bore the brunt of enemy air activity. Fires were started and damage was done to shops, houses and commercial buildings. Casualties not heavy. Swansea was the main target of the Nazi raiders. Two enemy bombers have been destroyed.

A few bombs were dropped in the Suez Canal Zone. Enemy aircraft approached Alexandria. There were no casualties or damage.

Sir Frederick Stewart, Minister for External Affairs, Australia, states that relations between Japan and Australia are cordial despite unavoidable trade and financial restrictions caused by the war and that the economic penetration by Japan on the countries described as "South Seas" causes doubt and uneasiness in Australia about Japan's ultimate intentions.

It is announced that ten enemy bombers were brought down during an air raid on Malta on the 16th.

British Coastal Command aircraft attack enemy shipping off the Dutch cost. Targets at Brest, Cherbourg and two aerodromes in occupied France have also been bombed.

An agreement between Britain and Spain has been signed by which Spain will be supplied with Canadian wheat. An agreement between Spain and Germany has also been signed under which Spain receives paper and newsprint to the value of five-million marks.

18th Jan.—There is no change in the situation of the much-battered Tobruk. Royal Air Force continue to operate over Libya unopposed. Assab, Hargeisa, an enemy camp five miles east of Umm Haggar and Asmara have been bombed.

Greek troops continue to advance on the central sector and occupy strategic heights. Material of all kinds have been catpured. When a Greek ship arrived at a Greek port with six hundred Italian prisoners aboard, the Italians shouted to quayside crowds "Death to Mussolini."

The Home Secretary announces the British Government's new compulsory scheme for incendiary bomb-fighting providing a maximum service of 48 hours per month for civilians between the ages of 16 and 60. Women are exempted but they can voluntarily undertake the work.

It is reported that a secret session of the Diet is to take place on 21st January to review the country's economic, military and naval preparedness of Japan.

Six hundred French troops have been killed in a clash with Thailand Troops. Two French warships have been severely damaged.

Italian railways have been placed at the disposal of the General staff for the transport of troops. Goods traffic has been suspended.

The Bulgarian Parliament met when the Ministers including the Prime Minister who attended several meetings throughout the country in order to sound public opinion reported to Parliament.

It is reported that in occupied France, 3,000 British subjects have been rounded up and placed in internment camps.

For defiance of military orders and a plot to stage a revolt, the New Fourth (Communist) Army of China has been disarmed and its Commander arrested.

The British Naval trawlers *Chestnut* and *Desiree* have been sunk.

It is announced that United States is constructing landplane and seaplane bases at St. Lucia Island.

It is reported that 24 well-known Greeks were carried off as hostages by Italians from Argyrocastro and its neighbourhood. Their fate is not known.

Bombs have been dropped on the outskirts of London and at several points near the East Coast. Little damage was caused. A small number of persons have been killed or injured.

There have been no Royal Air Force raids on the continent.

19th Jan.—British troops have re-occupied Kassala in Sudan. The Italian troops all along this front are retreating pursued and harassed by mobile detachments.

Despite snowfalls Greek forces advance on their line.

It is announced that Marshal Petain received M. Laval and that all misunderstandings between them have been smoothed out.

The British auxilliary cruiser, *Asturias*, has captured the French steamer, *Mendoza*, which was attempting to run the British blockade.

There is little German day air activity. At night enemy aircraft attack a West England town, a West Midlands town and an East Anglian town. Incendiaries were showered and many were soon extinguished. Southamptom was the main target of German raiders. Five enemy bombers were destroyed.

German Air Force aiding Italy in the Central Mediterranean attack the British Naval base at Malta. Seventeen enemy aircrafts were destroyed.

M. Guenther, Foreign Minister, reaffirms Sweden's strict neutrality.

President Roosevelt and Mr. Henry Wallace, Vice-President, take the oath of office.

Results of the Gallup Poll regarding neutrality of Eire show that 63 per cent would like to see the Irish give up their neutrality and let the English use their naval bases along Irish coast. Sixteen per cent are against while 21 per cent are undecided.

20th Jan.—There was a heavy artillery duel in the central sector of the Albanian front. In the southern sector, beyond Chimarra, a Greek detachment encircled and captured a trench mortar corps. In the coastal area, Greek infantry maintain their advance making themselves masters of terrain.

It is reported that the Petain-Laval meeting involves no change in policy.

South African troops have captured prisoners in El Yibo area.

British authorities have prohibited export of gears executed by a British manufacturer for a Japanese customer.

Hitler and Mussolini meet. It is reported that their talks resulted in a full agreement of views on all questions of mutual interest.

The Mediterranean Fleet join the British artillery and the Royal Air Force and bomb Tobruk.

Royal Air Force attack Valona.

British fighters engage Italian planes that raided Piraeus. Two enemy planes are reported to have been shot down. One British fighter is lost.

The British advance into Eritrea is proceeding satisfactorily.

Enemy air activity over England. Bombs dropped at a number of points in South and South-east England. Damage was nowhere heavy and casualties were few.

21st Jan.—Britain's army of the Nile launch an attack on Tobruk. The troops force their way through yellow clouds of sand. They have penetrated the defences of Tobruk to a depth of eight miles.

British forces occupy Tessenei and Sabdarat, and are pushing on into Eritrea. Royal Air Force raid Assab and score direct hits on supply depot.

There was considerable activity in the central sector in Albania. Greeks occupy strategic heights.

Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, speaking at the reopening of the Diet says that the United States should " reflect deeply on her attitude with truly God-fearing piety " in order to avoid risks of a world war which might " spell the downfall of civilization."

An agreement relating to the French Cameroons has been concluded between the British Government and General de Gaulle's Council of Defence, under which the British Government undertake to purchase the total output of cocoa, fat, cereals and other commodities of the French Cameroons.

There has been considerable enemy air activity over the eastern part of England. Bombs fall on the outskirts of London and at points in the Home and Eastern Counties. Some damage to houses and few caualties are reported.

All telephone and telegraphic communications with Rumania have been cut following the disturbances.

22nd Jan.—Tobruk has fallen. Mopping up operations in the western section of the perimeter are proceeding. The total number of Italian prisoners taken here is estimated at 20,000. Royal Air Force raid barracks at Apollonia. The Italian cruiser *San Giorgio* in Tobruk harbour is in flames together with a number of dumps of stores, petrol and the like. Maritza in Rhodes and Adad and Assab in Italian East Africa have also been attacked.

The Greeks repel four Italian counter-attacks which were aimed at regaining a vital position on the central sector of the front. Greek aeroplanes bomb objectives in the battle zone. Enemy planes bomb the rural area of Janina in north-western Greece but no damage or casualties have been caused. Royal Air Force bomb military buildings at Berati and motor transport concentrations on the road between Berati and Kelcyre.

The Greek Government have ordered the mobilization of Greek citizens throughout Egypt between the ages of 20 and 45. The formation of an Army Corps named " The Hellenic Column in Egypt " will follow.

Two trawlers, *Manx Prince* and *Refundo*, have been sunk by enemy action. There was no loss of life in *Manx Prince* but there were casualties in *Refundo*.

Bucharest is in a state of siege following the unsuccessful Iron Guard putsch. The New German Minister to Rumania, Baron Manfred von Killinger, is expected to arrive in Bucharest. General Antonescu has dismissed General Petrovicescu, the Rumanian Minister for the Interior, replacing him by General Popescu. The military are in complete control of the city and the curfew has been imposed. General Antonescu broadcast to the nation but suddenly the broadcast was cut off. It is reported that General Antonescu has proclaimed military dictatorship in Rumania. Thirty thousand peasants and workers are said to be pouring into Bucharest from the provinces to join the revolt against General Antonescu's Government. Many provincial garrisons have joined the insurgents in various provinces.

Enemy aircraft drop bombs in East Riding, Yorkshire, and on Kent Coast. Little damage and no casualties are reported. Two enemy bombers were destroyed.

In the Kassala sector of the Sudan, British pursuit of Italian forces continues. Enemy detachments established on the British side of the Kenya frontier are driven back by intensive patrol activities. Italian retreat in Eritrea is also continuing.

The British destroyer " Hyperion " has been damaged by a torpedo or mine and sunk by British forces as it was rendered incapable of steaming.

Royal Air Force attack targets in the Dusseldorf area. Enemy aircraft at several aerodromes and troops and ground defences have been attacked. Several attacks were made on enemy ships. One British aircraft has been reported missing.

23rd Jan.—It is reported that the Italians are planning a large scale counter-offiensive in Greece. More Italian divisions have been landed near the Yogoslavian frontier.

Royal Air Force bomb heavily aerodromes in Sicily.

It is announced that the Vichy Government has accepted in principle the offer by Japan to mediate in Thailand French Indo-China dispute.

Mr. Knudsen, Head of President Roosevelt's Supreme Defence Directorate, at a press conference said that of the 33,000 military planes which are to be turned out by July next year, 14,000 are earmarked for Britain.

Many hundreds of German prisoners of war have been landed in an eastern Canadian port and sent to internment camps in the interior of Canada. Most of them are airmen captured in Britain, with a handful of ratings from U-boats.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 14th January 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 8, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night raids on Wilhelmshaven (Bauhafen naval base, submarine and shipbuilding yards, dry docks, Marinewerft naval dockyard); Emden (naval base, Binnenhafen and Industriehafen shipyards); Borkum Island (aerodrome, barracks).	Nil.	..
January 9, Thursday.	R.A.F. night raids on Brest (naval base, shipping, dry docks); invasion bases at Flushing, Dunkirk, Calais; railway bridge near Egersund (Norway); synthetic oil factory at Gelsenkirchen; oil storage plant at Rotterdam; inland ports at Duisburg-Ruhrort and Dusseldorf; other factories, railways and blast furnaces in the Ruhr.	2	1
January 10, Friday.	R.A.F. day raids on air and military bases in N. France, including Forest of Guines, near Calais (aerodromes and railway station) and Vissant (troops and gun posts); patrol boats in Channel. R. A. F. night raids on Brest (naval base, shipping); invasion base at Le Havre.	1 (crew safe).	3
January, 11 Saturday.	R.A.F. day raids on Dutch and Belgian coastal objectives, including barges on canal at Middelharnis; Zeebrugge mole; troops and barracks at Domburg. R. A. F. night raids on Turin (Royal Arsenal, Fiat motor works, another factory); naval base at Wilhelmshaven.	..	..
January 12, Sunday.	R. A. F. day raids on troops, ground defences and aerodromes along French and Belgian coasts; E-boats in North Sea; supply ships off Norway, France and Belgium. R.A.F. night raids on oil refineries at Ostend, Regensburg, Porto Marghera (Italy); Brest (naval base, shipping, power station, warehouses); L'Orient (submarine base, dry dock); invasion base at Le Havre; aerodromes in occupied territory, including Vannes, Chatres, Evreux, Morlaix.	3	..
January 13, Monday.	R.A.F. night raids on L'Orient (submarine base, dock buildings, naval ordnance works); targets in Dunkirk area.	1 (lost on day patrol).	..
January 14, Tuesday.	R. A. F. day raid on Norwegian objectives, including air bases at Mandal and Forus; railway bridge; motorship in Stavanger Roads.	Nil.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 14th January 1941 :—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 8	Nil.	2
January 9	Nil.	2
January 10	Nil.	2 (Germans admit 6.)
January 11	Nil.	1
January 12	..	..
January 13	..	..
January 14	..	..

JUDGE CARRIES ON

Many accounts are coming about the way in which business is carried on despite frequent air raids on London and other places. The following account of how Sir Gerald Dodson, Recorder of London, presiding over Court 2, carried on his work is taken from "The Times": after the air raid warning he asked the jurors to sit at the back of the court in order to avoid glass splinters injuring them.

"Anybody who desires to retire—I was going to say retreat," said the Recorder, "is at complete liberty to do so, but I have arranged to be informed if gunfire is heard, in which case I think it would be wise to adjourn."

Later, when the anti-aircraft guns began to boom, Sir Gerald Dodson adjourned his Court to his private room, where the hearing of the case before him proceeded. The prisoner was seated in a luxuriously upholstered armchair, with a warder standing by his side.

This is the first time within memory that a trial has been conducted in a Judge's private chamber at the Central Criminal Court.

In releasing the jury, after the hearing of the case, the Recorder said :—"The great thing in my view is to resist interruption. We are all in the battle and a battle means struggling and fighting, not quietly submitting and going down to a funkhole every time someone blows a whistle."

Later in the day, during the period of raid warning, Judge Beazley resumed the hearing of a case in his private room.

THE PROBLEM OF "PROBABLES"

It appears that there is now a greater proportion than at the beginning of the war on Britain of German aircraft shot down by British fighters which are not being described as definite losses on the German side. The aeronautical correspondent of "The Times" gives the reason why the Royal Air Force does not take the trouble of following the enemy aircraft spinning earthwards and seeing whether it does crash :—

Now our pilots have learnt that it does not pay to do this. Sometimes, in these days of large-scale raids, the Germans detail fighters to watch for unwary pilots doing this sort of thing.

Royal Air Force men are on their guard, and often they are content to call the downward-plunging enemy a "probable" rather than risk being "ambushed" as they go down to watch the end of an opponent.

An experienced flight commander has given this advice to his pilots : "If your man goes down in smoke, let him go and call him a probable. Maintain altitude, and stay with your squadron. It may rob the squadron of a 'certainty,' but it will certainly rob the Boche of one—yourself."

"Probables" are not included in the total of enemy aircraft officially claimed to have been destroyed.

TALKING POINTS

FALL OF TOBRUK.

The event of the week is the fall of Tobruk after three weeks of hard work by the Nile Army. No less than 20,000 prisoners have been taken besides valuable war marterial. It is stated that as a result of this and the previous successes at Sidi Barrani, Sollum and Bardia, two-thirds of the effective strength of Marshal Graziani's army has been accounted for. The number of prisoners alone taken since the offensive in the Western Desert began is about 100,000. This remarkable result is obviously due to the perfect timing and perfect co-ordination of the weapons of modern warfare by sea, air and land. And once again, Australians and the Free French Forces have played a great part. The Empire Army has been like a caterpillar moving forward by fully extending its body. The process of contraction is now taking place and a further forward movement has evidently been ordered by the High Command. Naval engineers are preparing anchorages at Bardia and Sollum and the capture of Tobruk means that these communications have been still further improved. Tobruk has a fine harbour and it may well became a most useful base of operations for the British Navy. The Royal Air Force have now secured important Italian airfields which have been deserted and they will thus advance their bases for such further actions as may be decided upon. The army has got west of Tobruk. All these operations will result in ensuring the unmolested passage of merchant shipping through the Western Mediterranean, checking any German move towards North-West Africa. What further moves may be made is, of course, General Wavell's secret. He may either sit down and leave the fall in morale, Libyan hostility and the power of the British naval blockade, to do the rest, or he might pursue the enemy further forward by land, sea and air.

The defeat of the Italian army, which is the victim of Mussolini's mistakes, may be attributed to three causes :—

(1) **His deplorable under estimation of the** power of the British Empire and the fighting qualities of the peoples who inhabit the several units of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

(2) Italy's unpreparedness for war and Mussolini's interference in his country's military affairs.

(3) His desire to perpetuate the Fascist regime even at the expense of the army and the people.

After the fall of Kassala, early in the week, the British pursuit of Italian forces towards the frontier in Eritrea continues. In Kenya the enemy forces are being driven off the frontier. In Abyssinia, a British military mission which has been secretly at work there for some months has achieved remarkable results in training the Abyssinians to attack the Italians with a view to their finally being driven out of that country. The Italian position, therefore, in Africa, is steadily worsening, though it may be some months before Italian influence in Africa is finally destroyed. What Marshal Graziani will do in the future cannot be precisely stated. He may take the drastic and difficult step of forcibly evacuating Italian colonists who are spread out over detached farms along the coastal plain or of detaching considerable numbers of troops for their defence against local tribes who will remember the savage mehtod which Graziani " the butcher " employed to break their resistance.

HITLER'S DILEMMA.

Hitler and Mussolini have again met at Berchtesgaden and the announcement regarding their meeting says, as such previous announcements have done, that the two Dictators completely agreed on all outstanding questions concerning the two countries. What Hitler will do next is the question that is being asked everywhere. Germany has a force in Rumania of about 100,000 men which can be used by him against Russia, Turkey, Greece or Bulgaria. Rumania is now in the throes of an internal revolution, fomented obviously by Nazis for affording a justification for their interference, for the oil and foodstuffs of that unhappy country are so essential to Germany. But there are indications that Russia is taking an independent line of her own in regard to the Balkans. The Bulgarian Prime Minister says that his country is neutral and apparently Bulgaria is playing off Germany against Russia and is trying to be on friendly terms with Turkey. It may be that Germany would like to see Bulgaria more friendly with Turkey than with the Soviet and Russia, on her part, would perhaps desire that Bulgaria should be in the Turkish camp rather than in the German. Turkey is nevertheless strengthening her defences, re-establishing her friendly relations with Russia and is obviously pleased with Italian reverses and the British successes both in Greece and in Northern Italy. Turkey has also stated that aggressors cannot hope to coerce her to submission by their threats.

The Luftwaffe is busy in attacking the British Navy and British merchant shipping in Central Mediterranean. Malta is being raided by German æroplanes. Greece has so far been spared. But the Luftwaffe has had a severe pounding at the hands of the Royal Air Force and Sicily is being constantly raided by British planes. The question of Navy *versus* Air Power is being discussed again by competent authorities and the general view is that the country which possesses naval supremacy cannot be beaten and Great Britain is now the master of the Mediterranean as well as other seas. What should be remembered, however, is that the Luftwaffe is now fighting on two fronts, and casualties have been very heavy. The German attempt to get air control over the Straits of Sicily is bound to fail.

A breach has been made, it is stated, in the Petain line and Hitler has succeeded in coercing Marshal Petain to be friendly with Laval. The main German objective in these protracted negotiations with France has been to secure France's consent to violations of the Armistice terms by giving up her fleet and by permitting the German occupation of her ports in the Mediterranean. It is noteworthy that Hitler has not forced the matter to an issue and for very good reasons. The Fuehrer is well aware that if he went to extremes and occupied the whole of France, the French Government and the French Fleet would get away to North Africa and then food-stuffs and other materials entering unoccupied France would be cut off by the British blockade. There are many things which are said about the real object of General Weygand's continued presence in North Africa. But, for practical purposes, it is safe to assume that Marshal Petain is still in the thumb of Hitler though, of course, the French people are being heartened by British success in land, sea and air. These considerations point to the fact that Hitler should act quickly and that he may well carry out the threatened invasion of England.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ON DEMOCRACY.

President Roosevelt has been installed as the third-time President of the United States and the occasion has been attended with a remarkable outburst of enthusiasm on the part of Americans. The President's address was a clarion call on behalf of Democracy. The President recalled what their place was in history and called upon his countrymen to re-discover what they were and what they should be. Of Democracy President Roosevelt said—

(1) " There are men who believe that Democracy as a form of Government and frame of life is limited or measured by a kind of mystical and artificial fate—that, for some unexplained reason, tyranny and slavery have become the surging wave of the future and that freedom is on the ebbing tide. But we, Americans, know that is not true."

(2) " Democracy is not dying. We know it because we have seen it revive—and grow. We know it cannot die because it is built on the unhampered initiative of individual men and women, joined together in a common enterprise—an enterprise undertaken and carried through by the free expression of the free majority."

(3) " Democracy is not a recent production of the human factory. It is man's history. It permeated the ancient life of the early peoples ; it lived even in the Middle Ages ; it was written in the Magna Carta. Those who first came here to carry out the longing of their spirit and the millions who followed and the stock that sprang from them all have moved forward constantly and consistently towards the ideal which has grown in stature and clarity with each generation."

(4) " In the face of perils never before encountered our strong purpose is to strengthen and perpetuate the integrity of Democracy. We shall not retreat; we are not content to stand still. As Americans, we go forward in the service of our country, by the will of God, to the end."

THE JAPANESE THREAT.

Japan has now warned America of the danger of her interfering in the European War and in pursuing an unfriendly policy in regard to Japan. The Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Matsuoka, for a wonder, asks America to " reflect deeply on her attitude with truly God-fearing piety ". Is it Japan that is a danger to civilization or America? It is Japan that has invaded China and entered into a pact with the totalitarian countries of Italy and Germany! What should one make of the statement of Mr. Matsuoka that the Three-Power Pact has been concluded in order to avert further extension of the present struggles? Prince Konoye added a commentary to this statement by saying that by the Three-Power Pact, Japan sought " to attain the great objective of securing world peace and achieving stability in Greater East Asia." Nonsense; the fact is, as the Japanese Foreign Minister said, the action of the United States in placing embargoes and restrictions on exports to Japan of four A's—aircraft, arms, ammunition, aviation spirit—and other important war materials, has vitally affected her resources and wounded her susceptibilities.

There are, of course, no naval bases west of Pearl Harbour in the Hawaii Islands and Pearl Harbour is 3,000 miles from Japan. But should serious trouble arise there is Singapore, a great naval fortress, Port Darwin and Sydney in Australia, Surabya in the Dutch East Indies, Cavite in the Philippines and Guam. All these could be used as naval bases and it will not be very difficult to establish air bases as well in these and other places. On the other hand, the Japanese have bases in Formosa, Hainan and the Mariana and Caroline islands. But they are not very effective bases. Japan cannot be ignorant of the further fact that, besides the United States Navy at Pearl Harbour, she has her naval forces in Asiatic waters and Great Britain and the Netherlands East Indies have effective naval craft. Japan, of course, knows these facts. The New Order in the Far East, if it means domination of other countries in Asia, cannot be expected to be acquiesced in by Russia, America and Great Britain and so long as she is involved in a war with China she cannot also be expected to secure friendly co-operation of these countries in regard to trade and commerce, though formal diplomatic relations may be maintained.

(*Continued on Page 9*)

THE DANUBIAN CONFERENCE

WHY RUSSIA WITHDREW

It may be recollected that the Russian delegate on the Danubian Conference in Bucharest made a dramatic exit a few days ago. Light is thrown on the differences of view between German and Russian delegations which brought about this demonstration by the despatch sent to a London paper from its diplomatic correspondent. Formerly, there were two commissions, one in regard to the Middle and Upper Danube from Braila to Ulm and the other in regard to the Lower Danube, i.e., from Braila to the Black Sea. Recently, however, Germany substituted a single Danubian commission for the two commissions, representing Germany, the four riparian Powers, i.e., Rumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Italy. At first Russia was not invited, but Soviet Union protested because it had become a Danubian Power, by the seizure of Bessarabia. The British Government regarded this arrangement as *ultra vires*. But the Conference went on. The diplomatic correspondent then says:

"According to a Reuter message from Belgrade the Russians declare that the new *Danubian regime* places the entire control of the navigation of the Danube in German hands. The presence of Italy as well as of Germany, Rumania and Hungary on the proposed controlling body confirms their contention for even if Yugoslavia and Bulgaria dared support Russia they would still be a minority of three against four. They urge that the control of the lower reaches of the Danube from Braila to the Sulina mouth should be left in the hands of the riverain States—Russia and Rumania.

"It is significant that their delegates have been using the arguments formerly used by Germany—that non-Danubian countries have no interest in problems that concern only the riparian States, but that rights of free navigation on the river should be accorded to all countries on condition of reciprocity and in conformity with international law. The future proceedings of the conference will be watched with interest, especially the German reply to their own earlier arguments now voiced by their Russian neighbours. Will it be 'Aber, Bauer, das ist etwas anders' in diplomatic form?"

LIGHTNING WAR IN NORTH AFRICA

Hitler subjected Western Poland in six weeks of *Blitzkrieg*. His armies reached Paris five weeks after invading Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg. Of these achievements he boasts in every speech. They were intended to terrify Britain and all other free countries into submission.

The British Imperial Forces in North Africa have eclipsed this feat. To surround a whole Army Corps and compel surrender within 72 hours of the first advance is a military achievement without precedent.

In less than one month General Wavell's army has now advanced over 120 miles of waterless country with only one road. It has defeated a numerically stronger and well-equipped enemy occupying defended posts of which Bardia was very strongly fortified. It has already captured nearly 70,000 prisoners and great quantities of war materials.

The Difference.

The British victories have been accomplished without any of the ghastly devices of German total war.

To prevent the effective use of Dutch means of resistance, fifth column agents wrought treachery from within after years of tolerant Dutch hospitality. Nazis in Dutch uniforms spread confusion. **To force the Dutch army to capitulate, German bombers slaughtered 30,000 civilians in 90 minutes in the almost defenceless city of Rotterdam.**

The Allied armies were gravely hampered in their progress by refugees deliberately driven on to the roads. The refugees did not hamper the Nazis, who dive-bombed and machine-gunned them. Of 5 million refugees who swarmed over the French roads, a surviving 10-year old girl said: "the worst part was stepping over bodies".

The political collapse of France had been prepared for six years by the intrigues of an enemy who persistently declared peaceful intentions.

Pointers for the Future.

Wavell's victories, on the other hand, are military victories, and auguries of more to come as British strength advances. They were made possible, first, by British command of the sea, which enabled the Imperial armies to be transported to the Middle East without the loss of a man; secondly, by an astute balance of risks at the moment of England's greatest peril, when the home and Mediterranean fronts were alike threatened; thirdly, by long and patient training; fourthly, by combined strategy on sea, land and in the air; fifthly, by brilliant staff work and organization; sixthly, by unfailing fighting qualities in the assault.

POLAND IN TRAVAIL

"SOW LOATHING FOR THE POLES."

Of all the countries subjugated by Germany, Poland on all accounts is being subjected to a treatment, the harshness and cruelty of which defy description. Information has reached Polish circles in London that in the first year of occupation a million Poles were expelled from their homes. It appears to be the policy of the German rulers to expropriate as many Poles as possible. It will be remembered that Marshall Goering published a decree in February 1940 depriving all Poles of their property rights and they have been huddled together in a small area. There is no limit to the humiliations heaped upon the Poles. In fact the treatment is worse than that meted out to the Jews. All Poles in the Reich must now wear a badge consisting of a yellow diamond edged with a lilac-coloured band and bearing a large letter P so that they may be distinguished from the rest of the population. As in the Nazi philosophy of life there are no decent Poles, no intercourse can exist, it is urged, between Germans and Poles. It may be that there are thousands of Poles in Germany, but that is on account of the war necessitating their employment. Their presence in Germany, however, does not mean, we are told, that they are equal to the Germans. No German, it is declared, should ever forget that he is a member of the Herrenvolk (master-race).

NO GELTLENESS TO POLES.

A special correspondent of "The Times" in Stockholm writes as follows regarding the instructions given to teachers by Gauleiter Greiser:—

"Gauleiter Greiser has again addressed teachers in his eastern territory urging them once more to beware of gentleness towards the Poles, but to remember how the Poles have treated the Germans in the course of 20 years—"the teacher must not only sow love towards his own people but also loathing (*Abscheu*) for the Poles;" teachers must implant in the hearts of German youth that "victory of our sword can be maintained only by hardness . . . a foolish nation must for ever be given the lower place which it deserves, but you German teachers must train our youth to be masters."

Apparently the masters must feed better, as an official announcement on the same day allots fruit to German children in the Lodz region to be distributed in the course of five days, but does not give Polish children any. Simultaneously the redistribution of food cards gives Germans red cards and Poles yellow. Mixed families with a German father may receive red cards, but if the father is a Pole he receives a yellow card, while the mother and the children, if well disposed towards Germany, get red ones. Moreover, Poles may begin receiving produce only after Germans have all been served.

NEW ORDER IN THE EAST

JAPAN'S EXPANSIONIST POLICY CONDEMNED.

Professor Westel W. Willoughby, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Johns Hopkins University, in a recent book, examines the claim of Japan that her needs demand an expansionist policy to be pursued by her. In criticising this position, he writes:—

"In the first place it may be said that the misfortunes or needs of one State give to it no ethical or moral right to violate the rights of another State, any more than they justify, in private law, the seizure by one individual of another individual's property.

In the second place, it can, of course, be shown that this is not Japan's only alternative. As other industrialised countries have done, she can dispose in the open market of her manufactured products, and, in turn, purchase, in free competition with the other peoples, the foodstuffs and raw materials which her subjects may need, and this process will be limited only by the ability of the Japanese to develop an efficient economic and industrial machinery and an adequately trained body of workers.

In truth, if the processes which have operated in other parts of the world operate also in Japan, as we may expect they will, it will be found that her population will accommodate itself in the matter of numbers to the standards of living that prevail in Japan. That is to say, the standards of economic comfort being given, the population by a process of natural increase or decrease will be determined by the available supply of economic goods. . ."

TALKING POINTS.

(*Continued from Page 7*)

GREAT BRITAIN'S GROWING STRENGTH.

Mr. Winston Churchill's speech in Parliament on Wednesday last contains a remarkable tribute to the value of criticism in Parliament, as against the totalitarian policy of suppressing freedom of speech. We do not live in a dictator country, he pointed out, where people can be brutally overruled, but in a country where a Cabinet governs, subject to the continual superintendence, direction and correction of Parliament. What is more heartening, of course, is the statement of the Prime Minister that, counting the Home Guard, Great Britain had about four million armed and uniformed men who would play their part in the defence of the country. The bulk of the new factories and establishments which were started at the outbreak of the war are now coming into full production. It has been stated with authority that production of aircraft is progressing so very fast that air parity with Germany will be reached sooner than many people may imagine, thanks also to the increased production of aircraft in America. In this connection Colonel Lindbergh's statement in Washington that Germany has now no supremacy in the air is of some significance.

HITLER THE MAN

Mr. Henry W. Nevinson, the well-known author and journalist, who is an admirer of German culture and has published studies of Goethe and Schiller, wrote as follows about Hitler in February, 1936 :—

Everyone must admire the persistence and determination of a man who has worked his way up from being a builder's labourer and house-painter to become the most powerful man of his race and the most powerful man in all Europe, even though his power is malignant. An abstract of Hitler's personal story from his autobiography called " Mein Kampf " is given in this issue of " Friends of Europe," and here we see him rising with great rapidity on the strength of an enthusiasm that may be called ideal, aided by an unusual gift of eloquent and persuasive speaking to popular audiences. One notices at once that his enthusiasm and eloquence were in succession inspired by various forms of hatred. He hated the English, he hated the Japanese, he hated the French, he hated the Social Democrats, the middle classes, the Marxists, and above all he hated the Jews. Though an Austrian born, he hated the Austrians and their Hapsburg dynasty. From early years he was an apostle of hatred, a very bag of venom.

What, then, did he love? I suppose one may say that he loved the German race so long as it was not contaminated by any alien blood, whether British, French, Slav, Italian or especially Jewish. All these hatreds, slightly tempered by his one object of love, naturally drove him to adore war, especially the Great War aimed against the Allied nations who, as he believed, threatened to encircle the German race.

The defeat of Germany in the field he attributes entirely to the cowardice of the middle classes and the pecuniary intrigues of the Jews. What he thought of the Kaiser's flight and abdication I cannot say, though I know what I should have thought if I had been a German. But Hitler despised and hated the German Republic set up by the wisest men in the country, and on the ruins of the Republic he erected a dictatorship much on the model of Mussolini's dictatorship in Italy. He thus gathered into his own hands a power far greater than the " All Highest " Kaiser had ever attempted to possess.

And when in power, supported by armies of various names, he held his position by a system of persecution and brutish cruelty such as Europe had not witnessed since the worst periods of the Middle Ages. Nothing, even in those earlier times, has been seen so loathsome in brutality as the abominations wrought upon honourable men and women who did not accept his doctrine of State supremacy as represented in himself. I have not the space to enumerate the barbarities, the tortures, the executions, even of his former friends, carried out in Germany by his direct order or with his outspoken compliance. Some inded of these brutalities are unfit to be printed in any decent paper.

The worst sufferings certainly were endured by the Jews, for whom he felt a peculiarly rancorous detestation from his youth up. That ancient race, from whom Europe has received so large a part of her religion, has nearly everywhere and at all times been persecuted and maligned, but under Hitler the persecution has reached its most hideous malignity. They have been tortured and imprisoned without trial and without mercy. They have been driven from their homes and their country as paupers into foreign lands, for other nations to tend and feed so far as is still possible. Misery has forced many to suicide, and I suppose that, with every suicide, Hitler rejoices because there is one Jew less in the world. But it is not only Jews who suffer. Everyone who does not bow the knee to the Hitler State is spied upon and lives in danger from day to day. I knew the tyranny under the old Russian Tsars, but hideous though that was, it now seems almost gentle and reasonable compared with the tyranny of Hitler. I wish Germans would heed the words of Nietzsche, the last of their poet philosophers, who wrote :

" *The coldest of all cold monsters is called the State. Coldly it utters its lies, and this lie crawls from its mouth : I, the State, am the people.*"

I was at a German University. I know the German people well and have always liked and admired them until they fell, prostrate, before the bloodstained idol of Hitler. And this is the man who now is piling up every kind of armament with a view to the future war such as his frantic soul desires. He has become the greatest danger now existing in the whole world. Once we called the Kaiser " the mad dog of Europe." In Hitler we now have a mad dog, far madder, far filthier, and exuding from his jaws the most deadly of all poisons.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

An Italian Victory

The fall of Bardia on January 4 seems to have thrown the Axis radio propagandists into even greater confusion than usual. It will be remembered how, on the evening of that day, Rome said that Bardia was " neither a city nor a fortress, simply a sparsely-inhabited place on the road to the frontier "—apparently forgetting that on December 21 both Rome and Berlin had described Bardia as " not only the gateway to Libya, but the bastion of Fascism itself."

A week later, on January 11, Rome quotes Mussolini's own newspaper *Il Popolo d'Italia* as saying : " Bardia is an Italian victory." The Duce, of course, is known to have some peculiar ideas of what constitutes a victory. A few years ago he told Madame Tabouis, the famous French journalist : " If I had been Prime Minister at the time of Caporetto, I should have announced it as a great victory." It was at Caporetto, in November 1916, that 250,000 Italians were taken prisoners and nearly twice that number killed or wounded.

Going on to dismiss the fall of Bardia as an isolated operation of little importance, Rome Radio says, " The losses suffered by the British cannot be made good, whereas the resisting power of Italy has hardly been affected at all." On the contrary, British reinforcements can easily be brought to Egypt because the British Navy guarantees their safe passage. Italy lost more than 40,000 officers and men at Bardia, compared with the British loss of some 600.

Greek To Them

Meanwhile, those who recall how, at the time of the Greek invasion, the Rome radio (as well as Hitler's wireless) frequently sneered that Greece would receive no aid from Britain, will be interested to hear that Mussolini's home radio service has been busy telling the Italian people that " by now, the whole of the Greek Army is organized by the British—the artillery is British, the air force is British, the command is British."

Denmark under the Swastika

" It is reported from Copenhagen," says Berlin (January 10) " that the Danish Minister for Trade, in a speech yesterday, expressed himself satisfied with the available supplies of raw material and foodstuffs. He went on to say that the amount of heating material gave no cause for complaint. The next harvest would be fully sufficient to meet all Danish needs as far as bread and fodder went. He also said there was plenty of meat to cover all requirements."

Some indication of the true position in Nazi-occupied Denmark is given by Paul Einzig, Hungarian-born Foreign Editor of *The Financial News* :—

" The immediate result of the German occupation was a lack of feeding stuffs, which compelled the Danish livestock breeders to slaughter their animals on a large scale. It suited Germany's purpose that Denmark should slaughter her livestock, because this relieved the shortage of fresh meat and animal fats in Germany.

" Coal deliveries vital for Denmark's economic life became reduced. Although the Germans insisted that in order to be able to deliver coal, the Danes must send their own railway trucks to the German coalfields, neither the coal nor the trucks have arrived back in Denmark.

" The German occupation authorities have embarked upon large purchases from the first day of the invasion. They seized stocks of foodstuffs and raw material, and paid for it in requisition notes."

The Germans are forcing the Danes to abandon dairy-farming for wheat-growing. Paul Einzig continues :—

" Dairy-farming was a very prosperous industry, and enabled the relatively dense population to maintain a high standard of living. If Denmark is forced to revert to wheat-growing, then either her population will have to decline, or her standard of living, or both. Such considerations do not, however, influence Germany's decision as far as conquered countries are concerned."

Bond and Free

The Nazis boast that " German Government bonds were offered at the outbreak of war at 6 per cent; now 3½ per cent bonds have been issued. In England just the reverse can be observed. In order to find subscribers, the British Government is obliged to offer ever higher rates of interest."

The new issue of British National War Bonds, available from January 2, is offered at the same rate of interest as previous issues—2½ per cent.

No better proof of the nation's confidence in final victory could be given than the fact that, since November 1939, British savings have amounted to £1,269,000,000 of which £515,000,000 (or nearly half) represents the savings of the working man.

The Truth about Bremen

The Royal Air Force's terrific onslaught on Bremen on New Year's Night is still fresh in the world's mind. Next day, Berlin told the outside world, including India : " British planes bombed Northern Germany last night. At three points slight damage was done to industrial works. There were several casualties, five of which were fatal." The following

night, however, the Nazi-controlled Radio Paris was inadvertently permitted to say: "The military communiqué from Berlin is laconic and depressing. Germany has been hard hit by two consecutive raids on Bremen. Severe damage has been done to several big factories, where large fires have been blazing for two days. More than 600 casualties are reported."

On January 3—for the third night in succession—the Royal Air Force again bombed Bremen's naval base and factories, delivering an attack (in the words of the Air Ministry communiqué) "as heavy, if not heavier, than on January 1." This is what Berlin told us: "British planes which entered northern Germany last night dropped bombs at four points. Incendiary bombs were dropped mainly on residential quarters, causing a number of fires. Only insignificant damage was done to military and industrial objectives."

U.S. Planes for Good

How much the Germans fear Britain's growing air might, helped with supplies of American air-craft, may be judged by their repeated allegations that these aircraft are inferior to the *Luftwaffe* machines. On January 12 Berlin radio attributed to Mr. Ralph Ingersoll, Editor of the New York weekly "P.M.", the statement that "the personnel of the Royal Air Force was thoroughly dissatisfied with war planes delivered by the United States. These planes could only be used for training purposes in Great Britain or for long-distance flights in Africa. They were entirely unsuited for contest with German planes. Plane for plane and type for type, they were no match for the corresponding German planes."

The previous day the Air Ministry News Service reported that American-made single-seater fighters of the Grumman type, flown by three British pilots, had shot down a Junkers JU 88 bomber. The crippled raider crashed in a bog and a member of the Home Guard took the crew of four prisoner. Grumman fighters have only recently made their appearance in British squadrons. This early success augurs well.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Public Health in Britain

The Germans in their Hindustani broadcast of January 8 announced that the British peoples' health was fast deteriorating and that there was eight times more disease than during the pre-war years. The reason for this deterioration was stated to be the unhygienic condition of air-raid shelters.

Actually, the figures quoted by Sir William Jameson (Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health) for 1940 up to December 14, as compared with the similar period in 1939, showed a decrease in scarlet fever and diphtheria, and a slight increase in pneumonia.

The census, taken in December, showed that only five per cent of the population of the London region occupied public shelters and 19 per cent domestic and communal shelters In the Metropolitan area, the people using public shelters were 8 per cent and domestic and communal shelters 21 per cent. There has been no outbreak of epidemic or infectious diseases even in deep and crowded shelters.

Italian Illusions

The Italian radio on January 7 reported that the "Arab revolution against the British" was gathering momentum and that there had been risings in Palestine. In fact, as Reuter's message of the same date revealed, there was not the slightest truth in these reports that Arab rebels had been attacking lines of communication and military objectives in Palestine. In all the Arab countries, as well as in Egypt, jubilation at the British victory at Bardia has been unconcealed. Egypt's solidarity with Britain was shown by King Farouk's congratulations to General Wavell. There has been, moreover, a striking change of opinion in the kingdom of Yemen, where prominent people have abandoned any support for Italy in favour of Britain.

Italian Adulation of Germany

Referring to a French general's alleged revelation of "a Franco-British plan" to conquer Belgium, the Italian radio of January 9 goes on to praise the political efficiency of Germany who overran that country in a few weeks. It will also be remembered that a few days ago the Italian radio proudly announced the arrival of the *Luftwaffe* in Italy. Gone, obviously, are the days when Rome radio could boastfully say, as on August 14, 1940 "even if Britain can hold out against attacks on her channel coast . . . in the Mediterranean, as the result of Italian victories it will mean the beginning of the end." On December 16, however, French listeners to the Italian radio were reminded that "the Italian army was facing troops gathered from the four continents, who were supported by the most powerful navy in the world."

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

24th Jan.—Advance elements of the British forces are in contact with the enemy about three miles east of Derna. A column of enemy medium tanks was engaged and dispersed, two being captured and four destroyed. In Eritrea, the Italian forces have evacuated Keru and Aicota and are continuing to retreat.

The Greeks capture a further 250 prisoners including many officers and much material in the course of their continued advance in the central sector of the Albanian front.

Rumanian revolt. General Antonescu has ordered the army into action against the rebels. All firearms, ammunition and explosives in Rumania must be surrendered to the authorities under a decree issued by Government. Six hundred rebels led by General Petrovicescu, lately Minister of Interior, have been captured. After a bloody fighting which almost certainly has cost thousands of lives, the attempts to seize complete power by the Iron Guards fizzled out when the Rumanian Army went into action.

Lord Halifax, Ambassador to the United States, was welcomed in American waters by President Roosevelt himself when he arrived to take up the most important Ambassadorship in the history of the two nations. Breaking with tradition the President of the United States left White House and journeyed to Annapolis specially to welcome the Ambassador. By his personal greeting, President Roosevelt had done a "great honour" to Britain.

It is announced that a body called the National Council with some 200 members is to be constituted for France. Its functions will be purely consultative. The members will represent all "essential elements" of French life. The meetings will be secret with the Head of the State, Marshal Petain, deciding on any details for publication.

Emperor Haile Selassie has re-entered Abyssinia. A message from Khartoum says he crossed the Sudan frontier into his own country on January 15. He flew in a Royal Air Force bomber escorted by fighter aircraft.

It is revealed that over 1,500,000 people in Britain have been transferred from their homes in areas liable to enemy air attack to other less vulnerable areas. The success with which this gigantic task has been performed caused great gratification to the Committee which has been investigating the results.

The Government Information Board, Tokyo, announces that both the Governments of Thailand and France have accepted the Japanese Government's proposal for a truce and its offer for mediation in the conflict between them.

A 7,000 ton Italian supply ship is sunk by the British submarine "*Parthian*" in the Mediterranean.

British shipping interests have bought twelve cargoships from the United States' Maritime Commission's laid up fleet. The ships have an aggregate deadweight tonnage of 107,000 tons.

Royal Air Force bomb submarine base at L'Orient and carry out heavy raids on Italian bases in Sicily.

The House of Representatives pass the Bill for the construction of a fleet of two hundred merchantmen for the United States.

London and the rest of the country enjoy raid-free night.

25th Jan.—British forces advancing into Abyssinia have penetrated further into the country, backed by the patriots. Royal Air Force bombers attack many ærodromes of the Italian overseas Air Force, including Maritza at Rhodes in the Dodecanese Islands and damage more dispersed aircraft. Operations east of Keru and Aicota are progressing satisfactorily.

A desperate Italian bid to recapture strategic heights north of the key town of Klissura on the central battle-front in Albania, is repulsed.

It is reported that Hitler has made a formal demand to Marshal Petain for the use of Tunisia as a base of operations against the British forces in North Africa. Marshal Petain's controller of the press, wireless and film industry, M. Tixier Vignancour, has resigned.

Activity of enemy aircraft over Great Britain has been on a small scale. Single enemy aircraft cross the east coast. Bombs dropped at two points in East Anglia, which damage some buildings and kill a few people. London has been free of night raid. Only slight enemy air activity is reported from other parts of the country after darkness. No bombs have been dropped.

British trawlers "Strathrannoch," "Galvani" and "Philippe" shoot down an enemy plane.

26th Jan.—It is reported that advanced patrols have entered Derna.

British forces operating in Italian Eritrea have captured the township of Brescia. This

capture places the terminus of the Eritrean railway line to the Red Sea port of Massawa under British control. The enemy is continuing to withdraw on the line from Brescia to Barentu.

Italian troops in Albania launch fierce and continuous attacks on Greek positions from the Ourgvisa mountains to the source of the Devoli river, but the Greeks hold their lines firmly.

British troops are eight miles east of Biscia whence the Italians have withdrawn. Five Italian fighter aircraft were shot down by British fighters. Raids were carried out by British bombers on the aerodrome at Barce (Libya). A landing ground at Derna, and motor transports at Barentu and near Umm Hagar have been attacked.

The Abyssinian capital of Addis Ababa is in a state bordering on siege.

The Royal Air Force gave intensive support to the British Army in its successful advance east of Keru in Italian East Africa.

Serious disturbances occur in Northern Italy, particularly Milan and Turin, German troops occupy railway stations, post offices and large factories at Milan and restore order. Communications between Brindisi area and Sicily are stated to be under German control and censorship.

It is reported that Germany is seeking Hungarian consent to German troop movements into Hungarian territory.

The uncompromising statement that friendly relations with the United States would be impossible so long as the latter considered China and not the Eastern Pacific as her first line of defence, was made by Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, addressing the Budget Committee of the Lower House. He added that "Japan must dominate the Western Pacific, not for the sake of Japan but for the sake of humanity."

General Antonescu pays tribute to the Rumanian Army for the part it had played in crushing the rebellion. Military authorities carry out a house-to-house search. Military and Police patrols are now engaged in one of the biggest man-hunts in Rumania's history.

Sgr. Giuseppe Bruni, Vice-Governor-General of Libya, is dead.

A small number of Royal Air Force bombers bomb Hanover and several points in Western and Central Germany.

British trawler "Galvani" and drifters "Fisherboy" and "Reids" destroy two enemy planes.

27th Jan.—The four-front British offensive on the Italian African Empire continues in full blast. Reports mention Italian preparations to evacuate Abyssinia. British forces are closing in on Italian positions about Agordat and Barentu in Eritrea. The prisoners taken at Tobruk number over twenty-five thousand, together with twenty-two medium and twenty-eight light tanks.

Admiral Koshiro Oikawa, Japanese Navy Minister, answering interpellations at a meeting of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, says that the "Japanese Navy is preparing for any eventuality. Nothing desirable is being left undone towards meeting the worst."

General Antonescu forms a new military Cabinet. All portfolios except Justice, Labour and Propaganda are entrusted to Generals. No member of the Iron Guard or representative of the King Carol regime is included in the new Government.

The responsibility of Ministers and high officials to the Head of the State in Unoccupied France is fixed by an Act of Constitution, issued by Marshall Petain. The Act introduces the "Fuehrer principle" into the State structure. The general trend of the Act is to render Ministers and officials and former Ministers and officials directly responsible to the Chief of the State for all their actions and to place their persons and property under obligation connected threwith.

The Italian Secret Police and the German Gestapo have arrested between 20 to 30 people including Italian Army officers and Fascist officials at Milan and Turin.

British bombers attack the Norwegian ore port of Narvik and damage quays.

Enemy air activity over England. A German bomber which crossed the East Coast and dropped bombs was shot down. Another German bomber drop bombs on a North East Coast town, injuring a few persons. One enemy plane machine-gunned an East Coast town without doing any damage and hurting anyone.

The Italian Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, has taken command of a bomber squadron in the battle area.

Ankara Radio states that Marshal Graziani, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian forces in Africa, has been dismissed.

As a result of action in the Channel, 19 German prisoners have fallen into British hands of whom 16 are Navy men.

The Royal Air Force bombers attack military buildings at Elbasan, railway stations at Keren and Aisha and landing ground at Apollonia

Royal Air Force bomb heavily Naples and Catania aerodromes. Aircraft of the South African Air Force carry out raids in the Moyale area and many high explosive bombs dropped.

28th Jan.—Concentration of British forces in the Derna area is continuing. The destruction of the Libyan seaplane base at Bomba is announced. In Eritrea, the British forces are driving the enemy towards the sea and are closing in on Agordat. In the Eritrean sector, the bulk of the troops are Indians. On the western border of Abyssinia, the Italians are quitting very strong positions and are being pursued.

A supreme Italian effort to turn the tide of war has been made by the Italians between Ostravitzo and Bochaia mountains but without success. Royal Air Force successfully raid Elbasan. The Greeks have smashed two big Italian attacks in the central sector of the Front. The Italian offensive is intensified on the northern front from the Devoli river to the shores of Lake Ochrida. The railhead at Florina is severely bombed.

It is reported that Mussolini intends to take charge of Italian Foreign policy in his own hands. It is also revealed that some other Italian Ministers follow Count Ciano to the front.

Enemy aircraft drop bombs in South-East England. Explosive bombs are reported to have been dropped in a residential area in London and one person killed. Enemy planes were in the vicinity of two towns in West and South-West England and one in South Wales for a brief period but no incidents were reported.

General Antonescu, the Rumanian Dictator, declares in a statement on his new Cabinet that Rumania will march without hesitation on the side of the "Great Fuehrer and the Duce." It is reported that M. Horia Sima has fled from Rumania.

There were no operations by British aircraft over Germany and German occupied territory.

Four persons were killed and nine wounded among Royal Air Force personnel when enemy bombs were dropped on Malta.

A German merchant ship of about 3,000 tons sailing the Atlantic grounded in the island of Ons near Vigo during a storm.

29th Jan.—British patrols have entered Italian Somaliland. British pressure on the enemy forces in the Derna area is increasing. Operations in the Agordat-Barentu sector in Eritrea are developing. It is learned that the Army of the Nile has now surrounded the important road junction of Mekelle, south of Derna.

Greeks take more prisoners in local operations. Two Italian aircraft were brought down by anti-aircraft fire. Italians bomb a military hospital at Salonika and one person was killed and ten wounded.

It is reported that compulsory registration of women for essential industries throughout Britain is to be enforced. Youths aged eighteen and nineteen and men of thirty-seven to forty are to register for military service under a new Royal Proclamation announced after a meeting of the Privy Council.

Disbandment of one of the two Communist armies is announced by Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, Generalissimo of the Chinese Forces. He declares that he had taken this drastic step as a disciplinary measure.

The Fascist police have had to fire on demonstrators in Trieste. A number of casualties are said to have been caused at Trieste among demonstrators who shouted slogans, demanding peace, condemning Fascist regime and denouncing Germany.

A few enemy aircraft operate over the West Coast of Britain. One enemy aircraft entered the Thames Estuary and flew westwards. No bombs are reported.

General Joannis Metaxas, Greece's great military leader and Prime Minister is dead. It is announced that the new Prime Minister will be M. Alexander Korizis, Governor of the Bank of Greece.

It is announced by Mr. De Valera that the Eire Government has decided to ration tea.

There was small-scale German activity over Britain for a few hours after dark. High explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped over parts of London and surrounding areas. Damage was not extensive but a few people were killed and others injured.

British bombers attack targets at Germany's naval base of Wilhelmshaven and other places in North-West Germany.

30th Jan.—It is announced that Derna has been captured. In the Agordat-Barentu sector in Eritrea the concentration of British forces is proceeding smoothly. Intensive patrolling continues east of Metemma in Abyssinia. In Italian Somaliland work is progressing in all sectors on improved forward roads in support of British advance patrols.

It is reported that General Cavallero, the Italian Commander-in-Chief, has broken off the offensive which he had launched against the Greeks.

Hitler gives a warning to the United States to stay out of the war in a speech at the Berlin Sportspalast on the eighth anniversary of his coming to power.

The loss of a Netherlands submarine in Allied war operations is announced. British trawler *Pelton* has also been sunk.

The Suez Canal was subjected to an air attack. Bombs were dropped but no damage or casualties were caused.

German aircraft, operating singly, dropped bombs in the London area and in parts of South-East England and East Anglia. Some houses and shops were damaged; number of casualties is small. One German plane was destroyed by fighters over Essex. German long-range guns from the French Coast were again in action. No casualty or damage is reported.

President Roosevelt's Lease and Lend Bill to aid the Democracies has been approved by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, which is reported to have rejected an amendment placing a limit of two thousand million dollars on lease and lend proposals.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 21st January 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 15, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night raids on Wilhelmshaven (Baukafen naval base, shipbuilding yards, stores, dry docks, power station); docks and shipping at Emden, Bremerhaven, Rotterdam, Flushing, Brest; aerodromes and other targets in N. W. Germany and Holland.	1	..
January 16, Thursday.	R.A.F. night raids on Wilhelmshaven (naval base, fuel stores, railway station); naval base at Emden; invasion bases at Boulogne and Calais; railway junction at Ostend aerodrome in occupied France.	5	.
January 17, Friday.	R.A.F. day raid on shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night raids on naval bases at Brest and Cherbourg; two aerodromes in occupied France. Main bombing operations cancelled owing to weather.	Nil.	..
January 18, Saturday.	Bombing operations cancelled owing to weather.		
	No information has been published regarding R.A.F. activities on January 19, 20 and 21.		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 21st January 1941 :—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 15	Nil.	2
January 16	Nil.	1
January 17	Nil.	1
January 18	Nil.	2
January 19	Nil.	6
January 20	..	..
January 21	..	..

TALKING POINTS

GREECE.

The death, at the age of 71, of General Joannis Metaxas, the hero of Greek valiant resistance to the unprovoked Italian invasion, has plunged Greece in grief. Though brought up in German traditions and taught in German military colleges and although he was against Greece joining the Allies in Great War, General Metaxas had no hesitation in rejecting Italy's ultimatum in October of last year and asking his countrymen to prove worthy of their ancestors and of their liberty. His clarion call was responded to in full measure by the Greeks, and their successes, in spite of unfavourable conditions of every kind, have astonished the world. Not many days ago it was reported that Germany had let it be known to Athens that she would welcome an invitation to mediate between Greece and Italy. General Metaxas had his troops in Klissura, one of the points in the defensive line covering Elbasan, Berat and Valona and he further threatened the other keypoint of Tepelini and therefore he rejected these overtures with the contempt they deserved. The persistence and endurance of the Greek troops in the face of bad weather conditions are beyond all praise. The counter-offensive recently undertaken by Italians who had been greatly reinforced has had an ignominious end. So far, Greeks have made 16,000 Italians prisoner and there are indications that General Cavellero, Italian Commander-in-Chief, has called off the offensive he launched a few days ago, to resume it after reinforcements arrive. The death of the gallant General and Prime Minister will not make any difference in the situation in Greece. " Victory first " is the battle cry of the new Prime Minister, M. Korizis and the King, in a message to the nation, affirmed his abiding faith in the triumph of the country.

RUMANIA.

The situation in Rumania is clear enough. The Iron Guard rebellion, led by M. Horia Sima, against General Antonescu, has now been put down. It was reported that numerous people were killed in these disturbances which were widespread, especially in all Jewish districts of the capital. Massacres and pillaging by the rebels took place in many districts and General Antonescu has had to employ the army in quelling the revolt. Industrial concerns have been placed under State control and restrictions have been placed on the movements of Rumanians outside the country. General Antonescu has reformed his Cabinet which has now in it no member of the Iron Guard. There has been no authoritative account of the inwardness of this rebellion which it is believed was fomented from Germany. This does not, of course, mean that Rumania is beginning to extricate herself from German clutches and General Antonescu himself stated on Tuesday last that the sole aim of his Government was to re-establish normality. He reiterated his loyalty to the Axis and said that between Rumania and the Axis Powers the widest possible community of interest would be organized. Germany has apparently considered that it is the better part of prudence not to openly side the Iron Guards because Rumania, for all practical purposes, is now a protectorate and she can well afford to seem to be on the side of law and order.

ITALY.

Marshal Graziani, the Generalissimo of the Italian Army in Libya, has been dismissed, following numerous other resignations and dismissals. Count Ciano, the Foreign Minister, and two or three other Ministers, have taken active service. The Italian reverses in Greece and Libya have brought about an intense situation in Italy. There have been demonstrations in various parts of the country. The aid being given by the Luftwaffe and rumours of the march of German troops into Italy cannot but be felt as humiliating by Italians. Reports of disturbances at Milan and Turin and other industrial cities point to the fact that the Italian morale is deteriorating and that there are forces within Italy which hate Mussolini's adventure. Mr. Vernon Bartlett inclines to the view that " when once Fascism has had to admit defeat and Mussolini's Empire has crumbled, the Italian people will swing very far away from the doctrine which has brought them so much suffering and demands such sacrifices. How far will depend in part upon the wisdom of the Allies ". The following note about the Italian National Army and the National Blackshirts troops will be useful in appreciating the internal situation which has arisen in Italy :—

(i) The National Army is a universal service army, whereas the Blackshirts are volunteers.

(ii) The Blackshirts are recruited exclusively from the Fascist Party—whose membership is scarcely a quarter of the population.

For some years the Blackshirts have been gradually merged with the National Army, which is now a combination of universal service and volunteer units.

Blackshirt battalions first came into the news in 1922, when 200,000 of them effected the " March on Rome " which made Mussolini's dictatorship possible. Once the Fascist Party had assumed the reins of Government, their private army, as such, could not exist if the Fascist regime was to be constitutional. So, in December 1922, it was disbanded and, six weeks later, re-created by Royal decree under the name " Voluntary Militia for National Security."

This force " takes orders from the head of the Government." Its duties are to " assist, together with the armed forces for the public safety and the army, in the maintenance of internal order and to prepare citizens for the defence of Italian interests in the world ".

All its members take the oath of allegiance to the King of Italy and its officers are recruited from among reserve officers of the army, navy and airforce. To the Blackshirts is entrusted the pre-military training of youths under 20. In pre-war years the "Voluntary Militia" comprised 500,000 soldiers enrolled under conditions somewhat similar to those of the British Territorial Army. Of these not more than 1,000 officers and men on permanent duty were paid. The cost of its maintenance in peace was about £500,000 a year.

Three legions served in quelling disorders in Libya; others fought in the Abyssinian campaign and the Spanish Civil War. In 1939 there were about 20,000 Blackshirts attached to the regular Army in Libya and about 15,000 in Italian East Africa. Reports from Albania suggest that in addition to helping to fight the enemy, these Blackshirts are responsible for stamping out subversive tendencies within the regular army. As a rule, one additional battalion of Blackshirts is attached to each regiment on active service.

RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

The agreement between Germany and Russia in regard to frontiers and the exchange of nationals in the Baltic regions definitely means a check on German ambition in this part of Europe. Diplomatic and military collaboration in the Balkans and elsewhere, it is now clear, has been ruled out. The economic collaboration, however, remains and each country is obviously anxious to improve trade relations with the other, though there is a considerable check to this because of the transport difficulties. Russia is in a position to send considerable quantities of oil to Germany, but this could only be done through the Mediterranean and the British Navy is supreme there. It cannot, however, be denied that Russia is providing assistance to Germany. By way of Vladivostock Germany has developed a fairly considerable import and export trade with the Far East. Mr. Hugh Dalton, Minister of Economic Warfare, told the House of Commons the other day that American exports to Russia of cotton, copper, wheat, petroleum and oil drilling machinery have appreciably increasd and he added that there was ample evidence that the Soviets are helping Germany with their own goods, making up the deficiency thus caused by goods imported from the United States. It is, therefore, clear that there is leakage, somewhat serious, in the British blockade. The British Ambassador, Lord Halifax, has taken up the subject with the Amercian authorities and, in view of the declared policy of America in regard to the necessity for helping Great Britain in every way, it may well be expected that American co-operation will be forthcoming in preventing Germany from getting these additional supplies. The point, however, must be remembered that Russia is afraid of Germany and is rearming herself to the utmost extent. She would welcome complete exhaustion on both sides after a protracted war, but because the democracies are at a distance and have no aggressive objects, she would perhaps welcome the triumph of Great Britain as that would decrease the immediate danger to herself from Germany. There has been a report of possible Russo-German clashes and an Anglo-Russian reproachment. It is well to disregard these rumours. Though Russia has recently encouraged Bulgaria and Yugoslavia in their resistance to German pressure and has felt the need for closer relations with Turkey, it is quite premature to come to the conclusion that, if Germany decided to strike at the Balkans, Russia would send troops to prevent that operation.

HITLER'S NEXT MOVE.

What is going to be Germany's next move? Competent observers in Europe and America describe that Europe has been in much the same state as it was in last spring during the weeks preceding Germany's invasion of Holland, Belgium and France. Does Hitler propose to strike through Bulgaria or Yugoslavia and save Northern Albania for Italy? Does he contemplate an invasion of Eire and march through Spain to seize the Atlantic ports? Germany wants Petain to surrender the French Fleet and ports in the Mediterranean and also Oran and Dakar. There is also a report that Hitler and Petain will meet very early to discuss the outstanding questions. The German controlled press in occupied France is openly stating that unless the Petain Government is reorganized and the Nazi demands met, there will be serious trouble. Two things are certain, one is that he is feverishly anxious to deliver a knock-out blow against Britain, if possible, before American aid makes it too late. It is also clear that he has so far been helping to conceal the real direction of the next military moves by creating a state of uncertainty. Germany has been responsible for the numerous rumours which are afloat with a view to mislead the British and mystify the world as regards his plans. To some extent this mystery may be considered to have been cleared by Hitler's speech on Thursday last, at the Berlin Sportspalast, which was, on the whole, a rehash of the distorted version of the events leading to the war which he has presented to a disgusted world on numerous occasions. Two points may be picked out from this frantic effort to justify his conduct. "Wherever we can strike at Britain," he said "we shall strike." "We enter the new year," he went on, "with an armed might which is prepared as never before in German history. This spring we will begin a U-boat warfare and our enemies will then feel we were not asleep." This would seem to accord with an American report published yesterday that an attack on Britain may be expected in February when the currents and tides in the Channel will be favourable and that intensive preparations are going on in Belgium and Holland.

If the invasion does happen, every village and every town in England is fully prepared to meet it. Herr Hitler declared in his speech that he had taken account of the possibility of American help. And this leads to the second point in an otherwise twice-told tale. He delivered a warning to the United States. "Whoever wants to help Great Britain," he said, "must know that every ship that comes near our torpedo tubes will be torpedoed." In his view, Germany had never had any interest on the American continent, an assertion which ill-accords with the intensive German propaganda and sabotage organizations in the United States, Mexico and several South American States. Therefore his threat that "if American States should attempt to intervene in the European conflict, our aim will change at once," cannot deceive anybody, because, as Americans have realized, Hitler's ambition is the conquest of the world. It is worthy of note that American papers have received this threat with the utmost contempt and that, even while he was indulging in his harangue, United States' papers published the report of President's assurance to Lord Halifax soon after he landed at Annapolis a few days ago about America's "firm determination to continue assistance to Britain on an ever increasing scale. At about the same time the Foreign Relations Committee reported to the House of Representatives its approval of the "Lease and Lend" bill.

THE ITALIAN COLONIAL EMPIRE.

It has now been announced that the object of the Nile Army is to take hold of Benghazi and thus render Egypt absolutely safe from the danger of invasion. Operations have been proceeding satisfactorily and the Italian divisions south of Derna are being harassed. Derna has been occupied, a week after Tobruk fell, after an operation lasting only two or three days. Only a few minor actions were necessary to drive out the Italian garrison numbering 10,000, the majority of whom have probably escaped. General Wavell's army will proceed still further west and bombard Benghazi. Forces operating in Kenya have now advanced well into Italian Somaliland. The position of the Italian colony in Ethiopia is being rendered precarious day by day, thanks to the presence of Haile Sellassie and the activities of Abyssinian patriots helped by British officers. British forces are advancing into Eritrea and are now approaching Agordat, an important town on the railway line to the Red Sea port of Massawa. The bulk of these forces are Indians who took part in the capture of Sidi Barrani. Agordat is connected both by rail and road with the capital of Eritrea, Asmara, which is about 90 miles from Agordat and with Massawa on the coast, which is about 50 miles further Asmara. Agordat is in the highlands, about 7,500 feet above sea level, and it is from this place that the new motor highway from Addis Ababa to Massawa joins the Eritrean system. Agordat has also the great repairing shops for Italian aircraft. It is stated that 50,000 Italians live in this place. Massawa is the naval base of the Italian Red Sea Fleet and the British advance into Eritrea is, therefore, of great importance because it threatens the vitals of Italian power in Abyssinia. The operations in Abyssinia coupled with the advance in Eritrea would, of course, render the Italian position precarious.

AXIS MÜNCHAUSENS

In seizing upon novel interpretations of events, in magnificient disregard of tiresome or inconvenient facts, the Nazis and the Fascists have no peers. In October, the *Living Age* published in translation an article from *Il Popolo d'Italia*, which argued that the little that was virtuous in Anglo-Saxon civilization derived from the Romans. More recently, elaborating on this novel line of reasoning, the Italian press attributed the British success in withstanding the Nazi air attacks to the remnants of valor and hardihood that that people still possess because of the corpuscles in their veins inherited from the Rome of 2,000 years ago somewhat long-lived corpuscles, it appears. In this very issue, readers with a longing for fairy-tales might look at an article from the *Schwarze Korps* in which they will discover that the current war really ended some time ago, and that current operations are no more than a sort of final mopping-up.

But it remains for the *Deutsche Diplomatische Korrespondenz*, the organ of the Wilhelmstrasse, to attain a new height in the fabulous. In the view of this official organ, the result of the American Presidential election clearly meant the emergence of the United States as an authoritarian state, now the fourth such regime in the world. For, argues this Nazi publication, Americans, last November 5, voted Mr. Roosevelt "powers scarcely less authoritarian" than those conferred on Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin. Perhaps one will next learn, by way of the National Socialist press, that the United States declared war on Britain several months ago, that we are already in occupation of 10, Downing Street and Buckingham Palace, and that Mr. Roosevelt and his cabinet are playing soft-ball in the House of Commons—*The Living Age*.

ITALY AND GERMANY

GERMAN INVASIONS OF ITALY.

There is a similarity between the German penetration of Italy and the policy followed by the Nazis in other countries which they wished finally to subjugate. Italy's defeat in Greece and in North Africa and the necessity for Mussolini to appeal to Hitler for help are being utilized by the Fuehrer for securing a strangle-hold of Italy. No one can at this stage foresee what exactly is going to happen in regard to the relations between the two countries, though it may well be guessed that Italians are not likely to welcome the Nazi rule. There is, of course, considerable apprehension in Italy as regards possible developments. The following note regarding the German invasions of Italy and the tribulations of Sicily will be of interest :—

Italy has ben subject to barbarian invasions all through her history and the barbarians par excellence were the Germans. So often have Germans invaded and ravaged Italy that the words " German " and " Barbarian" have become almost synonymous terms in the Italian mind.

The first appearance of the Germans in Italy was when the Cimbri and the Teutones ravaged Northern Italy and threatened Rome itself in 102 B.C. They were eventually destroyed by Marius, the first of a line of dictators whose quarrels destroyed the Roman Republic. In the fifth century A.D. the Roman Empire was overwhelmed by successive waves of Teutonic invaders each one more destructive than the last. First came the Visigoths led by Alaric, who took and sacked the Imperial City of Rome itself in 410 A.D. After the Visigoths came the Vandals, whose barbarity added a new term signifying destructiveness in the word " Vandalism " to the English language. Gaiseric and the Vandals sacked Rome even more completely than the Visigoths in 455 A.D. This event marks the real end of the classical period of Roman history. More barbarians followed. Theodoric the Ostrogoth conquered all Italy at the end of the fifth century, and after him came the Lombards in the sixth. The Lombards gave their name to Northern Italy, and threatened the existence of the Pope in Rome until Charlemagne came to his rescue.

In the Middle Ages Italy was considered part of the Holy Roman Empire, whose emperors were Germans and which was really a mediaeval German Empire. Each Emperor came to Italy to be crowned, stayed there long enough to prevent the development of any Italian nationalism, but not long enough to establish any stable Government. These German invasions kept Italy for centuries in an anarchy of warring feudal nobles, city states and robber chiefs.

When the Renaissance came to Europe in the fifteenth century, Italy was the leader of the new culture. But this did not suit the Germans. The Hapsburg Emperor Charles V invaded Italy, ostensibly to free Italy from the French, but having taken the French King prisoner he thus proceeded, with his German and Spanish troops, to besiege and sack Rome in 1527. This sack was one of the most terrible in all Roman history and is generally held to have extinguished the Renaissance in Italy.

In the eighteenth century the Teutonic task of oppressing Italy was transferred to the dull hands of Ausrtria and the Hapsburgs. Italy fell into political and cultural torpor. The French democrats and Napoleon gave to Italy the idea of national unity, but the Austrians in the nineteenth century tried to put back the clock once more. It was against the Austrians that Mazzini plotted, Cavour planned and Garibaldi fought. It was against the Austrians that the people of Milan rose in 1848, and it was the present King of Italy's grandfather whom the French helped to drive out the Austrians in 1859. In the last war the Austrians invaded Italy again, and were driven back with the help of French and British troops on the Piave.

It might have been thought that the Germans would have been satisfied with their own record of barbarism. But no : when seeking for a model of behaviour for his troops in China, the ex-Kaiser pitched not upon Gothi or Vandals, but upon a non-Teutonic people, more barbarous and ruthless still, Attila and his Huns. Attila was known in his day as the " Scourge of God ;" his Huns were a people of Mongolian stock. The ex-Kaiser abjured his departing troops to be " ruthless as Huns."

SICILY.

Germans also have been in Sicily before, as a source of confusion rather than a ruling element. Of the mediaeval Emperors who were kings of Sicily the most famous, Frederick II, encouraged Italian and Saracenic culture. Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Carthaginians, Normans, Saracens had all had their great days in the big Mediterranean island, which, however, clung tenaciously to independence and for a period was one of the freest countries in Europe.

Though united for several centuries with Naples under the well-known title of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, Sicily has never been an Italian possession. The revolution of 1848 against the appalling Bourbon tyranny was followed 12 years later by the brilliant successes of the liberator Garibaldi, with British support. It was with Sicily as a base that Garibaldi was able to extend his campaign to the Italian mainland, with the result that Sicily and Naples became absorbed in the Italian kingdom united for the first time under Victor Emmanuel I.

British troops have also operated from Sicily in the past.

In 1806, when Napoleon had made great preparations for invading England and had

(*Continued on Page* 12)

THE PRESENT SITUATION

HITLER MOVES SOUTH.

The appearance of Nazi airmen over the Mediterranean links up the victories of the British Imperial Forces in Africa with the northern war in which the British islands face the Continental power of Germany.

Four months ago the Fascist thrust toward Suez was timed to coincide with a Nazi invasion of Britain. The combined attempt at a knock-out blow failed. The Italians got no further than Sidi Barrani, and have now been ejected and pursued to their own colonial bases. The Germans concentrated in the Channel ports were shattered by the R.A.F.

Hitler has been forced to move south, but not with gifts for his Axis partner. Nor is the move to Italian bases the only line of attack considered in Berlin. On the right flank pressure increases on France. On the left flank the familiar story of riots, disturbances, hurried journeys and secret meetings provides the smokescreen for a Balkan drive.

It is not Hitler's custom to present a clear picture of his detailed intentions. But his ambitions and his present straits are known. The flood of American help for Britain has begun to flow. Hitler cannot stop it. Before it reaches full spate he must attempt again the blow which has failed before.

The war is no longer one of separate campaigns. Indian and Empire troops in Africa, Greek troops in Albania, are striking through their immediate opponents at the enemy of civilization, just as the R.A.F. is striking over Germany, the Royal Navy on the oceans. And in the factories of Britain and the Commonwealth, of India and of America, the workers who have most to lose by an Axis success are striking also.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

For three months, ever since Molotov's visit to Berlin (where he saw for himself the striking power of the R.A.F.) the Nazis have indulged in a crescendo of anticipations of a spectacular new pact with those whom Hitler formerly branded as " blood-stained criminals."

The Soviet-German agreements signed on January 10 are by no means spectacular.

With a polite exchange of gestures they confirm Germany's retreat from the Baltic States, where after eight centuries of settlement German population have been bundled out as pawns in Hitler's game.

Beyond that the agreements are in the economic field to which Moscow appears anxious to confine any document thrust before it by Berlin at the point of the gun.

It is not signatures which define the limits of Russo-German trade, but the ability of each party to spare goods from its own pressing needs and to deliver them when spared. Germany wants to exchange machinery and manufactures for Russian wheat, oil and ores. Germany is fighting the biggest war of her history and Russia is feverishly preparing to defend herself in the East and the West against her natural enemies—Germany and Japan. Exportable surplus in these circumstances may not reach expectations.

The railways of both countries are heavily overworked. Russia's transport system has always been her weak point. Germany's transport system provides targets for the R.A.F. at important interior junctions, yards and aqueducts. If Russian railways can be reorganized, Germany may get much of the grain she needs. But oil in big quantities could only leave Russia *via* the Mediterranean, and the Royal Navy looks after that route.

There is a further means of placating Berlin by economic help, and placation is at present Moscow's greatest necessity. Though not mentioned in any open agreement, the trade route from Japan through Vladivostock provides for Germany a leak in the British blockade. This leak is not necessarily permanent.

GERMANY AND ITALY.

" Everybody, however ignorant he may be, now knows that Germany wanted the war and is carrying it on to transform the world into a vast series of Prussian barracks."

These words were written by Benito Mussolini in April 1918. If he dared to speak openly he might repeat them to-day.

Bluster and blunder, short-sighted opportunism, shameless disregard for his people's real needs, have led Mussolini to his present ignoble situation. While his African Empire crumbles, the German barbarians are over the Brenner again, to drive home the history-lessons of northern invasions that every Italian has learnt at school.

When Italy was dragged into the war, her Duce complained that she was a prisoner in the Mediterranean. In six months of war he has failed to break the doors at Gibraltar and Suez which only his own action closed to him. Now, too late to save Italy, the German gaoler steps in to enslave her.

Economically, Italy made herself dependent on Germany by inviting the British blockade with a declaration of war. Germany supplies (and can withhold) the extra million tons of coal a month which Italy must import.

For oil, since her supply of crude oil in Albania has been largely nullified as a result of her ill-judged aggression, Italy depended on foreign supplies. It was Germany who seized control of the Rumanian wells.

In food, Italians have had to endure a lower standard and more ruthless restrictions than Germans. The recent agricultural agreement between Germany and Italy ominously reproduces, almost word for word, the arrangements dictated to Rumania from Berlin.

Politically, Italy has gained nothing from her partnership with the German Fuehrer. The cries of "Corsica, Tunis, Savoy!" with which the Fascists plunged into the war have died down. Spies and Gestapo agents spread through Italy as they have spread through France.

Military assistance has begun with the German occupation of air bases in Italy and Sicily. Its purpose is to break the British control of the Mediterranean rather than to save Mussolini's stricken African legions. Combined with this attempt to strike at Britain over the body of Italy is the manœuvre in France whereby Hitler still endeavours to secure from Vichy the use of the remaining French fleet and Mediterranean bases.

STUKAS OFF SICILY.

The Sicilian Channel is the bottle-neck of the Central Mediterranean. With bases in Sicily and the island of Pantellaria, Italy should have asserted control of these narrow waters if she could assert it anywhere. It is here, at the easiest point for attack, that Nazi air reinforcement has appeared in the attempt to redress the Italian failure.

The surprise attack on a large British convoy on January 10 was carried out chiefly by German Ju 87 Stukas. This machine was successful in the German advance into France, having been designed for co-operation with land forces. In the *Blitz* over Britain it failed, and perhaps can now be spared for use in the Mediterranean without seriously affecting the *Luftwaffe's* strength in its main job.

NOT WHAT THEY HOPED.

Results can hardly have reached German expectations. Fighters had to accompany the bombers, but 12 warplanes were destroyed during the attack, and more than 30 when the R.A.F. raided their base at Catania.

The warships carried out their function and the important convoy for Greece got through safely. The British cruiser *Southampton* became a total loss. The aircraft-carrier *Illustrious* sustained damage from direct hits in a seven-hour battle but survived.

Dr. Goebbels claims the *Illustrious* and an uncertain number of other vessels as destroyed. Nevertheless he has moderated his voice since last August, when of the 7 aircraft-carriers possessed by Britain at the outset of the war he claimed to have sunk 10. He no longer mentions the *Ark Royal*.

THE NAVY'S STRENGTH.

The *Illustrious*, from whose decks British aircraft crippled the Italian fleet at Taranto, is one of the 4 new aircraft-carriers in the Admiralty's 1940 programme. Two more are due for commission in 1942.

The *Southampton* is the fourth British cruiser to be lost. At the beginning of the war Britain had 62 cruisers. The enemy have reported no fewer than 84 as sunk. Actually British cruiser strength is higher now than when war began.

The measure of Axis claims to success off Sicily may be gauged from Mussolini's announcement that between three and four hundred Italian soldiers were missing in the Western desert in December. Bombay has already seen thousands of these missing Italians—a small proportion of the immense haul of prisoners—passing through the streets to their prison-camp.

THE DODECANESE ISLANDS

ONE OF THE POST-WAR PROBLEMS.

The plight of the Italian garrison in the Dodecanese Islands is now desperate. The question of final ownership of these Islands may well become one of the most intricate of post-war problems.

For many centuries part of the Ottoman Empire, these Aegean islands (of which there are 14) were seized by Italy in 1912 during the war with Turkey, and she has held on to them ever since; and while the modern Turkish Republic has wisely refused to consider itself the territorial heir of the Ottomans, it is possible that the proximity of the Dodecanese to Turkey's Asiatic mainland may incline Ankara to press for at least partial control over them.

On the other hand, the native islanders are predominantly Greek in race and sentiment, and it must be remembered that, in 1912, the Italians promised that on the cessation of Turco-Italian hostilities the islands should be handed over to the Greek Government. That promise was never fulfilled, and Italy's possession of the Dodecanese was confirmed in 1915.

In 1919, at the end of the Great War, Italy promised to hand over 12 of the islands to Greece, at the same time promising to another of them, Rhodes, a "wide measure of autonomy" which should eventually lead to independence or to Greek ownership. These promises, too, were later repudiated by the Italians, and the status quo was finally recognized under the Treaty of Sevres.

The Fascist regime ushered in a reign of terror throughout the Dodecanese, which has gone hand in hand with totally unsuccessful attempts to italianize the native population—estimated in 1936 at about 150,000.

With Italian control removed, the problem becomes one of great difficulty, but it is to be hoped that a solution will be worked out, after this war, along the lines of that Turkish-Greek friendship which has been one of the most stabilizing features of Middle East relationships in recent years.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Axis Multiplication-Tables

It would have been asking too much of Dr. Goebbels and his Italian imitators to expect them to stick to the facts when "describing" the *Luftwaffe's* attack on a British convoy and its naval escort in the Mediterranean on January 10. Certainly Berlin and Rome were less hysterical than usual, but that was doubtless due to the sobering knowledge that at least 12 Axis warplanes—many of them Junkers dive-bombers—were destroyed during the engagement, and between 30 and 40 during a subsequent R.A.F raid on the enemy's lair at Catania in Sicily.

Needless to say, these losses were not mentioned by the German or Italian wireless, whose reports confined themselves chiefly to accusing the British Government of trying to minimize its own losses.

The plain facts of the attack are that the British cruiser *Southampton* was set on fire and had later to be sunk by other Royal Navy units, while the aircraft-carrier *Illustrious* and the destroyer *Gallant* were damaged but reached port; that the important convoy concerned reached Greece safely; and that not a single British plane was lost.

On January 15, the Berlin radio quoted what it described as "interesting details" from the *Giornale d'Italia* of the attack, in the course of which it was stated that the *Gallant* (by that time safely in harbour) had "obviously been sunk". Two days later, in the face of the British Admiralty's factual account of the whole affair, Berlin asserted—without even attempting to produce any evidence—that eight "other British warships (besides the *Southampton*) were hit and damaged". Some seven hours later the Germans, possibly feeling they had been too modest in their claims, announced that "14 British vessels have certainly been hit and a few of them have been sunk".

Changed Tactics

The following day (January 18), Berlin attempted a little eye-witness description of its own. "The German planes," it said "had come down to such a low altitude that their objectives had been clearly visible."

Doubtless this temerity on the part of the Nazi airmen was so unusual that Berlin felt justified in mentioning it.

As every civilian in Britain knows, the *Luftwaffe* are generally content to drop their bombs through the clouds and from a height of anything up to 30,000 feet, and then race back to tell Dr. Goebbels what "military objectives" they have hit and destroyed. Meanwhile, the world awaits (but without much confidence) a precise statement from Berlin on German air losses to date in the Mediterranean.

Pirates!

A few days ago the British armed merchant ship *Asturias* was reported to be shadowing the Europe-bound food ship *Mendoza* in South Atlantic waters. "The British pirates", said Berlin (January 17), "trained their guns on the *Mendoza*, whose only crime was to transport a few foodstuffs for France—the country which has lost all in the defence of Britain".

A would-be cunning piece of propaganda this, combining two themes:—

(i) British blockade is starving the innocent non-combatants of Europe, and

(ii) A re-hash of the old accusation, "Britain will fight to the last Frenchman".

Goebbels omitted one important word from his report—"Occupied". The *Mendoza* was bound for a port in Occupied France—the country which has lost all in the support of the German Army of Occupation.

Four hundred million francs a day is the price France pays for German "protection".

The *Mendoza's* cargo would have fed German troops, not French civilians.

Crowded Out

"While Great Britain is clamouring for assistance from the United States", says Berlin on January 17, "an economic delegation under Lord Willingdon is making every possible effort to crowd the United States out of South American markets." Only a few weeks ago the Nazi radio was drawing attention to the disastrous condition of trade in South America, and blamed the British blockade of Germany.

Before the war Germany bought £17,000,000 worth of exports a year from the Argentine and Brazil—to mention only two of the South American markets from which she is now excluded. Lord Willingdon hopes to arrange with the South American countries to buy these goods which would in normal times go to Germany.

It is the Nazis, not the United States, who are being crowded out of South America.

Nazi Solicitude

The Berlin radio denies (January 15) that Polish enterprises have been transferred to Germans, but revealingly adds in the next sentence, "No transfer was ever considered if the owners of these factories were of German origin."

The Nazis have two aims in Poland. One is the extermination of the Polish nation; the other is the maximum exploitation of Polish industry.

Herr Frank, the German Governor of Poland, is carrying out a four-year exploitation plan, based on discrimination between industrial plant which can be used for German war

material production and those which serve only the requirements of the Polish civilian population. The latter industries are being systematically destroyed. At the same time the occupation authorities aim at securing at least a million Polish workers for Germany, three quarters of them to be employed on farms in the Reich.

These are the steps which, according to Berlin, have been taken " to ensure that the economic life and production will return to normal as soon as possible in order that the Polish population might have an opportunity of earning a living."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Under German Domination

On January 13, the Nazi radio quoted the political correspondent of the *Berliner Boersen Zeitung* as saying that England and America's " New Order " meant those countries' determination to rule the world. Whatever the Anglo-American " New Order " might mean, this is what Germany's " New Order " is costing such countries as are to-day enjoying its dubious blessings :—

France : 400 million francs per day.
Denmark : 1½ million crowns per day.
Norway : 3-4 million crowns per day.
Belgium : 2,400,000 Reich marks per day.
Holland : 1,200,000 Reich marks per day.
Rumania : 1,750,000 Reich marks per day.

In other words, total exploitation up to November 30, 1940 (reckoning 1 Reich mark = - /12/-) for various occupied countries was :—

Norway : Rs. 147/12/- per head of the population.
Denmark : Rs. 78–12–0 per head of the population.
Holland : Rs. 40–8–0 per head of the population.
Belgium : Rs. 35–4–0 per head of the population.
France : Rs. 63–12–0 per head of the population.

In Poland

The Berlin radio announced on January 14 that everything possible was being done to improve the lot of the Poles. Hitler, however, told the Reichstag on May 17, 1933, that " the mentality of the last century, which thought it possible to turn Poles and Frenchmen into Germans, is foreign to us," and his policy throughout has been that of driving the rightful inhabitants from occupied Poland. By March 1940, about 700,000 Poles and Jews had been expelled, and this number now exceeds one million. The cultural, social and religious life of the Poles has been, practically stamped out. Since the outbreak of war, Polish children in Posen have had only three weeks' schooling, all schools being reserved for Germans.

Food condition appears to be worse than in the case of the other occupied countries. In general, the Poles are allowed two-thirds of the rations allotted to the Germans. The German shops are supplied with the food they need and so as a rule are those for the Ukranians, but the shops for Poles and Jews are for weeks on end without either fat, meat, eggs or sugar. Persons of " German race " are issued with a clothing card, which in theory allows an equal amount of clothing to each member of the community. The Polish local authorities are only allowed a small number of such cards.

Warsaw, for example, with a population of 1,000,000 has only 10,000 cards!

In France

Meanwhile, on January 15, Dr. Goebbels' radio proudly proclaimed that 450,000 tons of potatoes and 100,000 tons of sugar were being sent to occupied and unoccupied France. When we recall that the Belgian farmers were ordered to send all their potato crops, except a small allowance for themselves, livestock and replanting, to the German authorities, that Gauleiter Greiser declared Poland was now the " granary of the whole Empire," and that in Holland, during the first week of the invasion, over 17½ million pounds of butter (about 90 per cent of the total reserves), was removed, the motive for Germany's self-styled generosity becomes manifest.

The Nazis are trying to propitiate France because they still have an eye on her fleet.

More Crime Fiction

Not content with inventing " British Secret Service plots " to assassinate King Ibn Saud, the Amir Abdulla, two of Egypt's Ministers and even the late Lord Lothian, the Italian radio on January 14 comes out with the news of a plot against the King and the Queen of Egypt and King Farouk's mother!

Perhaps Rome is not aware that relations between Egypt and England have never been more cordial. On receipt of the news of the British victory at Bardia, King Farouk immediately ordered that his congratulations be conveyed to General Wavell. Furthermore, the Egyptian press has been as jubilant as the British and Empire newspapers over the victory.

ITALY AND GERMANY

(*Continued from Page* 8)

even struck a medal to commemorate the success he expected, a now forgotten British victory caused great rejoicings in London. This was the battle of Maida, fought on the Italian mainland near the toe of the peninsula.

Sir John Stuart commanded a British force in Sicily which had not been conquered by Napoleon. His expeditionary force was conveyed from Messina by naval ships, landed in the bay of Santa Eufernia and defeated a French division at Maida with the help of some Neapolitans. Maida Hill and Maida Vale in London are named after this exploit.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 6 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, Feb. 8, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

31st Jan.—British troops advance along the the coastal road towards Appolonia. In the Sudan the advance continues and pressure is maintained against Agordat and Barentu. The Royal Air Force blast the way for the advance of Britain's Imperial Army of the Nile and raid Tripoli docks.

An important mountain peak known as 1960, originally organized as a defensive position by the Government of ex-King Jog of Albania, has been captured by the Greeks at the point of the bayonet. They have also captured the whole mountain range to the north of Klissura with peaks of six thousand feet. All enemy attempts to counter-attack have been repulsed with bloody losses.

The Armistice between Indo-China and Thailand is formally signed.

The success of the new Air Training Scheme for youths is indicated by the announcement of Air Commodore Chamier, Commandant of the Corps, that when the scheme formally comes into existence, 230 squadrons will be registered. They will include 200 squadron of the old Air Cadet Defence Corps. The number of boys who have already entered the scheme runs into thousands.

King of Italy appoints General Dallolio, a Minister of State.

General De Gaulle appeals to the French Army in Africa to re-enter the war and help the British.

It is announced that further provisions have been made for trial by military courts to be brought into operation by the direction of Mr. De Valera. These courts may consist of three Commissioned Officers, one member at least to have the rank of Commandant. They will have the power to impose the death penalty.

Mr. Matsuoka, Foreign Minister in his evidence given before a Sub-Committee of the Lower House stated that Japan had abandoned her policy of not dealing with the Chungking Government while recognizing Wang Ching-wei's Nanking regime in China. Japan was seeking with Mr. Wang Ching-wei an amalgamation of the two regimes in China. He added that Mr. Wang Ching-wei was ready to accept even death if only Chungking would reflect on its mistakes and make peace with Japan.

Touring the bombed areas of Portsmouth Mr. Winston Churchill remarked that the spirit of Britain glowed warmer and brighter for the tribulations through which they have passed.

British trawlers, " *Charmouth* " and " *Rattray* " shoot down a Nazi bomber when Nazi aircraft attempted to bomb them.

Nuisance raids over Britain. Three London hospitals hit. A few patients received minor injuries. Elsewhere little damage was done and there were very few casualties.

The Rumanian Government are preparing a law permitting the militarization of all Ministries. A further law annuls ill-forced sales of property of Jews made before September 6th. Such property is to be returned to its original owners and a special committee, it is reported, will examine each case.

1st Feb.—Contact with the enemy west of Derna is maintained and pressure on the Italian forces holding the area of Barentu is intensified. Agordat falls.

Hitler's reply to Marshal Petain reiterates the demand for active collaboration with Germany, a change in the French Cabinet and reintroduction of politicians prepared to work with Germany and the necessity of France to co-operate in the strategic situation in the Mediterranean.

Mr. Sol Bloom, Chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee, assures Lord Halifax that the Lease and Lend Bill will be passed by the House without a major change.

The Netherlands Government reject any suggestion of having the Netherlands Indies incorporated in a " New Order " in East Asia under the leadership of any power whatsoever.

Labour service for boys in Japan. Ten million Japanese students (boys and girls) are to be conscripted.

Royal Air Force bomb Boulogne, Ostend and Brest and also Valona.

Colonel Donavan, President Roosevelt's special representative arrives in Turkey.

The Iron Guard Youth Association has been dissolved and Rumanian boys and girls are to be reorganized on the model of the Hitler youth. A workers' organization is also being formed which will include all Rumanian workers.

Franco-German relations appear to be moving swiftly to a new climax. The formation in Paris, under the leadership of known pro-Nazi Frenchmen, of a 'National Popular Party' with a full Nazi domestic and social programme is announced. Its foreign programme includes the reconstruction of Europe and the exploitation of Africa by European and Franco-German co-operations.

In a broadcast to North African French subjects General Weygand denounces persons spreading rumours and appeals to all to maintain the utmost confidence in Marshal Petain.

2nd Feb.—British Forces capture Barentu. In Abyssinia the enemy retreats on the Metemma Gondar Road.

R.A.F. make daylight raids over occupied France.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Few bombs dropped on an East Anglian town without causing any casualties.

Two Italian transport ships have been sunk by an unidentified submarine near the Jugoslav island of Vis in the Central Adriatic.

3rd Feb.—Driving west along the coast from Derna the British forces capture the port of Cyrene. In Abyssinia the British have advanced towards Gondar 90 miles from the Sudan frontier. R.A.F. bomb Berka ærodrome and railway station at Barce. Castle Benito, an important Italian base in Tripoli was heavily bombed.

Mopping up operations in the mountains north of Klissura have been completed. The last vestiges of Italian resistance were eliminated without any serious effort. The Greeks now dominate the 6,000-foot mountain range of Trebeshini, the strategic key to the whole of Southern Albania.

Admiral Darlan leaves Vichy for Paris.

It is reported that about 700 Polish priests have been shot in Nazi concentration camps at Oranienburg, Dachan, Oswiecin and Buchwald. There are estimated to be 3,000 Polish priests at present in German concentration camps.

Mr. Ohashi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, declared that the Japanese Government had nothing to do with the observations of the Netherlands Government which had removed its seat to London. He further declared that common prosperity, as advocated by Japan, concerned only economic affairs and had no political significance and therefore the Batavia parleys between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies will be continued.

R.A.F. raid docks at Brest, and other targets in occupied France.

Enemy raiders bomb several places in Londan, East Anglia and Kent. Some damage was done and a small number of people killed. An enemy bomber was shot down.

Referring to the hundreds of people with whom he had spoken Mr. Wendell Willkie said: "the people's spirit is magnificent. I do not believe that any nation in the world is more united in a cause than the people of the British Isles."

5,000 people have been arrested in Rumania following a comb-out by the Police after the recent Iron Guard revolt.

The Lease and Lend Bill comes up for discussion in the House of Representatives.

4th Feb.—British Imperial troops advancing from Kenya have penetrated sixty miles into Mussolini's East African Empire. Congolese troops leave for the front in Africa. South African Air Force bomb aircraft grounded at Afmadu in Italian Somaliland and Gobwen in Kenya. Bomber aircraft of the Royal Air Force raid Barce, Berka, Benina and Benghazi.

Big fires in Tepelini indicate that the Italians are preparing to leave it.

Japanese Government are considering invoking belligerent rights to prevent foreign assistance being given to the regime of Marshal Chiang Kai Shek. Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, in reply to an interpellation before the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives, said that the United States of America had misunderstood Japan's intentions and strength but he would redouble his efforts to make them understand, that the Three-Power Pact represented a peace pact aimed at preventing an extension of the war. He wanted to make clear to the Americans that Japan did not want to risk war for the sake of her aspirations.

M. Bagrianoff, the Bulgarian Minister of Agriculture known for his Nazi sympathies, resigns. King Boris accepts the resignation and the post has been taken over by M. Filoff, the Prime Minister.

Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, while defining Britain's aims in helping Haile Selassie said that the British Government would welcome the reappearance of the independent Ethiopian State. He also added that the conduct of military operations in parts of Abyssinia will require temporary measures of military guidance and control. These will be carried out in consultation with the Emperor and will be brought to an end as soon as the situation permits.

British Trawlers, Relonzo and Luda Lady are sunk.

Convoys, aerodromes and towns in South-east and East England were the main objectives of German hit-and-run raids, during which four enemy planes were destroyed.

Enemy planes fly over Malta but no bombs have been dropped.

Prince Voravan, principal delegate for Thailand, leaves for Tokyo for peace negotiations.

Threats are issued to the Vichy Government through German controlled radio to concede to Nazi pressure. But Marshal Petain sticks to the Armistice terms and he is not prepared to collaborate with Germany except within this frame work.

Admiral Darlan returns to Vichy and confers with Marshal Petain. M. Paul Baudoin, who was Marshal Petain's first Foreign Minister and afterwards Secretary of State to the Prime Minister, is reported to have been given a new post—the presidency of the Administrative Council of the Bank of Indo-China.

Royal Air Force carry out attacks on objectives in Western Germany and occupied France. Dusseldorf, Cherbourg, ports at Brest, Dunkirk, Dieppe, and ærodromes at Vannes have been bombed.

Royal Air Force night patrols destroy one German bomber during raids over Britain which, while more widespread than for some time, were nowhere heavy.

Royal Air Force in the middle east make a heavy air attack on Maritza in Rhodes, the chief island of the Italian Dodecanese.

5th Feb.—Urged by the British Imperial Troops the Italians in Libya withdraw towards Benghazi. In Abyssinia the British advance eastwards on the Gondar road is progressing.

After fierce attack the Greeks capture important height on the central (Klissura) front and take many prisoners. Greek long-range guns near Pogradetz blow up an Italian munitions dump near Lin on the shores of Lake Ochrida.

Hitler has informed Vichy that a complete and radical solution of the Franco-German problem must be found and put into effect before February. German demands appear to be in the nature of an ultimatum.

French Cabinet meets. Admiral Darlan reports on his conversation in Paris. M. Laval, it is reported, demands the post of the Minister of the Interior with "far-reaching powers".

Mr. Wendell Wilkie's tour in England is ended. Referring to the general conclusions that he had reached in travelling about England, Mr. Wilkie said: "I think that the people of these islands are almost miraculously fortunate in their leaderships. Anyone who believes that the people are not united is labouring under a delusion. I doubt whether in history any man has been more ideally suited to his task than Mr. Churchill—with his qualities of inspiring leadership, great comprehension dauntless courage and long experience."

The Royal Air Force maintain activity over the English Channel. British bombers attack aerodrome at St. Omer. Two enemy aircraft were shot down and five British fighters are missing. Ports in occupied France and Belgium suffered severe hammering. British lost seven planes. Four German planes were brought down.

Air raid over England. Bombs were dropped at a point in North-east Scotland and Kent without any damage or casualty. German bombers attack a convoy off the south-east coast of England. Four enemy bombers have been shot down.

An enemy dive-bomber was shot down by the trawler Lady Philomena during an attack on a British convoy. His Majesty's trawler Tourmaline, one of the escorting vessels, was sunk.

Two thousand British subjects are still living at liberty in Paris. They are able to obtain from the United States Embassy sufficient cash up to £10 per month enabling them to obtain modest board and lodging.

6th Feb.—The British five-front offensive in Africa is progressing favourably everywhere. In Libya the British Imperial Forces capture Benghazi. In Eritrea British forces are now closing in on Italian positions about Keran. Further south Italian forces which had withdrawn eastwards from Barentu are being vigorously pressed in Tole area. So far about 1,500 prisoners have been taken. In Abyssinia good progress is made along the Gondar road in spite of numerous mine fields set up by the enemy to cover his retreat. In Italian Somaliland British penetration in all sectors is daily becoming deeper.

Fierce fighting occur west of Moskopolis in the Ostravitza region. Patrols were active at the source of the Skumbi river. A violent Italian counter-attack on the central front ended in a disastrous Italian defeat. On a mountain range beyond Klissura the Greek forces are now consolidating their recent gains and organizing new positions.

Mr. John Winant has been nominated the United States Ambassador to London.

Their Majesties the King and Queen spoke to many men and women in Portsmouth who had stood up to the bombing.

In moving new credits totalling 1,600 million sterling to tide the country over until April the next Budget period, Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave arresting statistics relating to war-time expenditure. The total national expenditure on all purposes now averages 12¼ million sterling daily.

The Government of Eire is arranging for voluntary evacuation of children from Dublin city and Kingston borough in the event of a situation arising which would render such a course advisable.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 28th January 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 22, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter raids on troops, motor transport, aerodromes and ground defences between straits of Dover and River Somme; shipping in Channel. R. A. F. night bomber raids on Dusseldorf and other Ruhr areas; two aerodromes in occupied territory.	1	Unspecified number of aircraft destroyed on ground.
January 23, Thursday.	Bombing operations cancelled owing to weather.		
January 24, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on submarine base at L'Orient. Main operations cancelled owing to weather.	..	..
January 25, Saturday.	(No reports.)		
January 26, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial targets in Hanover.	Nil.	..
January 27, Monday.	(No reports.)		
January 28, Tuesday.	Bombing operations cancelled owing to weather.		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 28th January 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 22	Nil.	2
January 23	..	..
January 24	1 (forced landing in Eire.)	..
January 25	..	..
January 26	..	4
January 27	..	1
January 28	..	..

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

From Great Britain, America, Canada and Australia significant statements were made in the course of this week by persons in authority about a move in Europe on the part of Hitler designed to strike at Great Britain. It is with a view to enable him to do so that he is bringing pressure to bear upon Marshal Petain to include Laval in the Cabinet so that, through him, Germany can take control of the French fleet and the French Naval bases on both sides of the Mediterranean. Significant threats have been uttered over the German and German-controlled radio to the Vichy Government, which is still disinclined to depart from the Armistice terms. It is generally expected that the tension in the Franco-German relations is reaching a critical stage. In the meanwhile, Hitler's efforts to help his junior partner, Mussolini, appear to meet with grave obstacles. In Eritrea, Agordat and Barentu have been captured by the British and Indian troops, while the retreating Italian army is being pursued relentlessly further east. In Abyssinia, the British advance eastwards on the Gondar road is progressing and in Southern Abyssinia, the British penetration is continuing. Steady pressure is being brought to bear on Italians in Somaliland, while in Libya, British forces proceeding past Cyrene pursuing the Italian forces have captured Benghazi, a remarkably swift operation, planned by Wavell, the Wizard and carried out to the astonishment and of the world. The Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force have been of great and valuable help in these operations. Italy is fairing equally badly in Greece, where the Greeks have captured important mountain peaks in Central Albania and the coastal areas. Counter attacks of the Italians have been smashed. Valona, according to observers, is reduced to ruins and it is reported that Italians are preparing to leave Tepeleni. Hitler, in the face of these severe blows to his ally, is hard put to it to discover some means whereby he can help him. Diplomatic pressure on Bulgaria, it is stated, is being increased to join the Axis. These and other developments in Europe have been closely studied by Mr. Wendell Wilkie, the Republican candidate for the Presidency, who has returned to America after a ten days' hurricane tour of England and after a visit to Eire to Mr. De Valera. Important developments are expected from this visit.

STATEMENTS ABOUT THE COMING CRISIS

There is a good deal of speculation in the whole world as to what Hitler intends to do next. Col. Frank Knox expects a strong move and that too very early, Germany using gas and a new type of planes. "Can we act in time", he said to the Committee considering the "Aid to Britain Bill" and he confessed that he was tremendously worried. "British authorities", said Sir Edward Peacock, British Treasury Expert now in America, "expect an invasion within sixty days". Everybody is agreed that Hitler will act in the near future throwing in everything in a desperate gamble. Conditions, in the words of Lord Halifax, "make it necessary for Hitler to have a go at it soon." The stage is set, as a commentator has put it; and the actors are ready. When will the screen go up? Will it go up at all?

POSSIBLE MOVES

There are three possible methods of directly attacking Great Britain, by invasion, by attacking industrial centres by air and by destroying mercantile marine by submarine and by aircraft. There are reports of concentration of numerous divisions on the French and Belgian coasts. Barges and several kinds of naval craft are reported to be ready. There are, further, troop carrying planes and parachutists. As against this threat, it may be mentioned that there are now four million men under arms in Great Britain and the serious losses sustained in France have been more than replaced. The R.A.F. may not enjoy numerical superiority to the German aircraft at present, but it has been greatly increased and its quality has been amply proved to be very much superior to Germany's. Civilian morale is high and Britishers have been made the more determined by the ferocious and indiscriminate bombing. A.R.P. defence in all its phases has been considerably improved and purely military defence has perfected its measures. Mr. Edward Murrow, commentator of the American Columbia Broadcasting System, stated on the 20th January that, although there was no room for complacency, all plans of defence have been carefully drawn up. "I know that the British army is working on the assumption," he stated, "that the attempt will be made and I know too that the elements of surprise will not be monopolised by the invading forces, for there are surprises awaiting them, on, around and behind those beaches". So far as submarine attack is concerned, the average weekly losses have come down very much and it is expected that by bombing of the submarine bases and in other ways this menace will be effectively met.

Hitler, of course, wants very much to attack Great Britain in the Mediterranean and in North Africa. That is why, by alternate threats and soft words, he is trying to get round Marshal Petain. The situation is one of great difficulty for that French leader. It is possible that he may include M. Laval in the Cabinet or, as has been suggested, appoint him and three other people to form a directorate under himself (Marshal Petain). So far as is known, he may do this because it is the lesser of two evils. The French Minister of the Navy has more than once declared that the French Navy and the French ports will remain French and that any aggression will be resisted. Further General Weygand, who is in North Africa, has significantly asked all Frenchmen to support Marshal Petain and stated that Bizerta will not be surrendered. Hitler is of course in

a difficult situation. He can overrun Southern France rapidly and take possession of the French ports, but that does not mean that the French fleet will fall into his hands and Bizerta may be defended by General Weygand. Meanwhile, there are threats from German radio that unless France agrees to collaboration, which of course means absolute surrender, Germany will have to stiffen her attitude much to France's disadvantage. Bizerta, which is on the northernmost point of the African continent and about 150 miles from Sicily, would of course be the centre of operations for Germany. Bizerta is part of a demilitarised zone and it would be a hazardous enterprise for the Germans to take it. There is one circumstance which should be borne in mind as regards the Vichy Government's attitude. That Government continues to abuse Britain, and the Vichy Press is hostile. This may either be to placate Germany or it may be genuine, but there is no denying the fact that Marshal Petain wants to strictly adhere to the Armistice terms and go no further.

Hitler's attempt to make Sicily the base for attack on the Mediterranean has not been successful. While on this subject it may be mentioned that Great Britain and America between themselves command important straits and narrow waters all over the world—the English Channel, the Sound (with its by-pass the Kiel Canal), the numerous entrances in the Caribbean Sea, the Panama Canal, the Straits of Malacca, the Torres Straits, the Gulf of Oman, the Suez Canal, the long passage of the Bosphorus and the Aegean, the Straits of Otranto, of Messina and between Sicily and Cape Bon and Gibraltar. There are also mouths of the Black Sea, the Adriatic and the central passage of the Mediterranean, but they are subordinate to the mouths of the Mediterranean. It must be remembered that the R.A.F. and the Fleet Air Arm have been busy over Sicily and though the danger of dive bombers is serious British naval supremacy in the Mediterranean is assured.

The other mode of attacking Great Britain is by fomenting trouble in the Balkans and reducing Bulgaria to the status of Rumania. Constant pressure is being applied on Bulgaria with what results it is not known. Bulgaria has to choose between joining the Axis and entering into a defensive pact with Russia. If she chooses the first course, then there is the danger of Turkey attacking her and that cannot be comfortable to Hitler.

MR. WENDELL WILKIE AND AMERICAN ATTITUDE

During his rapid tour of the devastated towns and areas in Great Britain during the ten days Mr. Wendell Wilkie has been in the British Isles, he has seen many things for himself and talked to persons high and low. He has paid glowing tributes to the magnificent spirit of the people and to the great recuperative power of the Britishers. 'I personally hope,' he said on one occasion, 'that America will give you such aid, with such steadfastness and courage that you will shortly win through.' The importance of the visit should not be under-estimated. He will give valuable evidence before the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, and can further educate the American people on the conditions in Europe to-day and by other ways help the cause of the Allies. He is a Republican and his views will be respected by his party, reducing the opposition which may otherwise be made to the Aid to Britain Bill. He has seen Mr. De Valera who, he said, has cleared up some points. The results of his visit, he has kept to himself but it may not be long before he makes them public in America. His message to the German people broadcast after his departure from England is a characteristic one. Himself a German (his name is Willicke) he has condemned the methods of the present German Government and appealed for the enthronement of freedom, individual liberty and human rights.

ABYSSINIA.

Emperor Haile Selassie re-entered Abyssinia on January 15 last, being escorted thereto by Royal Air Force bombers accompanied by fighter aircraft. During the last few months Abyssinian patriots have been helped by secret British military officers who have trained them and supplied them with arms and ammunition. About one-fourth of Abyssinia, roughly speaking, is now in the hands of the British and the Abyssinian patriots. In an important statement made on Tuesday last Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, who, it will be remembered, fought in 1935 in favour of oil sanctions against Italy, told the House of Commons that the British Government will welcome the re-appearance of the independent Ethiopian State and recognize the Emperor's claim to the throne. "Great Britain had no territorial aims in Abyssinia," he continued, but the conduct of military operations will require military guidance and control in consulation with the Emperor. Such guidance and control will be brought to an end as soon as hostilities cease and assistance and guidance in economic and political matters will be subject to international arrangements at the conclusion of peace. This declaration of British policy will be welcomed throughout the world, especially by those who felt that Abyssinia had not had a square deal by the States who were members of the League of Nations in those troubulous years. There is plenty of evidence to show that Italy had concentrated large forces in Eritrea and other places for an attack on Abyssinia early in 1934. The Wal Wal incident was only a pretext of which Mussolini took full advantage in order to execute his designs upon Ethiopia. Abyssinia was ill-equipped, had no planes or mechanised forces. Guerilla warfare, though successful up to a point, was unable to resist the devastation by bombing. No wonder Abyssinia was conquered especially because the Abyssinians were subjected to gas attack. The mustard gas spread from the wings of aeroplanes on the troops below turned the scales. It was shocking tactics and a bestial mode of attack. So long

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JAPAN

Japanese statemen find that India is quite ill-informed about the developments in Japan and are anxious that the Indian masses should be given some enlightenment on this subject. A spate of Japanese propaganda may therefore soon be expected in this country. This is hardly necessary as the people of India are well aware of the trend of Japanese policy and of its ambitions to dictate to other countries in the Far East and bring them within its orbit.

Japan's real intentions in regard to her aggressive policy in the Far East are attempted to be hidden in cloud of words. A few dates stand out prominently with regard to her foreign policy. The first is 1922 when the Washington Conference solemnly declared that China's territorial and administrative integrity should be preserved. Subsequent agreements put the Open Door principle into the form of a treaty. The tide of world sympathy for China ran high in those years and whatever Japan's motives might have been in regard to this foreign intervention, she behaved then as one who was inclined to observe the principles laid down in 1922. But the political ambitions of Japan found strong spokesmen in military circles and five years later Baron Tanaka, Premier of Japan, presented a memorial to the Emperor of Japan regarding the positive policy which should be followed. The following passages from the memorial which have been unearthed by a Calcutta paper are very apposite to the present situation :—

> "For the sake of self protection as well as the protection of others, Japan cannot remove the difficulties in Eastern Asia unless she adopts a policy of 'Blood and Iron'. But in carrying out this policy we have to face the United States which has been turned against us by China's policy of fighting poison with poison. In the future, if we want to control China, we must first crush the United States just as in the past we had to fight in the Russo-Japanese War. But in order to conquer China we must first conquer Manchuria and Mongolia. In order to conquer the world, we must first conquer China. If we succeed in conquering China, the rest of the Asiatic countries and the South Sea countries will fear us and surrender to us. Then the world will realize that Eastern Asia is ours and will not dare to violate our rights. This is the plan left to us by Emperor Meiji, the success of which is essential to our national existence.
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> "After studying the present conditions and possibilities of our country, our best policy lies in the direction of taking positive steps to secure rights and privileges in Manchuria and Mongolia. These will enable us to develop our trade. This will not only forestall China's own industrial development but also prevent the penetration of European Powers. This is the best policy possible. The way to gain actual rights in Manchuria and Mongolia is to use this region as a base and under pretence of trade and commerce penetrate the rest of China. Armed by the rights already secured we shall seize the resources all over the country. Having China's entire resources at our disposal we shall proceed to conquer India, South Seas Archipelago, Asia Minor, Central Asia and even Europe . . . If we pursue a positive policy to enlarge our rights in Manchuria and China, all these pre-requisites of a powerful nation will constitute no problem."

As Japan was inclined to implement this policy disputes arose between China and Japan regarding Manchuria which really constituted, as many political observers have stated, the starting point of the troubles which culminated in the present war. Manchuria was naturally considered by China as its granary and its first line of defence, but Japan, for various reasons, claimed a special position in Manchuria, a claim which conflicted with the sovereign rights of China and was irreconcilable with the aspirations of the national Government which had been asking for the curtailment of exceptional rights and privileges of foreign states throughout the country. The dispute between China and Japan, which culminated in the events in Manchuria in the second half of 1931 have been set out at great length in the Lytton Report. China has never reconciled herself to the loss of Manchuria or to the formation of the state of Manchukuo. The presentation of further demands by Japan brought about the China affair; a state of hostilities between Japan and China, which commenced in 1937, still continues and the end of which no one can foresee at present.

Japan appealed the other day to Great Britain, Russia and America not to help China. But Great Britain has reopened the Burma Road and the steady flow of supplies is speeded up along that road. China and Russia have entered into a barter agreement and Russia does not seem inclined to accept Japan's advice to stop her help to China. The United States of America has advanced a large loan to China and has promised her further help. These circumstances, coupled with the fact that the progress of the China affair is not satisfactory, has made Japan extremely nervous and irritable. On the debit side, there is an ominously mounting list of items. The withdrawal from Nanking and South East China has appreciably reduced Japanese prestige. The Chungking Government is as strong as ever, in spite of the recognition of Mr. Wang Ching Wei's Government at Nanking. The Japanese have now been forced to be on the defensive both at Ichang on the Yangtse river and in the north near Peiping. Japan has lost a million soldiers, while Chiang Kai Shek has 2,000,000 troops and 200 æroplanes. Again the Japanese move in Southern Honan aimed at pulling off 100,000 Chinese troops has ignonimously failed. She has further lost all hope of trade with the United States and the British blockade has reduced her trade with other parts of the world. It is stated that prices have risen up by 50 per cent since July 1937.

The cost of the war with China appears to have mounted to 17,500 million Yen. The situation so far as Japan is concerned is, therefore, one of great complexity and difficulty. The other day, Mr. Matsuoka, Foreign Minister, stated that Japan had abandoned her policy of not dealing with the Chungking Government while recognizing Wang Ching Wei's regime, a significant statement by itself. He further pointed out that Wang Ching Wei would die or go into exile if only Chunking would reflect on its mistake and make peace with Japan. This seeming descent from the high horse involving a reversal of policy has not impressed Chiang-Kai-Sheik who is as determined as ever to drive the aggressor out of his country.

One should have thought that, with the China affair on her hands, Japan would be reluctant to arrogate herself the role of the maker of the new order in the Far East and dispenser of justice. Power has poisoned her and if she entered into the Tripartite Pact with Italy and Germany it was because she thought that the fall of the British Commonwealth of Nations, especially after the down-fall of France, was quite near and certain. Great Britain, which was at first inclined to follow a policy of appeasement and gave Japan some time to think over the whole matter, has now stiffened her attitude and re-opened the Burma Road. America is adamant and insists upon Japan maintaining the *status quo* in the Far East. The answer on the part of Japan to this very specific demand consists in her playing a game of bluster and retreat. Mr. Matsuoka at one time expressed his inability to make the United States understand that Japan must dominate the Far East for the sake of humanity. He asked America to have a more realistic appreciation of the situation. Japan, he further pointed out, did not seek leadership of East Asia in the role of conqueror. She wanted to enable each nation to take its proper place. He added that " this great ideal which inspired the founding of our empire should be applicable not only to Greater East Asia but eventually to the entire world. The Pact with Germany and Italy represented the embodiment of this ideal." That simply means that just as Hitler wants to swallow the whole of Europe and advance into South America after destroying the British Commonwealth of Nations, so Japan wants to swallow China, dominate Indo-China, the Netherlands, East Indies and imperil the position of India and Australia. At first Mr. Matsuoka stated that Japan was inclined not to court America, but proceed by unshakable resolve, a statement which was later expanded by Admiral Koshiro Oikawa who said that the Navy was prepared for any eventuality, that nothing desirable was left undone towards meeting the worst, and that Japan was bent upon safeguarding her sense of parity. Finding that this threat did not make any impression upon America Mr. Matsuoka stated the other day that Japan did not want to risk war for the sake of her aspirations and would redouble her efforts to make the United States understand that the Tripartite Pact aimed at preventing an extension of war. America's reaction to threats and cajolery can be found in her increasing her naval and air strength on the Pacific. She wants that the *status quo* should be maintained and one may depend upon it that she will not countenance any move on the part of Japan which is likely to disturb the present situation.

That situation deeply affects the Netherlands East Indies. Trade negotiations between Japan and that country are proceeding and she has already secured a deal so far as oil is concerned. But the Dutch Government would be no party to further penetration by Japan. This was made very clear by the Netherlands East Indies rejecting any suggestion of being a party to her incorporation in the New Order in the Far East. It can never be expected, it was officially stated, that she would be guided by the spirit of such conception. It would appear that the Japanese Government have rejected these representations and it stated that common prosperity concerned only economic affairs and had no political significance. But the Dutch Government have stated very categorically that the whole difficulty lay with Japan and that she will be no party in a Government vesting exclusive rights to any one power. The Commonwealth Air Minister stated only the other day that Australia was fully prepared to discharge her responsibilities and make herself safe, especially because a powerful country in the Pacific had joined in a military alliance with the enemy. Any doubt which might have been created as regards the attitude of Australia following the statement made sometime ago by one of her statesmen that the relations between Australia and Japan were very cordial, has been removed by the statement made in the House of Commons the other day, that Australia is fully agreed with the policy of Great Britain in regard to Japan's aggressive policy.

REVOLUTION BY AGREEMENT.

" A revolution is transforming our economic and social life, which promises far to surpass in its effects the industrial revolution, and which, with the guidance that British political genius is capable of giving it, may place this country in the proud position of leading the world in social progress.....

" The trend is visible across the entire length and breadth of the British Home Front. For instance, tremendous strides are being made to raise nutrition standards and the general welfare of the millions of working people in Great Britain. The problem of distribution is being boldly tackled; the British Government, in co-operation with the Dominions, is buying up the entire production, in different parts of the world, of key commodities which, thrown upon the open market, would cause economic and financial chaos at this time. Profits are being controlled on an unprecedented scale and the power of money, in the hands of the private individual is rigidly curtailed. Domestic production and distribution, as well as the supply of essential raw materials, are subject to State regulation, based on the war time needs of the community". *King-Hall Newsletter, 3rd October* 1940.

THE ABYSSINIAN CALENDAR

1906, DEC. 13.—London Agreement between Great Britain, France and Italy guaranteeing the integrity and independence of Abyssinia and establishing spheres of influence in that country.

1923 . Abyssinia enters the League of Nations, especially with the support of Italy and France, the British delegate expressing doubts whether this was proper because slavery had not been abolished. Abyssinia undertook to end slave trade and slavery.

1925, DEC. 14 TO 20.—Great Britain and Italy exchange notes regarding a concession for a barrage on Lake Tana in return for certain facilities to Italy for building a railway from Eritrea to Italian Somaliland and exclusive economic interest in West Ethiopia.

1926, JUNE 19.—Ethiopian protest to the League against the Italo-British Agreement.

1928, AUG. 2.—Italy concluded with Abyssinia a treaty of amity and conciliation, agreeing to submit disputes to conciliation and arbitration.

1934, DEC. 5—An engagement took place at Wal Wal between Italian and Ethiopian troops followed by other incidents.

1935, JAN. 3.—Ethiopia appeals to the League to settle the frontier dispute with Italy.

1935, MARCH 17.—Ethiopia complains to the League about Italian mobilization and despatch of troops and war material to the Italian colonies in East Africa.

1935, APR. 15.—Ethiopia and Italy agree to appoint two arbitrators each to settle the dispute.

1935, MAY 10.—A telegram from the Ethiopian Emperor to the League denouncing Italian preparations which he reported had begun as early as September 1934.

1935, AUG. 3.—A fifth arbitrator appointed in the person of M. Nicolas Politis.

1935, SEPT. 3.—Arbitral award, to the effect that Italian agents were not responsible for Wal Wal incident and that Ethiopia was not responsible either. The incidents were thus settled.

1935, SEP. 4.—Report to the League of the meeting of the representatives of Great Britain, France and Italy to settle outstanding disputes. Italy rejects the proposal of collective assistance to Ethiopia to carry out certain reforms.

The Italian representative presents a memorandum stating that " Italy's dignity as a civilized nation would be deeply wounded were she to continue a discussion in the League on a footing of equality with Ethiopia ". Ethiopia did not satisfy certain fundamental conditions—" it must have a stable government, an effective political and administrative organization and well-defined frontiers ". The Ethiopian representative expressed his surprise at this indictment and asked: " The question is whether, in a few days, ' war of extermination will be opened."
(Italy, it may be noted, supported Ethiopia's entry into the League.)

1935, SEP. 5.—Ethiopia requests for the application of Article 15 of the Covenant.

1935, SEP. 18.—Committee of five appointed by the Council reported on the desirability of international assistance to Ethiopia and recognition of the independence and integrity of Ethiopia. Ethiopia accepts, while Italy rejects this solution.

1935, SEP. 29.—Emperor of Abyssinia orders general mobilisation after reporting to the League the previous day about the despatch of Italian reinforcements and other preparations.

1935, OCT. 2.—The Emperor of Ethiopia reports to the Council that Italian troops had violated the frontier in the region south of Mount Mussa Alli, Italy replying the next day that no frontier had been delimited and that no military movement had taken place.
Italian mobilization.

1935, OCT. 3.—Italy declares war on Abyssinia. Adowa and Adigrat bombed. Italy informs Council that she had found itself obliged to take the necessary measures of defence.

1935, OCT. 6.—Adowa captured.

1935, OCT. 7 TO 9.—League Assembly and League Council declare Italy the aggressor.

1935, OCT. 11 TO 19.—League Committee adopts proposals for sanctions against Italy.

1935, Nov. 2.—League decides to enforce sanctions on Nov. 18.

1935, NOV. 11.—Italy protests against sanctions.

1935, NOV. 16.—General de Bono recalled and Marshal Badoglio appointed Commander-in-Chief.

1935, NOV. 18.—Sanctions against Italy come into force.

1935, NOV. 30.—Italy notifies that she would consider oil sanction as an " unfriendly act."

1935, DEC. 6.—The open town of Dessil bombed by Italians.

1935, DEC. 9.—Hoare-Laval Plan published. (This plan, negotiated in Paris by Sir Samuel Hoare and M. Laval offered

Italy a large slice of Abyssinia and economic control over a very large area, in return for cessation of hostilities. This was rejected by both Italy and Abyssinia and was repudiated by the British Cabinet as a result of which Sir Samuel Hoare resigned, his place of Foreign Secretary being taken by Anthony Eden. This publication imperilled American co-operation in oil sanctions.)

1935, DEC. 19.—League Council rejects the Hoare-Laval Plan.

1936, JAN. 12.—General Graziani begins offensive in South Abyssinia.

1936, FEB. 12.—Technical Committee appointed by the League Council reports that Italy had stocks of oil which would make oil embargo ineffective for three to four months and a half and that U.S.A. co-operation was an essential requisite.

1936, FEB. 16 TO 19.—Abyssinians defeated at Enderta. Amba Aradam captured.

1936, FEB. 28.—Amba Alaji falls.

1936, MAR. 2.—Ras Kassa defeated in the Tembien.

1936, MARCH 10.—Oil sanction proposals finally given up following the furore caused by the German occupation of the Rhineland.

1936, MAR. 29.—Italians advance on all fronts.

1936, APR. 1.—The Emperor's army sustains a crushing blow at Kworam. A few days later the Emperor escapes to Djibouti and thence to Palestine.

1936, APR. 28.—A plaintive appeal for help by the Emperor.

1936, MAY. 5.—Italian occupation of Addis Ababa and end of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict.

1936, MAY 15.—Italy notifies the powers of the annexation of Abyssinia followed a few days later by the creation of an Italian Empire.

1936, JUNE 1.—Mussolini issues a proclamation forming an Italian East African Empire under a Governor-General, with Adids Ababa as capital. The five subsidiary governments are to be Eritrea, Somaliland, Ambara, Galla and Sidamo and Harar. Plans published for the emigration of 4 to 5 millions to Abyssinia in ten years.

1936, JUNE 30.—Emperor finally appeals to the League.

MYOPIA IN EIRE

If one can understand the disinclination of the Free State to permit the presence of Southern Ireland of British troops, it is more difficult to comprehend the shortsightedness of the leaders of Eire in refusing bases on the western coast to the British Admiralty. No one will maintain, on the basis of the historical record, that the activities of the British in Ireland have invariably been motivated by a disinterested paternalism. Yet the most elementary logic argues that as between Britain and Germany, Eire can have but one choice if she sincerely desires survival of her peresent independence. Furthermore, it may also be argued with reason that if she does not soon make the choice of intelligence and self-interest, she may not have the opportunity of making any decision. The Nazis' U-boat campaign is accelerating; and in some weeks, recently, British freighter losses have exceeded those at the peak of the submarine warfare in the last war. Eire is by no means self-sufficient; she cannot survive, any more than can Northern Ireland, without her imports and re-imports from England. Recent days have disclosed that once again the Germans are concentrating their U-boat and raider campaign in mid-Atlantic, and between 100 and 500 miles west of the Irish coast. The danger to Eire is even greater than the menace to Britain, for the latter at least has weapons to continue the war, and Southern Ireland has none—save the indomitable spirit of her people, unfortunately no longer a highly effective weapon in this era of mechanisation.

As Mr. Churchill explained last month in the House of Commons, the British Navy needs bases closer than its own ports to the Atlantic areas where the Nazis are lying in wait for British convoys.

Eire could not be in a more exposed and defenceless position. If Mr. De Valera does not soon persuade his people that the crassest self-interest, at this time, demand that the British Navy be given access to whatever Southern Ireland bases the Admiralty deems vital (primarily Queenstown, Berehaven and Loughswilly), the time may not be distant when the British may be forced to pre-empt them. For the future relations between Southern Ireland and Britain, such an act of force would be calamitous. It must be plain to leaders of Eire, if the cables are to be believed, that the British Government is ready to give Southern Ireland whatever guarantees it can —paper guarantees, that is true. Nevertheless, as between such guarantees, and the imminent threat of literal starvation and a Nazi invasion, horse sense would dictate Eire's immediate offer of these bases to Britain—*The Living Age*.

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page 6*)

as it was effective in subjugating Abyssinia, Mussolini did not care to examine its humanity. The reconquest of Abyssinia for the Emperor Haile Selassie must be a matter of difficulty and take some time, but all right-minded people would welcome him back to the throne. A diary of the events relating to Abyssinia in the years 1935–36 will be found elsewhere.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Mediterranean Muddle

While the Italian raido is at last admitting to its own people that the African situation is becoming increasingly serious, its Berlin counterpart still tells the outside world that General Wavell's Libyan victories do not matter at all, and that the real issue will be decided nearer Britain. In this latter contention, Nazi propagandists are merely echoing (without acknowledgment) Mr. Churchill and the other British leaders, but Berlin's attempts to minimize Italy's progressive loss of Libyan territory and bases do not square with earlier Fascist boasts that the Libyan coast was nothing less than Italy's "fourth shore".

Thus the Nazi commentator, Scrutator, inquires with heavy sarcasm (January 22): "What is the difference whether Australian infantry and tanks are camping out in the Egyptian desert or in the sand-hills round Sidi Barrani and Tobruk?". Scrutator would like the world to forget that Sidi Barrani is the point from which a great Axis drive to the Suez Canal was to have begun—but didn't —and Tobruk (like Bardia, that "bastion of Fascism itself") was until recently a strong Italian fort and naval base. Moreover, it matters very much to the Axis that 100,000 Italian soldiers should no longer be in Sidi Barrani or Tobruk, but in Egyptian and Indian concentration-camps.

Explaining Defeat

Axis comments on Italy's retreat in the more southerly African sector are equally inept. Thus the Berlin wireless, on January 23, quotes the diplomatic correspondent of the Italian Stefani agency as explaining that Kassala was "voluntarily evacuated by the Italians in order to enable them to prepare more successfully the line of defence which has been chosen by the Italian High Command".

As the Italians are still in full flight through Eritrea, the inference is that their High Command has not yet had time to choose this more successful line of defence.

Labour in Britain—

Lord Haw-Haw gets more and more infuriated as he realizes how firm is the determination of the British working man to defeat Hitler and his evil tribe. Naturally, Haw-Haw's spite vents itself especially upon such great workers' leaders as Mr. Ernest Bevin, who as Minister of Labour is playing an increasing part in Britain's war against Hitlerism.

On January 22, he accuses Mr. Bevin of trying to imitate National Socialism by the introduction into Britain of certain measures of labour compulsion—naively adding, however, that "it would be quite inaccurate to say that there has been compulsion of labour in German." Haw-Haw goes on to admit that German labour has been thoroughly controlled from the outset of the war, "but with the fullest regard for the rights and privileges of the workers."

—in Germany

Just what results Hitler's hounding of German workers has achieved are best told, not by opponents of his regime who have escaped from Germany, but in the cautious words of one of his own high Nazi officials, the president of the Reich Health Administration, who wrote in 1939:

"The extensive introduction of working shifts and the loosening up of the system of safeguarding labour hours through overtime and Sunday work in many enterprises are creating conditions prejudicial to the health of the workers. . . We already hear from the medical profession expressions of concern regarding the decline in health conditions, and the frequent occurrence of general nervous disturbances or of disorders of the digestive system. They raise the question whether the demands being made on the human working capacity have not in some cases exceeded the permissible limit."

So much for Hitler's "fullest regard for the rights and privileges of the workers." And here is a footnote to this inside exposure of German labour conditions; it is a sentence from the *Monthly Bulletin of the National Socialist Party*, volume 4, part 13, 1939, and it reads: "A model factory in the central German industrial area organizes for work a number of men who, already in their 75th year, are still capable of productive labour."

—and in Holland

Berlin on January 21 says that, on a tour of inspection in Holland, "a German official was told by numerous managers of Dutch factories that work was so abundant that there was no unemployment at all."

The Nazi "New Order" in Holland is based on the deindustrialisation of the country and the deportation of labour to Germany.

Unemployed workers in Holland have the option of being deprived of their ration cards and unemployment relief money, or going to work in Germany.

Already more than 30,000 Dutch workers have accepted deportation to the Reich under this starvation threat.

Maritime Make-Believe

We are informed by Rome (January 22nd) that "according to statistics compiled by experts", Britain has lost 16 light and heavy cruisers since the beginning of the war. "Twelve of these cruisers have been destroyed by the Germans and four by the Italians", says Rome modestly.

The experts remain unidentified; and the only thing at which they can justly claim to be expert is the art of make-believe.

By the end of August, 1940, these same Axis experts had already "sunk" 83 British cruisers, although that figure represented 135 per cent of our existing cruiser strength!

Admiralty communiques have reported all British naval losses as they have occurred. So far, enemy action has resulted in the loss of four cruisers and eleven armed auxiliary cruisers. The distinction is marked. Whereas

naval cruisers are designed specifically as warships, armed auxiliary cruisers are converted merchant ships. In peace-time they carry passengers and freight and have neither armour-plate nor guns, while in wartime they are fitted with a few four-inch guns and used as convoy escort vessels to relieve the over-worked destroyer fleet. By contrast, vessels in a class with the *Southampton* (one of the four naval cruisers sunk) carry 40 guns, 6 torpedo tubes and 3 aircraft, as well as 4-inch armour plate on their hulls.

The former passenger liners *Rawalpindi*, *Jervis Bay* and *Carnarvon Castle*, are among the armed auxiliary cruisers which have distinguished themselves in action against German warships.

Guilty Conscience?

Still trying to prove that the Royal Air Force, not the *Luftwaffe*, introduced the policy of indiscriminate bombing, the Nazi radio reports in both Hindustani and English the "discovery" in Poland of secret documents of the French High Command.

One of the documents, purporting to be a French general's description of German air raids on Poland, says: "German planes attacked only military objectives and did not even touch civilians' houses."

Broadcasting at the time of the capitulation of the city, the Mayor of Warsaw declared that only the fact that every one of the 50 hospitals in the capital had been destroyed, that fires were raging throughout the city and that, owing to the destruction of sewers and water mains, serious epidemics threatened, had induced the authorities to surrender.

The Berlin correspondent of the Danish paper *Politiken*, who arrived in Warsaw shortly afterwards, reported that there were fires everywhere, all the railway stations were destroyed, all Government buildings were in ruins.

In Praga, the working-class quarter of the city, not one stone stood upon another.

Off the Target

"Britain", says Berlin (January 26), "has failed to find any effective defence against air attacks on her industrial centres."

Ben Robertson, London correspondent of the New York paper *P.M.*, declared, on his return to America last week, that German bombers had done comparatively little damage to British industry.

"The Coventry story", he said, "was censored, but not because of the amount of damage. It was censored because of the *lack* of damage. Coventry was in need of a breathing spell. The British knew that, if they told the world that the factories were still running, the Germans would probably come over again at once and have another try.....

"They have since damaged shopping districts in Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol, Cardiff and Southampton, but British factories are safe in more secure suburbs."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

German Distortions

On January 22, the Nazi radio gave in Hindustani an absurdly garbled version of Lord Chatfield's broadcast of the previous day. This is what Lord Chatfield was made to say: "Were it possible for aerial warfare to decide the war, then taking into consideration past events it would be very difficult for the British Empire to survive.".

The following, however, is what he actually said: "The outstanding lesson of this war is that ships can still command the sea, and in my opinion they will ever do so, for fundamental reasons.....Our Empire is a sound affair, and it is not going to perish from air attacks so long as its sons remain true to the type of those who created it."

The Italian radio is seldom willing to be outdone by its Nazi counterpart. In its Arabic broadcast of January 22, Lord Chatfield is further "quoted" as saying that the *Southampton* was the first big naval unit sunk by the enemy. Actually, he had said that the *Southampton* was the first large ship sunk as the result of an air attack since the war started.

Germans on Freedom of the Press

On January 24, the Berlin radio sanctimoniously announced that the suppression of the London newspaper *Daily Worker* constituted "a violation of the democratic principle of the Freedom of the Press." It is something new for the Nazis to lament an assault on democratic principles, for the freedom of the press ended in Germany when Hitler came to power.

In "Mein Kamp," the Fuehrer had something to say about the Marxist Press, a category which includes the *Daily Worker*. He wrote: "To them the spreading of falsehood is as much a vital necessity as the mouse is to a cat. Their sole task is to break the national backbone of the people."

The British attitude on this question was elucidated by the Socialist leader Mr. Herbert Morrison, who, when addressing the House of Commons on January 22, said that it was his firm conviction that the freedom of the Press should be maintained even at the risk that it might sometimes be abused. But there was a wide difference between accepting such occasional risks and allowing continuous publication of newspapers whose deliberate purpose was to weaken the will of the people to achieve victory. Before the Government took action there had been a long period of forbearance.

Nazi reactions to Britain's dwindling shipping-losses

On January 20, the German radio notes Sir Arthur Salter's candid statement to the effect that Britain's average weekly shipping losses since June 1940 have been 90,000 tons, and goes on to state that the actual shipping losses have been three times as much. This is a typical Nazi generalization—meaningless and impossible to prove.

It is also an indication of their chagrin at the substantial drop in shipping losses during the weeks ending December 30, 1940, and January 5 and January 12, 1941, when they amounted to only 18,208 tons, 14,687 tons and 30,226 tons respectively.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 7 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, Feb. 15, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

7th Feb.—In Eritrea the situation around Keren is developing satisfactorily. In Abyssinia the British advance along the Gondar road is progressing and British patrols are penetrating along the whole front of Italian Somaliland.

Fighting in Albania continues. It appears that Italian resistance is somewhat firmer.

The British destroyer *Vanity* has shot down a German bomber which attempted to attack a convoy.

It is reported that Mr. Matsuoka will preside over the opening meeting of the Peace Conference between Thailand and Indo-China.

Royal Air Force bombers attack Boulogne, Dunkirk, Calais and Ostend.

Enemy aircraft raid Malta. No damage is reported.

Air activity over Great Britain. Bombs dropped on a town in Scotland and East Anglia. Some damage was done and there were a number of casualties.

8th Feb.—The British armoured column has now reached the coast between Soluk and Agenka. In the Keren area of Eritrea, British pressure is increasing and the British troops pursue the enemy withdrawing towards Arreza.

Italians abandon Tepelini. Fighting is concentrated near the source of the Skumbi river and Ostrovitza mountain heights. The Greeks inflict great losses on Mussolini's Blackshirt troops when they launched counter-attacks.

Compulsory Labour Service for young men on reaching the age of 20 has been introduced by the Vichy Government. The period of service is eight months. The law applies to the French Empire.

The House of Representatives passed the Lease and Lend Bill to aid Britain after a debate lasting six days. The Bill now goes to the Senate.

The House voted to limit the amount of the existing military or naval equipment which might be devoted to the programme to aid Britain to about 1,300 million dollars worth.

Lord Moyne becomes the new Secretary of State for the Colonies in succession to the late Lord Lloyd. Mr. Earnest Brown has been appointed Minister of Health and Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, at present Minister of Health, will be High Commissioner in Canada. Mr. Thomas Johnston is appointed Secretary of State for Scotland.

The Official French News Agency reports that Marshal Petain proposed that M. Laval should enter the Government as a Minister of State and a member of the committee which would direct affairs. M. Laval has, however, refused the Marshal's offer.

Royal Air Force attack enemy supply ships off the coast of Southern Norway, industrial targets at Mannheim and objectives at Rotterdam and Flushing.

Air activity over Britain. Royal Air Force fighters destroy an enemy aircraft off the South-east coast and an enemy float-plane off the South-west coast. Anti-aircraft gunners shoot down a German raider near Folkestone.

9th Feb.—El Agheila, about a hundred and forty miles south of Benghazi, has been occupied by the British armoured forces. General Berganzoli, Marshal Graziani's right-hand man in Libya, was captured at Benghazi.

Royal Air Force bomb Caleto and Maritza in Rhodes, and Asmara and Keren in Italian East Africa.

Enemy planes bomb houses and a church at Janina in Epirus. The cathedral of Sainte Sophie at Salonika was damaged. The Greek Air Force shoot down eight enemy planes. British Air Forces in Greece destroy four enemy fighters during an encounter with the enemy fighter force in the Klissura area.

The Royal Navy bombard Genoa. Royal Air Force drop bombs on military objectives at Pisa and also damage one of the largest oil plants in Italy at Leghorn.

While approaching a British convoy in the North Sea the escort vessel, *Pytchley*, shoots down an enemy aircraft.

There was slight enemy air activity over Britain. A few bombs were dropped in Yorkshire, East Anglia, Essex, the Home counties and the west of Scotland. Little damage and few casualties were caused.

The British Government have accepted the offer of the Dutch Indies Government to convert the motor-ship *Orange* into a hospital-ship and present it to the British Government for the evacuation of British casualties in the Near East.

M. Flandin, Foreign Minister in the Vichy Government, has resigned. Admiral Darlan becomes the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and remains the Navy Minister.

Mr. Wendell Willkie arrives at New York after his return journey from England.

Japanese naval aircraft bomb a suspension bridge link on the Burma Road and also military establishments and factories in Kunming.

Enemy aircraft raided Malta. A few civilians were injured. Two German aircraft were shot down.

Royal Air Force attack Antwerp docks, oil tanks at Flushing and other objectives in North-West Germany and enemy occupied territory.

10th Feb.—In Libya General Wavell's Army is pushing towards Tripoli. Lt.-General Wilson has taken over command of Cyrenaica as Military Governor and General Officer Commanding in Chief. In Eritrea the British occupy Mersa Teclai and Kardra. South African troops advance 50 miles in Southern Abyssinia in the Hobok area. The British have captured over fifteen thousand prisoners at Benghazi.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, President Roosevelt's personal representative, has concluded his mission to England and returns to United States.

Trawlers *Almond* and *Arctic Tripper* have been sunk.

Sir Reginald Hoare, the British Minister in Rumania, has been withdrawn.

In anticipation of the collapse of the Fascist regime, a Free Italy Committee has been formed in London by certain Italians there to link together all Italians who are opposed to dictatorship, to reconquer for Italy her civil liberties through a Government for the benefit of all social classes, and to prepare Italy for a place in the new order which will result from the Allied victory. The Committee has not yet obtained any official recognition.

Royal Air Force raid Valona, Calato (Rhodes), Tepelini and Duki. Boulogne, Dunkirk, Calais, Cherbourg, Ostend, Hanover and Rotterdam. Four Royal Air Force aircraft are missing.

11th Feb.—General Tellera who commanded the Tenth Italian Army in Libya died after capture from wounds received in action south of Benghazi. Battle for Keren in Eritrea is proceeding. Koufra, an important military post between Libya and Abyssinia, is reported to have been captured by the Free French Forces. South African troops occupy Todenyang and Namaraputh. Royal Air Force bomb aerodrome at Addis Ababa and raid the Keren-Asmara area.

Extensive air raids were carried out by Italian aircraft on Greek territory round Janina, Preveza, Larissa, Epirus, Candia (Crete) and Corinth regions. Italian counter-attacks in the Ostrovitza mountains and the Devoli Valley were repulsed.

Mr. Wendell Willkie, giving evidence before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, declares that Britain needs both immediate and long-term assistance and the only way the United States can help Britain quickly is to enact the Aid to Britain Bill " with modifications."

News from Bulgaria indicate German warlike operations. The Greek Legation in Sofia advises all Greek women and children to leave Bulgaria. Mr. Churchill's reference to Bulgaria in his broadcast was suppressed in the Bulgarian press.

Premier De Valera declares that if voluntary methods of evacuation do not prove satisfactory Government will have to adopt compulsion.

Royal Navy bombard the German-occupied port of Ostend and shell the Flanders coast.

Long-range guns shell the south-east coast of England.

General Franco, it is reported, has left for Italy to confer with Mussolini.

British planes attack Catania in Sicily and destroy four enemy aircraft on the ground. Royal Air Force attack Bremen, Hanover Rotterdam, shipping at Christiansund in South Norway and a sea-plane base in Jutland.

12th Feb.—British troops continue to make progress in Eritrea moving in the direction of Mersa Talai. British forces occupy El Ghena.

General Franco and Sgr. Mussolini confer at Bordighera.

The French delegation taking part in the peace talks with Thailand in Tokyo rejects a demand by Mr. Matsuoka to acknowledge officially " Japan's dominating position in Asia." Though willing to acknowledge in principle " Japan's special position in Asia " after the conclusion of peace with Thailand the delegation refuses to undertake " to give Japan all facilities " in view of possible action in Southern Asia.

A Cairo report states that Marshal Graziani, the Italian Commander-in-Chief has left North Africa for Rome.

Japanese naval aircraft bomb the Burma Road.

The Belgian districts of Eupen, Malmedy and Moresnet have been incorporated in the Reich.

There has been small air activity over Britain. Very few bombs dropped and damage was slight. An enemy bomber was destroyed.

United States' exports of oil and petrol to Japan is brought indirectly under control.

German and Italian aircraft raid Malta. No damage or casualties resulted. Conscription of manpower in Malta both for the combatant and non-combatant services is announced.

13th Feb.—Situation around Keren in Eritrea continues to develop. British advance on Arreza is progressing satisfactorily. South African troops penetrate into the Hobok area (Abyssinia).

Americans are advised to leave the Far East as a precautionary measure in view of the disturbed conditions.

According to a Shanghai message Hainan is being actively prepared by the Japanese as a base for operations southwards.

Marshal Petain and General Franco confer at Montpellier.

The Yugoslav Prime Minister and Foreign Minister leave for Germany at the invitation of the German Government.

German long range guns on the French coast open fire across the Straits of Dover.

A few enemy aircraft flying singly drop bombs at points in East Anglia and North Scotland. Damage caused is slight.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 4th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 29, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Wilhelmshaven ; other targets in N. W. Germany.	Nil.	..
January 30, Thursday.	(No reports.)		
January 31, Friday.	(No reports.)		
February 1, Saturday.	R.A.F. reconnaissance raids over occupied coasts and coastal waters. R.A.F. night bomber raids on invasion bases at Ostend, Boulogne, Brest.	2	.
February 2, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber and fighter " sweeps " over Straits of Dover and N. W. France, with raids on docks and barges at Boulogne and aerodromes at Ostend and Brest. R.A.F. night bomber raids on objectives in N. W. France.	1	4
February 3, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on invasion base at Brest; other objectives in N.W. France.	1	..
February 4, Tuesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Dusseldorf (industrial works, railway junction, aerodrome); invasion bases at Cherbourg (naval base, repair yards), Brest, Dunkirk, Dieppe, Ostend ; aerodromes at Vannes and other centres in occupied France.	4	2

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 4th February 1941 :—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 29	Nil.	..
January 30	Nil.	1
January 31	Nil.	2
February 1	Nil.	..
February 2	Nil.	..
February 3	Nil.	1
February 4	Nil.	4

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The march of 150 miles in a week, surprise attack on the retreating Italian soldiers, the capture of Benghazi, not a shot being fired, the surrender of 15,000 Italian troops, these constitute a glorious chapter in the war which will long be remembered. Accounts of this marvellous feat of arms are coming in; the capture of El Agheila, south of Benghazi, and the prospective drive to Tripoli eastward are other features of the situation pregnant with possibilities. Remarkable as has been the capture of Benghazi, it is a mere episode in the series of operations in North Africa. The remaining 5 or 6 divisions of the Italian army when they reach Tripoli, if at all, will not be an army but a mere rabble. Another British triumph, this time on the sea, has been recorded early on Sunday, the 9th Feb. and this was the shelling of Genoa, the lovely Italian town of great industrial and military importance, by a fleet consisting of the battle-cruiser "Renown", the battleship "Malaya", which the Rome radio said was undergoing repairs, the air-craft carrier "Ark Royal", which, according to Lord Haw Haw, has been sunk several times, and the cruiser "Sheffield." This was referred to by Mr. Winston Churchill in his great speech on Sunday last and the importance of this enterprise is the subject of a separate note below.

To add to the discomfiture of Hitler, Marshal Petain has so far refused to go an inch beyond the Armistice terms, because to do so would compromise his honour. His offer to take M. Laval as a Minister of State and a Member of the Committee which would direct the affairs in France has been rejected with the result that Admiral Darlan has been appointed as Vice-Premier and the man who will succeed Marshal Petain if he become unable to perform his duties.

These striking developments account for the meeting of General Franco with Mussolini on the Italian Riviera on Tuesday last. There are wild speculations about the outcome of this meeting, but it is perfectly plain that Hitler is trying to fall back upon General Franco, having found Marshal Petain a stiff proposition. Franco has also had long conversations with his friend Marshal Petain on his way back.

Hitler is also fomenting trouble in the Balkans. Great Britain is withdrawing its representative in Rumania on the ground that it has allowed Germany to bring an expeditionary force. Rumania is also withdrawing its representative from Great Britain. What will Bulgaria do is the question that is being asked all over the world. Will it be able to resist the pressure of Germany? Or will it succumb as Rumania has done and allow Hitler to put it into his pocket as he has done Hungary? And what about Yugoslavia, whose Prime Minister and Foreign Minister saw Hitler yesterday (Friday) ?

These and other points were dealt with by Mr. Winston Churchill in his broadcast speech on Sunday last, a speech which has obviously confounded the Axis Powers, brought confidence to the British public and made America feel that she should react quickly and be generous. "Give us tools and we will finish the job" was the British Premier's clarion call and Mr. Wendell Willkie, in his evidence before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, urged that it was advantageous to the United States as well as to Great Britain and the Democracies that that call should be responded to without any delay—call for ships, bombers and destroyers.

FRANCE'S RESISTANCE

All the threats and manoeuvres of Hitler in regard to France have so far failed. The recent launching of a German-inspired French political party in Paris, as a potential rival to the Vichy Government, has ignominiously failed in effect. Blackmail and extortion have failed and if Hitler has dropped Laval, it is not the first time that he has forsaken his friends and associates in evil. Hitler would not need French collaboration at all if he did not realize the extent of Mussolini's stupendous failure under the British hammer-blows and if he is not afraid that American aid to Britain is on the point of flowing in ever more largely than before. It is also clear at the same time that these very factors have emboldened the Vichy Government to refuse to collaborate with Germany in military matters. It is a significant fact that German-controlled newspapers in occupied France complain that General Weygand has been invested with full powers in the French Overseas Empire and it is believed that General Weygand as well as the French fleet received some weeks ago sealed orders, the precise nature of which is not known. But it is not difficult to guess that they were evidently intended to instruct the authorities concerned as to what to do in the event of matters coming to a crisis. Vichy's final refusal to collaborate, may possibly be followed by a Nazi descent on unoccupied France and by an attempt to seize the French warships and the North African bases. In that case unoccupied France would of course not be able to resist, but the French fleet and the French garrison and population in North Africa might well be expected to offer resistance and General Weygand would play an important part in any developments arising out of actual physical pressure exerted by Germans against France. In this case also British reaction to any contingency may fairly be expected to be prompt and far-reaching.

FRANCO-MUSSOLINI MEETING

The meeting between General Franco and Mussolini on Wednesday last in which the latter has probably played the part of a petitioner, instigated thereto by Hitler, has not been followed by any quick results, perhaps because Franco has been unable to promise the junior partner of the Axis any decisive help. A few days must elapse before the mystery is unravelled. The official communique that the identity of Italian and Spanish view-points concerning European problems and those which, at the present moment, are of interest to both countries was stressed at the conference which lasted morning and afternoon, is very vague. It is reported that Franco may be playing the part of a mediator between victorious Britain and vanquished Italy. This is not worthy of much credence, especially because Hitler will not allow Italy to make a separate peace with England. It is also stated that Mussolini desires that his armies in Libya should be allowed a safe passage into Spain. That means that the Italian Dictator foresees the complete collapse of his Empire in Libya in a very short time. It was in 1911 that Mussolini counselled his country not to enter into the Libyan campaign and it is a tragic turn of circumstances that, what he fought against three decades ago, should now be brought about by his own folly. Whatever that may be, such transport of troops would necessarily mean that the Italian Navy would have to come out of its hiding place and that will be a signal for the British Navy to show its fangs. Another report which is current is that Mussolini has begged General Franco, because of his Latin sympathies and the help which he received from Italy in the Spanish Civil War, to allow German troops to pass through Gibraltar, the narrowest point in the Mediterranean, in order to attack the British in East Libya. That of course is a contingency. But the question is whether, when Spain so much desires peace and food, she would involve herself in a fresh struggle the end of which no one can foretell.

THE BALKANS

Mr. Winston Churchill made a marked reference to the position in Bulgaria and told the South-Eastern countries in Europe that their only safeguard lay in their presenting a united front. It is stated that there are 20 German divisions ready to march into Bulgaria. In Bulgaria itself there are many aerodromes which are now stated to be in the hands of Germans and constant pressure is being brought to bear upon that country to join the Axis. A large number of Germans in the guise of tourists have also entered Bulgaria. These measures should have been taken with the connivance of the Government, forgetful of the fate which overtook her when she allied herself with Germany in the last war. Bulgaria has been, it is said, asking Turkey not to consider German troops passing through that country as an unfriendly act, while Turkey, which has an efficient army in Thrace, is telling Bulgaria very plainly that any such act would compel her to fulfil her obligations to Greece and to Great Britain. Events are bound to take a decisive turn in that quarter of Europe very soon.

JAPAN

Not content with these manœvres Hitler is trying to involve Japan in the war by making a simultaneous move against Great Britain in the East when he himself invades England or attacks Great Britain in North Africa or makes a drive through Bulgaria in order to close the eastern end of the Mediterranean. A new National Association has been formed in Japan consisting of representatives of various parties. This party has issued a manifesto warning the United States of America in regard to what it calls its arrogant attempt to interfere with Japan's national policies and to violate Japan's living space. It has called upon Prince Konoye, the Prime Minister, to suppress democratic and Communist ideas and to prepare the country against all eventualities. All the world knows that Germany is trying to use Japan as a means of intimidating American opinion before the United States of America sends increased supplies to Great Britain, and doubts whether Japan would consent to be a party to these manœuvres, when its hands are full with the China affair. President Roosevelt made a statement in the course of this week that he does not anticipate any trouble in the Pacific and that, if there should be any development in that part of the world, American supplies to Great Britain will not decrease on that account. The situation, to all appearances, appears to be threatening. Americans have again been advised to leave the Far East and Washington reports suggest that disturbed conditions exist there. The Acting Prime Minister of Australia and the Labour Leader Mr. Curtin have issued a joint statement saying that in the considered opinion of the War Council the war had moved into a new stage involving the utmost gravity and that the greatest effort of preparedness was essential. Despite these threats it is not unsafe to assume that Japan is not likely to take steps which are likely to lead her to war. There are various parties and cliques in Japan which are divided in regard to economic, political and foreign policies. Some are for an agreement with Russia and pushing ahead with the southward advance to Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies and Burma. These are "Radicals." There are "Reactionaries" who would not have anything to do with Russia. It is also a fact that there is apprehension that the Axis' partnership has not resulted in any tangible results for Japan. There is reason to believe that Germany has again changed her tactics and is now using Japanese hostility as a means of making Russia more malleable in the West. There is a section of opinion which thinks that it is no use for Japan to be content with military preparations, but that it should try to solve international difficulties by diplomacy regard

being had to the fact that the British navy is supreme and that the United States of America has decided to help Great Britain. In these circumstances, it is probable that Japan will continue for the present to avoid direct action either with the British Empire and its Allies or with the United States, and the official United States policy is very probably like that of Britain—to go slow on minor issues.

This conclusion is supported by the fact that the French delegation taking part in the peace talks with Thailand in Tokyo is reported to have rejected a demand by Mr. Matsuoka, that it should acknowledge Japanese dominating position in Asia and a statement issued by the official Dutch circles regarding the distinction drawn by the Japanese press and propaganda agencies between the Government of the Netherlands East Indies and the French-Dutch Government in London. The Dutch Minister in Tokyo has made it absolutely clear that the conduct of foreign relations of the Netherlands East Indies rests solely with the Central Government in London, the Governor-General of the Netherlands Indies being the representative there of the Crown. It is likely that Japan will try a hard bargain with Indo-China and secure some bases for her navy and for her air force. Should Japan pursue a forward policy then there are British forces in Singapore and Malaya ready for any contingency. The Air Force in Malaya has been considerably strengthened by squadrons from Singapore. However, Australia and New Zealand are ready to resist any violent changes in the *status quo* in the Far East, an object the recognition of which by Japan, as is well known, is being insisted upon by America.

GENOA

If one fact has been brought into prominence more than another by the shelling of Genoa by the British war ships on Sunday last, it is that the British Navy is supreme and that the navy is much more important than Air Force, however efficient and up-to-date this may be. Italians thought Genoa was fool-proof, and that is why perhaps no Italian warships were found in the vicinity. Genoa is a sea-port and a naval base of Italy; many of her famous warships and submarines have been built there. It is a beautiful city. It has a large naval construction yard and the British unit has been able to sail to the place 900 miles from its base and fling 300 tons of shells on various targets like factories, plants, power-stations, etc., without meeting any patrolling ships or aircraft or U-boats. Mine fields and shore batteries were of no use. This proves beyond any possibility of doubt that sea power is superior to air power in spite of Goering's boasts. The surprise attack on Genoa has had the result of spoiling Hitler's project of making Genoa a base of attack on Bizerta, as Mr. Churchill pointed out in his speech. Lieut.-Commander Thomas Woodroffe has described this operation as a psychological triumph, which has made the Italians, who have already come to the conclusion that their Empire was in jeopardy, also feel that even their motherland was not safe. Further examples of the superiority of sea power will be found in the fall of Eritrea, Somaliland and Abyssinia as withered branches from a tree because no reinforcements have reached those Italian colonies, on account of Britain's supremacy on the sea which holds the key to the Red Sea. The operations in Libya afford another example of the same truth. Sollum, Bordia, Tobruk and Benghazi have all fallen one by one because of the immeasurable strength and great assistance of the British Navy. Benghazi was built in 1935 as a fine harbour which can dock cruisers, destroyers and medium-size warships. It is only 400 miles from Sicily, while a distance of 800 miles separated it from Alexandria. Supplies to Greece can now go regularly without much opposition. Vast supplies are now pouring into Britain from all over the globe and from there they are being taken by sea to wherever they may be required and that is because of Great Britain's naval supremacy.

HITLER AGAIN

(HIS SPEECH ANALYSED.)

Using the very phrases of previous tirades (" they spat at me ", " not a window-pane was broken ", etc., etc.), Hitler on January 30 celebrated the eighth anniversary of the Nazi seizure of power with another immensely long speech.

This speech was obviously designed to encourage the German working class. The reference to Britain as being socially the most backward state in Europe was intended to counteract the increasing hold which the British New Order for Europe and the world is having on the general public of all countries against Hitler's New Order. The Fuhrer's claim that he converted Germany by persuasion and that he achieved his position democratically and it rested on a popular mandate is an unconscious tribute to the system of Government he has spared no pains to denounce. Hitler's speeches provide a marked contrast, by reason of their rating and vulgarity, to the utterances of Messrs. Churchill and Roosevelt.

He ranted once more of the " injustice of Versailles ". But he did not mention that in addition to plundering France of foodstuffs he is forcing from her 20 million Reichsmarks a day for the upkeep of his armies—three times as much the Germans ever had to pay under the Dawes plan.

He returned to his favourite charge that Britain had refused his hand of friendship and his offers of peace. But he did not mention that at Munich Britain took him at his word and that the world is at war because he broke his word.

Hitler's speech of January 30 may well be considered, thinks Rome, " one of the Fuehrer's best, if not the best "—a tribute which would convey more if these periodical tirades were not almost exactly similar to each other. Of his vocal achievements Hitler himself said in the *Sportpalast* last Thursday: " I talked as much as any human being can ";

His struggle for the " consequent of the German nation ", Hitler declared, had been won by reason and persuasion. On another occasion (the 1936 Party Congress at Nuremberg) he put it in a different way: " Propaganda brought us into power, propaganda has since enabled us to remain in power, and propaganda will give us the means of conquering the world."

Propaganda presumably covers the wanton burning of the Reichstag and the subsequent mock-trial. Perhaps " persuasion " is intended to include the horrors of the concentration camp, the 196 murders of political opponents actually admitted by the Nazis between February and August 1933, and the infamous "Night of the Long Knives " (June 30, 1934) when over 300 " executions " took place of which Hitler publicly announced 77.

As Goering frankly observed at Frankfort on March 3, 1933; " It have not to dispense justice, but to destroy and exterminate ".

The nightmare of Germany's defeat in the last war is ever present in German minds, and Hitler invariably harks back to it. This time he accused not only Churchill of responsibility for the outbreak of that war (when Hitler, according to *Mein Kampf*, fell on his knees and thanked heaven from an overflowing heart) but also Halifax, Eden, Duff Cooper and Hore-Belisha—none of whom, of course, was in office at that time. Of German responsibility, he said, there could be no question —a somewhat ambiguous statement for which he quotes the authority of President Roosevelt. Again we turn to *Mein Kampf*, to find: " It was a fundamental mistake to discuss the question of who was responsible for the outbreak of war, and to declare that the sole responsibility could not be attributed to Germany. The sole responsibility should have been laid on the shoulders of the enemy, without any discussion whatever ".

So much for 1914. In dealing with 1918, Hitler this time made a slip, remarkable when one remembers how many times he has played this part. Early in his speech he referred to the " political, moral and military collapse of Germany ", and later had to correct himself with the familiar slogan: " We were never defeated in the last war."

The simple truth is that Germany, in 1918, was defeated in the field. Weakened by their losses in 1916 and 1917, the Germans lost during the final " Battles of the Hundred Days " at least one-quarter of their remaining troops by capture or desertion, and another quarter in killed or wounded; strategically, they had been driven back behind their last prepared line of defence, and had been so outmanœuvred that their line of retreat was cut in two by the Ardennes and their lateral communications hopelessly blocked. They submitted to an Armistice in order to avoid complete annihilation. The naval mutinies, the military revolts and the revolution at home came *after*, and not *before*, the defeat of the German Army in the field.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST SPEECH

FOURTEEN POINTS TO REMEMBER

The following are a few points from Mr. Churchill's great broadcast speech on Sunday, the 9th February last:—

1. " We have stood our ground and have faced two Dictators in the hour of what seemed their overwhelming triumph and we have shown ourselves capable so far, of standing up against them alone."

2. " After the heavy defeats of the German Air Force by our fighters in August and September, Hitler did not dare to attempt an invasion of this island although he had the need to do so and had made vast preparations. Baffled in this mighty project, he sought to break the spirit of the British nation by bombing first London and afterwards our great cities. It has now been proved to the admiration of the world and our friends in the United States that this form of blackmail by murder and terrorism, so far from weakening the spirit of the British nation, has only roused it to a more intense universal flame than was seen ever before in any modern community."

3. " All through these dark winter months, the enemy has had the power to drop three or four tons of bombs upon us for every ton we could send to Germany in return. We are arranging so that, presently, this will be rather the other way round."

4. " We have broken the back of Winter; day-light grows; the R.A.F. grows and is already certainly master of daylight air. The attacks may be sharper but they will be shorter. There will be more opportunities for work and service of all kinds. So, if our first victory was the repulse of the invader, our second was the frustration of his acts of horror and torture against our people at home."

5. " Meanwhile abroad, in Africa, a wounderful thing has happened. One of the two Dictators, the crafty, cold-blooded, black-hearted Italian who had sought to gain an Empire in the cheap by stabbing fallen France in the back has got into trouble."

6. " Without the slightest provocation, spurred on by lust for power and brutish greed, Mussolini attacked and invaded Greece only to be hurled back ignominiously by the

heroic Greek Army who have revived before our eyes the glories that, from a classic age, have gilded their native land."

7. "There began that series of victories in Libya which have broken irretrievably the Italian military power in the African continent. Here then in Libya is the third considerable event upon which we may dwell with some satisfaction."

8. "General Wavell, our able leader, and all the allied ardent men, British, Australian and Indian, of the Imperial Army saw their opportunity. At that time, I ventured to draw General Wavell's attention to the gospel saying mentioned at the seventh verse, where, as you all know, or ought to know, it is written "Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. The Army of the Nile has asked and it was given. They sought and has been opened to them. In a campaign of barely eight weeks, which should long be studied as a model of military art, an advance of over 400 miles has been made."

9. "It is right that the Italian people should be made to feel the sorry plight into which they have been led by Mussolini. If the cannonade of Genoa rolling along the coast and reverberating in the mountains has reached the ears of our French companions in their sorrow and misery, it may fill them with the feeling that friends, active friends, are near and that Britannia rules the waves. Events like these are only part of the story of the fall of an Empire that will not take a future Gibbon so long to write as an original work."

10. "Of course, if all the peoples of South Eastern Europe stood together, they would, aided by Britain and Turkey, be able to hold on for several months before a German Army and Air Force in sufficient strength could be assembled to overcome those States. Much might happen in those months, and I am certain much will happen. Nothing is more certain than that if South-Eastern States of Europe allowed themselves to be dealt with piecemeal, they would fall to pieces one by one and they would share the fate of Denmark, Holland, Belgium and Norway and none could tell how long it would be before their day of deliverance came."

11. "An Italian Quisling called Mussolini and a French Quisling called Laval, both in their different ways, are trying to make their countries vassals of Hitler and his New Order so as to enable the Nazis and their Gestapo to enforce their rule upon their fellow-countrymen."

12. "We do not need the gallant armies which are now being formed throughout the American Union. We do not need them this year, the next year or, as far as I am concerned, for any year, but we do need most urgently a supply of war materials and technical apparatus of all kinds. We need them here and we need to bring them here. We shall need a great mass of shipping in 1942, far more than we can build ourselves, if we are to maintain and expand our war effort in the West and the East."

13. "We are far stronger than ever before, incomparably stronger than in July, August and September. Our Navy is more powerful, our flotillas more numerous; we are far stronger actually and relatively in the air above these Islands than when our fighters beat off and beat down the Nazi attack last autumn. Our Army is more numerous, more mobile, far better equipped and trained than in September and still more than in July, and I have the greatest confidence in our Commander-in-Chief, General Brooke, and in Generals of proved ability, who under him guard the different quarters of our land, but most of all I put my faith in the simple effective resolve to conquer or die which will animate nearly four million Britons with serviceable weapons in their hands."

14. "What is the answer I shall give in your name to this great man, the thrice-chosen head of a nation of 130 millions? Here is the answer, I shall give to President Roosevelt: 'Put your confidence in us. Give us your faith and your blessing and under Providence all will be well. We shall not fail or falter. We shall not weaken or tire. Neither the sudden shock of battle, nor the long drawn trials of vigilance and exertion will wear us down. Give us the tools and we will finish the job."

INVASION PROSPECTS

CHURCHILL ON INVASION

"Hitler knows that he must break us in this island or lose the war".—*House of Commons, June* 18, 1940.

"We await undismayed the impending assault. Perhaps it will come tonight. Perhaps it will come next week. Perhaps it will never come . . . But be the ordeal sharp or long, or both, we shall seek no terms, we shall tolerate no parley. We may show mercy, we shall ask for none."—*House of Commons, July* 14, 1940.

"I do not agree with those who assume that after September 15 or whatever is Hitler's latest date, we shall be free from the menace of a deadly attack from overseas."—*House of Commons, September* 5, 1940.

"We must expect that Hitler will make an attempt at what he judges to be the best opportunity."—*House of Commons, September* 19, 1940.

"Our air force is more than holding its own and we are waiting for the long-promised invasion—so are the fishes"—*Broadcast to the French people, October* 21, 1940.

"We have confidence that we shall be able to give a good account of ourselves when the invading forces fall upon us."—*House of Commons, November* 21, 1940.

"It is certain that if Hitler found the invasion of this island difficult in July he found it most difficult in September, and it will not have become easier by February, March or April. But the price of safety is eternal vigilance."—*Speech at Glasgow, January* 18, 1941.

Dealing fully with "the greatest issue", Mr. Churchill recalled Sir John Dill's warning on 8th February 1941, that Hitler might be forced by strategic, economic and political stress in Europe to try to invade the British Isles in the near future and said that that warning nobody could disregard. "This is a truly mortal struggle and we are working night and day to have everything ready. Of course, we are far stronger than ever before, incomparably stronger than in July, August and September. Our Navy is more powerful, our flotillas more numerous; we are far stronger actually and relatively in the air above these Islands than when our fighters beat off and beat down the Nazi attack last autumn. Our Army is more numerous, more mobile, far better equipped and trained than in September and still more than in July, and I have the greatest confidence in our Commander-in-Chief, General Brooke, and in Generals of proved ability, who under him guard the different quarters of our land, but most of all I put my faith in the simple effective resolve to conquer or die which will animate nearly four million Britons with serviceable weapons in their hands.

"It is not an easy military operation to invade an island like Great Britain without command of the sea and air and then to face what will be waiting for the invader", but, said Mr. Churchill, he must drop one word of caution. "Next to cowardice and treachery, over-confidence leading to neglect and slothfulness was the worst crime. A Nazi invasion of Britain last autumn would have been a more or less improvised affair. Hitler took it more or less for granted when France surrendered that we should give in too, but we did not and he had to think again. Britain will now be supported by much more equipment and apparatus, all planned and manufactured during the winter. We must be prepared to meet gas attacks, parachute attacks and glider attacks with constancy, foresight and fortitude".—*Broadcast Speech, February* 9, 1941.

That an attempted German invasion of Britain was scheduled for last September was confirmed on January 28, by the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"The truth is", writes Walter Tschuppik, former editor of the *Prager Tageblatt*, "Hitler had a gigantic plan for the invasion of England, but it was thwarted by England. The near future will clarify this, and when it does, it will be marked as the greatest victory of all times for the English people".

But, as Churchill warns us, that victory is only the beginning. The alternative German hope of weakening Britain to a point where a compromise peace would be accepted grows fainter, and the co-operation of the U.S.A. which the Nazis have failed to prevent, gives them one more urgent reason for haste.

Since the summer and autumn of last year, when the German invasion attempt failed, Britain's position has greatly improved.

The Italian threat to Egypt and the Middle East has been eliminated, and Greek bases give added strength in the Mediterranean.

In Britain itself there are now 4 million men under arms, and the serious material losses sustained in France have been more than made up. The R.A.F. has proved its qualitative superiority and moves steadily forward towards eventual superiority in numbers. Civilian reactions to ferocious bombing have been tested and found sure, and all manner of A.R.P. defence has feen improved. Meanwhile the military defence has had time to perfect its measures.

NEW FRIGHTFULNESS

New methods of attack to which the Nazis may resort have been fully considered and prepared against in Britain. Among these is the use of poison gas.

No German decision to use gas in the near future has been proved. The possibility of such a step, referred to recently in America, by Colonel Knox, American Minister of Defence, has always existed. All nations have supplies of gas and are defensively armed against it.

That Germany has not so far resorted to gas warfare cannot possibly be attributed to any humane motives. The truth is that its use has offered little prospect of military advantage. Britain is probably better prepared against it than Germany, and retaliation may therefore be feared in Berlin. There is no reason to suppose that these factors do not still operate.

Gas remains for Germany a weapon in the war of nerves.

NEUTRALS ON INVASION PROSPECTS

"There has been a great improvement of the beach defences and a better organization of secondary lines. The job to be done by the Home Guards is seen to be clearly defined, communications are improved, gun positions strengthened. There is no reason for complacency but officers and men know the country, they will be fighting over and their plans of defence have been carefully drawn up. I know the British Army is working on the assumption that the attempt will be made, and I know too that the element of surprise will not be monopolised by the invading forces, for there are surprises awaiting them on, around and behind those beaches". *Edward Murrow, American Columbia Broadcasting System commentator, January* 20.

(Continued on Page 12)

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Waiting for the Cheers

That Hitler's speech would be described by the powers to whom it was chiefly addressed as a " flop " was the foreboding of the Italian Radio on January 31. " That, alas ", lamented Rome, " is the fate in Britain of nearly all the momentous utterances of the Axis leaders, in peace time and war time ".

However, " the European Press gives much publicity to the Fuehrer's speech." In support of this statement the Italians quote a single Hungarian newspaper, while the Germans declare that Hitler's warning to the U.S.A. found space in the Press of Bulgaria. For that matter it did not pass unnoticed in America, where Mr. Conally, Democrat Senator, declared " We shall not be bullied or intimidated by Hitler ". Referring to the threat to torpedo American ships if they sail to Britain, Senator Carter Glass of the Foreign Relations Committee said: " I think we ought to start torpedoing first ".

Where is the Restraint?

But there is always the fettered German Press to fall back upon, and the Berlin radio says that the *Berliner Boersenzeitung* " contrasts the quiet and restrained assurance of the Fuehrer that he is going to win this war with the unconvincing and superficial official optimism of his adversaries ".

But the free world well knows that Hitler's pronouncements have always been far from quiet and restrained. He boasted that Britain would not fight on, once France was conquered; he promised the German people that British bombs would never fall on their cities; he boasted that he would be in London in September of last year; he promised peace by Christmas. None of these boasts and promises—only few of many he has made—have been fulfilled.

By contrast, Mr. Churchill's speeches have been restrained and frank. He has repeatedly warned the people against undue optimism and has carefully refrained from forecasting what would happen in the uncertain future. Appreciation of this comes from Miss Dorothy Thompson, of the New York *Herald-Tribune*, who believes that because, for one thing, " Churchill has never for a moment encouragd his people to hope for the best, British morale will hold, even through hell."

Brotherly Love

Berlin radio, reporting the " warm recognition in the Italian press " of the eighth anniversary of Hitler's accession to power, says that the Italian papers " write of the intimate material and spiritual relations between the German and Italian peoples."

Last week's hostile demonstrations against the Germans in Turin, Verona, Milan, Trieste and Rome—following the arrival of Nazi troops and Gestapo agents in Italy—were doubtless another manifestation of the intimate material and spiritual relations between the two nations.

For reporting these disturbances, it will be remembered, two United States journalists in Belgrade were subjected to disciplinary measures by the Yugoslav Government, doubtless acting under pressure from the Axis.

Germany and Italy, like all great lovers, cannot bear having their intimacies exposed to the vulgar gaze of the outside world.

Lapse of Memory

No doubt to give the Italians a little much-needed encouragement, the Nazi radio reported on January 30 an Italian submarine's attack on " a British convoy in the Mediterranean, which consisted of five merchant vessels and was escorted by three destroyers ".

But ever since the *Luftwaffe* arrived in Sicily, more than three weeks ago, the very same announcer has been telling us that. " British convoys no longer dare to sail through the Mediterranean, and even British warships can only sail in large formations." Berlin cannot have it both ways.

More Mediterranean Muddle

Three days earlier, on January 27, the Rome wireless had shown itself equally muddled about the state of affairs in the Mediterranean. It reported certain information given (it did not say to whom) " by some British soldiers from Gibraltar who recently paid a visit to Tangier." Rome announces: " It appears from statements made by these British troops that the British Fleet has certainly suffered severe losses in the Mediterranean, and that these losses are being concealed from the troops and sailors."

Rome, however, does not explain (*a*) how the troops knew about these " losses," which were being " concealed " from them, (*b*) how losses of ships can be concealed from the sailors abroad them, and (*c*) what British soldiers were doing in the neutral port of Tangier, anyway.

Atlantic After Thought

Few recent events have upset the Axis propagandists more thoroughly than the arrival of Lord Halifax at Annapons, U.S.A., aboard Britain's newest battleship, *King George the Fifth*. Ever since his appointment to Washington was announced, Axis radio announcers had been hinting darkly that the new Ambassador would be lucky if he ever got to America, as their combined power had swept the Atlantic bare of British ships.

Once Lord Halifax had set foot on American soil, Berlin took exactly twenty-four hours to think it over, then announced that his unhindered crossing " proves that Britain's command of the sea is a thing of the past." Most of us would have thought it proved just the opposite. Rome's comment, yet another twenty-four hours later, was even more imaginative. It said: " The calm patience of Italian soldiers and Blackshirts at Bardia and Tobruk contrasts gloriously with the haste and panic that distinguished Lord Halifax's crossing to America."

Cryptic Communiques

On January 8 the German wireless reports Lord Halifax's conversation with Mr. Cordell Hull, and his subsequent statement to American reporters to the effect that his views were similar to those of Mr. Hull. " Diplomats of the old school," says Berlin, " would deduce from this cryptic remark that there were some essential points on which Mr. Hull and Lord Halifax agreed to differ."

Perhaps Berlin was thinking about those equally cryptic communiques about "complete identity of views " and " full agreement on all questions of mutual interest " which are issued after every " cordial " conversation between Messrs. Hitler and Mussolini.

A Chesnut Re-Roasted

The Secretary of the United States Treasury, by supporting President Roosevelt's Lease and Lend Bill, has called forth the wrath of Dr. Goebbels, Berlin radio declared on January 29th, " Mr. Morgenthau, is of course, fighting to the last Englishman." But, not so long ago, the same lie-factory was alleging that Britain would fight only to the last Frenchman. That propaganda slogan was proved false, and it is unwise of Berlin to re-adopt it now.

Twelfth Night in Albania

Rome radio quotes on January 27, a telegram addressed to Mussolini from the Secretary of the Albanian Fascist Party: "20,000 Albanian children, assembled in their local Fascist Headquarters, having received today the Duce's Twelfth Night's Gifts, have proclaimed you the living symbol of our fame and victory."

Having failed to arouse much enthusiasm for Fascism among Albanian adults—5,000 of whom are now in concentration camps because of their anti-Italian activities—Mussolini has to content himself with sending (from a safe distance) presents to children's parties and hoping the recipients will show their gratitude by giving him the Fascist salute.

But that does nothing to halt the Greek advance in Albania.

Nazi War Aims

If anything further were needed to convince the world of what the Nazis aim to make of it, it has been provided out of a German mouth, and the mouth of a Minister at that. " *Please do not interpret the word 'slave' as a parable or rhetorical term* ", said the German Agriculture Minister Darré to a group of high Party officials early last May. " *We actually have in mind* ", he went on with naked simplicity, " *a modern form of mediæval slavery, which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it to fulfil our great tasks* ".

The publication of this speech in the well-known American magazine *Life* on December 9, gave Dr. Goebbels, busy with a publicity campaign for the " New Order ", a nasty headache. Unable to suppress the leakage, he addressed angry denunciations and denials by radio to India, where at that time nothing was known of Darré's appalling candour. Now the full text has reached this country, and we can read that in the new German living-space (which according to Darré was to begin with " two continents with the exception of Soviet Russia ", to be conquered by *Blitzkrieg* by autumn 1940) " *all soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception* ".

Who will get it? The Germans—primarily, of course " worthy members of the Party and solidiers decorated for bravery ". They are to form the " aristocracy " of the New Order of which we have heard so much. " *This aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it. These slaves will be their property and will consist of landless non-German nationals* ". Further details of the power-drunk plan hardly matter. We have the simple German word for it: slavery, just that.

Speaking in London on January 28, " in the lull before the great battle " Mr. Harold Nicolson looked forward to a system in which " there will be no slave states but a community of free peoples each working out its problems in accordance with its temperament and traditions ". Nothing could be more characteristic of the Nazis than their reaction to this statement.

Here is what the broadcast on January 31, using a harassed neutral as cover: Mr. Harold Nicolson's official outline of the new political order in Europe, as drafted by Whitehall and the editorial staff of the *Times*, has caused an outburst of indignation in Sweden. Even the most pro-British newspapers and politicians express their complete disapproval of the British scheme to dominate Europe ".

Under the Nazi way of things we should all presumably have to listen to this sort of nonsensical falsification and to nothing else. But it seems that nobody would have to read it. " *These slaves* ", Darré has explained, " *will by no means be denied the blessings of illiteracy. Higher education will in future be reserved only for the German population* ".

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Italian Murder Hunt

It is impossible, so it seems, for the Italian radio to resist the temptation to see British machinations behind the deaths of prominent international personalities. This murder hunt

started with the death of Egypt's Prime Minister and since then the British Secret Service has managed to kill many more, including, of course, Lord Lothian. We were solemnly informed on January 28 of the Italian radio's suspicion that the British had quietly put away Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, and the Italian broadcast of January 29—mirrors of truth that they are—announced that General Metaxas' heart attack was the result of his talks with General Wavell. Not content with its discovery, the Italian radio also saw some mysterious connexion between the deaths of General Metaxas and England's late Premier, Mr. Chamberlain.

Another illustration of the nature of Italian propaganda was provided on January 20, when the Fascist radio stated in its Hindustani broadcast that "various competent circles believe, that since General Metaxas did not accept the London point of view, the British Intelligence Service deemed it fit to remove him from the staff". Two hours later, however, the Italian radio was informing the Arabs that "the British people have also been upset by the death because he was ardently serving British Imperialism on account of his close relations with the British Imperialist financiers".

Obviously, the Italian propaganda has imbibed the profound wisdom of Scrutator's observations, in a German broadcast on January 19, that "it is the principle of modern propaganda not to let your left hand know what your right hand does."

Germans' Fake S.O.S.

The German wireless of January 28 reported the torpedoing of the British ship *Empress of Australia* 200 miles off the coast of Dakar, adding that S.O.S. signals had been received from her. London subsequently revealed that, not only was the vessel safe in port, but in all probability she was there at the actual time when the alleged attack was supposed to have taken place. It is surmised that the Germans were anxious to discover the whereabouts of the *Empress of Australia* and had sent out a fictitious S.O.S. in the hope of learning this.

A Nazi Boast

Dr. Goebbels' propaganda machine is truly unrivalled in the art of the exaggeration and manufacture of news items. But in its Hindustani broadcast of January 27 it surpassed itself. We were treated to an alleged quotation of Mr. Hudson, British Minister of Agriculture, in which he was supposed to have said that every ship coming to Britain was sunk on the way. And this despite the fact that British import figures for the first ten months of 1940 showed a 33 per cent rise over the corresponding period of 1939!

French Reparations to Germany

The German broadcast of January 30 gave currency to the vague reports that unemployment in Paris was decreasing every day. Now we admit that the Germans in France have not yet considered it necessary to antagonize the people with old-fashioned looting, but the effect of their policy is strikingly clear when we consider that the Germans demanded even from unoccupied France as much as 48 per cent of their livestock for themselves. And, furthermore, France is paying for the German army of occupation at the rate of 20 million marks a day, which by the way is three times as much as the burden of reparation fixed under the Dawes Plan about which we heard such lamentations from Germany in the last decade.

False Assumptions

The German broadcast of January 28 assumes that the Mediterranean fighting had driven all British shipping for the Middle East to go *via* the Cape of Good Hope. In fact, however, the bulk of British convoys have for a considerable time gone round the Cape and the supply position in the Middle East is organized and maintained on this basis. Moreover, the Red Sea route also serves the Middle East from India and Australia.

INVASION PROSPECTS

(*Continued from Page* 9)

"If Hitler invades England he will be chased back so fast that he will not know what hit him"—*U.S. war correspondent Quentin Reynolds, quoted January* 18.

"The Germans will encounter very serious difficulties if they attempt to invade Britain . . . Germany would require colossal strength in order successfully to carry out invasion"—*Soviet Military Review, "Red Star", January* 26.

"Hitler's army, though unequalled in history for discipline and training, is not nearly so powerful as the outside world believes . . . The morale and leadership of the British people are superb".—*Captain Maxwell, corpening of the Chicago Tribune reported to January* 30.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 8 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, Feb. 22, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

14th Feb.—In Eritrea operations for the reduction of Keren are proceeding. Royal Air Force bomb Dodecanese islands and Rhodes.

Greek troops capture the village of Amlina near the source of the Skumbi river. Royal Air Force attack enemy concentrations in the area north of Tepelini.

The British Board of Trade announce that Rumania is an enemy territory for trading purposes.

The United States Senate started the debate on the Lease and Lend Bill on the 13th February.

The Yugoslav Prime Minister and Foreign Minister meet Hitler and Von Ribbentrop.

It is reported that six ships in a British convoy have been sunk by a German surface raider.

It is revealed that 233 German and Italian ships are sheltering in neutral harbours and are afraid to move into open sea.

Royal Air Force raid German invasion bases along the French coast.

German long range artillery shell the South-east coast in the Dover area.

Enemy aircraft drop bombs on Malta. Negligible damage was caused.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs dropped in Eastern England, London, and the Home Counties. Damage was nowhere heavy and casualties were few.

15th Feb.—The Sudan Defence Force captures Quessan in Abyssinia and in Italian Somaliland the South African troops occupy the important Italian port of Kismayu.

The Yugoslav Ministers report to the Regent, Prince Paul, their talks with Hitler and Ribbentrop. Hitler is stated to have offered to Yugoslavia the Drin valley in Northern Albania together with the town of Scutari, an outlet to the Aegean Sea at Salonika by means of a twenty-mile corridor, and the territory around Lake Ochrida including presumably Koritza and other towns captured by the Greeks. In return Yugoslavia should cede to Hungary and Bulgaria territories which they lost during the last war and should disinterest herself in the fate of Greece.

Admiral Darlan takes over also the portfolio of the Minister of Interior from M. Peyrouton, who has resigned.

It is reported that British soldiers were dropped by parachute in Southern Italy. Their instructions were to demolish certain objectives connected with ports in that area.

Royal Air Force raid Rhodes, Catania, Syracuse and Brindisi.

It is disclosed that the Bulgarian Prime Minister refused to give an undertaking that Bulgaria would not enter into any agreement with Germany permitting the entry of German troops in the country. The British Minister in Sofia warns the Bulgarian Foreign Minister that Britain will break off diplomatic relations if German troops occupy Bulgaria or use it as a base against Greece.

Royal Air Force attack industrial targets in the Ruhr, enemy aerodromes in North-west Germany, docks at Ostend, Calais, Denhelder and Boulogne.

There has been slight enemy air activity over Britain. Some damage and casualties were caused in North-east England, East Scotland and on East Anglian Coast. Three enemy bombers were destroyed.

16th Feb.—Concentration of additional troops about Keren in Eritrea is proceeding. The British reoccupy Kurmuk in Abyssinia.

Greek troops completely rout the Eleventh Italian Army in the Moscopolis-Tepelini sector. They have made another big drive in the gorges of the Predesinje mountains.

It is stated that Italian casualties in the British bombardment of Genoa totalled 144 killed and 272 injured.

The British Admiralty announces the mining of the eastern entrance to the Straits of Singapore. British women and children in Thailand and Britons in occupied China have been advised to leave.

Enemy air activity over England. Bombs dropped in London and in Eastern and South-eastern England. Damage and casualties were small.

17th Feb.—In the area east of Lake Rudolf (Abyssinia) British troops continue their penetration. In Italian Somaliland enemy forces have been driven back to the line of the Juba river.

The Greeks, having smashed the Italian Eleventh Army, dominate the Tepelini-Klissura sector from the Tebesheni mountain. Italian counter-attacks fail.

A non-aggression agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria has been concluded.

Enemy aircraft bomb Benghazi.

Nazi raids on Britain. Bombs dropped in East and South-east England and North Scotland, causing little damage and a small number of casualties.

18th Feb.—Italians evacuate Dangela and other important posts in the Gojjam in Abyssinia. One million Senussi in Tripolitania, Egypt, Sudan, Hedjaz, Palestine, Syria and Sahara are taking up the fight on Britain's side.

The battle for Keren is expected to enter a new phase shortly. The British column, advancing from the north is steadily closing in on the town and has reached a point 90 miles from the Sudan frontier and 45 miles north of Keren. It will soon be in contact with the Italian defences. Keren is already menaced from the west by British and Indian troops.

Enemy planes raid the Suez Canal. Bombs were dropped but there was no damage or casualties.

Aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm have sunk a German merchant ship and an Italian supply ship in the Central Mediterranean and damaged an Italian supply ship and an Italian auxiliary warship in the same area.

American interests are negotiating for the purchase of 27 Italian vessels interned in United States ports including the 23,000 ton liner "Conte Biancamano." The transfer of these ships valued at about ten million dollars would make available more American ships for Britain under the Lease and Lend Bill.

Single German aircraft drop bombs in East Anglia and in South and South-east England. Some damage and casualties caused. British fighters destroy two enemy bombers.

It is reported that Germany is being prepared for "massive bombardments" in an expected big-scale British aid offensive in Spring and German children are being evacuated to Austria.

The Admiralty announces that the minesweeper *Huntley* has been sunk.

Royal Air Force raid aerodromes on the Dodecanese islands.

Reliable reports state that German planes made reconnaissance flights over Greece. No bombs were dropped and they were not fired on by the Greeks.

19th Feb.—British pressure on the lines of the River Juba in Somaliland in increasing. British troops capture Enjabara in Abyssinia. The Italian post of Piccolo Abbai has also been occupied.

Greeks continue to harass the Eleventh Italian Army in the Klissura-Tepeleni sector. On the extreme right of the front, north of Pogradetz, the Italians hold up violent Greek attacks. In the Devoli-Moscopolis sector, the Greeks dominate the whole of the area and are striking heavy blows as they advance.

The Royal Air Force maintain concentrated attacks on enemy positions in the Tepeleni area in support of the Greek forces.

Three Japanese destroyers are visiting the mouth of the Menam river 16 miles from Bangkok with the previous permission of the Thailand Government.

Thousands of Australian troops have arrived in Singapore and have entrained for various parts of Malaya.

The British Air Forces in the Far East have been powerfully reinforced with modern fighters. These reinforcements are stationed bombers and twin-engined and single-engined at points of strategic importance.

Commenting on the offer made by a Japanese Government spokesman that Japan was ready to mediate in any war if invited and if the situation were favourable, authoritative circles in London state that "Great Britain will not entertain peace proposals until complete victory has been gained."

One of the German raiders preying on British shipping in the Pacific is according to an authoritative source in Washington the former Latvian ship Herzog Jakob (9,000 tons) capable of a speed of 18 knots.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs dropped on London, Swansea in South Wales and other places in southern part of England and in East Scotland. Some damage was done but the number of casualties is not large. It is revealed that the Southwark Cathedral in London on the Surrey Side suffered great damage.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command planes attack the enemy naval base at Brest and the docks at Calais.

20th Feb.—The garrison at Mega in Southern Abyssinia has capitulated to the South African troops. The Imperial troops have crossed the Juba river driving off enemy counter-attacks. Bomber and fighter units of the Royal Air Force South African Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force destroy eleven enemy aircraft.

Serious fighting between Polish armed bands and German Police in Central Poland is reported.

Conscription has been introduced in Malta. The Government have been empowered to call all males between the ages of 18 and 41 for military service.

The British submarine *Sea Lion* destroyed a Norwegian ship of about 1,500 tons operating under German control off the Norwegian coast.

British fighters carried out some offensive patrol activity over the French coast. Two British fighters are missing.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 5, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France, and Belgium, including raids on docks, warships and oil supplies at Ostend, Brest, Bordeaux and other invasion bases; aerodrome at St. Omer.	7	4
February 6, Thursday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on invasion bases at Boulogne, Dieppe (barges), Dunkirk (shipping), Calais (warehouses), Fécamp (railways).	1	..
February 7, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Channel invasion bases, including Boulogne and Calais.	Nil.	.
February 8, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on Rotterdam and Flushing; convoy off S. Norwegian coast, R.A.F. night bomber raid on factories at Mannheim.	1	..
February 9, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on oil stores at Flushing; docks at Antwerp; other objectives in occupied territory; war-ships off Norwegian coast, R.A.F. night bomber raids on objectives in N. W. Germany.	2	..
February 10, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps (3) over N. France, including raids on invasion bases at Dunkirk, Boulogne, Calais. R.A.F. day bomber raids on objectives in N.W. Germany and occupied territory. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Hanover (factories, railways); other objectives in N.W. Germany; Rotterdam (docks and oil stores); two aerodromes in Holland; invasion bases at Ostend, Boulogne, Cherbourg.	7	2
February 11, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France, including raid on invasion base at Boulogne. R.A.F. night bomber raids on dockyards at Bremen; factories at Hanover; other objectives in N.W. Germany; oil stores at Rotterdam; shipping at Christiansund (Norway); Thisted seaplane base in Jutland (Denmark).	4 (one bomber's crew safe).	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th February 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 5	Nil.	5 (1 crashed in Eire).
February 6	Nil.	..
February 7	Nil.	1
February 8	Nil.	3
February 9	Nil.	2
February 10	Nil.	1
February 11	Nil.	..

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK.

The outstanding event of the week is the landing of British parachutists in South Italy at the end of last week, news of which came first from Italy and Germany. They were dropped from British troop-carrying planes to demolish certain objectives connected with ports. They landed in a lonely part of South Italy on the borders of the Provinces of Lucania and Calabria and it has since been ascertained that, firstly, this enterprise was intimately connected with operations in North Africa and in Albania and, secondly that considerable dislocation has been caused to traffic in that part of Italy. It has now been revealed that this successful venture was the result of a long period of training which the British troops had been given somewhere in England in parachute landing. Certain features of this attempt are conspicuous.—(1) The skill and daring of these soldiers, (2) the courage of these men who, unlike German parachutists who landed in the Low Countries, had no sure base to return to and were sure of being captured, (3) the spirit of offensive which now dominates British military policy.

There have been striking developments in the campaign in North Africa. A British column is steadily advancing on Keren in Eritrea from the north, while another column is advancing from the west. The battle of Keren is soon expected to reach its culminating point. In somaliland the capture of the port of Kismayu has been followed by increasing pressure on the lines of river Juba which has now been crossed and Yubaland has been cleared of Italians. The Abyssinian patriots have captured Dengila, 40 miles off Lake Tana. This place controls the whole of the Gojjam province and it is from this town that roads radiate to Addis Ababa and other important places; it fell after four days of intensive attack. Other important posts have also been occupied.

The Greeks continue to harass the Eleventh Italian Army on the Klissura-Tepelini sector and fresh attacks are being made in other sectors as well with the strong support of the Royal Air Force.

In regard to operations in East Africa the following points emphasized by Major Fielding Eliot, the well-known American Military Commentator, may be noted :—

(i) Asmara is the point where three main roads into Ethiopia leave the railway, one to Addis Ababa, one to Tigre Province and one west and south to Gonda.

(ii) Massawa could not defend itself against the master of Asmara.

(iii) The advance from Agordat to Asmara is likely to prove difficult owing to mountainous country Asmara lies much higher than Agordat.

(iv) The terrain east of Barentu is so rough that it offers little opportunity for a parallel advance towards Asmara, but at Barentu a column could turn south towards Gonda.

(v) Gonda, one of the Ethiopian historic cities, has great significance in the African mind. If Haile Selassie were to hoist his flag in this venerable city it would have great effect throughout Ethiopia. Its strategic importance is limited.

(vi) The Kenya front lacks good communications and operations here will be mainly patrol activity. Command of the sea, however, permits descents on the long coastline of Somaliland.

(vii) Italian air strength in East Africa is variously estimated from 300 to 600 planes of all types. The air is the only means of supplying and reinforcing some Italian outposts, but petrol, lubricant and ammunition shortage have limited air activity. Air superiority for the British seems assured.

While these developments are reassuring the world has been taken by surprise by the conclusion of a pact of non-aggression between Bulgaria and Turkey. At this stage, it is perhaps well not to form any definite conclusions about its repercussions. American opinion appears to think that it is a setback so far as the Allies are concerned, while, as may be expected, the Axis Powers are making much of it. But no note of despondency is to be perceived in the comments made on the Pact in Great Britain and Greece, while in Bulgaria and Turkey as well as in Yugoslavia this development is heartily welcomed.

A rather surprising event in the midst of this confusion and conflict is the offer of mediation by Japan. A formal note has been addressed to Mr. Eden, British Foreign Minister, by the Japanese Foreign Minister in which the latter offers " to take whatever action is needed to restore normal conditions not only in the Far East but anywhere in the world ". An attempt is being made to explain away this move, but that it was real is certain. Of course, official reaction in Great Britain to this offer is that it will receive the consideration which the authority of the sender demands, but that there is no likelihood that there will be any change in the general principles of British policy. An ordinary man in the street will say that it is presumptuous on the part of Japan which, so far as aggression is concerned, is totalitarian and has invaded China, presumes to become a dictator in the Far East and indulges in threats to Great Britain and America, should now assume the role of a mediator. But Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, is not a new man in politics. As *The Daily Mail* stated a few days ago he protests and appeals alternately and his resemblance to Hitler, it says, is more than a matter of moustache. Did he not declare at Geneva : " In twenty-six centuries we have never taken anything from anybody and do not want to annex Manchuria "? He protests that Japan's aims in Asia are peaceful and yet has already forced Thailand to give Japan certain concessions and

threatens the Dutch East Indies. This inconstancy apparently due to a desire to wage a war of nerves like Hitler, seems to be Mr. Matsuoka's policy.

TURKO-BULGARIA PACT

The non-aggression agreement between Bulgaria and Turkey was published on Monday last and it contains four main points. The basis of foreign policy of these two countries will be to abstain from any aggression and they will be inspired by most friendly intentions towards each other. Trade relations will be developed between them and there is an appeal to the Press of these countries that their writings will be inspired by mutual friendship and confidence. The following points, which appear to indicate that the Pact will not make any change in the present situation, which is tense and forebodes evil, may be noted :

(1) German military preparations inside Bulgaria are proceeding apace. Rail-roads, bridges and roads are being got ready and petrol dumps are being laid down.

(2) The German radio is threatening Turkey and openly says that she is no longer master of the Balkans as she was thirty years ago.

(3) It is not clear whether, under the new Pact, the Germans will be allowed to pass through Bulgaria to attack Greece.

(4) Bulgaria has already become so subservient to Germany that it is doubtful whether she would be allowed to observe the Pact.

There are, however, certain features which are calculated to reassure the public mind :—

(1) Great Britain has reiterated her policy that it is her intention that Bulgaria should preserve her independence and political integrity.

(2) The initiative in regard to the Pact was taken by Turkey and Great Britain was fully informed of the progress of the negotiations.

(3) Official Bulgarian circles are gratified because the Pact may enable them to stay out of the European conflict and they say that German troops will not be allowed to pass through their country.

(4) It is stated that the Pact will not alter radically the present position and Turkey will adhere to her commitments to Greece and Great Britain. Turkey's declarations point to the fact that, though her military strength in Thrace may be reduced, she will not remain quiet if her defences are threatened.

(5) There is good ground for the belief that Russia took a prominent part in bringing about this Pact because the Soviet Government wanted to save the Balkans from the European conflict.

The net result is that the responsibility for further complications in the Balkans will rest solely on Hitler and circumstances point to the fact that the large concentrations of troops in Rumania and the stranglehold which Hitler has got on Bulgaria mean that Germany intends to help Italy by attacking Greece, in which case, if Turkey's defences are threatened, she will not consent to remain quiet.

THE FAR EAST

The position in the Far East, on the whole, appears to be less critical than it was a week ago. There are reports of Japanese concentrations of troops on Hainan island off South China. An Italian newspaper says that, while Great Britain has strengthened her Mediterranean Fleet, the Japanese Navy has orders to sail towards the direction of Singapore, according to a commentator in the B.B.C. Japan is mediating in the Thailand-Indo-China dispute and an award will not be given for nothing. Japan's immediate objective is to secure essential supplies of oil, coal, rubber, iron, etc., and her long-range objective is the domination of the whole of South-east Asia and the Pacific. Her anxiety to secure these supplies explains her interest in Indo-China, Thailand and the East Indies generally. But the influence of Germany is very great and one cannot say what practical effect such influence will produce in making Japan take the offensive at the time when Hitler commences his offensive in Europe in the spring. There are a number of factors which should be remembered in connexion with the Far East problem :

(1) Singapore is now practically an island fortress. Fifteen million dollars have not been spent in vain. Australian forces landed there in the last few days and bombers and fighters have also been taken to that place. It has now become the British bastion of liberty in the Far East. The waters near Singapore have been mined.

(2) Malaya is also under excellent protection. So also is Burma, as the Governor stated the other day. So far as America is concerned large appropriations have been made by the Congress for constructing and strengthening air and naval bases in the Pacific and in the Atlantic and Guam (American) and Samoa (Mandate) in the Pacific will soon become great bases for the American Navy and aircraft. Samoa's importance consists in its situation between Hawaii and New Zealand, which, according to the *Asahi*, makes it a link in the American plans for encircling Japan and enabling the American Fleet to connect with Manila and Singapore *via* Australia. The United States has her Navy at Hawaii in the Pacific and if developments should arise in or near Singapore the American fleet at Hawaii will not be idle.

(3) The Dutch East Indies have an efficient land force of 85,000 and a pretty strong Navy consisting of four cruisers, eight destroyers and twenty submarines, and an Air Force of 500.

(4) Close contact is maintained by China and China will do its little bit in resisting Japanese aggression in the South so far as it lies in her power.

(5) Thailand has repeated her assurance that she wants to continue her friendly relations with Great Britain. Her only objective is to recover districts in Cambodia and she has little to gain and much to lose by succumbing to Japanese threats or influence.

(Continued on Page 6)

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL

PROGRESS IN THE AMERICAN CONGRESS

People outside the United States of America may be inclined to be impatient at what appears to them to be the slow progress of 'The Lease and Lend Bill' in the Congress. According to that measure, the President is authorized, until June 30, 1943, "to have manufactured, or otherwise procure, any defence article for the government of any country whose defence he deems vital to the defence of the United States" with the proviso that no such contract can extend beyond July 1, 1946. He is authorized to transfer defence articles to such governments on any terms which he considers satisfactory after consultation with the heads of the Army and Navy within a limitation of 1,300,000,000 dollars on the value of American military and naval equipment existing or under the present appropriation thus transferred, but with no limit on the money value of future aid. Though the Congress has power to rescind the authority thus conveyed by a mere concurrent resolution of both houses not requiring the President's signature the constitutionality of the provision is gravely doubted. The measure authorizes this programme, but leaves the appropriation of the moneys required in the hands of the Congress, to be voted as the President from time to time shall request.

There is some doubt about the actual effect of the amendment which was adopted limiting the amount of aid to be given from existing stocks. This appears to include equipment contracted for during the current fiscal year, but it does not apply to future appropriations under the Bill or to equipment required by the United States forces under appropriations already requested by the President for the fiscal year. In any case this limit is fixed at 1,300,000,000 dollars. "It thus leaves plenty of elbow-room" says *The Times*, "especially as the cash value of any equipment transferred to Governments resisting aggression will be fixed by the President, who is authorized to settle the terms on which transfers may be made."

The Bill has now passed through the House of Representatives and is being considered by the Senate. It must be remembered that Bills are normally discussed at considerable length and guillotine machinery for expediting business exists in a very modified degree. In the American constitution the President's tenure does not depend upon the vote of the Congress and the Congress is independent of the President so that every member, be he a Government supporter or not, considers himself to be independent and has his full say. Whips, therefore, cannot reckon upon the number of votes the Government will get with the same certainty as in England.

The Bill is first considered by the appropriate Committee of each house and the Lease and Lend Bill, before it went to the House of Representatives, was considered by its Foreign Relations Commitee. This Bill is now before the Senate after the Foreign Relations Committee voted on it by 15 votes to 8. (The House of Representatives passed the Bill by 260 votes to 165.) It may well be expected that discussion on the Bill will be keener in the Senate than in the House of Representatives because the Senate contains many members who are authorities on foreign affairs. Besides the senators' long terms, i.e., six years, and the fact that they represent States (two from each of the 48 States) and not numerically equal constituencies make them even more independent of the executive than the Representatives. It is expected that the Bill will get through in the Senate by 96 votes to 20 and this will be, of course, because of Mr. Willkie's visit to England and his evidence to the Senate Committee and Mr. Churchill's call for help.

It may be noted that the Japanese threats to the United States have had the result of strengthening the hands of the administration. One Senator stated on Wednesday that the slogan "short of war," has been changed into a "war, if that is necessary to save England." Another Senator declared: "I hope this intervention does not mean war, if it does, I am ready for it."

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page* 5)

(6) Japan is now compelled to recognize the Dutch Government in London which has categorically stated that the Netherlands East Indies will not consent to become involved in the Japanese New Order in the Far East.

(7) A study of the map will show how distances are enormous; for instance, Singapore to Yokohama (South Japan) is 2,900 miles, Singapore to Hainan is 1,100 miles, Singapore to Sydney (Australia) is 3,300 miles, Yokohama to Guam is 1,500 miles and Yokohama to Hawaii is 3,380 miles. Only large ships can therefore undertake such long voyages between these places without refueling. The importance therefore of Guam and Samoa to American Navy and Aircraft will become obvious, while the distances will tell against large-scale actions by the Japanese.

A Japanese spokesman has stated that the strengthening of Singapore defences means a menace to Japan and will add fuel to the fire. The fact, however, is that the British action in this respect has been provoked by the utterances of Japanese statesmen and the movement of naval craft. This action on the part of Great Britain is only a warning and not a threat to Japan. The fact that Tokyo is 3,500 miles from Singapore means that Great Britain does not want to menace Japan, but desires to take precautions against all eventualities. "Deeds and not words" is the policy of both Great Britain and the United States of America in regard to the Far East.

GERMAN AND BRITISH PROPAGANDA

A COMPARISON AND A CONTRAST.

In the last few weeks, Lord Haw Haw has been complaining that British broadcasts are confusing and contradictory and that what is sent over the air to one country is often very different from that radiated to other countries. The world knows by this time what credence should be attached to German radio broadcasts. On the other hand, Great Britain takes good care to see that there is no deviation even under the stress of danger from the traditional British policy in war publicity and Mr. Duff Cooper stated the other day that the British Government do not want the B.B.C. to become simply a mouthpiece of the Government. The German complaint about misrepresentation and contradiction is merely a difference in emphasis employed in publicity by Great Britain. If, for instance, the British broadcasts told the countries in subjection to German yoke: "Help is coming, hold on!", and to the United States of America an appeal is made for more munitions, there is no contradiction, but a stress on different aspects of the problem. On the contrary, it is notorious that German propagandists have developed duplicity to a fine art. For instance, the broadcast from Zeesen to Asia (January 20, 1941) stated as follows:—

"Propagandists in England check up on the various news bulletins that the German short-wave stations are giving out daily in some 20 different languages, and then pick out obvious discrepancies between what is said in one language and in another. The game is usually interesting and successful because modern propaganda is based on the principle of not letting your left hand know what your right hand does."

The following are a few of many examples of direct discrepancies (not merely variety of emphasis) in German propaganda to different countries:—

(1) *To German listeners* (*Zeesen*), *5th August* 1940.—"It is not within British power to let Europe starve. Least of all does such a danger exist for Germany. It is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties."

To North American listeners, *10th August* 1940.—"If France, Belgium and Holland are cut off from overseas food supplies, famine will certainly come and it will be a direct consequence of the British blockade. Germany is not in the least interested."

(2) *To English listeners* (*Bremen*), *20th January* 1941.—"Mr. Wendell Willkie is planning a voyage to Britain to have a look round as a private American citizen. Obviously he is anxious to find out what his countryman, Mr. Harry Hopkins, has been up to."

To Slovak listeners (*Bratislava*), *20th January* 1941.—"It is quite clear that Willkie is going to England as Roosevelt's emissary."

(3) *To English and American listeners*, *12th August* 1940.—"It is now known that British fighters avoid coming into contact with German bombers and interceptors."

To German listeners, *12th August* 1940.—"That Spitfire was really doing faultless flying. . . . The Spitfire was twisting and turning, at one point flying while on its back . . . . A Spitfire approached at an incredible speed and attacked our first flight." (From a Nazi pilot's talk.)

(4) *To North American listeners*, *13th January* 1941.—"The United States of America are expected to finance the British war, but the United States of America are also expected to supply war materials. . . This will mean that Americans will have a lower standard of living, higher prices and more working hours."

To English listeners, *14th January* 1941.—"I wonder how many Englishmen realize how much the United States are responsible for the outbreak of the present war? The fact is that the United States don't care who wins the war; even at the cost of millions of dollars they would prolong the war because if Europe goes under the United States will win."

THE WAR AND AFTER

In a talk to America, Mr. Colin R. Coote, well-known journalist, described democracy in action in Great Britain at the present day, in the midst of the war. Individual citizens, he pointed out, preserved their democratic traditions and believed in liberty of speech and of the Press so long as that liberty was not used to help the enemy. These people, Mr. Coote said, "would be different after the hell they were now in. They would have overcome the usual friction, learnt to know each other better, appreciated community life much better than they do now and thus contributed to the making of the New Order. War had given an impetus to the study of nutrition. Admittedly there had been no unusual spread of epidemic diseases in London or elsewhere and this was partly because increased use was made of protected food and efficient methods of cooking have been introduced. Again, though all persons and property have been placed at the disposal of the Government the fighting services were citizen services and it is hoped that the intermingling in the Army may lead to new understanding after the war, especially because promotion depended on ability and not on birth.

A MUSSOLINI CALENDAR

IL DUCE'S WORDS AND DEEDS.

Shortly after war broke out in September 1939, a list of the succession of false pledges which Hitler employed to promote his campaign of aggression was published and became widely known under the title of "A Hitler Calendar." The following extracts from the speeches and writings of Mussolini constitute a calendar which shows that he has no reason to fear comparison with the Fuhrer.

FASCIST MORALITY.

"Fascism is not an article for export,"—*March* 3, 1928. *In the Chamber.*

On October 27, 1930, Mussolini abandoned the pretence that Fascism was a matter of purely internal concern. "The struggle develops from now onwards over a world-wide field," he said. "Fascism is on the agenda in all countries. The phrase 'Fascism is not for export' is not mine."

"Bitter experience has shown that the most urgent need of the world to-day is the renaissance of international forces working together to reach a common goal, and the removal of the atmosphere of apprehension and distrust which has hitherto dislocated economic life."—*August* 21, 1932. *In the Paris* Excelsior *on the coming World Economic Conference.*

By 1935 Mussolini was claiming that Italy was well on the way to economic self-sufficiency.

"The Head of the Government has confirmed the willingness of the Italian Government to safeguard the efficacy of the Red Cross emblem. Strict orders have been given to this end, in view of the deep conviction of the Italian Government of the essential value of the Red Cross for all the interested States. The Red Cross emblem must be scrupulously respected and must not be in any way abused."—*March* 30, 1936. *To the International Red Cross.*

During April, 1936, evidence was presented in Geneva of deliberate Italian attacks on Red Cross units.

"You know I am a man sparing in promises, but what I have promised I maintain."—*March* 18, 1937. *At Tripoli, when presented with the "Sword of Islam."*

"To the bad faith of others we oppose unimpeachable loyalty; to the castle of lies of others, the impetuous and overwhelming blast of our truth."—*March* 23, 1937. *On the eighteenth anniversary of the foundation of the Fascist group.*

"At a memorable meeting in Berlin I said that, according to the law of Fascist morality, when one has a friend one stands by him to the end. We have done that, and we shall do it, with Germany."—*June* 10, 1940. *At the Palazzo Venezia, announcing the declaration of war.*

"The law of Fascist morality" was differently expressed in a speech of Mussolini's at the Chamber on January 3, 1925.

"You will understand," he said then, "that, after having journeyed for a long time with travelling companions to whom our gratitude will always go forth for what they have done, a pause is needed to see if the same road, with the same companions, can be trodden in future."

PEACE PROFESSIONS.

"I wish to reject and repudiate all the futile chatter and defamation by those people who pretend to know that Italy wants to prepare for war. . . . Italy will never take the initiative in promoting war."—*January* 5, 1931. *In a message in English on a British Movietone news-reel.*

"We desire peace with all countries, with those that are distant, those that are near, those that are very near."—*August* 1, 1931. *At Ravenna, opening an aqueduct dedicated to those who fell in the last War.*

"Italy supports a lasting understanding among the Great Powers, so as to guarantee more efficiently the peaceful development of the smaller States."—*January* 1, 1934. *In the Berlin* Borsen-Courier.

"The Italian people demands to be left in peace because it is intent on a long and hard task."—*March* 17, 1937. *At the Tripoli Samples Fair.*

"I believe that if President Roosevelt will take the initiative of calling a conference for the limitation of armaments in the immediate future this gesture would certainly have a great success. Italy desires peace. She needs it for a long time in order to develop the forces at her disposal."—May 27, 1937. *In a statement to the Scripps—Howard newspapers.*

"The exit of Italy from the League of Nations is an event of great historical significance which has attracted the attention of the world, and its consequences cannot yet be completely foreseen. But it does not mean that we shall abandon our fundamental lines of policy, directed towards collaboration and peace."—*December* 11, 1937. *At the Palazzo Venezia.*

"If we had any intention of setting the world ablaze we should not be harnessing ourselves to a task so enormous. If, in spite of the storm clouds away on the horizon, we dared to start and go on with this work cheerfully, it ought to be considered a hopeful sign, and as proof that we do not want to attack anyone, but only to get on with our job."—*April* 20, 1939. *At the launching of preparations for the World Exhibition to be held in* 1942.

ABYSSINIA.

"There must be no misunderstanding about the centuries-old task assigned to this and future generations of Italians. There is no question of territorial conquest—this must be understood by all both far and near—but of a natural expansion which ought to lead to a collaboration between Italy and the peoples of Africa and the East. Italy can, above all, civilize Africa, and her position in the Mediterranean gives her this right and imposes this duty on her. She demands no privileges and monopolies."—*March* 18, 1934. *At the second Quinquennial Assembly of the regime.*

"With Abyssinia—especially since Ras Tafari's visit to Italy—our relations have become particularly friendly. The clouds which agents of other interests would have had gather on the horizon of Italo-Abyssinian relations have vanished. A Pact of Friendship, the first which Abyssinia will have signed with any European Power, will no doubt set a seal on this new and happy state of affairs."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

October 3, 1935. Italy invaded Abyssinia.

ALBANIA

"Albania knows that she can count on Italy's friendship, and knows that this friendship is absolutely loyal, profoundly sincere, and scrupulously anxious not to do or say anything which even people acting in bad faith could interpret as an intervention in the internal affairs of the Albanian State . . . Italy has but one fundamental interest—that the Albanian State, led by the firm and wise hand of a man of the eminent quality of Ahmed Zog, should consolidate even further her unity at home and her autonomy before the world . . . In a few years Albania will be a State in the widest and most complete sense of the word."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

"Italy has observed with satisfaction the progressive, social and political consolidation of Albania under Your Majesty's rule, and assures Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Government that they can always count on a constant friendship and cordial collaboration with her ally."—*September* 5, 1929. *In a telegram to King Zog, on the anniversary of his accession.*

"Italy's policy in Albania is quite clear and absolutely straightforward. Its sole object is to preserve and to respect the independent status of this small country, which for centuries has lived in friendship with us."—*May* 28, 1936. *In an interview in the Daily Telegraph.*

Good Friday, April 7, 1939. Italy invaded Albania.

AUSTRIA

"Immediately after the war Italy instituted a policy of friendship towards Austria with the object of defending her integrity and independence. For a long time Italy was alone, but other countries have now awakened. Austria knows she can count on Italy to the end."—*March* 18, 1934. *At the second Quinquennial Assembly of the regime.*

"The independence of Austria, for which he fell, is a principle which has been defended, and will be defended still more strenuously, by Italy . . . His memory will be honoured not only in Austria but everywhere in the civilized world, which has already stigmatized with its moral condemnation those who are responsible both directly and at a distance."—*July* 26, 1934. *In a telegram to the Vice-Chancellor of Austria, after the murder of Dollfuss.*

"Recent events, which the whole Italian people have followed with deep emotion, have come to consolidate the relations between our two countries. The experience of these last years has shown that the friendship between Italy and Austria corresponds fully with the needs of European solidarity, and is a sure guarantee of peace and tranquillity for us and for all."—*November* 17, 1934. *At a banquet to the new Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Schuschnigg.*

"In the *communiqué* which was distributed at the close of my conversation in Rome with the Chancellor of the Austrian Republic reference was made to a historic mission to be accomplished by Austria for which it was necessary that her independence and autonomy should be respected . . . Austria is, of course, a German country—certainly as German as Prussia, whose core is Slav, Germanized with difficulty. No one can contest the Germanic character of Austria, but the outward appearance and the expression, the very way of life, of Austrian Germanism are very different from those of Prussian Germanism. We are faced with two worlds which, during past centuries, have revolved in different orbits and have often been opposed on the field of battle . . . . To rid the German *Weltanschauung* of everything in it that is exclusive, crude, and repulsive to other nations that they may be given as one of the achievements of the Austrian spirit in all its manifestations, from politics to literature . . . There is an Austrian spirit which has taken forms which are not German but Austrian. These forms have been influenced, above all, by the culture of the Latin West, represented by Italy. . . . . I believe that in the passing of the years, with the strengthening of the State, with the improvement of her economy, everyone will become convinced that Austria can exist—that is to say, that there can exist a second German State in Europe, German, but master of its own destiny."—*February* 13, 1935. *In the Popolo d'Italia.*

When, on March 12, 1938, Germany invaded Austria, Mussolini made no move. Four days later he said, "Italy has never given, either directly or indirectly, any guarantee to protect Austrian independence."

POLAND

"Dr. Stresemann has promised that Germany will modify her attitude towards the alien minorities within the borders of the Reich. I take note of it for the future, but to-day the truth is that the Germans do not tolerate schools of the Polish tongue in the territories where Polish minorities exist."—*February* 10, 1926. *In the Senate.*

"I support the proposed admission of Poland to the Council of the League of Nations as a permanent member. She ought to enter at the same time as Germany, and not later, just as she has been admitted on the same footing as Germany at Locarno. You may be sure that if Germany is admitted alone to the Council on this occasion she is reserving herself to sell, later on, her acquiescence in the permanent admission of Poland by claiming certain concessions, such as the evacuation of occupied territory and the obtaining of colonial mandates."—*February* 27, 1926. *In an interview in the Petit Parisien.*

"With this great power (Poland), born of the War and now consolidated into a unitary state, which every day is strengthening its political, economic, and moral cohesion . . . there is the possibility of common action, specific of course, in certain directions and for specific eventualities . . . I have no need to emphasize the political importance of resurgent Poland, already numbering 30,000,000 inhabitants, and lying between an exhausted Russia and a Germany which is regaining her strength."—*January* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

"Still more admirable is the work by which in these twenty years Poland has succeeded in building a political and military structure which secures for her that position among the Great Powers to which she is entitled and that important function in the life of Europe to which she is called by her geographical position and her historical tradition. Today it is not possible to face the problems of political equilibrium and harmony between the European nations without the collaboration of Poland."—*February* 25, 1929. "*Message to Poland*" *in the Gazeta Polska.*

"I congratulate you on the attitude shown by Colonel Beck, your Foreign Minister, throughout this conflict. In his conversations with Baron Aloisi he has manifested real friendship and good will towards Italy and understanding of our needs. I in turn assure Poland that her situation is well understood in Italy and that there is a solid basis for friendship between the two nations."—*September* 19, 1935. *In an interview in the Kurjer Warszawski, during the diplomatic offensive that preceded the Abyssinian War.*

When, on September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland, Mussolini had nothing to say about his former friendship with that country. On September 27, he expressed his satisfaction that "the Polish question had been liquidated."

GREECE

"In foreign policy the most salient events have been the signature of the treaty with Abyssinia and the new treaty with Greece. The Greco-Italian treaty, with that signed with Turkey, completes and stabilizes the Government's specific policy in the Eastern Mediterranean."—*September* 24, 1928. *At a Council of Ministers.*

"Greece and Italy were the springs from which civilization and culture spread from the Mediterranean to the whole world. . . . The Italian Government always had a clear vision of the importance of the Hellenic factor in Eastern Europe . . . This vision has strengthened us in our deep conviction that an intimate and sincere collaboration between our two States will be efficacious, and will become an intimate and sincere collaboration between our two peoples. Such is the spirit which has animated us in concluding the treaty which we signed this morning."—*November* 24, 1928. *At a banquet offered to Venizelos.*

"The end of Sanctions will mark the entry of Italy into the ranks of the satisfied States. The smaller Mediterranean States have nothing to fear, absolutely nothing. Italy has treaties of friendship with Greece and Turkey, and is determined to observe them."—*May* 28, 1936. *In an interview in the Daily Telegraph.*

"I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag other people who are her neighbours by sea and by land into the conflict. Let Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Egypt and Greece take note of these words of mine."—*June* 10, 1940. *At the Palazzo Venetia in announcing the declaration of war against the Allies.*

October 28, 1940. Italy invaded Greece.

BRITAIN AND HER ALLIES

"The famous English attitude towards the European equilibrium, that of opposition to hegemonies on the Continent, has always made little Piedmont and later greater Italy take its place by the side of England for the defence of common ideals. And since the conquest of Gibraltar has made the British Empire a Mediterranean Power her future remains for ever more closely bound to that of Italy, because both nations desire that a stable equilibrium, which is the guarantee of peace and prosperity, should be maintained in that zone . . . I am able to pledge the welcome of the Italian public to all that will help to make it better acquainted with the greatness of England and her mighty contribution to world civilization. . . Between Italy, who is now with tenacious will and severe discipline striving to educate once more her sons in the virtues that made Rome great, and England, who has forged a wonderful empire on the anvil of Rome, and has powerfully contributed to the diffusion of civilization in the world, there can only be deep, sincere and heartfelt friendship."—*February* 9, 1926. *In an interview in the New York Times.*

"In saying that the friendship between Great Britain and Italy is traditional, one is not repeating a common place but expressing a reality. The friendship between the two peoples is profound. By this I mean that they have never been divided in the past, that they have worked together for peace . . .

One of the cardinal points of Italian policy is friendship with Great Britain. Such friendship requires no protocols to strengthen or perfect it."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

June 10, 1940. Italy declared war on the Allies.

MAXIMS FOR THE AXIS

"Those people are crazy who . . . permit of a racialism with all its gratuitously pretended purity."—*October* 22, 1933. *In an address to a deputation of Florentine Fascists.*

An imitation of Nazi racial policy was introduced during 1938.

"There are no secret intentions hidden behind my visit to Germany. Nothing will be planned here to divide a Europe which is already divided enough. . . To the whole world, which is asking tensely what the result of this meeting will be, war or peace, the Fuhrer and I can answer with a loud voice: 'Peace'."—*September* 28, 1937. *In Berlin.*

"The solution of the problem which is tormenting Europe at the moment has only one name, 'plebiscites'—plebiscites for all the nationalities which want them."—*September* 18, 1938. *At Trieste, during the Czechoslovak crisis.*

Hitler found a solution without plebiscites with which Mussolini concurred.

"All over the world hundreds of millions of men are now asking whether there is to be peace or war. After a cold and dispassionate examination of the situation, I reply that there are not in Europe at present problems so big and so active as to justify a war, which, from a European conflict, would naturally become universal."—*May* 14, 1939. *In Turin.*

On June 7, 1939, Mussolini first openly boasted of the Italian help given to General Franco, in spite of the Non-Intervention Agreement. "We did not hesitate," he said, "to give our full aid openly from the first days right up to the final triumph."

On November 18, 1940, Mussolini said: "I asked and obtained from the Fuhrer permission for direct Italian participation in the battle against Britain with Italian aeroplanes and submarines.

"And there are menaces which must be guarded against, and the pan-German menace is one of them. Think of this Germanic block of 80,000,000! The possibility of the common danger should increasingly bring together France and Italy, who are not divided by any serious question and who between them represent 80,000,000 inhabitants, as many as the German block. If that balance is maintained, the peace of Europe will not be disturbed."—*February* 27, 1926. *In an interview in the Petit Parisien.*

On May 20, 1939, Mussolini, speaking of the forthcoming signing of the alliance between Italy and Germany, said: "Thus, a block of 150,000,000 men will be formed, which will be irresistible."

THE NATION THAT DARED

Many things have been said about Greece and what it stands for. Here are a few quotations from a recent broadcast speech by Professor Gilbert Murray:—

"While the small nations of the West have been conquered one by one, and the nations of the East bullied into submission without daring to raise their heads, one alone —the smallest among them—has dared to stand up against the giants and is not only standing up but has actually been winning victory after victory."

"Think first of their freedom. It is freedom for which we are now fighting, freedom against the claims of despots who are above the law, like the Roman Emperors who were worshipped as gods. There was never in Greece a super-human semi-divine Great King, as there were in Babylon and Egypt and in Rome afterwards. The Greeks had kings and leaders—some good, some bad—but they are always sharply warned that they are not superhuman and will only get into trouble if they think they are. They msut no put up megalomaniac inscriptions about their glory. They must not expect to have concubines and attendants sacrificed on their graves. They must not expect people to kiss the earth on entering their presence or to walk backwards on leaving it. They must not sieze other men's wives and daughters. They are never above the law; the law is always above them. The meanest of their citizen-fellows has the right of free speech and cannot be condemned unheard. Take another significant fact. The Romans, as we all know, rejoiced in gladiatorial games, where sometimes professional gladiators fought to death to amuse the mob; sometimes it was criminals or slaves who were butchered or thrown to wild beasts. The taste for these games spread everywhere; the degraded mobs in most countries liked them and it was a regular form of flattery to Rome to adopt the great Roman institution; it spread everywhere except to Greece. In Greece only one city gave in—the rather disreputable city of Corinth."

"How is this insistence on freedom, free speech, equality before the law, connected with the great achievements of the Greeks in art, thought and literature? We can see at least this connection that if freedom does not of itself necessarily produce great art or thought the absence of freedom makes great art and thought impossible. It is not for nothing that the tyrants of Germany and Italy to-day have driven out their great writers and men of science and are taking the trouble to murder university students. In fighting for freedom the Greeks fought not merely for the right to be unpersecuted in their daily lives; they fought for the right to think and to speak, to write poems and plays and books on philosophy and to build temples like the Parthenon. And so do we."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

The Mixture as Before

Now that air warfare has been resumed over Western Europe, following the recent lull due to bad weather, it is interesting to notice that the Nazi radio has returned to its attempts of last year to magnify the activities of the *Luftwaffe* and to minimize the achievements of the R.A.F. The last few days have seen many instances of this lying technique in action.

To begin with, Berlin broadcast on February 3 a most circumstantial account of "a heavy Nazi raid on London on the night of Thursday, January 30." It took the form of an interview with a young German airman alleged to have participated in the attack. There was a graphic description of Goering's youthful heroes, at seven o'clock in the evening, donning their heavy winter flying kit—including overalls with fur-lined boots, leather cap, breathing apparatus, swimming suit and leather gloves; then came "a hearty dinner", a drive to the aerodrome and, eventually, the flight to London amid a hell of anti-aircraft shells and searchlights. "Blood-red fires gleamed through the clouds over London" as the airmen listened to the explosions of their heavy bombs before roaring homewards at 15 degrees below zero.

Apart from the difficulty of eating a heavy dinner while clad in leather cap, breathing apparatus and swimming suit, and the impossibility of hearing above the noise of one's engines the explosions of bombs many thousands of feet below, this account might have been convincing—if there had been any raids on London on the night of Thursday, January 30. But, alas, there were no enemy aircraft at all over London, or any other part of Britain, on that night!

History Re-written

On February 6, trying to belittle the success of the R.A.F.'s big daylight "sweep" of the French and Belgian coasts on the previous day, the German wireless claimed that 17 British planes were destroyed and the rest "driven back before reaching the target area." Actually, the British force lost seven escorting fighters, but their bombers were able to make heavy attacks on docks, Nazi warships and oil supplies at Ostend, Brest, Bordeaux and other invasion bases, as well as on several Nazi aerodromes inland. The Germans, of course, omitted to mention that four of their own defending fighters were shot down.

Berlin, by the way, has not only stuck to its story of "17 British planes destroyed" on that particular day, but has subsequently dressed the occasion up as a "significant defeat for the R.A.F." (February 9), contrasting it proudly with the "successful daylight raids on Britain carried out by the German air force last August and September." Goebbels could hardly have chosen a more unfortunate comparison, since the *Luftwaffe's* mass day raids on England early last autumn were defeated so heavily that they have never been repeated. On many occasions the Nazis lost in the region of 100 planes a day, culminating in the disastrous Saturday (September 15) when no fewer than 180 machines were brought down by the R.A.F. during the hours of daylight. It was this staggering blow, coupled with the immense destruction of barges and material along the Channel coast that very night, which forced Hitler to cancel at the eleventh hour the plans he had made to invade England that weekend.

Reporting a dive-bombing attack on a British convoy, also on February 5, Berlin alleges that a 3,000-ton steamer was sunk, and another of from 6,000 to 8,000 tons "struck in its most vital part". The British Admiralty *communiqué* announced categorically that the 631-ton escorting trawler, *Tourmaline*, was sunk during the attack, but added that no merchant vessel in the convoy was lost or damaged. The Nazi dive-bomber destroyed by another trawler, the *Lady Philomena*, was naturally not mentioned in the German story.

The Importance of Being Decisive

Italy's unbroken succession of defeats in Africa and the Balkans has put her over-worked apologist, Dr. Goebbels, into a quandary from which he emerges declaiming that blessed word "decisive". Thus, on February 4, the Berlin radio, while admitting Gereral Wavell's victories in Libya, declares that "Egypt and the Mediterranean are not the chief theatre of war—it is not here that the decisive blow will be struck". The British people know just where the chief theatre of war lies, but neither they nor the rest of the world have forgotten how, after Hitler's invasion plans had been smashed last September, Berlin explained that the Fuehrer's meeting with Mussolini at the Brenner on October 4 presaged "a decisive blow aganist the British on the Suez Canal".

The world also remember how, after the fall of Sidi Barrani on December 11, another of Geobbel's favourite organs, the *Frankfurter Zeitung* said: "The British cannot speak of this as a decisive action. (They hadn't, by the way). Before using the word decisive, they will have to advance as far as Benghazi, and secure air bases for an attack on Italy herself".

The Nazi radio on February 4 added that, in order to achieve General Wavell's "minor prestige successes"—perhaps a polite anticipation of the fall of Benghazi?—Britain was forced "to bring all the resources of the Empire into play". The Empire still has other resources, including the largest military force (4,000,000 strong) ever assembled in the British Isles, a home-based Air Force which has already begun a day-and-night offensive over the Continent, and a Navy which the General Admiral, Reader, recently admitted would have to be defeated before the Nazis could begin to hope for victory.

Rome on Februry 9 enlarged on the Nazi hint by averring:—"Italy is sustaining the full weight of the maximum combined military and naval strength that the British Empire can put forward . . . The best part of British Fleet is concentrated in the Mediterranean". So far from this being the case, the two British capital ships (the *Renown* and the *Malaya*) which took part in Sunday's bombardment of Genoa are among the very oldest of their type in the Royal Navy. The *Renown* was built in 1916, and the *Malaya* in 1915!

Coventry Again

On February 9, the German wireless quoted an article in the *Berliner Boersen Zeitung* by a *Luftwaffe* general, who alleges that the Nazi attacks on Coventry must have had a disastrous effect on Britain's aeroplane output. More than 500 tons of bombs were dropped on Coventry in a single night, boasts the general, and "it is obvious that it is impossible for Britain to continue her manufacture of warplanes according to plan".

Quite apart from the fact that Coventry is neither the only or the chief centre of aircraft manufacture in Britain, it is worth recalling that Mr. Ben Robertson, London correspondent of the New York paper *P.M.*, said in America last month that German bombers had done comparatively little damage to British industry.

"The Coventry story," he added, "was censored, but not because of the amount of damage. It was censored because of the lack of damage."

Germany must indeed be hard up for "pep" propaganda, both for home and outside consumption, if she is forced to fall back on the destruction of Coventry's cathedral, churches, shops, hospitals and civilian homes as evidence of the *Luftwaffe's* victory over Britain's war industry.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Another Red Herring

In its Hindustani bulletin of February 7, the Italian radio produces another red herring by telling the world that the British working classes are urging the Government to conclude peace with the Axis powers and are threatening to go on strike if their demand is not met. Apart from the fact that since the war started, the number of strikes and lockouts in Britain has been the lowest on record, the British workers' point of view was defined by Mr. Will Lawther, President of the Mine-workers' Federation of Great Britain as long ago as August 1940. He said: "The Fascists will only enter this island over our dead bodies". He added that British workers regarded the situation as if a gas explosion had overtaken their comrades in Europe and their lives had to be saved from the Fascist poison gas. "Let it be clear, plain and unmistakable that the view of every section of the British Labour movement is that we fight on until not a trace of the Fascist remains. It is a crusade we have sworn to see through to the end."

Nazi War Aim

On February 5 the Berlin radio complained that Britain intended first to win the war and to enumerate her war aims afterwards.

Germany's war aim was very clearly defined by her Agriculture Minister, Darre who, addressing a group of high Party officials in May 1940, remarked: "We have in mind a modern form of mediæval slavery, which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it to fulfil our great social tasks."

India and the War

In its Hindustani broadcast of February 7, the Nazi wireless stated that, as a result of the war, prices of food-stuffs in India are rising abnormally, thus causing much hardship. It is a well-known fact that a rising price-level is not necessarily an indication of a country's destitution. In any case, however, taking the week ending August 19, 1939, as equal to 100, the All-India wholesale price index, as at the week ended 23rd November 1940, was only 115. Besides, India's exports have substantially increased and nothing indicates the industrial progress of India more strikingly than the fact that this country is now in a position to supply 20,000 out of the 40,000 articles required by the Army.

R.A.F. versus Luftwaffe

On February 6, the German radio proudly announced that "it has been made clear to the world that the R.A.F. is no comparison to the *Luftwaffe*". Whatever the Nazi radio has to say about the superiority of the German air power, the world has seen that during 1940 the Nazi losses in raids over Britain numbered 2,993, while the losses of British fighters over Britain numbered 847, and on the Western Front and in France the British lost 375 machines against the Germans' 945. Furthermore, during January 1941, when Hitler's decision to help Mussolini in the Mediterranean has forced the *Luftwaffe* to fight on two fronts, the German losses over that seal have been 184 machines, against Britain's 14.

Digging for Victory

The German wireless declared on February 5 that "the blockade of Britain is being vigorously carried out" and, to prove its point, we were informed that England is being forced to turn playgrounds into fields. England, however, is making this drive to grow as much of her agricultural produce at home as possible, not because she is forced to do so by the so-called German blockade, but because by so doing, her ships, which ordinarily would have brought her foodstuffs, can bring war material instead.

Bahrein and Britain

On February 7, the German broadcast in Arabic made the fantastic statement that England was handing over Bahrein to America Bahrein is an independent territory with direct treaty relations with Great Britain, and therefore England is in no position to even negotiate about Bahrein with the U.S.A., much less hand her over to America or any other country.

Nazi Intrigues in France

While referring to the new French "National Popular Party", the German broadcast in Hindustani reported on February 3 that hundreds of Frenchmen were joining this organization. In actual fact, this party is a German creation with a full Nazi domestic and foreign programme, which includes the "reconstruction of Europe and the exploitation of Africa by European and Franco-German co-operation". One leader of the Nazi-inspired party insinuated over the radio that Vichy was jeopardizing the French future and revealed that the Germans had decided to liberate as many prisoners as there were French workmen willing to accept work in Germany.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 9 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, March 1, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

21st Feb.—It is reported that Marshal Petain has rejected a request from Mussolini that Italian troops in Libya be permitted passage through Tunisia to return to Italy.

Czech leaders including Dr. Milan Hodza, ex-Premier of Czechoslovakia have been sentenced to heavy terms of imprisonment at Bratislava.

Big merchantships are to be built in Australia to help the British war effort. A progamme provides for the construction of steamers of ten thousand tons.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, and Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff have arrived in Egypt.

Approximately 200 air-craft have been flown across the pacific from California to Singapore. Seventy pursuit planes of the latest and fastest American Army Air Corps fighters are being transported by sea to Nationalist China while 12 retired United States pilots have landed in Netherlands East Indies where they will be flying instructors.

Nazi raids on Britain. Swansea, in South Wales, South and East England and East Scotland were visited by enemy aircraft. Damage was done to houses and casualties, including a number of killed, were caused.

Mr. Matsuoka declared that in his capacity of Foreign Minister he made no proposal of mediation to any specific country.

It is suggested in well-informed Chinese quarters that in an effort to bring about a Russo-Japanese rapprochement, Germany is urging Japan to return the southern part of the Island of Sakhalin to Russia. In return it is proposed that Russia should agree to enter into a Non-aggression pact with Japan.

Royal Air Force attack objectives in the industrial area of Western Ruhr, Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Brest and aerodromes in Holland and France.

22nd Feb.—The port of Jumbo in Italian Somaliland has fallen to South African troops.

Malta area is mined by the British.

The French Delegation to the Tokyo Conference of Mediation in the Thai-Indo-China dispute protests against the presence of the Japanese Fleet off the Indo-China coast.

The South African Defence Department announces the loss of the patrol vessel *Southern Flow* through enemy action.

Slight enemy air activity over Great Britain. A German plane dropped bombs on a coast town in North-East Scotland without causing any casualties.

Royal Air Force raided the enemy naval base of Brest.

23rd Feb.—A combined force of British and Abyssinian patriot troops occupy Shogali on the Blue Nile in Abyssinia. Following a sharp engagement in the Bomba sector the enemy retires.

The Greeks launch successful attacks on the Northern and Central fronts in Albania. In the Devoli valley and the Ostravitza mountains and near the source of the Skumbi River Italian counter-attacks have been repulsed. Bombing of Preveza by enemy aircraft is reported. Royal Air Force successfully bomb Duka, north-west of Tepelini.

A German request for the demobilization of almost the whole of the Hungarian Army is reported to have been made to General Bartha, the Hungarian Commander-in-Chief.

British subjects throughout Manchukuo have been advised by the British Government to leave the country.

There was slight enemy activity mainly off the east and south-east coasts of England. Few enemy aircraft crossed the coasts. They were chased back by Spitfires across the Straits of Dover.

The difficulties of the fight in which Italy is engaged "not only in the Mediterranean but above all on the widely separated fronts of the war against British world power", were explained by Mussolini in a speech at Rome addressed to "the Italian people and the world.

24th Feb.—Italian troops holding positions about Cub Cub in Eritrea have been dispersed by British forces. On the road to Gondar in Abyssinia advanced British elements have reached Amanit. In Jarabub in Libya the British have contained the Italian forces and are content in view of the holy character of the place to await the inevitable Italian surrender.

West African troops capture Brava in Italian Somaliland. Cleaning up operations are continuing in the Gelib area. Abyssinian irregulars and South African troops capture Moyale.

The British Air Force bomb the Addis Ababa aerodrome and the South African bombers attack field dumps at Nefasit, in Eritrea.

The Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Sarajoglu, in an interview to a Turkish paper said that Turkey would stand by her commitments to Britain in spite of the Turko-Bulgarian Non-aggression Pact. He added: "Turkey

remains faithful to her alliances. She could not in any way remain indifferent to foreign activities taking place in her zone of security. She will offer armed opposition to all aggression directed against her territorial integrity and independence ".

Hitler, in the course of an address to the old members of the Nazi Party, threatens that " in March and April a naval warfare will start such as the enemy never expected."

Royal Air Force attack enemy naval base at Brest.

Marshal Petain has re-formed his Cabinet which consists of five Ministers and seven Under Secretaries.

There was a little enemy activity over England. Bombs dropped at scattered points in East Anglia. Damage and casualties were nowhere great.

25th Feb.—British Imperial troops are continuing their advance south of Cub Cub. British East African and West African troops, occupy Mogadishu, the capital of Italian Somaliland.

Aircraft of the Bomber and Coastal Commands attack invasion ports of Boulogne, Dunkirk and Calais.

The formation of a uniformed Women's Royal Australian Air Force Auxiliary is announced by Mr. McEwen, Air Minister. The Australian " wrens " will do wireless, teleprinter and ground duties, receiving two-thirds of the man's pay.

Every householder in Britain will receive free compensation from the Government up to £200 for air raid damage to clothing, furniture and other household goods, under the new Government free insurance scheme outlined by Sir Kingsley Wood.

Coventry, which was subjected to a heavy air raid in November last is to be replanned according to a scheme adopted by the Coventry Council.

Britain's Food Controller, Lord Woolton, imposes restrictions on hotels and restaurants from March 10.

A deputation representing all disbanded political parties waits on King Boris to discuss " the foreign position ". Preparation for a German entry into Bulgaria is evident from the fact that the main roads from north to south are being feverishly overhauled under German supervision.

Britons living in Bulgaria have been advised to leave the country.

Italians bomb Greek positions along the road to Koritza towards Florina. British and Greek planes reply vigorously in the Moskopolis sector.

British forces occupy the small Italian island, Castel Lorezo, in the Dodecanese group.

Royal Air Force fighters shoot down two German planes when they raided Malta.

Enemy air activity was mainly over Eastern England. Bombs were dropped at a number of places in East Anglia and at a few points elsewhere. Litle damage was done and casualities were few. One enemy bomber was destroyed.

26th Feb.—British forces at Cub Cub are advancing further south and are now some 50 miles away from Keren. Further South British forces are advancing from Barentu towards Aareza on the road north of Asmara.

Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary and General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, arrive in Ankara. They have been received by M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Foreign Minister.

It is reported that the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka will visit Moscow to sign an agreement with the Soviet.

Royal Air Force attack docks at Calais and fighters carry out an offensive sweep over the Channel and Northern France.

Small forces of enemy aircraft bomb coastal areas of Kent and East Anglia; damage caused was slight and there was a small number of casualities.

A big German air attack on Malta is reported. Seven planes were shot down.

27th Feb.—British mechanised forces encountered west of Aguila in Libya and drove back a reconnaissance unit of armoured fighting vehicles believed to be German. In Eritrea the British forces contain the main body of the enemy about Keren.

British women evacuees from Thailand arrive at Sydney.

Mr. John Winant, the new American Ambassador to Britain has left for Lisbon *en route* to London.

Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill started their talks with the Turkish Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, the Chief of the Staff and the President of the National Assembly. Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador at Moscow has left for Istanbul for talks with Mr. Eden.

Australia has severed trading relations with Rumania which has been declared enemy territory.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs have been dropped in the outskirts of London and a number of places in East Anglia and there is a small number of casualties. One Heinkel bomber approaching small units of the British Navy in the North Sea was shot down.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 18th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 12, Wednesday.	(No reports.)		
February 13, Thursday.	(No reports.)		
February 14, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter-and-bomber sweeps over N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on invasion bases at Denhelder (harbour, canal, shipping) and Calais; shipping off Norwegian coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on oil plant at Gelsenkirchen; inland port at Duisburg Ruhrort; aerodromes in N. W. Germany and Holland; invasion base at Ostend.	1	.
February 15, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial targets in the W. Ruhr; including six oil plants, an inland port and two aerodromes; invasion bases at Rotterdam, Boulogne, Calais.	5	..
February 16, Sunday.	R.A.F. single-plane day bomber raids on invasion bases at Hellovoelsluis (Holland), Middleburg, Denhelder, Zeebrugge; shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night "leaflet raids" on Cracow and Katowice areas of Poland.	Nil.	...
February 17, Monday.	R.A.F. day sweep (no details) over enemy territory ..	1	1
February 18, Tuesday.	(No reports.)		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 18th February 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 12	Nil.	1
February 13	Nil.	..
February 14	1	1
February 15	2	6
February 16	Nil.	2
February 17	Nil.	4
February 18	..	2

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK.

The week has been marked by remarkable progress made in the conquest of Italian Somaliland. After the fall of Jubaland the British advance has continued, resulting in the capture of Margharita and the important port of Jelib, both north of the Juba river. Mogadishu, the capital of Italian Somaliland, fell to the British on Tuesday evening and the Imperial troops have covered a distance of hundred miles from Brava which was captured on Monday; an advance of 570 miles in thirteen days—British forces began their march on February 12 from their base—is an achievement which can only be compared with the feat performed in Libya, and the well-timed and well-regulated co-operation of the army, the navy and the air force has made this possible. Mogadishu, though it is the capital of the Italian Somaliland, is not of great importance as a port, but it commands two roads, one leading to the Jibuti railway and Harar in Abyssinia and the other westwards to Lugh. Thousands of men and great quantity of war materials have been taken during these operations. It will be remembered that Mogadishu was the base of Italian operations against Abyssinia. The re-capture of British Somaliland is now only a matter of time, and only a small, isolated Italian garrison holds it.

Moyale has been recaptured by the British. It should be remembered that Moyale was captured by the Italians in July last year, so that, by its recapture, all Italian troops have been driven out of British territory.

The progress in Abyssinia from north, west and south continues in twelve different directions threatening the forces of the Duke of Aosta.

In Eritrea the British forces are advancing from the north driving the Italian troops from Cub Cub and are continuing the drive southwards. They are now within striking distance of Keren, having made contact with advanced position of the Garrison of the enemy. Other forces continue to march on Keren from the west. The aim of British strategy in all these operations is to drive Italians inward. Without hope of reinforcements and completely cut off from Italy, the position of Italians in East Africa is hopeless and surrender or defeat is inevitable.

The week has been marked by speeches by the two dictators in Europe. Mussolini's speech on Sunday last was an attempt to explain the defeat of his troops in Africa while Hitler's speech broke no new ground, except a promise often made to break the back of Great Britain.

As if to prove that Hitler's threats were empty the dive bombers operating in Italian bases, which attacked the British Fleet in the Central Mediterranean early this week, were beaten off in or about the scene of the former unsuccessful attack against the aircraft carrier *Illustrious*. No damage resulted to British ships, while the Germans lost some of their aircraft. The convoy reached its destination safely while no British warships were hit. It is also noteworthy that another bad start was made by some German reconnaissance troops 150 miles west of Bengazhi. This attack was repulsed—an attempt, half-hearted, on the part of the Fuhrer, to help ' the weaker partner '.

Meanwhile, the war of nerves has continued unabated. The knock-out blow against the British is still being threatened by intensive blockade of the Eastern Atlantic culminating probably in invasion. Air attacks on railways, industrial plants and aerodromes in Great Britain are to be pursued with greater vigour than ever before. The Balkans are to be converted into a spring-board, for an offensive, the precise direction and scope of which may become clear in a few days. Various promises are being held out to Yugoslavia to permit German troops to pass through that country to Salonika, while, according to information in the possession of the British Government, every preparation has been completed in Rumania to march the troops into Bulgaria in order to invade Greece. The British representative in Bulgaria has warned Bulgaria and hinted that severance of diplomatic relations with that country is imminent and this is clear evidence that a crisis is impending. Germany, further, is to become dominant in North Africa from Dakar to Alexandria by securing control over the Central Mediterranean from Sicily on the northern side and Tunisia in the south. These would require the co-operation of Spain and of the Vichy Government which is not forthcoming. Finally, Germany hopes that Japan will be able to divert British forces and American supplies to the Pacific in order to make it easy for Hitler to secure domination in Europe.

British statesmanship is not unequal to all these feverish moves. Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary and General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, secretly left Great Britain, visited Egypt and then proceeded to Ankara where they carried on important conversations with the representatives of the Turkish Government Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador in Moscow, has come down to Ankara, to explain Soviet's attitude to Mr. Eden. The visit of Mr. Eden is of momentous importance and its results will appear as Germany decides on further moves. It is of great significance that Mr. Eden's presence in Turkey is looked upon as a symbol of the democratic cause and a note of affection and regard is obvious in the welcome accorded to him. It is therefore a fair inference to draw that there is full agreement between Great Britain and Turkey on matters of common interest.

TURKISH ATTITUDE.

There is nothing to warrant any suspicion about the Turkish attitude towards Great Britain. The Turkish-Bulgarian declaration, it is clear, does not signify any change in the Turkish policy and a Turkish newspaper stated the other day that the alliances with Great Britain and with Greece were fundamental points in that policy. The Turks are realists and they well know that the German threat would imply that the Straits would be doubly threatened from the west and from the north. The Turks have never promised to go to the help of Bulgaria and they would not enter Bulgaria to resist the German invasion because her own defences are strong in Thrace and they could bring up reinforcements to meet any emergency. Further, there are in the agreement saving clauses the full significance of which must be appreciated. The Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Sarajoglu, has made the position of Turkey absolutely clear. He said on Monday last that Turkey would stand by her commitments to Britain and she would be faithful to her alliances. He went further and said that Turkey could not in any way remain indifferent to foreign activities taking place in her zone of security, which obviously includes Bulgaria, and that she would offer armed opposition to all aggression directed against her territorial integrity and independence. The visit of the British Foreign Minister to Turkey, which has been purposely misrepresented as one, the object of which is to coerce Turkey, should do a great deal to clarify the position. It is possible that delay in the German drive is due partly to Mr. Eden's visit. It should be remembered that the talk is only a continuation of those which have already been held.

It should be taken for granted that Bulgaria has yielded to the pressure of Germany in regard to the passage of German troops. The Bulgarian Prime Minister, it is reported, will soon proceed to Germany to sign away Bulgarian independence by joining the Axis. If this is so, then Great Britain would be free to consider Bulgaria as an enemy country. The British have now secured Greek bases for their operations. Further, General Wavell has large troops available and the British have other bases from which to check German action.

MUSSOLINI'S SPEECH.

Mussolini's lament on Sunday last made in a speech at Rome to " the Italian people and the world " is in strange contrast to that which he delivered in the Palazzo Venezia in Rome on November 18th on the fifth anniversary of the imposing of " sanctions ". In that speech he prided himself on the fact that the defeat of the British Somaliland had been completed and just as at Dunkirk, so at Berbera, the English had fled. He further spoke of the Italian initiative in the occupation of Sidi Barrani, which, he said, must not be considered a conclusion, but merely a prologue. Mussolini also dwelt upon the Italian lines of communication in the Mediterranean and the part played by the Italian Navy in such an efficient manner that the enemy Navy was not able to interrupt them, and of the strength of the Italian Air Force. What, however, did the Italian Dictator say on Sunday last? Where are his 14,000 officers and 356,000 men, 1,900 guns and 15,300 machine guns which he had massed in his African Empire? In spite of these careful preparations he admitted that the British " forestalled us by a few days ". According to reliable accounts Italy has lost a thousand planes in North Africa. Mussolini is losing his African Empire bit by bit, while not only has he been driven out of Greece, but he is losing ground every day in Albania where he has lost 27,000 killed, 66,000 wounded and 29,000 missing, of whom 20,000 are prisoners. In spite of these devastating facts the Duce expressed his complete conviction that the struggle would come to " a victorious conclusion ". History will, however, record what the character of this conclusion would be. Mussolini has followed up this speech by another in which he described in considerable detail the help which he gave to General Franco, the money value of which was £91 millions. He did this either to make excuses for the unpreparedness of Italy when she entered the present war or to appeal to General Franco to rush to his help. It was an inept performance to explain away his frustrated desire to secure quick rewards with small sacrifices.

HITLER'S SPEECH.

The points in Hitler's speech on Monday last may thus be summarised :—

(1) " In March and April a naval warfare will start such as the enemy never expected ".

This warfare evidently refers to intensified submarine campaign and air attack. Great Britain is fully prepared.

(2) " I used the power of the German nation for this purpose and in good time. I am resolved to use Europe for the same purpose if necessary—in fact I am doing so."

According to a Lisbon correspondent of a British newspaper, there is now a slave army of well over a million of foreign workers in Germany. There are 670,000 industrial workers, besides agricultural labourers deported from Poland. It is stated that the prisoners of war working on farms and non-military production exceeds two millions. Poland is the biggest recruiting field, and the method of recruiting is simply transportation at a few hours' notice and the people deported should be ready at such short notice. The unemployed in Denmark and Norway are told that if they do not accept employment in Germany their dole will be curtailed.

(3) " We shall find them (the British) wherever they go and strike where our blows will be most destructive ".

The story of the unsuccessful attempts of the dive bombers in the Mediterranean to destroy

British convoy and the futile attempts of the Luftwaffe to hit British aircraft carriers is too recent to need reiteration.

(4) " When I have chosen a man, I stick to him. The bond which unites our revolution is insoluble and it is the same with the two men."

Hitler's record is black in this respect. A list of his closest friends whom he sent to concentration camps or to the scaffold when they were of no further use to him is a pretty long one. It may be remarked that this reference to Mussolini was heard in dark silence indicating that such remarks addressed to a German audience were not welcome because Germans were well aware of the Fuhrer's misdeeds.

(5) " We have been waiting for our new U-boats. Two hours ago, I received reports that German surface warships and U-boats had sunk 215 thousand tons of shipping in two days."

This figure was later advanced to 250,000 tons, but the account is fantastic. The fact is that merchant shipping losses in the week ended 16th February were 12 ships with a gross tonnage of 37,636 tons, British and Allied.

(6) " Germany was not fleecing others but following a form of economy which was of use to Germany."

" The New Statesman and Nation " of November 23, in commenting upon Hitler's relations with conquered countries, wrote as follows :—

" There occurred in that speech of Hitler at Munich which our bombers interrupted, a brief passage that went unreported in the daily press. In the German wireless version it ran as follows :—' In a few months Germany has in fact bestowed freedom on the continent. The British attempt to Balkanise Europe—let British statesmen note this carefully—is ended and ruled out. England's aim was to disorganize it.'' It is not the first time Italy will organize it. ' It is not the first time that Hitler has struck this note; he did it notably in a proclamation when he crossed the Dutch frontier. Hitler, if he should win this war, will certainly unify the continent by military power, but he will make the people helots under the German master-race. His economic plan is as clearly to exploit the peasants, primary producers of Eastern Europe and the Balkans, while Germany monopolises industry.''

JAPAN.

The latest news of Japan is that over eighty German and Italian military advisers have arrived at Hainan Island, off French Indo-China and the Japanese forces are being assisted by them to map out plans for an advance to the south. It is also stated that more than 100 Japanese warships, including destroyers, submarines and two aircraft carriers are concentrated around Hainan Island, Tonkin Bay and the adjoining islands and that 90,000 Japanese troops are now in Formosa and Hainan. There is, however, no confirmation of these moves. Japanese residents in Indo-China have been asked to leave immediately. Meanwhile both Great Britain and America have warned Japan against any move in the south and the question is whether this warning will have its effect on the Japanese Government.

So far as the Indo-China-Thailand dispute is concerned, the latest information is to the effect that the Petain Government has accepted the terms decided on by Japan in order to avoid a military conflict.

The offer of Japan to mediate in the war in the west has proved to be a damp squib. Mr. Churchill finally buried this insidious controversy by stating in the House of Commons that Great Britain will not, in a cause of the kind for which Great Britain is fighting—a cause in no way concerned with territory, trade or material gains but affecting the whole future of humanity—there can be no question of compromise or parley."

MORALS AND NEUTRALITY

Mr. De Valera, says *Time and Tide* (British) is one of the few statesmen who know the meaning of abstract nouns and cling to that meaning and the exactness of it with an intellectual integrity that in these days of loose thinking cannot but arouse admiration. He knows what neutrality means and he stands politically for its full intellectual content. To lease ports to Britain is to be unneutral. Eire is neutral, so leasing is impossible. Mr. De Valera honestly believes that it is simply a problem of intellectual ethics to which there is only one solution—the blank negative. Politically he is murdering Eire but that does not matter so long as logically he is unassailable. The higher implications, the real moral issue he does not face any more than he has faced the political. Politically, here is a superb chance for the kind of gesture to which the English invariably respond with the certainty of saving Eire economically and perhaps Ireland politically. Morally, here is a superb chance to raise issues that transcend politics, of conferring on Eire that dignity which arises from taking free decisions on moral grounds before they become politically necessary.

But Eire is neutral. Recent events might have shown him that adherence to logic is a process no neutral can afford, but Mr. De Valera is obstinate. He would prefer to go down with his country in loyalty to a formula rather than, at the sacrifice of the formula, benefit his country. Others than the British Government are, it is believed, seeking to find a solution which will give us the facilities we need without wrecking the precious formula. Their success is naturally problematical.

THE FOOD SITUATION IN EUROPE

THE POSITION EXPLAINED.

Mr. Herbert Hoover is at it again. He has sent up a plan to the British and French Governments for feeding the people in Nazi-occupied countries in Europe and has stipulated certain conditions under which this supply should be sent. He would try the experiment in Belgium and feed the people there without military advantage to either side through soup kitchens to prevent supplies from reaching Germany. It is surprising that Mr. Hoover, who knows how, in the last war, the Germans stole such food supplies from the countries they had occupied, should put forward the identical plan again. Another condition is that Berlin should agree not to requisition food from the countries to which help is being sent. In the first place, Germany is not likely to do so and in the second place, it should be remembered that Berlin has always been saying that there is no shortage of food either in Germany or in the occupied countries. The fact is that the arrangement will not work and is not simple. Mr. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State in the United States, in replying to Mr. Hoover's plan, said very appropriately that full responsibility should be laid on the Germans for feeding the people in the Nazi-occupied countries and that the United States Government has taken no part in advancing Mr. Hoover's plan. There is considerable force in what Mr. Sumner Welles said that Germany was obliged, under every accepted rule of international law, to care for the people in the occupied country. Writing about the activities of American speakers who are advocating the acceptance of the Hoover plan, *Time and Tide* (British) says: " We wish these speakers would try their oratory on the men in the London docks and the women bombed out of Bow and those left widows in Coventry and then for ever hold their peace."

The question of food supply to Europe, especially to the countries occupied by Germany, requires special attention in India. Lord Haw Haw is busy in making it appear that the Nazis are providing relief measures wherever necessary and that deficiency in food is entirely due to the British blockade. The deterioration in the food position, it must be recollected, is entirely due to Germany robbing the occupied countries of their supplies, to feed the German war machine. The Germans are very clever in their methods. They reduce the people of the occupied countries to the verge of starvation and then take advantage of the situation. They tell the world that they are undertaking relief measures from Berlin of which they make full use in propaganda. For example, it was announced on January 15, that 450,000 tons of potatoes and 100,000 tons of sugar were being sent to occupied and unoccupied France from which country, Germans did not hesitate to take away all that was available. It should be remembered that scarcity in the occupied countries is due solely to German pillage which takes the form of requisitioning of purchases of articles needed by the German armies of occupation and substitution of worthless paper marks for their own currency. It is necessary therefore that people in India should fully understand the situation. In the first place, as has been stated already, the food shortage in occupied countries is the result of German exploitation. Secondly, the object of the British blockade is to affect the Germans and the only result of supplying food through the blockade to the occupied countries will be to afford greater supplies to the Germans, thus prolonging the war. Thirdly, the relief measures which the Germans boast of employing consist mainly in the return of a small proportion of the inferior part of their produce to the suffering countries in order to reduce the dissatisfaction arising from the threat of starvation. Fourthly, it must be emphasised that Great Britain has made arrangements for the accumulation of food supplies and these can be sent to countries now occupied, as soon as there is an assurance that such foodstuffs will not reach the enemy.

EUROPE'S FOOD UNDER THE " NEW ORDER ".

Hitler publicly exulted on July 19, 1940, in the " tremendous possibilities of exploitation " offered by the countries his armies had overrun. " While in Britain economic measures are being taken " proclaimed the Berlin radio on August 9, " Germany has at her disposal the resources of Belgium, Holland and France ".

Again, " because of the satisfactory position of her dairy products a larger fat ration is available per head in Germany to-day than in most European countries ". (German broadcast, 3rd February 1941.)

Whose dairy products are those? There has been shortage of fats for human consumption in Germany ever since 1932, when there was no war and no blockade. Everyone knows the alternative of " guns or butter " offered to the Germans by Goering. Is it entirely a coincidence that 85 per cent of the French production of fats comes from the occupied part of the country? Is it a coincidence that Denmark was an exporter, not an importer, of dairy products before the German invasion brought her within the British blockade?

WHAT THE NAZIS HAVE SAID.

It is only necessary to recall the statements which the Nazis have made on different occasions and for different purposes to show the hollowness of their starvation propaganda. Here is a selection :

" The Norwegian campaign has broken the English blockade "—*Der Feldzug in Norwegen, pamphlet printed in Berlin.*

"The British fleet has been rendered helpless"—*German broadcast*, 9th July 1940.

"It is not within British power to let Europe starve. Least of all does such a danger exist for Germany—It is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties"—*German internal broadcast (Deutschlandsender*, 5th August 1940).

"Germany is sending all foodstuffs to the French population. All necessary measures have been taken to organize and safeguard all kinds of supplies"—*German broadcast*, 9th August 1940.

"Should a scarcity of food arise in German occupied territories it would be the British Government, and the British Government alone, which would have to carry the full load of responsibility"—*German broadcast*, 11th August 1940.

"If France, Belgium and Holland are cut off from overseas food supplies, famine will certainly come and it will be a direct consequence of the British blockade. Germany is not in the least interested"—*German broadcast to North America*, 10th August 1940.

WHAT THE NAZIS HAVE DONE.

The maximum despoliation in the minimum time has been the Nazi motto. Before the last harvest was gathered they had carried off three million tons of wheat from the invaded countries' reserves. The plunder *blitz* tallies with other evidence that they hoped to finish the war last year. Every week that passes makes the German excuses for shortage less acceptable in countries which formerly had a food surplus for export. To allay rising popular indignation the Nazis may be forced to modify their programme and release limited supplies. Recently they sought to gain diplomatic advantage with Vichy by announcing that 450,000 tons of potatoes and 100,000 tons of sugar were being sent into "occupied and unoccupied France".

The quality of such crumbs will inevitably be poor. The quantity will always be in doubt. The source is less likely to be Germany than some other subject country. The motive is certainly not those humane considerations which Hitler has openly derided.

The German system of pillage is barbarously simple. Supplies are requisitioned and paid for, if at all, in paper marks, German bonds, and a variety of other worthless currencies which are only negotiable in Germany and can never repurchase essential commodities. The armies of occupation, with increased pay and a rate of exchange fixed in their favour, also purchase supplies and send them to Germany.

Here are some details from seven ravished countries.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

Early in 1940, 1,000 wagon-loads of potatoes were transported to Germany.

All cattle requisitioned by the Nazis in October 1940 were slaughtered on the spot and loaded into Italian freight cars.

POLAND.

Poland is to be the granary of the whole German Reich, declared Gauleiter Greiser (*Dziennik Polski*, 19th September 1940 Marshal Goering decided that last year Germany was to obtain four million tons of Polish grain and over two million tons of Polish potatoes. Eighty per cent of Poland's butter was to go to Germany and all farmers must register their livestock and produce.

Governor Frank on July 20, 1940, ordered the delivery to the Central Agricultural office, or to collecting depots, of quantities of cattle, dairy produce and cereals.

HOLLAND.

In the first week of occupation 8 million kilograms of butter (about 90 per cent of the total reserves) were carried off to Germany.

In three months 70 million kilograms of vegetable produce was requisitioned.

No cheese is now obtainable, though Holland previously exported 58,000 tons of cheese out of a total production of 129,000 tons.

Poultry stock has been reduced from 29 million to 6 million, and 750,000 pigs have been killed for Germany where (according to the *Koelnische Zeitung*) "more storage space is available".

BELGIUM.

On the night of July 25, 1940 the German-controlled Brussels radio apologized for the acute shortage of butter in Antwerp, and to a lesser extent all over Flanders, owing to "maladministration and maldistribution". On the same night the German home programme from *Deutschlandsender* broadcast the triumphant announcement of "a special additional butter ration of 15 grams per head of the population in Germany".

Belgian farmers have been informed that all potato crops, except an allowance for themselves, replanting and livestock, must be delivered to the German authorities (*New York Daily News, report from Germany*).

DENMARK.

In one week after the invasion, 24,000 sheep were driven off to Germany; in another, 11,000 head of cattle.

On April 15, 1940, Kalundborg Radio announced: "Margarine rationing begins as from to-day . . . The manufacture of margarine and palmin will meanwhile cease". Nine days later the same radio had to report that "after consultation with the German authorities it has been agreed that the butter, bacon and eggs destined for export shall be sent to Germany. At the end of the month the Germans will inform us whether further supplies will be wanted".

(*Continued on Page* 9)

DUTCH SEATS OF LEARNING

PLIGHT OF LEYDEN AND DELFT.

A Dutch correspondent writes in the course of an article in *The Times*—

The Germans are reported to have closed not only the Technical High School at Delft, but also the University of Leyden. The origin of this old seat of learning, the services it has rendered to the common fund of human knowledge, and the circumstances in which it was closed deserve more than passing attention.

In 1574 the Netherlands, having begun their rebellion against Spanish oppression six years before, continued their desperate fight against the overwhelming forces of the greatest war-machine of the time the tercios of Phillip II of Spain. Leyden was under the threat of seige. The inhabitants' first and foremost concern was the spiritual values then defended by the Netherlands in their unequal struggle; liberty of conscience and freedom from tyranny and oppression. When asked to surrender they refused. When submitted to bombardment and utter starvation they held out. Their courage and endurance were at last rewarded. The Spaniards were forced to raise the siege. Leyden was free. As a reward William the Silent offered the city the choice between freedom of certain taxes and a university. The University was chosen and it opened its doors in 1575. From then on the University has rendered signal services to the Netherlands and to the whole world.

Now this ancient seat of learning has been closed by one of Hitler's henchmen. These students, it was alleged, had been obstructive. The real reason, of course, is that the pursuit of truth for its own sake in accordance with the tradition upheld by Leyden through more than three and a half centuries is inconsistent with Nazi doctrine. Dependent on preconceived ideas, it cannot suffer these to be freely examined. The question may be put, for how long the doors of this venerable University will be barred? For, its history and achievement stand for eternal values which represent all that is best in the human mind, to which our intelligence will always revert with fresh vigour, and which in the last resort will always prevail. These values will survive, and the doors of Leyden University will be open once more, when the shallow and unscientific theories of Nazism have long been abandoned, let us hope, even by the Germans themselves.

There seems every likelihood that the process of muzzling the cultural and intellectual leadership of the Dutch people will continue with increasing thoroughness. It is the logical outcome of the discovery that the campaign to win over the Dutch population by the familiar mixture of cajolery, promises, and threats has been a complete failure. Only repression remains and that is now being applied more openly and generally every day wherever the Dutch spirit of independence asserts itself.

DOUBLE-EDGED WEAPON.

Fortunately for the Dutch the imprisonment of Dutch professors and the closing of their universities has proved a double-edged weapon. For, because of the German desire to keep up the appearance of normality at all costs, the silence created by the muzzling of Holland's intellectual and cultural leaders has to be filled with noise of one kind or another. Somebody must be found to initiate the Dutch nation into the blessings of the new culture and at the same time the fiction must be maintained that the nation voluntarily and spontaneously welcomes the new order and this somebody must be a Dutchman. As no self-respecting Dutchman is available, the Germans have had to fall back upon a number of dubious personalities who have already done the German cause more harm than good.

A striking instance was given sometime ago when a Dr. Smit, who was brought to the microphone to encourage his fellows in their task of sowing the seeds of the new culture, spent all his time condoling with his sympathizers, "who" he said "are hated and despised on every side, ignored by their friends, cursed by their relatives, lonely even in their churches." Thus the Germans have one of their own proteges to thank for the most illuminating revelation that has yet come out of Holland concerning the true feelings of the Dutch about their new masters and their friends.

FOOD SITUATION IN EUROPE.

(*Continued from Page* 8)

NORWAY.

"The Germans are confiscating about 10,000 lb. of meat daily in Oslo"—*Norwegian Legation report*, 28th December 1940.

The Quislingist authorities (announced 8th October 1940) have had to allow the Germans to acquire for export to Germany the entire Norwegian "crisis reserve" of potatoes (3 million tons) produced to meet the needs of the coming winter.

FRANCE.

The Germans occupy the richest part of France, in which seven-eighths of the staple food is grown. Article 17 of the Armistice prohibits the export of any foodstuffs from occupied to unoccupied France.

At Lyons alone (now unoccupied) more than £6,000,000 worth of goods, including food, was requisitioned during the three weeks the Nazis were there.

At least 800,000 tons of wheat has been removed to Germany from occupied France (Ministry of Economic Warfare, 31st October 1941) "We are just as much interested in the French harvest as the French themselves." (*Voelkische Beobachter*).

One million pigs and thousands of cattle were taken from France by the Nazis in two weeks last September.

Luxuries also are requisitioned. The single firm of Heidsieck has to deliver 12 million bottles of champagne to Germany.

MINELAYING BY THE R.A.F.

A MILLION MILES FLOWN.

On their nightly flights minelaying aircraft of the Bomber Command have flown more than 1,000,000 miles, the Air Ministry News Service says. They have cruised over home waters and penetrated through distant seas into channels where minelaying ships cannot go. They have dropped their mines in the North Sea, the English Channel, the Atlantic Ocean, the Kattegat, the Skagerrak, and even the Kiel Canal.

For the most part it is routine work free from enemy opposition, though sometimes the anti-aircraft battery from ship or shore attempts to bar the way. It is true that the minelayers carry bombs as well, and to the crews themselves the adventure of the night only comes when they have put their mines in the right place and can search for enemy shipping in bays or inlets of the coast. Only their bombing has any immediate effect, and it is no wonder that the minelaying itself sometimes appears to be monotonous and at first sight a thankless task.

Unlike the men who fly over Berlin or over the Alaps to Italy the minelayers can bring back no thrilling reports of instant destruction. It is only slowly, sometimes months after they have done their work, that they can know how much they have done to harass and disarm the enemy. The news of what our mines have done filters through many sources. Like Sherlock Holmes we have our methods, and like him we know how to make deductions.

SEVEN DAMAGED SHIPS.

In September, for example, the mines may have been laid, but only in the present month is it discovered that seven enemy ships, each of them severely damaged by mines, are lying at one end of the Kiel Canal. Or, again, certain information may be pieced together until it is known that several ships were sunk in places where the Germans evidently did not know that mines were laid. The Germans themselves keep extremely quiet about these losses. Only the next of kin of casualties are informed, and they allow no details to be published.

So great is the danger to German shipping from our mines that the German State Railways are refusing to accept goods for shipment by way of a number of Baltic ports, and they decline to say how long this interruption of traffic will last. One of the Baltic routes is altogether closed. Convoys from Norway must now hug the coast and choose the shortest way across the Baltic. They are so timed that the crossing is always made in daylight. Day by day reports come in describing the harvest which our minelayers have sown. Their effect is delayed, but when the mine slips gently into the water it means just as much trouble for German traffic as when "any bussts were observed" on the railway yards at Hamm.

THE FLEET AIR ARM

The Fleet Air Arm is not a distinct force but an integral part of the Navy. It is the direct descendant of the old Naval Air Service of 1914—18—which, by the way, the present Prime Minister started—and it is just as much part of the Navy as the submarine branch or the mine-sweeping. The aircraft, in fact, is merely another shot in the naval locker. There is a nautical flavour about the names of these naval aircraft—Seafox, Swordfish, Walrus, Skua, and Falmaf.

There is no over-lapping of purpose between the Fleet Air Arm as now constituted and the R.A.F. It is true that certain aerodromes are set aside exclusively for naval use. Although aerodromes ashore set aside for the Navy, and naval aircraft based there lend a hand in local defence as well as in offensive operations like those at Dunkirk and Boulogne, the reason for the existence of these shore bases arises from necessity, because naval airmen must be trained ashore before they go to sea, and ship-borne squadrons must have somewhere to go when the carrier puts into port for repairs.

The only relation between F.A.A. and the R.A.F. is that the latter supplies aircraft to specifications given by the Navy and also undertakes the preliminary training of F.A.A. pilots.

It was a Seafox from AJAX that thwarted the GRAF SPEE's attempt to hide behind a smoke screen in the Plate Battle. It was a WALRUS from WARSPITE that reconnoitred ahead of the destroyers in the second Narvik battle. It was a WALRUS, too, from the Australian cruiser HOBART that gave some timely assistance in the withdrawal from Somaliland. SKUAS sank the KOENIGSBERG in Bergen harbour when the Norwegian campaign was barely a day old, and afterwards Swordfish harried the coast from Trondheim to Narvik. Later, at Dunkirk, they lent the army a hand; and recently, in the Mediterranean, they have attacked Italian warships in Italian harbours. They have won fame at Taranto on November 11, 1940, and in the action off Sardinia on November 27, 1940. FULMARS were shooting down SAVOIAS attempting to bomb the Fleet at sea.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Mr. Churchill's Speech

Mr. Churchill's stirring broadcast to Britain and the Empire on February 10 drew some oddly contradictory comments from the Nazi radio. The following day, for instance, Berlin's 12-30 p.m. bulletin said that the Premier's speech "did little to reassure people in Britain"; at 1-15 p.m. it was described as being full of "heart-rending appeals" to Washington; and at 7-30 p.m. Mr. Churchill was said to have indulged in "bombastic and inflated optimism!". All three descriptions could hardly be right.

Dealing with the Premier's reference to aerial warfare, the Berlin news announcer at 12-30 p.m. said that "it must be inferred that the Royal Air Force will find it very difficult to reply with anything like the same vigour as the *Luftwaffe*, even in the distant future". In that case, why did Admiral Raeder on January 28, warn Germany's dockyard workers that the *Luftwaffe* would not be able to prevent the Royal Air Force from causing "even more serious losses" in future, and why did General Milch on February 1, repeat that warning to the whole German nation, admitting that the Reich had as yet no solution to the problem of British night bombers?

Malta's Turn

What the Axis would like to happen can often be inferred from what its propagandists say *has* happened. Historic examples of propaganda dictated by wishful thinking include the destruction last year by the Berlin radio of more British cruisers than the Royal Navy possessed, as well as assertions in September that London had been "completely destroyed"; and now the same technique is being applied in the case of Malta. Thus, on February 12, the Nazi wireless asserts that "effective air attacks on Malta have deprived that Island of its significance as a first class naval base."

So "effective" have been the attacks on Malta that recently, after nearly 400 Italian or German air raids, the naval dockyard there was still sufficiently in working order to enable all the necessary repairs to be effected to the aircraft-carrier *Illustrious*, so that this great vessel (which the Nazis claimed to have put out of action) was able to proceed to Alexandria under her own power at 23 knots.

In any case, Indian listeners to Axis propaganda *about* Malta may like to know something of Axis propaganda about India *to* Malta. On February 11, Rome's broadcast in Maltese for Malta contained the following piece of information. "The British in India are still treated as prisoners. The quarters where they live have iron bars, and after sundown no one may come in or go out. In India, no European may go out after dark."

Convoy Losses

For several days the Nazi radio has been ringing bells and making extravagant boasts about a recent attack on a British convoy in the Atlantic—as a result of which it was claimed, no fewer than 14 vessels were sunk. It is now revealed that only six ships were sunk, and the names of four British and two Greek vessels which have already reached port safely have been published.

The British authorities have never attempted to minimize the risks to which allied and neutral vessels are exposed on the high seas, nor do they minimize losses when they occur German gloatings over attacks on such ships are in themselves a refutation of their own prophecy—categorically uttered by the Berlin radio on August 7, 1940—that the whole of the British mercantile fleet would be destroyed in two months, *i.e.*, well before the end of last year.

Far from Home

Meanwhile, British convoys still sail the oceans of the world, while German merchant ships today sail only in the Baltic and the Black Seas. It is established from neutral sources that some 233 German and Italian ships, totalling over 1,000,000 tons gross, are sheltering in neutral harbours all over the world—legally free to leave for home, but in fact unable to do so because of the British Navy. Only one such German ship has reached *home* since September, and at least five have been sunk or scuttled in the attempt.

This is the distribution of some of the most important of the Axis vessels which dare not brave Britain's blockade:—

	German.	Italian.
U.S.A.	2	26
Brazil	8	16
Argentine	3	17
Other S. American ports	..	..
Spain	31	12
Canary Islands	5	13
Azores	1	1

Cotton Comments

On February 13 the Nazi radio quoted alleged reports from Cairo that, in purchasing Egypt's cotton crop, England had paid "exceedingly low prices". Actually the price was regarded as very satisfactory. It will be recalled that, when Britain offered to purchase the whole of the Egyptian cotton crop last summer, Egypt's Prime Minister received a number of congratulatory telegrams. The *ex*-Senator, Eliaswad Pasha, observed: "The cotton agreement has saved the country from real danger. My heartfelt thanks to you and our great ally, Great Britain". The Industrial and Agricultural Company wired as follows: "As cotton growers. we congratulate Your Excellency on the excellent cotton agreement, which is the result of your successful endeavours with our great ally. We thank you on behalf of ourselve and landowners and tenants".

The sheer invention in which Berlin indulges on this subject is shown by their broadcast of

July 6 last, when they said : " Everyone knows that Britain neither buys anything from Egypt nor allows other countries to purchase anything from Egypt."

Under the Weather

The Italian High Command *communiqué* of February 10, which was broadcast from both Rome and Berlin, said that the British naval formation which bombarded Genoa at dawn that day was " favoured by dense banks of fog ". Listeners all over the world have not failed to notice that the weather has consistently been unkind to the Duce.

When Italy entered the war last June, the whole Alpine front was " shrouded in mist", which did not dissipate until after the Armistice, while in Septmeber, Marshal Graziani reported that the Italian troops in North Africa were " fighting in the fiery desert, content with one litre of water daily ". Two months later the Italian troops in the Balkans were said to be fighting in rain-filled trenches—which prompted Greek Headquarters to remark that —by some freak of climate, the Greek trenches remained dry.

When British warships made a sweep into the Adriatic on December 22, the Italians explained that the British " deliberately chose a day when the weather was bad, so that they should not have the unpleasant surprise of meeting the Italian fleet ".

Benghazi Tail Piece

Perhaps feeling that the weather excuse had been over-worked, the German wireless on February 11 quoted *Tribuna*, the Rome paper, as saying that the surrender of Benghazi was ordered " so as to save the Italian forces for the coming counter-attack ". In that case, the surrender of Benghazi has been in vain, because the entire remaining Italian forces in Cyrenaica, numbering 15,000 men, surrendered soon after the town fell to the British.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

A German Military Base

Commenting on the recall of Sir Reginald Hoare, Britain's envoy in Rumania, Dr. Goebbels' radio on February 12 quoted a German newspaper as saying that Britain had been compelled to surrender to the new political order. Economic exploitation and the numerous Nazi-inspired pogroms have shown the unfortunate people of Rumania what the Germans' much-lauded " New Order " really stands for. But, quite apart from that, the British Government have recalled their Minister not because they were surrendering to the German New Order, but because the Rumanian puppet Government had acquiesced in Germany's using Rumania as a military base in furtherance of the Nazi plans for prosecuting the war.

Nazi Interpretation of American Opinion

The Nazis in their Hindustani broadcast of February 13 quoted a German newspaper as saying that the political developments and opinions expressed in the U. S. A. testify to the Americans' belief that England will be defeated. The most important recent political development in the U. S. A. is that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved the Lease and Lend Bill, which is an unmistakeable evidence of U. S. A.'s determination to render speedy help to Britain.

Germany's Strength

" While Britain is pinning her hope on outside help ", announced Dr. Goebbels' radio on February 10, " Germany relies on her own strength." And this in spite of the fact (to take only a few examples at random) that France is paying for the German army of occupation at the rate of Rs. 1⅓ crores a day, that exploitation per head in Norway up to November 30, 1940, amounts to Rs. 147/12/- per head per day and that Rumania has to pay £30,000 a day for the far-from-proud privilege of entertaining Nazi troops. The German newspaper, *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, admitted in October 1940 that " the tax revenues from Germany's newly acquired territories would alone under normal conditions be sufficient to cover interest and moratorium on the armament debts of the Reich".

Indian Workmen in Britain

Referring to the departure of the first batch of the Indian trainees under the Bevin scheme, the Nazi radio told us on February 13 that the British Ministers wanted to get more work out of these Indian labourers than they could get out of their own workers and to pay them a smaller wage. In point of fact, however, these workmen will work in British factories under exactly the same conditions as British workmen, as regards both hours of work and wages.

The Press in Germany

According to a German broadcast in Hindustani of February 13, Dr. Dietrich, the Nazi Press Chief, was busy telling foreign journalists in Germany that the Press in Germany was free. Referring to Press " abuses " in Pre-Nazi Germany, Hitler himself wrote in *Mein Kampf* : " I believe that our present generation would easily master this danger once they were rightly led..... Once this instrument which shapes public opinion is brought under State control and no longer left in the hands of the enemy of the people," the task would be easy. Consistently with his ideas, Hitler controlled the Press as soon as he captured power in Germany, and censorship in the Nazi Germany is so rigid that even the headings of news items are dictated from above. As for the British Press if it were State-controlled, Dr. Goebbels would not be able to fill his broadcasts with expressions of British opinions which can be twisted to his purpose. The very existence of different political parties, which Hitler derides, is a guarantee that the British Press does not serve a political master.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II—Issue No. 10 **[For the use of Propaganda Sub-Committees]** **Saturday, March 8, 1941**

DIARY OF THE WAR

28th Feb.—British troops are nearing Keren. In Abyssinia Italians retire from Gojjam. Royal Air Force bomb Zula aerodrome and South African Air Force bomb Burgaba and Iscia Baidoa.

Greeks smash Italian counter-attacks in the Central sector. Royal Air Force shoot down 26 enemy planes over Albania.

Eire Government ban sending bank notes outside Eire.

A communique issued in Ankara announces that complete agreement was reached on all problems arising from the international situation during Mr. Eden's conversations with President Ineunu and high Turkish officials.

Royal Air Force bomb Boulogne and Wilhelmshaven, Emden and Quiberon.

Enemy air activity over Britain : A few bombs were dropped at Dover causing little damage and no casualties.

1st Mar.—Bulgaria signs a protocal adhering to the Three-Power Pact. Press office of the British Legation in Sofia is closed. Mobilization of new classes of Army continues. Germans have occupied the Bulgarian port of Varna on the Black Sea.

In Abyssinia Italian troops withdraw towards Addis Ababa and Harar. British forces capture an important mountain pass 20 miles north of Keren in Somaliland. Italian garrison in the Oasis of Kufra south of Benghazi surrendered to the Free French Forces. Royal Air Force bomb Asmara, Assab, Berbera and Neghelli.

British destroyer *Exmoor* is sunk in North Sea in repelling an attack on a convoy.

Mr. John Winant, New American Ambassador, arrives in England.

Malta is raided by enemy planes. No damage caused.

There was little enemy activity over England. An East Coast town was attacked. A small number of people were killed.

Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill leave Turkey after their talks with the Turkish President.

2nd March.—German troops enter Bulgaria with the " consent of the Royal Bulgarian Government."

Greeks resume offensive in Albania. Artillery operations in the Devoli river valley and the Upper Skumbi are reported. Royal Air Force attack Albanian aerodrome at Berat.

Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill arrive in Athens.

There was little enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs were dropped at places in North Scotland and East Anglia but little damage was done and no casualties were reported. There was a sharp raid on a small south-west England town, causing damage to a house and some casualties.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked docks at Brest, sea plane base at List and aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory.

Mr. George Rendel, British Minister in Bulgaria, saw King Boris. After Rendel's visit the King received Von Richthofen the German Minister.

3rd Mar.—It is revealed that the Dardanelles Straits and the Bosphorus have been mined by Turkey except for one narrow channel through which no ships will be allowed without a Turkish permit.

It is reported that the Bulgarian Government has closed the Bulgarian frontier until further orders and nobody is allowed to leave without a special permit from the Bulgarian War Office. Males between the ages of 15 and 55 and childless women between the ages of 16 and 50 are called upon to enrol in compulsory labour corps.

The State Department has advised the Treasury to " freeze " the Bulgarian funds in the United States as a result of the entry of German troops into Bulgaria.

In their sweep into Italian Somaliland, British troops reached 80 miles beyond Mogadishu and occupied the villages of Duca, Degli and Abruzzi. It is revealed that the Italian Commander-in-Chief and Governor have fled from Mogadishu towards Harar in Abyssinia.

Doctor Pfisterer of the Wilhelmtrass arrives in Istanbul with a special message from Herr Hitler and important documents for Von Papen, the German Ambassador.

Luftwaffe's air offensive : Bombs dropped on Cardiff, a South Wales town, East Anglia and at a number of points along the north-east coast and in south-east Scotland. A small number of persons were injured in Kent.

Royal Air Force fighters in Corfu shoot down five enemy aircraft. Enemy aircraft raided the Suez Canal area. Some bombs were dropped but there were no casualties.

Royal Air Force attack docks and quays at Boulogne, Ostend, Brest and Cologne and also several aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory. One British machine is missing.

The Moscow Radio announced that the Soviet Foreign office had informed the Bulgarian Minister in Moscow that the Soviet Government considered that the entry of German troops into Bulgaria tended towards the extension of war to the Balkans and that it could not support the attitude of the Bulgarian Government.

The British Coastal Command aircraft attacked a convoy of German supply ships in the North Sea. One ship of about 2,000 tons was torpedoed amid ships.

4th Mar.—Abyssinian Patriot forces occupy the important Italian fort of Buyre and harass an Italian column withdrawing towards Debra-Markos. In Italian Somaliland British forces have taken possession of the whole railway from Mogadishu to Hulo Burti. Ethiopian patriots have occupied the village of Mankusa, eight miles east of Debra Markos in Gojjam area.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked enemy warships off Chimara, Albania and Valona.

Nine German merchant vessels and one Norwegian vessel under German control were sunk during the British Navy's raid on Lofoten islands, according to an Admiralty communiqué.

5th Mar.—British Government break off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria and declare Bulgaria as enemy territory. German troops continue to stream through Bulgaria towards the Greek frontier, and are now at a distance of 15 miles from Svilengrad, on the Greco-Bulgarian frontier near Adrianople. The British Consulate in Belgrade advise all Britons in Yugoslavia to leave the country.

United States Senate leaders decided to oppose any amendments designed to confine the activities of United States troops to the western hemisphere. This followed a statement by Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, expressing the view that such amendments would encourage Japanese aggression.

After a surprise landing, Japanese forces have occupied Pakhoi on the Gulf of Tonkin, 70 miles from the Indo-China border, according to Japanese reports.

Field Marshal Goering had a long conference with General Antonescu.

An official communiqué issued at Athens report that complete agreement on all aspects of the Balkan situation between the British and Greek Governments has been reached after a series of talks between Mr. Anthony Eden and Sir John Dill and the Greek Prime Minister.

Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill have returned to Cairo from their visit to Athens. It is reported that Mr. Eden will remain in the Middle East indefinitely or should be there to interpret Mr. Churchill's political and military strategy. It is known that Mr. Eden was given a very free hand to deal with a situation whose developments have caused no official surprise.

Royal Air Force bombers attack docks at Boulogne. Seven German aircraft are reported to have been destroyed. Three British aircraft are missing.

There was very little enemy activity over Britain. A few bombs were dropped at one place on the south coast but no damage or casualties are reported.

General Weygand, the French Government's Delegate-General in Africa arrives in Vichy.

6th Mar.—The United States ask Italy to close its Consulates at Detroit (Michigan) and Newark (Rhode Islands) and remove the personnel thereof from the Consulates. It is reported that the movements of Italian Consulate officials throughout the United States are to be restricted to the area, in which they exercise their recognized official duties.

A joint communiqué issued by Japan, France and Thailand announces that an Agreement on the principal points of the Japanese mediation proposals for settlement of the Thai-Indo-China dispute has been reached.

There has been considerable activity by single enemy aircraft over England. Bombs dropped in East Anglia, Kent and at one point in the London area. The casualties were small and some damage to buildings was done in a town on the coast of East Anglia.

A Greek submarine has sunk an Italian supply ship in the Ardriatic according to an official Greek communiqué.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 19. Wednesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest and invasion base at Calais.	Nil.	..
February 20, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over N. French coast. R.A.F. single-plane bomber raid on invasion base at Ymuiden. R.A.F. night offensive patrols over aerodromes in N. France.	3	..
February 21, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over N. French coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Brest; industrial objectives in W. Ruhr; aerodromes in Holland and France.	2	..
February 22, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raid on naval base at Brest ..	Nil.	..
February 23, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; invasion bases at Calais and Boulogne.	1	..
February 24, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raid on naval base at Brest (docks, submarine base, German cruiser).	Nil.	..
February 25, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France and coastal shipping. R.A.F. day bomber raid on Flushing (submarine repair and assembly depot). R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial targets in Ruhr; aerodromes in France; invasion bases at Boulogne, Dunkirk, Calais.	2	3

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th February 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 19	Nil.	..
February 20	Nil.	..
February 21	Nil.	..
February 22	Nil.	..
February 23	Nil.	—
February 24	Nil.	..
February 25	Nil.	..

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK.

Bulgaria joined the Axis on 1st March 1941. The ceremony was conducted in Vienna with pomp and Hitler was present. Germany has justified this step by saying that it had become necessary because of Great Britain's intention to extend its sphere of influence in South Eastern Europe so as to attack Germany in the rear. There is, of course, absolutely no foundation for this allegation. But, as in the case of Norway, Hitler thought it necessary to tell the world that he had to forestall Great Britain.

Meanwhile, Greek successes against Italy in Albania continue. A counter-attack in the central sector of the Albanian battle-front was smashed with considerable losses to the enemy. On Friday before the last, the Royal Air Force shot down 26 enemy aeroplanes and it is calculated that, on the Albanian front, 115 Italian aeroplanes have been destroyed for certain by the Royal Air Force and a further 44 planes have probably been destroyed. These figures do not include those destroyed by Greek aeroplanes or those destroyed on the ground.

Friends of Greece all over the world have been shocked by the disaster which has overtaken the town of Larissa where an earthquake has occurred rendering thousands of inhabitants homeless. A particularly repulsive and brutal feature of Italian warfare has been revealed. It would appear that Italian bombers raided this stricken city and dropped several bombs before being driven off.

Mr. Anthony Eden and Sir John Dill have visited Turkey where they were cordially welcomed by the President and the Turkish people. The talks with the Greek authorities which began on Sunday concluded on Wednesday and they are shortly leaving for Cairo. The communiqué issued after the conclusion of the conversations testified to the fact that complete agreement exist between the two countries in respect of all measures that have to be taken to safeguard their interests and to prevent the extension of hostilities. Mr. Eden has paid a remarkable tribute to the stand made by the Greeks against the unscrupulous foe, while, on their part, the Greek Government have expressed warm appreciation of the help rendered by Great Britain's navy and the air force.

Lieutenant-General Cunningham has been made the Military Governor of the territories occupied in Abyssinia and East Africa. Blows have fallen thick and fast on Italian possessions in Africa. In Eritrea an important mountain pass, 20 miles north of Keren, has been captured and it is stated that this position will have an important part to play in the operations against that city. In Abyssinia further progress has been made along the road to Gondar. On Tuesday last, Abyssinian Patriot forces occupied the Italian garrison of Burye and are harassing the Italian column withdrawing towards Debra-Marcos. The march to Addis Ababa will not be long delayed. A remarkable thing about these operations is that 1,700 troops belonging to Italy have surrendered.

In Somaliland two important places, Iscia Baidoa and Bulmo Buti, about 170 miles northwest and due north respectively of Mogadishu, have been captured with large stocks of arms, petrol, foodstuffs and stores of all kinds. It is computed that 10,000 Italian soldiers have been captured in the operations in British Somaliland.

In regard to the operations in North Africa, it should be remembered that there are great geographical difficulties. High mountains obstruct the path to Keren and there are no good communications in that part of the country and the Keren frontier deserts have to be passed. In spite of these obstacles remarkable successes have been achieved. This is attributed to the close and constant co-operation between the army, navy and air force. The total number of prisoners taken so far in the African campaign total 144,000.

What is described as " one of the greatest fire raids of the war " took place on Monday last, Cardiff being the victim. Enormous number of incendiaries were showered and a number of buildings were laid waste. Successive waves of raiders poured fire bombs and high explosives into several fires and many poor houses were destroyed. Heavy casualties were inflicted and the raid was repeated the next day.

It is announced that Ex-King Carol of Rumania and Madame Lupescu have escaped from Seville in Spain and reached Lisbon. They have been prisoners there during the last five months and their lives were in constant danger owing to the activities of Iron Guardists. The escape has created a sensation.

A joint communiqué by Japan, France and Thailand says that agreement has been reached on the principal points of the Japanese mediation proposals for settlement of the Indo-China-Thailand dispute. The remaining points of detail, it is said, will be settled in a few days. It remains to be seen whether this settlement implies lessening of the tension in the Far East.

A remarkable achievement of the Royal Navy on Tuesday has been revealed. Light units of the British navy landed Norwegian marines and British troops on Lofoten islands near Narwik in Norway and destroyed enemy shipping totalling 18,000 tons, the largest unit being a fully-laden German ship of 10,000 tons. The object of the raid, which was realized, was to destroy the plant used for the production of fish oil, utilised as glycerine for making explosives, destroy also German ships in the locality and take prisoner Germans there. Two hundred and fifteen Germans and ten Quislings were captured and 300 Norwegian Patriots brought to England.

BULGARIA.

The joining of Bulgaria with the Axis, and the march into that country of German troops in ever increasing numbers were not unexpected. Great Britain has had to sever diplomatic relations with Bulgaria. This need not necessarily mean war against Bulgaria which would depend upon the progress of events. But the Nazis have got control of oil fields and these and troop concentrations would be legitimate targets for the Royal Air Force. " His Majesty's Government ", said Mr. R. A. Butler, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons on Thursday last, " have no doubt that Bulgaria will live to regret her decision ".

About a week ago Hitler said that there was no question of German troops marching into Bulgaria. But on Saturday last Bulgaria was in Hitler's pocket. It was also stated that Russia had supported this move of Bulgaria and the broadcast from Hungary on Monday stated that Russia had acquiesced in the step. Both these were black lies. Moscow has not approved of Bulgaria joining the Axis; far from doing so, U.S.S.R. has clearly made it known that this step was bound to extend the war. As a commentator has put it, the list of Quislings has been added to by King Boris and the new order of Hitler has been recognized by him leading to humiliating surrender and capitulation. As Slovakia, Hungary and Rumania have been rendered slave States, so Bulgaria has been by its disgraceful act and it has thus actively assisted in the extension of the war, as the Moscow Radio has put it. The Bulgarian parliament has approved of the measure and that country ironically enough celebrated its independence day on Monday, March 3rd! That Russia has openly disapproved of Bulgaria's action may not mean much so far as the progress of hostilities are concerned. But it is undoubtedly a threat against Germany and the first cleavage between Germany and U.S.S.R. after the pact was entered into at the end of 1939. Already Yugoslovia is being threatened; probably it will be almost completely cut off politically and economically. Greece is being told that her alliance with Great Britain cannot but offend her. Already German forces are being concentrated on the Greecian frontier and it is believed that if Greece does not accept a dictated peace she would be invaded. What may happen afterwards cannot be stated in the complicated situation which now faces the world. It may well be that Mr. Eden's visit to Turkey and Greece, the cordial relationship existing between the three countries, and the Nile army of Wavell the wizard, would play an important part in the subsequent events.

THE SHIPPING POSITION.

A good deal is being said about the loss of British shipping by German submarines, raiders, aircraft and mines. Mr. A. V. Alexander. First Lord of the Admirlty, gave some figures in respect of shipping losses. He said that up to May 1940, the losses of British, Allied and neutral ships from enemy action averaged 40,000 tons a week. During the next seven months, the losses remained obstinately at the average of just under 90,000 tons. During the last eleven weeks, the losses averaged about 51,000 tons. It may be mentioned in this connection that a great maritime power should expect to lose shipping in war. In the Napoleonic Wars no fewer than ten thousand British merchant ships of all sizes were captured by French privateers. Again, in 1917, the British, Allied and neutral losses amounted to 6,325,000 tons. At that time Britain had the assistance of three and finally four other navies for patrolling the seas. Moreover, at the commencement of the Great War British possessed a larger merchant tonnage than she had in 1939, and American shipping was free to sail for her. In 1940, total losses were 3,591,000 tons, or little more than half the losses in 1917. No one doubts the seriousness of the losses which are being and will be inflicted in future by the enemy. As a matter of fact, Mr. Churchill recently stated: " We must expect that next year still heavier U-boat attacks will be made." But the figures represent only about one-half the average of 1917, in spite of the fact that Great Britain is compelled, by force of circumstances, especially after the fall of France, to scatter her fleet round the British Isles, in the Eastern and Western Mediterranean, in the Western Atlantic and the Far East. She moreover possesses no navel base on the continent. As against these losses, it should be remembered that the British Admiralty has speeded up the nation's replacement rate to about 2,000,000 tons a year. Vessels of foreign register are being purchased and orders have been placed for about 100 ships from American shipyards. The position has been neatly summarised by Mr. Alexander. He said: " New ships delivered from British yards *plus* the tonnage acquired abroad and the volume of captured enemy ships now in our service has replaced more than two-thirds of the tonnage of British ships lost by enemy action. In addition we had the advantage of chartering ships of the states overrun by the enemy ".

What is the position of the enemy? Germany does not publish her shipping losses. Dr. Goebbels' only business is to broadcast fantastic claims of British shipping losses. For instance, in August 1939, the German radio said that Britain had lost three quarters of her merchant shipping and two days later a German newspaper stated that England had lost approximately one-third of her useful shipping tonnage. So far as enemy losses are

(Continued on Page 7)

TURKEY AND THE BALKANS

FIRM IN ITS FRIENDSHIP TO BRITAIN

Everybody is asking what the attitude of Turkey will be in the present crisis in the Balkans. The visit of Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, to Ankara and their conversations with the Turkish President and high officials, civil and military, have had a remarkable effect. These conversations which were concluded on Friday last should have far-reaching repercussions on the Balkan situation. The communiqué issued in Ankara on that day stated that complete agreement was reached on all problems arising from the international situation during Mr. Eden's conversations with President Ineunu and high Turkish Government officials. The two Governments, it stated, once more asserted complete attachment to the Turko-British alliance. Reviewing the conditions in the Balkans and the present international situation the communiqué stated that "complete agreement was again reached on the policy of the two Governments regarding all these problems." The remarkable success of the visit, especially when Hitler had succeeded in putting Bulgaria into his pocket, and in spite of vigorous and tendentious propaganda carried on by Germany, constitutes a defeat of Nazi diplomacy. How feverishly anxious Hitler is, may be seen from the fact that he has sent a special emissary by plane to President Ineunu with a special message the contents of which have not yet been revealed. But there can be no doubt about the Turkish attitude as a result of Bulgaria's surrender to Nazi threats which is, as a newspaper put it "that though Bulgaria has not entered into the war she is no more a neutral and that if in consequence of this development a war which we were not seeking should come to us, it will not find us weak or take us by surprise."

Before the outbreak of the present war Turkey tried on the one hand to build up a Balkan Entente and on the other a block of the Muslim countries in the Near East in order to prevent the extension of the war and secure the safety of the small countries round about her. But the Balkan Entente, owing to the collapse of France and the increasing German pressure on the Balkans has proved a failure. Of all the nations which formed the Balkan Entente, that is, Greece, Rumania, Turkey and Yugoslavia, Greece alone has chosen to stem the tide of aggression. It is pertinent here to refer to the treaty concluded at the end of February 1938 between Greece and Turkey. Under this treaty, which was to be in force for ten years, Greece and Turkey promised to remain neutral if one of them was attacked. Each country would prevent the transport of troops, munitions or armaments through its territory to any State attacking either of them. Each also promised to use her good offices for mediation in case of attack. If, however, war should break out the two States would reconsider the situation and would reach an agreement corresponding to their interests. Each State promised not to allow any organization in its territories directed against the safety of the other. It will be seen that though there is no mention of one rushing to the help of the other if one is attacked, further co-operation would depend on the situation as it arose from time to time. Salonika may well be stated to be within "the zone of safety" of Turkey and if there is any intention on the part of any aggressive power to use Greece as a jumping off ground for attack on Turkey, then Turkey will know what to do.

One real difficulty faced Turkey. After the close of the Finnish campaign the relations between Turkey and Russia considerably improved and Russia was interested in keeping Turkey neutral so that extension of the war to the Balkans might be prevented. There was of course, some little doubt that as Russia had entered into a close economic collaboration with Germany, perhaps on account of fear of German military power, Turkey may consider herself to be placed in a very awkward situation; but the expression of Soviet displeasure at Bulgaria's action in joining the Tripartite Pact has removed this difficulty. In a broadcast from Moscow on Monday and repeated on successive days—a broadcast which has created a sensation in all the capitals of Europe and in America—it was categorically stated that the Soviet Government cannot share the view of the Bulgarian Government as to the correctness of her attitude in this question of her joining the Tripartite Pact as this attitude, independently of whether the Bulgarian Government wishes it, would lead not to the consolidation of peace but to extension of the sphere of war and the involving of Bulgaria in the war. The Soviet Government, the broadcast stated, true to its peace policy, was not in a position to render any support whatever to the Bulgarian Government in the execution of her present policy. Whatever results may flow from these statements, one thing is pretty clear and it is that Turkey will not consider, in any measure which she may take to check aggression, that she is likely to wound the susceptibilities of Soviet Russia.

What has Turkey done in the face of this crisis? The Dardanelles Straits and the Bosphorus have been mined except for one narrow channel. A decision has been reached to compel all vessels using the Straits to be piloted by Turkish pilots. This has been done in accordance with the provisions of the Montreux Convention. According to this Convention, if Turkey considered herself threatened with imminent danger of war she was entitled to insist that vessels should enter the Straits by day and proceed along a route indicated by the Turkish authorities. Again she has taken extraordinary defence measures to safeguard her interests especially because Bulgaria lies within the Turkish zone of security. The Ankara radio, much to the discomfiture of Hitler, described the German occupation of Bulgaria, as murder of another country's freedom.

Where Hitler's next blow will fall and whether he would try to isolate Turkey by a promise of concessions and ask her to be neutral if he converts Salonika as a base of operations in the Eastern Mediterranean are questions, answers to which cannot now be given. But one thing about which there can be no doubt is that Turkey is firm in her adherence to her treaty with Great Britain and nothing is likely to shake her from that position. It will be interesting to recall the terms of this treaty which was concluded as one of a reciprocal character in the interests of their national security and to provide for mutual assistance in resistance to aggression. France was also a party to the treaty. The text of the important Articles of the Treaty is as follows :—

ARTICLE 1.—In the event of Turkey being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression by that Power against Turkey, the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom will co-operate effectively with the Turkish Government and will lend it all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 2.—(i) In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which France and the United Kingdom are involved, Turkey will collaborate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power.

(ii) In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which Turkey is involved France and the United Kingdom will collaborate effectively with Turkey and will lend her all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 3.—So long as the guarantees given by France and the United Kingdom to Greece and Rumania by their respective declarations of April 13, 1939, remain in force Turkey will co-operate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power in the event of France and the United Kingdom being engaged in hostilities in virtue of either of the said guarantees.

ARTICLE 4.—In the event of France and the United Kingdom being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression committed by that Power against either of those States, without the provisions of articles 2 or 3 being applicable, the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together.

It is nevertheless agreed that in such an eventuality Turkey will observe at least a benevolent neutrality towards France and the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 5.—Without prejudice to the provisions of article 3 above, in the event of either

(i) Aggression by a European Power against another European State which the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties had, with the approval of that State, undertaken to assist in maintaing its independence or neutrality against such aggression ; or

(ii) Aggression by a European Power which, while directed against another European State constituted in the opinion of the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties a menace to its own security,

the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together with a view to such common action as might be considered effective.

ARTICLE 6.—The present treaty is not directed against any country, but is designed to assure France, the United Kingdom, and Turkey of mutual aid and assistance in resistance to aggression should the necessity arise.

ARTICLE 7.—The provisions of the present treaty are equally binding as bilateral obligations between Turkey and each of the two other High Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8.—If the High Contracting Parties are engaged in hostilities in consequence of the operation of the present treaty they will not conclude an armistice or peace except by common agreement.

The treaty was concluded for a period of fifteen years.

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page 5*)

concerned, it is known that 233 German and Italian merchant ships have been bottled up in neutral ports—a striking proof of British supremacy at sea. The enemy has lost two million tons sunk, captured or scuttled and over a million tons are lying useless in neutral harbours. So far as Great Britain is concerned, the total tonnage rescued and saved up to the end of the last year was over a million tons. Up to February 1941, Germany has lost one-fourth and Italy one-third of their pre-war merchant fleet and it is a point to remember that their vessels, when they leave port, if at all, have to hug the coast.

The position, therefore, is that by meeting submarine warfare and facing the menace in other ways, Britain is still able to keep her shipping losses well below the level of 1917. The Royal Navy is being steadily reinforced by new ships and it is reasonable to hope that the present favourable figures will be generally maintained. But the public must expect sudden increases in losses. Britain is maintaining her imports and she has large reserves of all kinds. Methods are being employed to meet the situation by the expansion of aerial reconnaissance, by punishment by the Royal Air Force of U-boat bases, by developing anti-submarine tactics, by destruction of enemy submarine flotillas, and by defensive arming of merchant ships.

A RUMANIAN CALENDAR

DECLINE AND FALL

[This calendar is in continuation of the Rumanian Calendar published in *The Madras War Review*, Issue No. 3, Vol. I., dated the 12th October 1940.]

1940, *Oct.* 15.—Reported arrival of Italian air officers and German naval officers at Black Sea port of Constanza.

1940, Nov. 9.—Bulgarian Government protests against alleged ill-treatment of refugees from Northern Dobruja at Rumanian-controlled frontier posts.

1940, Nov. 14.—The Duce stages "full-dress" reception for the Conducator on his arrival in Rome.

Five-point decree benefits Germans of Rumanian nationality:—

(i) Nuremburg Anti-Jewish laws introduced.

(ii) Equal status for German flag with Rumanian flag.

(iii) Nazi party a protected juridical body.

(iv) Membership of the party limited to those who are "German-conscious".

(v) Leadership authorized to issue regulations concerning German autonomy rights.

1940, Nov. 15.—Demobilization of Rumanian armed forces mobilized when Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina were ceded to Russia.

1940, Nov. 23.—General Antonescu, in Berlin, signs protocol signifying Rumanian adhesion to the Three Power Axis Pact.

Official Rumanian newspaper *Currentul* comments:—"We have always loved the Germans and Rumania will fight only for Germany, even if this should mean the collapse of Rumania."

1940, Nov. 27.—Former Rumanian Premier, General Argesianu, among 64 political prisoners, shot by Legionaries in the military prison at Jilavy.

Members of Rumanian Legation in London resign as protest against recent political developments in Rumania and particularly the Iron Guard mass murders.

M. Tilea, former Rumanian Minister in London, declares:—"They are suffering from European mental disease. I can affirm with complete confidence that it is condemned by 99 per cent of Rumanians themselves. These acts of lunatics prove also how weak and unpopular the present pro-Nazi regime is in Rumania."

1940, Nov. 30.—German Army "instructional cadre" in Rumania now numbers 60,000.

Executive of Iron Guard publishes warning that "the Legionaries will defend their power against all comers".

1940, DEC. 1.—General Antonescu, speaking on 22nd Anniversary of Rumania's acquisition of Transylvania, criticises his predecessors for surrendering territory to Hungary (at Axis dictation). "But we are all to blame," he added. "The frontiers fell without an attempt to defend them because we had weakened ourselves at home. But immortal Rumania will arise again from her ashes".

1940, DEC. 2.—King Michael, accompanied by General Antonescu and Rumanian and German officials, watches parade of Germany's mechanized troops and tanks in Bucharest—"to celebrate Rumania's adhesion to the Axis Pact".

1940, DEC. 3.—Iron Guard police dissolved.

1940, DEC. 7.—Decree institutes death penalty for armed rebels, who will be tried by court composed of three generals.

1940, DEC. 15.—Official communique reports arrest of number of "Communists", mostly Jews, alleged to have distributed subversive literature.

1941, JAN 4.—Arrival in Bucharest of Baron Von Killinger, new German Minister, coincides with fresh "Purge" by Iron Guard collaborators with the Gestapo.

1941, JAN. 5.—Telephone communication with outside world suspended—even diplomatic calls cut off.

1941, JAN. 7.—Sveral Iron Guards reported killed in clashes between rival factions of the Legionary movement. According to Government, trouble due to Communists who have entered the ranks of the Iron Guard in recent years, and these are blamed for the many examples of "outlawry" since the establishment of the Legionary régime following King Carol's abdication.

1941, JAN. 12.—Four thousand tons of food being sent every month to Germany.

Peasant Leader, Dr. Maniu, sends protests to Government declaring that German troops are depriving the people of their bread and that the country is heading for a revolution.

1941, JAN. 16.—General Antonescu, summoned urgently to Germany, arrives in Salzburg for secret meeting with Ribbentrop.

1941, JAN. 18.—Ankara radio says German troops in Rumania now total 150,000.

1941, JAN. 19.—M. Sima, Deputy Premier and Iron Guard leader, calls simultaneous meetings of his followers in towns throughout the country. Speakers address the nation on the "Struggle of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy for the establishment of a new European order".

Major Doehring, member of German Military mission, shot dead in Bucharest street.

General Petrovicescu, Minister of Interior, resigns; succeeded by General Popescu.

1941, JAN. 20.—Dissident Iron Guards attempt COUP D'ETAT.

1941, JAN. 22 and 23.—Vicious night-long pogrom; shops looted and burned down in all Jewish districts of Bucharest; massacres of Jews in many provincial towns.

1941, JAN. 23.—General Antonescu accuses Petrovicescu and Sima as instigators of plot to overthrow Government; orders the Rumanian Army into action against rebels. Street-fighting with armoured cars and machine guns. Army breaks back of revolt before sundown. Casualties (official figures):—380 killed, 444 wounded.

1941, JAN. 25.—General Antonescu: "It is my duty to testify before the whole nation that during these days I felt behind me the great and loyal shadow of the Fuehrer and the honour of the German Reich which has guaranteed our frontiers. I feel that the nation should be proud of its connection with the Axis."

1941, JAN. 28.—General Antonescu forms new Cabinet of 7 generals and a colonel. "The Government," he says, "formed on a military basis, is an expression of the unity and discipline imposed by the circumstances of today on the entire country".

Drastic decrees (i) make it an offence to possess firearms or hold public meetings, (ii) legalize house-to-house searches for rebels and (iii) provide for their trial within 24 hours and execution of sentences within 10 hours of conviction.

Dissident Iron Guards arrested for complicity in revolt total 5,600.

Rumanian Army takes over control of all police stations at frontier posts, ports, aerodromes and railway stations. Several industrial concerns placed under military administration.

Rumanian General Staff COMMUNIQUE requires all reserve officers and other ranks to report for one month's training during February and March.

Repatriation of German minority in Rumania postponed indefinitely.

1941, FEB. 2.—Iron Guard Youth Association dissolved; Rumanian boys and girls to be reorganized on model of Hitler Jugend. Rumanian workers' organization on lines of German Labour Front also being formed.

Three Rumanian officers shot by unknown woman in front of Bucharest University.

Editor Seicani of Rumanian newspaper CURENTUL predicts that a "motorized German army will sweep through the Balkan Peninsula like a hurricane within a short time to deliver a blow so crushing that the enemy will never recover his senses."

1941, FEB. 7.—Further Nazi infiltration reported. Estimates of total strength of German Army in Rumania vary from 200,000 to 350,000.

1941, FEB. 9.—Mr. Churchill:—"The Nazis, having absorbed Hungary and driven Rumania into frightful internal convulsions, are now already upon the Black Sea. A formidable German army and air force is being built up in Rumania. . . . Many preparations are being made to move German troops into or through Bulgaria, and perhaps this southward movement has already begun."

1941, FEB. 10.—Black-outs ordered in oil areas and big towns of Rumania. Railways requisitioned for German troop movements.

Sir Reginald Hoare, British Minister in Bucharest, asks General Antonescu for his passports.

1941, FEB. 12.—Mr. Eden, in Parliament, reads note that British Minister had been instructed to send to General Antonescu:—"It has become abundantly evident that the Government which you have directed in the past six months has become entirely dependent upon Germany. Actual facts and the numerous statements published by yourself confirm this. Some months ago you informed me that a small number of German troops were arriving in Rumania to instruct the Rumanian army in modern methods of warfare and that the necessary equipment was likewise being dispatched from Germany for the rearmament of Rumanian troops.

"Some instruction has no doubt been imparted, but the essential development is that the German High Command is building up in Rumania all the elements of an expeditionary force and is concentrating at various strategic points large supplies of munitions, fuel and oil. Rumania is thus being used by Germany as a military base in furtherance of her plans for prosecuting the war. These measures are being taken without one word of dissent from you. In these circumstances His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom have decided to recall me and withdraw the Diplomatic Mission and Consular offices under my control."

1941, FEB. 14.—Rumanian Mission in London recalled. Only six minor officials return to Rumania (Feb. 15). Chargé d'-Affaires Florescu resigns, issuing statement declaring that he has contemplated resignation for a long time and has only continued in office for the sake of safeguarding the interests of Rumania as long as Britain maintained relations with her. "I have complete faith in the final success of the ideals for which Britain stands. Only by strong foundation given to international law shall we be able to avoid in future international ruthlessness of the kind we are experiencing to-day. It is not a question of turning against my country. We have no country, only Nazi domination, to which I refuse to submit."

British Ministry of Economic Warfare announces that "the British Government has decided that they must now regard Rumania as a territory under enemy occupation. As from February 15, therefore, Rumania will be regarded as an enemy destination for contraband purposes and all goods of Rumanian origin or ownership will be liable to seizure."

1941, FEB. 15.—British, Dutch and Belgian Ministers sail from Constanza.

(*Continued on Page* 10)

SCIENCE IN WAR

Professor W. L. Bragg in the course of a recent broadcast talk, said :

The present war has been called a scientists' and engineers' war, and it is worth considering why.

We are living in an age when machines of all kinds, methods of transport, electrical devices are improving rapidly from year to year. The same is true of the weapons of war. Tanks, aeroplanes and radio, are getting more and more efficient as the war goes on.

The position at the beginning of the war was as follows. The Navy, Army and Air Force had their own service research departments, manned by scientific experts. The great majority of them were either helping our industry by working for firms or in government research laboratories or they were doing pure research in the Universities.

When war threatened us, the Royal Society, the chief scientific body in the country, set about making a central register of scientists. Roughly speaking, there are about ten thousand scientific researchers in this country. To quote a few figures, there are 1,600 chemists, 1,000 physicists, 500 mathematicians, 700 zoologists, and 1,500 engaged in medical research, and so forth. Of these about one-half were already in posts so important to industry that they had to keep some of their staff to teach their students. There remained three or four thousand scientists in the Universities and Technical Colleges who could be set free and so form a reserve on which the Navy, Army and Air Force could draw.

WHAT ARE THE SCIENTISTS DOING?

Apart from the small band of experts in the service departments, our scientists in this country were engaged in peaceable occupations and there was a general reluctance to divert their energies to war work. It is fortunate, however, that the British are good at improvising in an emergency. Though I cannot give any of our secrets away, I can quote a German story to remind you that British science does not compare so badly with that of our adversaries. In that interesting book *I Was the "Graf Spee's Prisoner*, the author, Captain Dove, quotes Captain Langsdorf of the *Graf Spee* about the magnetic mine. 'We invented this weapon eight years ago', he said, 'and for eight years we have ourselves been trying to find the antidote to it. We have not succeeded yet. Now the British Navy has to start where we began eight years ago.' You know now that the antidote to the magnetic mine was found not in eight years but in eight weeks.

What are our scientists doing? Although at the beginning of the war they could not all be put to work at once, the difficulty now is to find enough men. Orders come in to the central register, for five dozen physicists or a hundred electrical engineers at a time. Many are working on electrical devices of all kinds. Electricity is used for communications, for control, and for detection. It is like the nerves and senses of modern machines. Think of the maze of electrical circuits in a modern battleship, conveying messages, controlling the guns, performing the mathematical calculations of the range finders, sending radio messages, controlling the compass, and performing many other duties, and you will see what I mean. Under the stimulus of war, electrical devices are being improved at a rate which would have seemed unbelievable in peace time, especially in the field of radio, where our best electrical engineers and physicists are working. Others are tackling acute problems such as putting out of action time fuses and booby traps in unexploded bombs. Then there is the important problem of making sense out of the secret instruments captured from the enemy, which are often very complicated. Chemists are working on substitute materials of all kinds such as plastics and on explosives and with the medical profession on new compounds for the treatment of wounds and disease. Engineers and physicists are working on the many problems which arise from the air war, the effects of blast, design of shelters, and economy of building materials. Biologists are working on the pests which, if not guarded against, infest the stores of food we have laid in, and on the new problems of agriculture in war conditions. These are a few of many applications of science.

The rate at which some scientific war problems are being solved is almost incredible; more advance is made in a year than in ten years of peace. One cannot help thinking, 'Why not do the same in peace time?' If the same team-work could be put into tackling dirt, disease, smoky and ugly cities, better use of the land, improving our industries and so on, there is no doubt that problems which have been bogeys for generations would disappear in a few years. Of one thing I am sure. Scientists are doing their best to help the country in war time. You may imagine with what enthusiasm they would join in a similar nation-wide effort in times of peace, and how much more congenial to them their share in it would be.

A RUMANIAN CALENDAR

(*Continued from Page* 9)

Royal Decree abrogates law of September 14, 1940, which made Iron Guard only legal party in Rumania. Decree also forbids formation of any political association or organization.

So Iron Guard and Nazi Party are now the only legal political organizations. (See Nov. 14, 1940.)

1941, FEB. 17.—Ex-Rumanian Minister M. Grecianu has been arrested for complicity in the January disturbances in Rumania.

1941, FEB. 25.—General Antonescu announces that a general election will be held in Rumania on March 2—a plebescite, on the Nazi model, to say whether the people approve General Antonescu's policy.

1941, MAR. 4.—It is announced that the final result of the Rumanian plebescite on General Antonescu's policy, was as follows: "Yes" 2,018,000; "No" 2,558 votes.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Who Began It?

Doubtless in expectation of the wrath to come, the Nazi radio all this week—February 17th to 23rd—has been trying to shift responsibility for the horrors of aerial warfare from German shoulders to those of the Royal Air Force. On February 19, for instance, Berlin stated categorically that it was British airmen who first began the bombing of enemy cities behind the lines, and that they were therefore to blame for the sufferings of their own civilians as a result of the *Luftwaffe's* "retaliatory raids".

In support of this contention, the Germans quote British sources as a reminder that the Royal Air Force started bombing objectives inside Germany as early as May 1940, *i.e.*, before the Nazis began their air *Blitzkrieg* on British cities and towns.

Quite apart from the fact that there is overwhelming neutral testimony that the Royal Air Force displays scrupulous care and great skill in bombing only military objectives, whereas the Nazi raids on Britain have all along been indiscriminate, Dr. Goebbels is unwise to bring up the question of dates at all.

Has he forgotten that German airmen were bombing Polish cities, towns and villages and machine-gunning Polish refugees in the open country, during the very earliest days of the Polish campaign in September 1939? Does he imagine that the world has forgotten the fiendish destruction of the fair city of Warsaw, which surrendered to the Germans on September 27 after every one of its 50 hospitals had been reduced to ruins and the disruption of sewers and water-mains threatened epidemics?

The crime of Warsaw was attested at the time by independent and reputable neutral observers, among them being American, Egyptian and Scandinavian diplomats and journalists; nor did the Germans then attempt to disclaim the responsibility. On the contrary, Dr. Goebbels himself prepared a propaganda film, "*Baptism* of Fire 'featuring' the destruction of Warsaw", which was exhibited in neutral countries—and which, incidentally was received with horror by the then still neutral Italians.

Moonlight and Moonshine.

Turning to the Royal Air Force's operations against the Italians, the German wireless has this week alleged that British pilots recently "took advantage of the moonlight to aim their bombs at the homes of innocent civilians" on Rhodes, in the Dodecanese Islands. But Berlin does not explain why the Royal Air Force should waste its bombs on civilians—who are Greeks, anyway, and loathe the Italians—instead of dropping them on enemy garrisons and aerodromes.

Needless to say, it is the defences of Rhodes which are being attacked—and to such purpose that the position of the Italians throughout the Dodecanese is now regarded as desperate. Indeed, so effective has been the combination of Britain's naval blockade and air offensive that refugees who reached Athens last week said that the Italians in some centres were urging the civilians to revolt, in order to hasten the occupation of the islands by the British.

Incidentally, Berlin's complaint that the Royal Air Force "took advantage of the moonlight" recalls a recent wail from Rome that the British Navy "took advantage of the fog" in order to bombard Genoa!

Today's Prophecies—and Yesterday's

Along with the smoke-screen of rumours which Germany has recently been throwing out in the Balkans, her propagandists have begun to revive last year's threat of an imminent invasion of Britain. The Nazi radio itself, of course, is taking a prominent part in this new campaign, and on February 23 there was broadcast, a quotation from the *Voelkescher Beobachter*, which concluded: "The decisive phase of the war will follow, in due course. . . Britain is doomed."

These new Nazi prophecies make interesting reading; so do their old ones. Here are some of the things which the enemy wireless told us last year.

On July 18, *soon after the French collapse and when Britain's situation did indeed look perilous*:

"The German artillery will smash everything to bits. London will become a heap of ruins and the poor wretches waiting for the Nazis will never see them. The remnants of the streets of London will remain quiet for ever".

On August 17, *when the* Luftwaffe's *mass daylight raids on the English coast were beginning*:

"The German attack has no parallel in history".

On September 11, *a few days before Hitler's mid-month invasion plans was to be put into operation*:

"London lies utterly destroyed".

On September 19, *a few days after that plan had been given up because the Royal Air Force had smashed the German invasion preparations*:

"Observation flights over London have revealed that the entire metropolis has been destroyed".

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

A German "Gesture"

The Berlin Hindustani bulletin of February 18 contained Belgian reports that Germany had sent 80,000 tons of wheat to Belgium to relieve the people's anxiety about food supplies. It may be recalled that a German home broadcast on August 5, 1940 boasted that "it is not within British power to let Europe starve. . . It is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties."

This new German "gesture" is, therefore, presumably intended to impress the American public, but it has been officially stated that the United States Government is taking no part in advancing Mr. Herbert Hoover's experimental plan for Belgian relief.

In any case, the bread ration in Belgium is the lowest in any of the Western occupied countries—1,575 grs. as compared with 2,250 grs. in Germany; and, as for fat, the Belgian weekly ration is 106 grs. as against Germany's 270 grams. Moreover, according to Sigrid Schultz, writing in the *New York Daily News*, the Belgian farmers were informed that all potato crops, except an allowance of 1½ lb. per head of each household for livestock and replanting, must be handed over to the German authorities.

British Sea Power

On February 19, the Nazi bulletin in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic attributed to Sweden wild reports to the effect that, due to shortage of shippings, British ships would discontinue sailings in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and went on to declare that 'this throws light on the extent of shipping losses suffered by Britain".

It is well known that authorities in London have never minimized the German threat to shipping, but in spite of all Nazi boasts about submarine warfare and the blockade of Britain, the total British losses are only about 16 per cent, of their pre-war tonnage against the total Axis loss of 40 per cent. In addition to this, at least 233 Axis ships are lying useless in neutral harbours, not daring to put to sea.

The arrival in this country within the last few days of sea-borne mails from Britain, South Africa and the Far East proves that British ships are still sailing the Indian and Pacific Oceans. And the arrival in Singapore last week of thousands of Australian troops is only another proof of the fact that Britain still commands the seas.

Germans on "Ordinary Successes"

The Nazi broadcast in Hindustani of February 19 quoted a German newspaper as stating that there was no longer any trumpeting of British successes in North Africa because these successes were "ordinary."

The successes in North Africa included the fall of Bardia, which had been considered by the Government controlled Rome Radio as a "bastion of Fascism" and also of Bengazhi, capital of Cyrenaica, about which the German paper *Frankfurter Zeitung* wrote last December: "Before using the word 'decisive' the British would have to advance as far as Bengazhi". The Axis could hardly welcome any more such "ordinary successes".

Eden in Africa

Harping again on the theme of "ordinary successes in North Africa" the German radio in its Hindustani broadcast, of February 21 revealed that Mr. Eden's visit to Egypt meant that fresh difficulties had cropped up. Actually, however, Mr. Eden has gone to Cairo because the time is now ripe for a full review of the political and military situation in the Middle East and Africa as the outcome of the brilliant victory of the Army of the Nile. And, in view of the fact that Mr. Eden has first-hand knowledge of the problems and personalities of this part of the world, the British War Cabinet's choice is most natural. It will be recalled too, that Mr. Eden's last visit to North Africa was followed by General Wavell's victorious offensive.

Australian Pledge to Britain

The German broadcasts in Persian and Arabic of February 21 say that the Australian Premier had gone to England to acquaint himself with the true plight of that country. But was it merely for this that the Australian Premier made the long journey to England?

The answer is found in Mr. Menzies' own declaration which reads: "I am delighted to come to England and to say to the people of England, on behalf of the people of Australia, that we are on your side and that you will never be beaten while there are any of us above the surface."

Germans spread Epidemics in India

On February 21, the German broadcast in Hindustani referred to Indian reports of epidemics in Bombay, and accused the British Government in India of having done nothing to improve Indian health.

Epidemics like smallpox are a seasonal phenomenon and usually break out at this time of the year. And, as for the charge that the Government "allows" thousands of Indians to fall victim of these epidemics, we should note that the estimated increase in population for the decade ending this year is 13·4 per cent, a record unsurpassed for the last 60 years. The growth of population at the end of each decade has varied according to the incidence of famines and epidemics; and this unprecedented increase in the population of the country is due mainly to the fact that, during the last 18 years, India has been free from major epidemics.

Britain's Steel Resources

On February 17 the Nazi broadcasts in Hindustani and Persian published a report that by removing and melting iron railings in front of the British Parliament, Britain has obtained 15 tons of iron ore, and deduced that Britain is facing an acute shortage of iron. Berlin need have no illusions on this score. As long ago as November 27, 1940, Mr. Arthur Greenwood was in a position to announce that since the outbreak of war, the British output of war equipment had been more than trebled and the output of some fighting material had been quadrupled.

Moreover Britain can, to an ever-increasing extent, depend upon the steel output of the United States of America which will in 1941 exceed 80 million tons and is more than the rest of the world's steel put together.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

7th Mar.—It is reported that five Italian ships totalling 28,000 tons were captured when the British took Kismayu in Italian Somaliland. Four other ships scuttled themselves in the harbour. The British forces occupy Ferfer in Italian Somaliland and are advancing along the main road leading from Mogadishu to Gijija in Abyssinia. British patrols on the Gondar road are now east of Aminit. Thrusting through the heart of Abyssinia down the Addis Ababa road, a joint force of British and Sudanese troops and Ethiopian Patrols have pursued the Italians to Dambacha, only 170 miles from the Abyssinian capital. Royal Air Force bombers attacked the aerodromes and the harbour of Tripoli.

General Smuts confers with Mr. Eden, Sir John Dill and General Wavell.

It is reported that 16 enemy aircraft were shot down during a heavy raid on Malta on the 5th March. Enemy aircraft raided Malta without doing material damage to Royal Air Force property or personnel. Several enemy aircraft were badly damaged by anti-aircraft fire. One British plane returning from a reconnaissance raid was shot down.

Coastal Command aircraft sank an enemy supply ship off the Dutch coast and bombed the naval harbour at Denhelder and an enemy-occupied aerodrome at Ockenburg. No British aircraft is missing.

It is known that in addition to the oil factory destroyed at Svolvaer, a second important plant at Stansund on the island of Vestvaagoy was put out of action by the Allied Forces which raided the Lofotens. The German controlled Oslo Radio states that Herr Terboven, the Nazi Governor, visited the Lofoten Islands and decreed that the property of Norweigian families who left Norway and reached the British Isles should be burnt to the ground.

Bulgaria is cut off from all communications with the outside world. King Boris receives a German Military Delegation headed by Field Marshal List, Commander of German troops in Bulgaria.

President Rosevelt declares at a press conference that every day's delay of the Aid to Britain Bill would affect deliveries of war materials to the democracies a little later on.

A Heinkel III which attacked a convoy in the North Sea was shot down by the British warship "Guillemot."

The Admiralty announces that the *New Royal Ark* was sunk.

Single enemy aircraft have been active in various parts of England. Bombs dropped at one point in North-east Scotland with little effect.

It is reported that the Italian submarine *Amfitrite* which attempted to attack a British convoy in the Aegean was sunk by the British escort craft.

8th Mar.—Operations in all areas of Italian Somaliland continue to develop successfully.

New groups of German officials charged with supervising and carrying out the Armistice clauses have arrived at Casablanca and Rabat.

It is stated that half a million men have been mobilized in Yugoslavia.

It is stated that 480 warships will have been completed by Britain in twelve months.

It is reported that Mr. Matsuoka will visit Moscow and then Berlin and Rome for personal talks on co-operation between the Tripartite Powers.

The United States Senate has passed the Lease and Lend Bill by 60 votes to 31. An administration amendment to the Lease and Lend Bill making it definite that agricultural commodities may be included in defence articles which can be disposed of to other countries was approved by the Senate.

After eight weeks of comparative calm, the "blitz" returned to London. Bombs were dropped at a number of points in South and South-east England and in the Eastern counties. In very few instances were there any casualties and the damage generally was not heavy.

9th Mar.—The occupation of Gabre-Darre on the main Mogadishu-Harrar road is announced.

Activities of the Luftwaffe over Britain during daylight was on a small scale. Bombs dropped at a few points in the south-east caused little damage and no serious casualties. Some damage was done by single aircraft which dropped bombs in Eastern England. A small number of people were killed.

General Antonescu, Prime Minister of Rumania, has issued a manifesto to the Rumanian people in which he explains that it is more economic for Rumania to pay the German army of occupation in Rumania than to maintain an army of their own.

The Hungarian Princess, Stephanie von Hohenlohe, who is opposing the warrant for her deportation from the United States has been arrested. The deportation order was

issued on January 13, when she failed to comply with the order requiring her to leave the country by midnight on the 11th.

According to reports in Vichy, German pressure upon the Petain Government is being renewed. A number of high German Foreign Office officials, it is stated, will be coming over to Paris shortly.

Admiral Darlan has announced that French cargo vessels in future are to be escorted by the French Navy.

Regarding the latest position in the Balkans it seems certain that maximum pressure is being brought to bear on Greece by Germany. But a semi-official statement issued in Athens declares " Greece is indifferent to any threat and will defend her integrity and independence at the side of her powerful allies and friends to the bitter end."

Royal Air Force bombers escorted by fighters attacked Italian troop concentrations and motor transport in Tepelini area and the Glava Buzi road.

10th Mar.—The British Imperial forces in Abyssinia have occupied Daghabur, 600 miles north of Mogadishu and are now 300 miles inside Abyssinia.

Admiral Abrial, Governor-General of Algeria, arrived at Vichy and was received by Marshal Petain.

Rejecting Mr. Hoover's proposed soup-kitchen experiment in Belgium the British Embassy has released a statement saying " The British Government is satisfied that relief of countries in enemy occupation would, whatever the conditions might be, postpone the day of victory." " The British Government," the statement adds, " felt obliged to reaffirm their determination not to permit the blockade to be weakened or undermined by the admission of supplies from overseas into any territory under enemy control. It would be ' false humanitarianism '."

The United States steamer, Cold Harbor, carrying a cargo of food and other necessities for French children and invalids, arrives at Marseilles. Another steamer, Exmouth, with a similar cargo, is expected in three weeks.

General Smuts returns to Pretoria from Cairo after talks with Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill.

An Italian cruiser of the Condottieri " A " class has been torpedoed and sunk by a British submarine.

Commenting on the passing of the Lease and Lend Bill, Col. Knox, the United States Navy Secretary, said: " We shall immediately give such aid to Britain as will make a Hitler victory impossible." It is reported that plans have been made to rush in substantial number of " Mosquito " boats to Britain directly the Lease and Lend Bill becomes law. The *Berliner Boersen Zeitung* says: " President Roosevelt has decided on continuous interference in Europe. Germany must now consider President Roosevelt as an enemy of a New Order in Europe."

It is reported that Germany is preparing to send an air force and equipment of the most modern kind to Albania to enable the Italians to drive the Greeks back into their own country.

Royal Air Force raid the industrial centre of Cologne, the docks at Cherbourge and Brest and aerodromes in Northern France. Two bombers and one fighter are missing.

Seven German aircraft were destroyed in attacks on Britain. Portsmouth area was the main objective of German raiders.

11th Mar.—British Imperial forces have captured the Afodu escarpment in Abyssinia and are advancing towards Asosa. The Italian column retreating towards Addis Ababa from Burye has been finally driven out of Dambacha. At Ozoza the Royal Air Force fighters machine-gunned and destroyed two enemy bombers on the ground. Royal Air Force raided Rhodes Island in the Dodecanese and Tripoli.

Deep gratitude to Britain, the United States and the Soviet for moral and material assistance to China in the war against Japan was expressed in a resolution passed by the National Peoples Political Council (China's Parliament).

Plenipotentiaries of France and Thailand formally accepted and initialled the terms of the Mediation Agreement presented by Japan. The Plenipotentiaries of the three countries have also signed notes to be exchanged between them.

General Weygand has arrived back in Algiers from Vichy.

A few bombs were dropped in the Suez Canal area by enemy aircraft. No damage or casualties resulted.

President Roosevelt has signed the Aid to Britain Bill. The House of Representatives passed the Bill by 317 votes to 71.

On the Central Albanian front the Italian counter-attacks on Greek positions were repulsed with considerable Italian losses. Royal Air Force fighters shot down five enemy fighters in the central sector.

Nazi raiders penetrated as far as the Midlands and the North-western counties and bombs were dropped ineffectively at various points in these areas. It is revealed that Buckingham Palace was again bombed in a recent raid.

Eighteen civilians were killed and 19 seriously injured in a raid on Malta. Considerable damage was done to property in one area.

Royal Air Force attack the German naval base at Kiel, oil storage plant at Rotterdam, a factory near Utrecht and aerodromes in North-west Germany.

A heavily laden Italian troop transport ship of the Sicilia class of 9,646 tons was tropedoed and sunk by a British submarine.

12th Mar.—The British Imperial forces in Abyssinia are smashing their way by road in lorries and trucks towards the important centre of Harrar. In Italian Somaliland Italian forces split into two parts and retreat northwards.

The British Minister in Sofia, Mr. George Rendel, narrowly escaped death when a bomb exploded in his hotel in Istanbul shortly after his arrival.

Japan's Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka, leaves for Berlin and Rome for talks with Hitler and Mussolini.

Italian Blackshirt youths, whom Mussolini used to glorify, have been flung without proper training into the fighting in Central Albania and mercilessly mown down. Italian Blackshirt Battalions counter-attacking to regain vital lost heights found themselves between a murderous Greek fire and their own artillery barrage, and unable to retreat were wiped out.

Following quickly upon Admiral Darlan's threat to convoy French foodships comes the authentic information that unoccupied France is actually producing war materials for Germany.

It is reported that an agreement for the supply of raw materials from Germany for French industries has been concluded.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Merseyside was subjected to large-scale attack. Nine German bombers were destroyed.

Royal Air Force attack Hamburg, Bremen and Berlin. Five British aircraft are missing. A Beaufort torpedo bomber torpedoed a German destroyer in Skaggerak, between Norway and Denmark.

The Greek hospital ship, *Socrates*, was damaged by bombs from an Italian seaplane.

Enemy planes raided Malta. Some damage was caused and a few civilians were killed and wounded.

Royal Air Force bombers raided enemy aerodromes in the Island of Rhodes, Maritza, Calato and Kattania.

Mr. Eden meets Egyptian Ministers and Prince Mohammad Ali.

13th Mar.—Patriot forces in Abyssinia have occupied Yavello, 70 miles north of Mega. In Italian Somaliland British forces surprised the enemy at Daghabur and captured prisoners and lorries in which they were preparing to escape. In Eritrea the British troops are gradually closing in on the town of Keren.

It is reported that ten thousand Italians have been killed, wounded or captured during the four-day heavy fighting in Albania. Italians resume offensive in Central sector to regain the vital heights in the Tepelini area.

The State Department has " frozen " all Hungarian funds in the United States.

The Admiralty announces that the auxiliary vessel, *Manistee*, of 5,300 tons, has been sunk.

The House of Commons hold session in secret to discuss the shipping position.

The Greek destroyer *Psara*, escorting a convoy in the Aegean Sea, sank a submarine which attempted to attack the convoy.

It is revealed that Britain has invasion barges and they have been in action in the recent raid on the Lofoten Islands.

Merseyside was attacked for several hours by the Luftwaffe. A German bomber with a full bomb-load was shot down in South England.

The Home Guard is already a mature force —one million and a half strong, armed and trained.

The Admiralty announces the laying of a new mine-field in the Red Sea.

President Roosevelt has decided to permit export of unlimited quantities of aviation petrol to all parts of the British Empire.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 4th March 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 26, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over channel and N. France, including raid on docks at Calais. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (Rhine docks, bridges, factories, oil tanks); invasion bases, including Flushing and Boulogne.	6	2
February 27, Thursday.	(No reports.)	..	..
February 28, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on invasion base at Quiberon; Dutch coastal objectives. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Wilhelmshaven and Emden; aerodromes in N. W. Germany and Holland; invasion base at Boulogne.	1	..
March 1, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweep over N. French coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (inland port, factories, oil tanks); docks, railways and oil installations in Ruhr and at Rotterdam and Boulogne.	3	4
March 2, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over German and Dutch coast, including raids on seaplane bases on islands of Syet and Borkum, aerodrome at Haamstede and convoy in N. Sea. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Brest (naval base, German cruiser); aerodromes in occupied territory; invasion bases at Ymuiden and Calais.	2	..
March 3, Monday.	R.A.F. night fighter attack on aerodromes in North France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (inland port, factories, oil tanks); other Rhineland objectives; Brest (naval base, German cruiser); aerodromes in occupied territory, particularly at Haamstede; invasion bases, including Ostend, Boulogne, Calais.	2	2 shot down others destroyed on ground.
March 4, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on aerodrome near Brest ..	..	1

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 4th March 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 26	Nil.	1
February 27	Nil.	4
February 28	Nil.	..
March 1	Nil.	1
March 2	Nil.	1
March 3	1	3
March 4	Nil.	3

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The outstanding event of the week is the signature by President Roosevelt of the Aid to Britain Bill. The Senate passed the measure by 60 votes to 31 on Saturday, March 8. It was then sent to the House of Representatives which adopted it by 317 votes to 71. President Roosevelt signed the Bill fifteen minutes after its arrival at White House from Capitol. No wonder that "The New York Times" says that March 11 ought to be remembered in American history as the day when the United States ended 'the great retreat'. The controversy which began 16 months ago and which has been debated throughout the United States as no other topic has been, has now concluded. In the words of President Roosevelt, "an adequate arsenal" for Democracy has been created in that country. "It will be the bulwark of our own defence" he said, "and it will be the source of tools of defence for all Democracies, who are fighting to preserve themselves against aggression."

The second big event is the attempt on the life of Mr. George Rendel, the British Minister in Sofia, who narrowly escaped death when a bomb exploded in the hotel in which he was staying in Istanbul. One of the two valises which was placed in the luggage of the British Legation staff exploded with the result that seven persons were killed and several injured. The other valise was found in another hotel and was rendered harmless. It is stated that the bombs were placed in the luggage in Bulgaria. This nefarious attempt has naturally created a deep stir throughout the world.

On Tuesday the representatives of France and Thailand signed the mediation agreement presented by Japan. Japan has "guaranteed" the settlement. It is obvious that Thailand has regained her lost territory. The agreement has been brought about by Japan partly in order to increase her influence both in Thailand and Indo-China. The repercussions of this adventure are bound to be far-reaching.

Mr. Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, left Tokyo on Wednesday last for Berlin and Rome for talks with Hitler and Mussolini. There is considerable expectation in the Totalitarian countries that, as a result of this visit, the Three-Power Pact will see further developments. Mr. Matsuoka is also expected to visit Moscow, perhaps in order to explore the possibilities of a pact with Russia. Mr. Matsuoka is reported to have stated that he intended to 'expound' to the Italian and German leaders 'his theory of world peace' which he had held for many years. So far as the outside public is concerned, the latest news from Japan indicates very clearly that it is Japan that is following the well-established principles of aggression followed by Hitler and Mussolini. The world must wait a little longer to know what new designs for supremacy Mr. Matsuoka intends to suggest to Hitler and Mussolini which they do not know already.

The week also saw the commencement of the spring offensive both by the Royal Air Force and the Luftwaffe. What is described as the heaviest raid was undertaken by the Royal Air Force over Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg and big fires were started. The German air force made a heavy attack on the Mersey side and the damage done was disproportionate to the large number of machines that were sent over in a clear moonlight. "Other devices," a mysterious expression which has not been defined, were responsible for dealing with night raiders twenty-seven of which have been brought down. Factors which promise effecting countering of this menace are improved shelters, food and medical reorganization, technical devices and flow of machines from America.

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL

The reactions to the Aid to Britain Act in the Democratic and the Totalitarian countries is worth mentioning. Mr. Churchill has paid a great tribute to America in the statement which he made in the House of Commons on Wednesday last. After referring to the generous and far-seeing statesmanship of President Roosevelt, he stated that the most powerful Democracy has in effect declared in solemn statute that "it will devote its overwhelming industrial and financial strength in ensuring the defeat of Nazism in order that nations, great and small, may live in security, tolerance and freedom." In offering the United states Great Britain's gratitude for her inspiring act of faith Mr. Churchill said that the Government and the people of the United States have written a new Magna Carta "which not only has regard to the rights and laws upon which a healthy and advancing civilization can alone be erected, but also proclaims by precept and example that it is the duty of free men and nations everywhere to share in the responsibility and burden of enforcing them."

What does Germany think about it? The German leaders had made an allowance for it in their plans, say the Nazi papers. The Act, Germans think, can only prolong the war and not shorten it. The German Radio has told America that Great Britain has hoodwinked President Roosevelt to help British Imperialism, while it has informed Europe that the United States is helping herself at the expense of England! Anti-Nazis in Germany welcome the Bill as hastening the end of the war, but it appears that there are two views which the Nazis hold. One section thinks that Germany will strike a smashing blow at Britain knocking her out before American aid could assume any important volume. Another view is that Germany was not yet ready to give Britain the *coup-de-grace* which would come later,

but this would not affect the final issue; Britain's industrial life would be bombed out of existence and her trade annihilated by the submarine blockade. Then America, finding that Britain would be financially ruined and realizing that there was no prospect of ever getting paid for her war aid, would herself propose peace and accept Nazi terms and wash her hands of Europe!

Whatever German reactions may be it is crystal clear that President Roosevelt has already taken steps to implement the measure. He has made a request for 700 million dollars appropriation for aid to Britain, all in cash, for aircraft and aeronautical materials, for vessels, boats and other water-craft and equipage, supplies and spares and for testing, inspecting and repairing defence articles for Democracies. An idea of the vast help which may be forthcoming may be had from the following list :—

(i) 200 amphibian tanks,
(ii) a fleet of mosquito boats,
(iii) food, particularly pork and cheese and possibly wheat,
(iv) more Destroyers, about 75 in number,
(v) aviation petrol and other oils,
(vi) patrol bombers for use against U-boats,
(vii) bombers to attack U-boat bases,
(viii) torpedoes for the British Navy,
(ix) five hundred cargo ships for the British merchant service,
(x) bomb-sights and gadgets ensuring accurate anti-aircraft fire by day and night,
(xi) guns and munitions of all kinds,
(xii) hundreds of Flying Fortresses and patrol bombers,
(xiii) thousands of machine tools, and
(xiv) hundreds of fast and medium bombers for lashing the invasion ports and breaking up barge concentrations.

These are the more important of the help that Britain will get from America.

It is pertinent, by the way, to mention the ways in which America also incidentaly gains by helping Britain.

(1) America has received £400 millions for war material supplied to Britain, much of it outmoded and obselete. This money is being utilized for complete modernization of American munition plants.

(2) The right to establish eight naval and air bases on British possessions in the Western Hemisphere is one the value of which cannot be underestimated.

(3) Much valuable naval and military information had been given to America—secrets, records, statistics, information and formulæ.

As one American correspondent has stated, "The United States, under the present co-operation with our Anglo-Saxon partner, is receiving the military benefits of the most technical of all wars, without actually fighting it or losing a single man." But America's timely help rendered when Great Britain needs it most in the defence of democratic principles is of immeasurable value, the full significance of which will be realized when the peace treaty is discussed after the war, America takes her proud place in fashioning the new order not only in Europe but over the whole world.

THE CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

The drive into Abyssinia on the part of the British and Abyssinian Patriots continues unabated. The Imperial forces have captured Afodu escarpment in Abyssinia and have captured Asosa. The Patriot Forces have captured the town of Daghabur and are pursuing the retreating Italians from Burye to Debra Marcos. The drive towards Harar continues, the British forces having covered 120 miles in two days. The country is very hard to traverse and it may be weeks or even months before Emperor Haile Selassie can be said to have reconquered his country, but it is probable that before that time the Italians may be forced to surrender because of the Abyssinian revolt. Surrender is only a matter of time.

Many people are asking 'Where is the Army of the Nile'? Germans have been reporting clashes between the Nile and British mechanised troops on the borders of Cyrenacia and Tripolitania; but General Wavell has refused to be drawn out. Important consultations have taken place between Mr. Eden and General Smuts. Mystery surrounds the Nile Army and it will remain a puzzle for some time.

POSITION IN THE BALKANS

After the capitulation of Bulgaria, the Nazis are busy in Yugoslavia where the position is still very obscure. Mobilization has been reported and it is stated that leaders of important parties have warned Prince Paul, the senior Regent, against surrender to Germany. The people and the Army are pro-British; but Nazi pressure is growing. It is reported that a pact of non-aggression would be signed at the same time between Yugoslavia and Germany on the one hand and Yugoslavia and Russia on the other, but no pact has yet been signed and Yugoslavia has not yet succumbed to the viles of Hitler.

Russia has, of course, protested against Bulgaria's attitude because it cannot acquiesce in the absorption of Slav States in the Balkans by Germany. Still the question is whether Russia will change her policy if Yugoslavia is attempted to be ravished. Another important question is whether, in the event of hostilities between Turkey and Germany, Turkey will have nothing to fear from Russia. News from Turkey is reassuring on this point. She is reported to be firm and ready for any eventualities.

No information is available about the intentions of Germany so far as Greece is concerned, but Greece has made it absolutely clear by

(*Continued on Page 7*)

INDIA AND THE WAR

SOME STATISTICS

What India Pays

Defence expenditure for 1940–41 (revised estimate) Rs. 72·02 crores.

Defence budget for 1941–42: Rs. 84·13 crores.

Out of these totals, emergency strengthening of all arms is estimated at approximately Rs. 24 crores for 1940–41 and Rs. 35 crores for 1941–42.

Supplies and services rendered to His Majesty's Government cost India nothing. Britain pays in full. The British Government is also providing free of charge much of the equipment for the modernization of India's army and for the initial equipment of units now being raised in India.

What India Earns

The payment for war supplies sent overseas is swelling India's national income at a time when many other countries face ruin and starvation.

Orders valued at over Rs. 82 crores had by the middle of January been placed in India by the Supply Department on behalf of the British and Allied Governments.

Orders paced for overseas Government last year included 2¼ million yards of jute canvas, 3¼ million yards of a new jute and cotton fabric; 12 million yards of Khaki material and 14 million yards of canvas.

What India Gives and Lends

Will to victory is expressed in the cash offers from all classes and creeds to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, for which no appeal has been issued. The grand total on January 31, 1941 was Rs. 3,02,47,283–5–6.

Notes on the War Effort

India manufactures 90 per cent of her own war needs.

Workmen employed in Indian ordnance and clothing factories have increased from 17,000 to 45,000 and those in the Government dockyard from 1,168 before the war to nearly 5,000.

Production of army boots, harness, saddlery and leather equipment is now thirty times the pre-war average.

The total strength of India's armed forces is now over five lakhs of men, and further expansion is proceeding.

Provision has been made for raising new armoured and mechanized cavalry regiments, new Indian field artillery regiments, regular infantry battalions, engineer units and mechanical transport sections.

"The scheme for manufacturing aeroplanes in India has reached a new stage and there is now little doubt that the year 1941 will witness the appearance of the first aeroplanes to be manufactured in India"—*Sir Jeremy Raisman in his Budget speech.*

TALKING POINTS—(*Continued from Page 6*)

solemn declarations made by her statesmen that she would resist to the last all attempts, by whomsoever made, to affect her integrity and independence. Greece at one time taught the world how to live, said a Greek newspaper, and it will teach the world how to die.

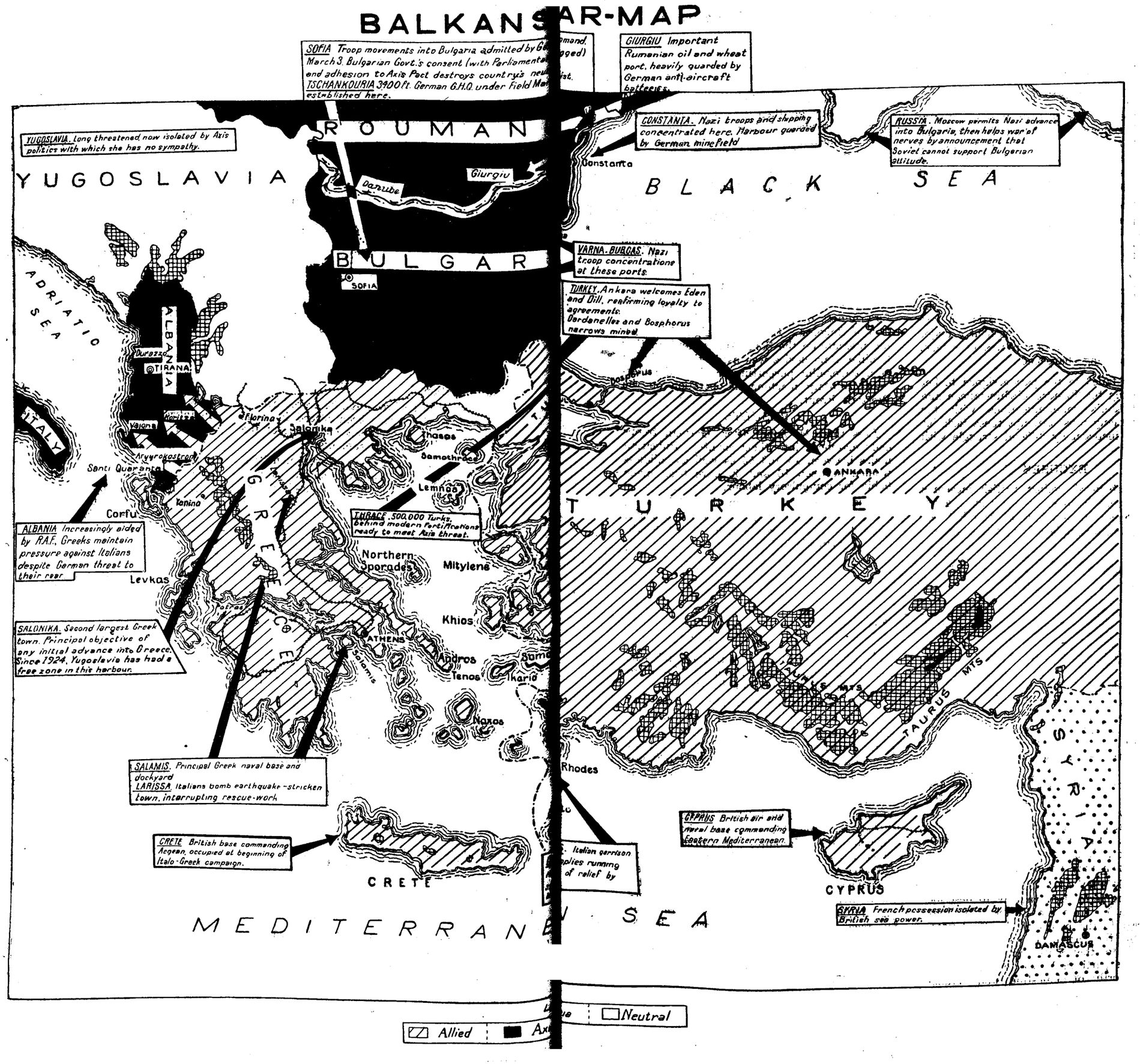
Meanwhile, Italian counter-offensives are being smashed and Greek offensive in Central Albania is proving very successful. In the four days of fierce fighting in the central sector, three Italian divisions have been lost, 10,000 prisoners taken and thousands of Blackshirts killed or captured. It is reported that already 20,000 Italians have been captured in the campaign and that Italian losses in Albania now amount to 130,000.

Germany's objective is, of course, to seize control of Greece, preferably by intimidation, if necessary by invasion and to slip past Turkey and to occupy the Dodecanese islands and then, by concerted action from Sicily and the Aegean, hold down the British in the Eastern Mediterranean by land and sea, while the full force of the Luftwaffe and the new German submarine fleet is directed against Britain. But planning is one thing and execution is another.

THAI-INDO-CHINA AGREEMENT

The territorial accessions by Thailand from Indo-China means that Thailand gets considerable areas to the north and south-east. Thailand recovers the whole triangle formed by the Mekoing River and the old boundary from Luang Prabang to Paklay. The Thailand frontier will be along the Mekong river at Luang Prabang, that is, so far as Laos is concerned. But in Cambodia France has lost valuable territory between the Great Lake and the boundary about a hundred miles wide, including the whole province of Battambang. This valuable area produces cotton, coffee and rice and contains rich forests, metals and precious stones. It is clear that Japan has had to modify the terms so as to make it easy for France to consent to the proposals. Anyway it is obvious that Indo-China feels that she has been humiliated and a Saigon newspaper says : "To-day is a day of anger and sadness" and adds that Indo-China will live for the day when justice will be done. The role of mediator had been assumed by Japan not out of altruistic motives, but in order to secure valuable concessions from both countries and there is no evidence to show that Japan has changed her intentions with regard to the "New Order" in the Far East.

On the other hand, there is evidence to show that Thailand has no desire to be involved in a Japanese military adventure to establish this order—her good-will missions to India and Australia, as well as to Russia and Japan made that very clear. When Japan suggested that British preparations in Singapore were a threat to Thailand, the Thais reaffirmed their friendly feelings in the strongest terms. Japan's evident interest to sow discord between Thai and Great Britain has not been very successful.


BALKANS AR-MAP
SOFIA Troop movements into Bulgaria admitted by G... March 3. Bulgarian Govt.'s consent (with Parliament... and adhesion to Axis Pact destroys country's neu... TSCHANKOURIA 3400 ft. German G.H.Q. under Field Ma... established here.
GIURGIU Important Rumanian oil and wheat port, heavily guarded by German anti-aircraft batteries.
CONSTANTA. Nazi troops and shipping concentrated here. Harbour guarded by German minefield
RUSSIA. Moscow permits Nazi advance into Bulgaria, then helps war of nerves by announcement that Soviet cannot support Bulgarian attitude.
YUGOSLAVIA. Long threatened, now isolated by Axis politics with which she has no sympathy.
ROUMAN
YUGOSLAVIA
Danube
Giurgiu
Constanta
BLACK SEA
BULGAR
SOFIA
VARNA. BURGAS. Nazi troop concentrations at these ports.
TURKEY. Ankara welcomes Eden and Dill, reafirming loyalty to agreements. Dardanelles and Bosphorus narrows mined.
ADRIATIC SEA
ALBANIA
Durazzo
TIRANA
Vajona
Horitza
Aryrokastron
Santi Quaranta
Corfu
Yanina
Levkas
ITALY
Florina
Salonika
Thasos
Samothrace
Lemnos
Bosphorus
ANKARA
TURKEY
THRACE. 500,000 Turks, behind modern fortifications ready to meet Axis threat.
ALBANIA Increasingly aided by R.A.F., Greeks maintain pressure against Italians despite German threat to their rear.
Northern Sporades
Mitylene
Khios
Andros
Tenos
Ikaria
Naxos
Rhodes
ATHENS
Salamis
GREECE
SALONIKA. Second largest Greek town. Principal objective of any initial advance into Greece. Since 1924, Yugoslavia has had a free zone in this harbour.
SALAMIS. Principal Greek naval base and dockyard
LARISSA. Italians bomb earthquake-stricken town, interrupting rescue-work
CRETE British base commanding Aegean, occupied at beginning of Italo-Greek campaign.
CRETE
Italian garrison ...plies running ... of relief by
CYPRUS British air and naval base commanding Eastern Mediterranean.
CYPRUS
SYRIA French possession isolated by British sea power.
SYRIA
DAMASCUS
TAURUS MTS
MEDITERRANE... SEA
Allied
Ax...
Neutral

NAZIS IN BULGARIA

REASONS

Behind every new Nazi move is the spectre of defeat conjured up by the failure to break Britain last autumn; by the Axis reverses in Africa, the Mediterranean and Albania; and by the prospect of a decisive American weight to be thrown into the scales.

Germany wants food and oil from south-east Europe, to be acquired by the usual Nazi methods. War in the Balkans will not help her to get them. But the Greek advance in Albania, with the menace of increasing British assistance, is a painful wound in the cherished continental system of the Nazis. The political isolation of Yugoslavia and the threat to the Greek rear in Salonika are attempts to close that wound without a major operation. If an operation proves necessary, the knife is being sharpened.

Italy has failed in the part assigned to her of dominating the Eastern Mediterranean and cutting Britain's communications with the East. Germany must attempt these tasks as part of her increasingly difficult struggle with Britain.

EXCUSES

" As a safeguard against British measures in south-eastern Europe " is the excuse given in the German communiqué of March 3 for the latest Nazi example of negotiated aggression.

On April 7, 1940, when German troopships were already on their way to Norway, the German broadcast declared that " high members of the British and French General Staff are examining the ways and means of landing troops in Norway ".

" Forestalling Allied intentions " was likewise Ribbentrop's excuse for the invasion without warning of Belgium, Holland and Luxemburg on May 10. The Rome radio at that time, however, had the more original idea that the invasions were in retaliation for British reinforcements of Iceland.

METHODS

" Tourists " and " instructors " were the fore-runners of the German military occupation of Bulgaria. In the campaign of increasing pressure on the Sofia Government another familiar Nazi device was used—the exhibition of a terror-film purporting to show the Germany military machine in operation on the Western Front.

RESULTS

Less than 24 hours after German troops had marched into their country Bulgarian males between 15 and 55 as well as childless women between 16 and 50 have been made liable for compulsory labour.

This is the first item in the catalogue of repression, pillage and torture which Bulgaria must expect from the example of her neighbour Rumania.

SYRIA

ITS PRESENT POSITION

The German move in the Balkans has not yet been revealed. The contents of Hitler's special message to the Turkish President have not been disclosed though it has been described to be of a very general character. But Turkey is wide awake and it attributes the Nazi activities in the South-east Europe to the fact that Germany realizes that a decisive victory in the west is impossible and feelers must be started elsewhere. In the event of any German move against Turkey, Syria, the French mandated territory would be in the news. In view of possible developments a short description of Syria and its present position may be of interest.

THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE

Syria is the term used vaguely to describe the whole region from the Eastern Mediterranean coast to the banks of the Euphrates, bounded to the north by the Anatolian plateau and to the south by the Arabian desert. More particularly the term applies to the region north of Palestine and Transjordania. It consists of a fertile coastal belt, then mountainous areas, sloping down to grasslands and the Arabian desert.

Syria, while having a mainly Arab population, includes within its population a number of communities which form a museum of past political and social upheavals. Out of a total population of 3,280,000 nearly 2,000,000 are Sunni Muslims, but the remainder include a great variety of race and creed. The principal minorities are the Druses, an independent offshoot of Islam founded by a Fatmid caliph of Egypt in the 11th century, who number 132,000; the Maronites, a Christian sect which dates back still earlier and numbers 240,000; Armenians, many of whom migrated from Turkey after the last war, 130,000; the Alawayites, a heretical Muslim sect numbering 274,000; Greek Christians who are Arab by race, 280,000; other Christian bodies 187,000; and Shias 166,000. The Maronites are concentrated in the mountains of North Lebanon, and the Druses in the Jebel Druse on the southern frontier bordering Transjordania. The local centres give these communities special importance but all the others have their own particular historic trends, immediate ambitions and external patrons.

THE FRENCH IN SYRIA

Before the Great War an Arab nationalist movement developed and this found expression in the establishment of an Arab Kingdom under the Emir Faisal at Damascus in 1920. Under the peace settlement Syria became a French mandate under the League of Nations. The mandate was " A " class, like that of Iraq, which contemplated eventual independence, and ever since the French have been trying to reconcile Arab nationalism with minority claims and their own interests. In 1921 they ceded the district of Cilicia, lying between the Asia Minor coast and the Taurus mountains to Turkey, and just before the present war they handed over the valuable port of Alexandretta and the old city of Antioch in north Syria as well. The remainder of Syria was organized as two Republics. The Lebanese Republic, with the port of Beirut as its capital occupies the coast from the Palestine frontier to Tripoli, and the Syrian Republic, with Demascus for its capital, the remainder. In this state the Jebel Druso and certain other areas enjoy a certain degree of autonomy. The Arab nationalists desired a United States and looked at the progress of Iraq towards independence and membership of the League of Nations (achieved 1932) with envy; the history of the mandate was sometimes stormy, but in 1936 treaties of friendship were signed with the two Republics which did much to ease the tension.

With the outbreak of War Syria became of great importance, for it provided the connecting link between Britain in Egypt and Palestine with Turkey and also between Turkey and Iraq. Further a pipe line from the Mosul oil-fields ran through Syria to Tripoli. Syria became the headquarters of the strategic army of the East under General Weygand, who had under his immediate command there 100,000—150,000 troops.

THE ARMISTICE AND AFTER

General Weygand was succeeded in May 1940 by General Mittelhauser as Commander-in-Chief. He in turn was replaced by General Fourgeres, who was more amenable to the Vichy Government. The High Commissioner, M. Puaux, after a period of doubt, decided to obey the orders of Marshal Petain but in November he was replaced by the notorious ex-Chief of Police in Paris, M. Chiappe. After his death while flying over the Tyrrhenian sea General Dentz, who surrendered Paris to the Germans, was appointed High Commissioner.

Pro-Allied feeling among the French officers in Syria was strong, but it was weakened by arrests made by General Fourgeres and by disappointment over the Dakar incident. There is evidence, however, that it has since revived again. Some officers and Polish volunteers have crossed the frontier to join the Free French Forces in Egypt under General Catroux, and the remainder encouraged by the Vichy Government's recent show of independence and the ejection of M. Laval, are waiting on events.

THE ITALIAN COMMISSION

Since the French collapse Syria has been the prey of many conflicting currents. Laval is known to regard it as a liability and for this reason perhaps an Italian armistice commission was sent to Syria in September which repeatedly tried to secure the demobilisation of the French Forces, the handing over of 500 French aircraft and the establishment of submarine bases. The Commission met with a cool reception from the first; on September 30 it was reported that five Italian Generals had been recalled in disgrace, and in November it was said that half of the new Commission had returned home. Since the Libyan campaign opened in December nothing more has been heard of them. It seems certain that the French supported by Syrian sentiment, have offered a stubborn resistance to their demands. Meanwhile the army has been much reduced by the return of reservists to France and is probably not more than half its pre-armistice strength.

THE FRENCH POSITION

The French Government in Syria would seem to be strongly placed with regard to the Axis powers, who cannot now reach them in force. On the other hand, they depend largely upon Palestine and Egypt and therefore upon Britain for their economic life and even existence. The British have cut off the oil supply from Mosul and control more than half (or the routes thereto) of the principal markets for Syrian goods.

SYRIAN OPINION

The Syrians themselves are a prey to conflicting feelings. As Arabs they desire independence, but realise that they are not strong enough to stand alone. The Sunni majority is suspicious of the Turks because of their acquisition of Alexandretta, with an Arab minority in 1939. The Arab world itself is divided between Ibn Saud of Arabia and the Hashimite dynasty of Iraq and Transjordania. Ibn Saud and the Amir Abdullah are good friends of Britain; but the Palestine Arab Jew problem is an obstacle to complete understanding. In Iraq is the Mufti of Jerusalem whose influence pulls in the opposite direction. The various minorities want security and are not sure where they can best secure it. So the Syrians like the French in Syria are for the present playing a waiting game.

PROGRESS OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW TYPES

Sir Archbald Sinclair, Air Minister, in introducing the Air Force estimates in the House of Commons this week outlined the revolutionary progress being made in the R.A.F. with new, faster and more powerful fighters and bombers and the transformation of existing world-known models into virtually new types.

Mr. Leonard Engel, in the American Technical Journal "Flying and Popular Aviation", has given some further account of the new types of British aircraft.

They are the Hawker Tornado, a single-seat fighter powered by a 2,000 h.p. Rolls-Royce Vulture engine, and capable of a speed of about 425 m.p.h; the Westland Whirlwind, twin-engined fighter, driven by Rolls-Royce Merlin engines, and capable of just over 400 m.p.h.; the Avro Manchester, a twin-engined bomber, driven by Vulture engines, speed about 325 m.p.h.; and the Short Stirling, a four-engined bomber. He adds that the Vickers Wellington, the Handley Page Hampden, and the Armstrong Whitworth Whitley have been "beefed up" and re-engined, the Wellington and Whitley with 2,000 h.p. motors instead of 1,000 h.p.

Mr. Engel also says it is reported that Vickers-Supermarine have developed a small single-seat fighter powered by the Griffin engine, which is descended from the line of Schneider Cup racing engines.

It is understood that enough Tornados have been completed to outfit about twenty fighter squadrons—nearly 400 planes in all. The Tornado is the farthest along of the new British fighters. Not many Whirlwinds have yet come off the production line, nor any Manchester squadrons been formed at the time of writing. The new-engined Wellingtons, Whitleys, and Hampdens should be coming along smartly, as the first production modes were tested about last November . . . . We do not believe that the Stirling is yet beyond the prototype stage.

The Tornado's armament is the only one known in detail, and it is impressive—eight machine-guns and three 20mm. cannon. The Whirlwind is believed to include in its armament a power-operated turret. Its primary mission will be combating Germany's twin-engined Messerschmitt 110. The changes have increased the top speed of the Wellington from 265 m.p.h. to more than 325; the Whitley's speed is about 300 m.p.h. in the re-engined version. Re-engined speed of the Hampden is 340 m.p.h. if with 2,000 h.p. engines, 310 with 1,600 power plants.

SPITFIRE OF THE SEA

The following accounts of the types of aircraft now in Great Britain will be read with interest. They have been taken from various sources :—

The Fairey Fulmer, the latest acquisition of the Fleet Air Arm, had no sooner undergone its "baptism of fire" than it was very aptly christened the "Spitfire of the Sea."

It is the fastest and most formidable aircraft that the Fleet Air Arm has ever possessed and has already scored a number of notable successes in action against the enemy.

The official description of the Fulmar is a two-seat fleet-fighter monoplane, and with its forward armament of eight machine guns in the wings is the most heavily armed aircraft of its kind in the world.

It was developed from the Fairey P.4/34, which was flying in the early part of 1937 and attracted considerable attention at the Brussels Aero Show in July 1939. The P.4/34 outclassed anything of its type in the world with a top speed of 284 miles per hour at 17,200 feet, with a full bomb load of 1,000 lb. Its range was in the neighbourhood of 1,000 miles at 230 m.p.h. The development of the Fulmar has brought about much improvement in design, with the resulting all-round increase in performance.

The Fulmar is a cantilever monoplane of all-metal construction with stressed-metal covering. It was modified from the P.4/34 to make it suitable for naval work. The principal changes are the fitting of eight guns in the wings, providing catapult points, a deck arresting hook and a room for a dinghy to be stowed aft of the cockpit. The radiator tunnel has been extended forward, although the radiator itself is in much the same position. To improve production, the flush rivets were replaced by round head rivets in those parts where they do not interfere seriously with performance.

The pilot flies the machine and fires the guns. The second man is a radio operator-observer.

It is powered by a 1,145 h.p. Rolls Royce Merlin X.12 cylinder Vee liquid-cooled engine with two-speed supercharger and has a three-blade Rotol constant-speed airscrew. The enclosed cockpit has a sliding hood over the pilot, and a tip-up windscreen over the observer. The under-carriage retracts inwards.

THE HAWKER HURRICANE

With its clean, graceful lines, characteristic wing shape and distinctive engine note, the Hawker Hurricane is an aeroplane which is recognized by thousands of British people as it flies day after day over England to grapple with the marauding Luftwaffe. To many the sight of the Hurricanes is a welcome one, and the roar of their engines a most heartening sound, for with the Spitfires, through long weeks of almost ceaseless warfare they have defended cities, towns and hamlets against the brutal, ruthless onslaughts of the enemy.

Few aeroplanes have earned fame so quickly, nor deserved it so well. In France Hurricane pilots showed their mettle. In Norway Hurricanes fought and destroyed many German aircraft, and in the Mediterranean this 40-foot-span single-seater fighter has been in many combats with the Italian air force. How many of the enemy have been sent crashing out of the sky by Hurricanes of our many Home Defence squadrons only the Air Ministry knows.

The well-armed Messerschmitt 110 and the Heinkel 113 are no less swift than the Hurricanes, yet against this wonderful British aircraft, no longer new in design, these Nazi planes are constantly out-fought. Skilful pilotage and a great superiority in powers of manoeuvre are the reasons. For its type the Hurricane is astonishingly nimble, and in spite of its high speed and comparatively large dimensions it can be turned and twisted about as can no enemy fighter. From pilots who fly it by day and by night it receives unstinted praise.

FLEET AIR ARM

The fleet air arm, after months of fine but unadvertised work, won fame and glory at Taranto on November 11 and in the action off Sardinia on November 27, 1940. In those two actions the torpedoing was carried out chiefly by Fairey Swordfish aircraft, but lately a new and improved type of torpedo-carrying plane, the Fairey Albacore which has been put into service, adds considerably to the striking power of aircraft carriers. The torpedo strikes the water with the tremendous impetus, some 300 miles an hour, given it by the speed of the machine. The Fairey Albacore can be used also as a dive-bomber or for general reconnaisance. To carry the 500 lb. weight of an 18-in torpedo the plane is quite big—50 feet in length and sturdily built, being all metal except for the fabric covering of the wings. The Bristol-Taurus sleeve-valve engine gives 1,050 h.p. Its small size allows the pilot a clear view.

The planes are stored below decks with wings folded backwards. There the torpedoes are wheeled from the magazines on trolleys and jacked up to the fastening gear on the planes. The machine-guns are loaded and the planes raised to the flight deck in huge lifts. The crews climb aboard. On expeditions such as those of Taranto and the Sardinian Sea, there is usually only one observer, who navigates for all the rest of the planes, to save weight, carry only pilot and rear gunner (who releases the torpedo). When the planes are taking off the huge aircraft carrier forges ahead into the wind to give them some help. Once away from the ship the navigator must find his own way without using wireless, which would disclose the position of the ship. This needs high skill, for the flight may take four or five hours—he does it by dead reckoning.

The planes usually take evasive action to confuse the enemy gunners; sometimes smoke screens are laid first. To drop the torpedo the plane comes down to 150 feet or less, in order to prevent the mechanism which keeps the torpedo at a given distance beneath the surface being damaged as the torpedo strikes the water. As the plane swoops low over the water at about 1,000 yards from, and in line with, its target the rear gunner releases the torpedo, which speeds towards its mark, and the pilot must then extricate himself as best he can.

SOME AMERICAN TYPES

Mr. Grenville Manton writing to a British illustrated journal gives the following description of new American aircraft :

American aircraft are being shipped to England in ever-growing numbers. Piloted by British airmen, some have been flown across the Atlantic on non-stop delivery flights. In the coming months the flow will widen and expand, as President Roosevelt's fifty-fifty plan by which we are to receive half the output of American aircraft factories is geared up.

One American type with which people in England have been long familiar is the Lockheed Hudson. This fine reconnaisance-bomber machine has been used in large numbers by the Coastal Command, mainly on work over the North Sea, and it has been in many combats with the Luftwaffe. It is powered with two Wright Cyclone radial engines which give together a total of 1,700 horse-power at 6,000 feet. The Hudson was not designed in the first place as a military aircraft. It is a development of the Lockheed 14 "Super Electra" air liner, and the fact that it performs so well under the arduous conditions of air warfare shows how well its conversion from commercial to military requirements has been made. For more than a year this ex-transport plane has shown its mettle, flying in all weathers, bombing Nazi bases, spotting U-boats, and often fighting its way homewards against tremendous odds.

But soon the Hudson, after valiant service, is to be replaced by other American machines of higher speed and better all-round performance. One of these is the Douglas DB-7, known in the Royal Air Force as the Boston. This is a monoplane with a span of 61 feet and two Pratt and Whitney Twin Wasp engines which develop 1,200 h.p. each. An unusual feature of this aircraft, which is equipped for dive-bombing as well as precision bombing is the tricycle undercarriage. It has exceptionally clean lines and is capable of a maximum speed of 320 m.p.h. a cruising speed of 280 m.p.h. and a range of about 1,200 miles. Armament consists of four fixed machine-guns mounted in the nose of the fuselage, and there is another gun on a movable mounting in a position behind the wing.

The United States Army Air Corps has been equipped for some years with ultra-large bombers to meet the specific requirements of America, and this has resulted in various types of four-engined long range machines reaching a high state of development. The biggest of these is the Consolidated B-24. It has four 1,200 h.p. Pratt and Whitney Twin Wasp engines, and is credited with a top speed of well over 300 m.p.h. A hundred and twenty B-24s have been ordered by the British Government

for the Royal Air Force. The Boeing " Flying Fortress " is another four-engined bomber which will probably be in the service of the Royal Air Force in the near future.

There is another American bomber which must be mentioned: the Martin 167-A3. It was originally ordered by the French, and some of them saw service in France in the early days of the conflict. Powered with two Twin Wasp engines, it can carry 1,250 lb. of bombs, and has a maximum range of 2,470 miles. Its top speed is 316 m.p.h. and it cruises at 248 m.p.h. The Martin was not designed solely as a bomber, but is intended as a multi-seat fighter, as a reconnaissance machine, and also for low-flying attacks on ground forces. It is fairly well armed, and in spite of its size—its span is 61 feet—it has good powers of manœuvre. But its most suitable role is that of bomber.

Several months ago, much publicity was given to the fact that 90 dive-bombers in the service of the United States Navy were being transferred to Britain. These machines are Curtiss 77 SBC-4 Helldivers. They are powered with Wright Cyclone 1,200 h.p. engines and are single-bay wire-braced biplanes. They are regarded in America as obsolete, but they have no mean performance and will be useful in reinforcing still further the Royal Air Force.

In the fighter class great efforts are being made by United States manufacturers to evolve machines of the very highest performance. Hitherto they have favoured the comparatively small monoplane powered with a big air-cooled radial engine, and some very fine machines of this style have been produced. The Curtiss Hawk 75-A, which was supplied to l' Armee de l' Air and which has also been used in England to some extent, is a good example. It has a 900 h.p. Wasp engine, is very manœuvrable, and has a speed in the region of 320 m.p.h. Another radial-engined fighter which is being supplied to our air arm is the Brewster Buffalo (800 h.p. Wright Cyclone). In appearance the Buffalo is very unusual, with its heavily-cowled engine and tubby, round fuselage.

One other American fighter, which is being supplied to the Fleet Air Arm for service with aircraft carriers, is the Grumman G-36 four-gun machine. It has a 1,050 h.p. motor, which gives it a speed of 330 m.p.h.

Well in advance of these radial-engined fighters in all-round performance is the Curtiss P-40, a 37-foot-span low-wing monoplane which in general appearance closely resembles the redoubtable Hawker Hurricane. It is powered with an Allison 1,250 h.p. liquid-cooled engine, the only aero-motor of this type at present manufactured in the United States of America. Performance figures of this fine aeroplane, which is being turned out at the rate of three every day for the Royal Air Force cannot yet be divulged. But it can be taken for granted that in maximum speed and rate of climb it is as good as any fighter which has so far been on active service.

Two more types of fighters, which are produced by leading aircraft constructors in the United States of America will form the equipment of some of our squadrons before long. Each is of revolutionary design. One is the Bell Airacobra, an Allison-engined, 34-feet cantilever monoplane in which the outstanding feature is the location of the power unit in the fuselage behind the pilot. A shaft of special design drives the tractor airscrew. A tricycle under-carriage which is retractable is another unusual feature of this aircraft, for which a top speed of over 400 m.p.h. is claimed. Details as to its armament have not been released, but it is reputed to have four ·303 machine-guns and also a 37 mm. cannon. The other new fighter which will ultimately be delivered to England in large numbers is the Lockheed P-38. It has two Allison engines, a tricycle undercarriage, and is heavily armed. It can attain a speed of 404 m.p.h. and is one of the most advanced machines so far produced.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

The Two Dictators

Axis radio propaganda has been making great play—in the week ending March 2, 1941—with the recent speeches of the Fuehrer and the Duce, regardless of the fact that both harangues were defensive in tone and contained admissions of past defeats. Mussolini in particular seemed actually to revel in the magnitude of the disasters which had befallen him in Africa, boasting of having lost one complete army, with all its equipment, out of the two he had assembled there.

" These figures of our losses (in Africa) " declared the Duce, " shew how carefully our preparations were made ". Marshal Graziani, it will be remembered, took a very different line in his famous " apology for defeat " (widely publicized at Christmas by the Italian press and radio), in which he complained to Mussolini that his preparations were seriously hampered by the non-arrival of mechanical transport and other much-needed equipment.

Hitler Explains

Meanwhile, Hitler—who last year boasted of a secret weapon that would end the war by Christmas, who was to be in Buckingham Palace by August, and whose radio has destroyed London on two distinct occasions and sunk more of Britain's cruisers than she ever possessed—now limits himself to threatening that he " will face Britain wherever she touches the Continent ". His failure to invade Britain he explains by remarking naively that " the British have transferred their victories elsewhere, and we have had to run after them ". But the four million Britons under arms who have not been " transferred ", as well as the home-based R.A.F. and the Royal Navy, doubtless explain why the Germans have preferred to " run after " possibly easier successes elsewhere.

Referring to Mussolini, Hitler says: " When I have chosen a man, I stick to him ". So he does, but not always to the benefit of the chosen one. Gregor Strasser, his chosen friend and co-founder of the Nazi Party, was assassinated as soon as he disagreed with Hitler on policy.

Roehm, his lieutenant chosen to organize intimidation by storm troopers, was purged in the blood-bath of 1934, along with many others of Hitler's old comrades. General Blomberg, Hitler's army friend and Commander-in-Chief, was disgraced as soon as the Fuehrer had obtained complete control of the army. Herr Thyssen, the man chosen to reorganize Germany's rearmament, was driven into exile the moment he protested against the invasion of Poland.

A Masterpiece of Under-Statement

Perhaps realizing that his usual airy dismissals of Royal Air Force raids on Germany are not having the success their simple artlessness deserves, Dr. Goebbels seems to have been telling his propagandists to add a little " corroborative detail " to their customary denials. Hence the following masterpiece of under-statement, broadcast from Berlin on Feb. 24, on the subject of the British attack on Wilhelmshaven the previous Friday night:—

" It must be pointed out that the British dropped most of their bombs on the mud-flats near Wilhelmshaven. Only one bomb actually fell within the precincts of the town, but it did practically no damage. The large fire reported by *Reuter*, into which the British airmen were said to have dropped their bombs again and again, was in a farm in a village on the distant outskirts of another town. The farm-house was burnt to the ground. . . more than 100 incendiaries were used by the British in this attack on helpless peasants."

Now, this particular raid on the Nazi naval base and shipbuilding yards at Wilhelmshaven was the 43rd which the Royal Air Force had carried out there since the war began. Does Goebbels seriously expect us to believe that the British airmen would (*a*) drop a lot of bombs in the mud, and (*b*) mistake a burning farm-house for a blazing factory, warehouses or slipway? Even if the " farm fire " were actually a decoy, lit by the Germans to lure the enemy away from their real objectives, the deception would soon have been discovered—and, in that case, what becomes of this British " attack on helpless peasants "?

One feels that Admiral Raeder is a more reliable guide than Dr. Goebbels to what has been happening to Wilhelmshaven lately. On January 28 the Admiral told dockyard workers at that port that they had been suffering loss and damage in the past, and would have to suffer still more in the future.

The Fat Boy Again

After painting a lurid picture of what is in store for Britain—" the greatest land, sea and air offensive the world has ever witnessed ", with " simultaneous attacks on Britain, Iceland, Gibralter, Greece and British possessions in Africa ", carried out by " tens of thousands of German planes ", and an " onslaught by 300 to 400 German and Italian submarines on Britain's vital supply routes "—Berlin on February 28, quoted an American news agency as saying that every one in Britain was " completely at a loss to know how such a German offensive could be countered ".

Britain has withstood mass air attacks for six months. More than three thousand Nazi planes have been destroyed—an average of three for every Royal Air Force machine lost. This air offensive has not seriously impaired either in productive capacity or the morale of the nation. For eighteen months German U-boats have been attacking British merchant ships. Six out of every seven British vessels still remain intact, without allowing for replacements and acquisitions.

Nazi propaganda being what it is, there is no reason to suppose that any " American news agency " ever cast doubts on Britain's readiness to meet any new German onslaught; but this is what an American journalist and film commentator, Quentin Reynolds, told the *Brooklyn Eagle* on his return from London on January 16: " Every Englishman is itching for Hitler to carry out his oft-repeated invasion threat. . . The sooner Germany tries to invade, the sooner England will win the war ".

The Truth at Last

Referring once again to the German attack on a British convoy off the Azores on February 13, the German radio says on March 2 that the British Government " have been hiding the unpleasant truth, which is that *eight* were sunk out of this convoy ". If only eight were sunk, as the Nazi radio now admits, then why have the Germans all along claimed to have sunk 15? The British Government has not published final figures for this incident, since a few ships, though still unaccounted for, are not yet overdue.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Economic Conditions in Egypt

On February 24, the German broadcast in Hindustani invited the attention of its listeners to the comments of " a commercial paper in the Near East " which had, according to the Nazis, stated that economic conditions prevailing in Egypt were calamitous and that the British had been responsible for bringing these conditions about. The fact, however, is that the British Government have already bought over 4,665 thousand cantars of cotton, the total payments from September 1940 to January 1941 being 15,370,000 Egyptian pounds.

Furthermore, in spite of the alleged economic spoliation by the British, Anglo-Egyptian relations continue to be very friendly. In November 1940, Egypt's new Premier, Hussein Siry Pasha, told the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*: " Our co-operation is of the closest and most cordial. . . Britain's purchase of Egypt's cotton crop set the seal

on this co-operation. It was a good thing for us and not a bad thing for you either ". The latest evidence of Anglo-Egyptian friendship is to be found in a letter addressed this week-end by General Wavell to the Egyptian Premier, thanking him for the co-operation which the British forces had received from the Egyptian Government during the Army of the Nile's recent victorious offensive.

Hitler's " Mirrors of Truth "

Dr. Goebbel's broadcast proudly announced on February 23 that " unlike the British, Germany is not accustomed to lying ". Pursuing the well-known Nazi doctrine, propounded by the Fuehrer himself, that " a definite factor in getting a lie believed is the size of the lie ", the Nazis on February 14 excelled themselves by sinking again the 20,000-ton British ship " Orford ", which had actually been sunk in June last after being bombed near Marseilles!

Imaginary Riots in Calcutta

The enemy broadcast a senseless lie on February 27 purporting to come from a special correspondent in Calcutta. They said that Mr. Fazlul Huq, the Bengal Premier, and his Home Minister had given the order to open fire on unarmed civilians, causing countless casualties. There is, of course, no truth in this allegation. The Italian radio, however, went one better and actually announced that, as a result of the firing by the police, hundreds of people were killed and about one lakh were wounded. It might be recalled that on February 15 the Italian radio treated the Arab listeners to the most interesting news that Calcutta police fired on a Hindu procession which was being organized in connexion with the arrest of Subhas Chandra Bose who had been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment! Naturally this news item was not included in the Hindustani broadcast.

Germany over the Mediterranean

According to the Nazi broadcast of February 28, the Spanish paper *Ya* states that the German attacks in North Africa have upset British plans there. In the mopping-up operations still proceeding in Cyrenaica, some Nazi units have been encountered, but German suggestions about the presence of a large force there are baseless. The German dive-bombers' ability to interfere with the free use of the Sicilian Channel is discounted by the recent British naval operations, in which not only was a convoy conducted through the channel but a dive-bomber attack was beaten off with the loss of five enemy planes.

Increasing American Aid

Referring to the statement of the Assistant Secretary to the United States Arms Production Department to the effect that America could set up armament factories comparable with Germany's only by spending 100,000 million dollars, the German radio stated on February 25 that the United States of America's capacity to produce armaments being limited, American help could not save Britain.

Whatever the German interpretation, Mr. Knudsen, United States of America's Defence Commissioner, revealed on February 11 that the rate of manufacture of planes in America was well over 1,000 a month. " My aim ", said Mr. Knudsen, " is to make about 36,000 planes per year ". But even on the basis of present achievement, Britain would receive 500 planes a month. Good progress is also being made with the plans for building ships on a mass production basis. Britain has placed orders in the United States of America for £375 million worth of war materials. The new order to be made after the Lease and Lend Bill has been passed will more than double this figure.

Britain's Cause

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of February 25 puts into the mouth of an American Senator the statement that England is fighting to preserve her trade.

The Germans have a way of twisting statements to suit their own purpose, but no less a person than the British Premier himself has given the lie to this insinuation. Mr. Butler speaking in the Commons presented the fact in its true perspective when he said that the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs (who had offered to mediate not only in the Far East, but anywhere in the world) had been informed by Mr. Churchill that " in a cause for which we are fighting—a cause in no way concerned with territory, trade, or material gains, but affecting the whole future of humanity—there can be no question of compromise or parley ".

Economic " Victory " of Germany

The Nazi newspaper, *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, while commenting on the Italo-German economic talks, states, according to the German broadcast of February 27, that economic victory will be won by the Axis powers. There is no doubt that Italy will soon discover, as have Germany's other collaborators, that Germany's economic victories are always at the expense of the countries which co-operate with her. A year ago Rumania was one of the biggest exporters of meat and wheat, but she now suffers four meatless days per week, eats standard black bread and exports all her food to one customer, Germany. Denmark, after eight months of occupation, has a German debt of £20 millions. Theoretically Denmark is entitled to buy goods in Germany, but the latter cannot supply the goods required.

Greek Tribute to British Aid

The German broadcast of February 27, reported the London correspondent of the Associated Press as having written that Greece had intentionally refused offers of British help. Far from this being so, the Greek newspaper *Estia* goes out of its way to pay a tribute to the quality of British aid. It says: " The Italians well know the quality of British support to Greece. They see it every day, at Taranto, in Sicily, the Dodecanese and Albania ".

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

(FOR THE USE OF PROPAGANDA SUB-COMMITTEES)

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DIARY OF THE WAR

14th Mar.—The Royal Air Force made the heaviest attack of the war on Hamburg on the night of March 13–14. Shipping premises, dockyards and warehouses were hit. One supply ship was attacked off the Norwegian coast while another was sunk off the Frisian Islands by aerial torpedoes.

The Royal Air Force in the Middle East was active over Eritrea, Libya, Abyssinia and Albania.

The first batch of trained pilots of the Royal Netherlands East Indies Air Force has arrived in Britain.

The British forces have taken Asosa, forty miles south-east of Kurmuk, in the course of their advance in Abyssinia while Abyssinian Patriot Troops have reached the vicinity of Debra Markos, inflicting serious casualties on the Italians retreating from Burye.

The Greeks have taken a further 240 Italian prisoners, including many officers. It is confirmed that Mussolini is on the Albanian front, egging on his troops to greater efforts but all to no avail.

Thirteen enemy bombers were destroyed for certain in German air raids on Britain during the night of March 13–14. No fewer than eleven fell to Royal Air Force fighters, one was shot down by anti-aircraft fire and one was destroyed by other means (according to the Air Ministry's communique). Altogether 18 German planes were shot down over Britain in 48 hours.

Mr. de Valera, Prime Minister of Eire, speaking in the Dail, said that as the crisis of the war grew more acute, the danger to Ireland correspondingly increased. An unidentified aircraft flew over Dublin Bay and was fired on by the ground defences.

An indication of the unrest in German-occupied Holland is given in an announcement, by the Nazi Commander of the Netherlands, that 15 out of 18 persons convicted at the Hague on charges of sabotage and espionage were shot.

The United States House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate the Bill for $3,447,000,000 to help finance the Two-Ocean Navy. Six battle-cruisers of a new type are to be built.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, announced that some defence material to be transferred from the United States, had already started for its destination.

It is announced in London that Sir Arthur Salter is to proceed at once to America to discuss shipping matters with the United States Administration, and that Mr. Roger Brand will lead a small mission to discuss with the United States authorities arrangements by which food-stuffs will be made available to Britain. Both are to be members of the British Supply Council in North America.

President Roosevelt indicated at a press conference that the United States Government intended to proceed cautiously over the question of supplying food to German-occupied countries. If America provided food, there should be the certainty that none could go outside the country that was being helped.

15th Mar.—A Belgrade message states that Yugoslavian Ministers will not journey to Berlin, that Yugoslavia will not sign the Tripartite Pact but will maintain strict neutrality and that all rumours of an ultimatum or Yugoslav capitulation thereto are baseless.

Planes of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command attacked the Ruhr region, particularly the great Hydrogeneration plant at Gelsenkirchen which was set ablaze. Dusseldorf and Rotterdam were also attacked. Coastal and Fighter Command aircraft also carried out extensive raiding operations along the European coast from Norway to Brest.

Clydeside was the main target of Nazi bombers and also a town in North-east England.

Admiral Sir Percy Noble has been appointed to direct the " Battle of the Atlantic " and keep the sea lanes to Britain open for the flow of vital supplies of food, weapons and war material from America.

General Ugo Cavallero, Italian Commander-in-Chief in Albania, is reported to be in disgrace and to have resigned. The Italian offensive on the northern front collapsed before the determined resistance of the Greeks.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, conferred with Mr. Cordel Hull, United States Secretary of State, presumably on the question of relaxing the British blockade to admit food for France.

The United States House of Representatives' Sub-Committee has approved of the $7,000,000,000 appropriation asked for by President Roosevelt.

Mr. Averell Harriman, President Roosevelt's representative to co-ordinate arrangements for United States' aid to Britain, has arrived in Bristol.

General Smuts, the South African Premier, in the course of a national broadcast, said: "Hitler has suffered his most spectacular defeat at the hands of America and behind his open war with the British Commonwealth lies now an undeclared but a no less real and grim war with the United States. To succeed, Hitler must win in both, and he cannot."

All the 720 inhabitants of Vatican City, including His Holiness the Pope and 23 Cardinals, have now been given ration-cards. His Holiness is reported to have insisted on being placed on the same ration as everyone else in Vatican City.

16th Mar.—Addressing the White House Correspondents' Association in a speech broadcast throughout the world, President Roosevelt said that the United States was committed to unqualified, immediate, all-out aid for Britain, Greece, China and all the Governments whose homelands were temporarily occupied by the aggressors. He said that there could be no compromise with the Nazis whose "New Order" was neither new nor order. The British who "are fighting in the front line of civilization" would be given the utmost and speedy help.

Hitler, speaking in Berlin, made no reference to Mr. Roosevelt's address. He said that German forces were ready for a fresh assault but he added that Germany must bear heavier sacrifices in the War than ever before.

The Greeks, it is reported, have taken over 3,000 prisoners in vigorous counter-attacks, following Mussolini's abortive spring offensive. The Royal Air Force raided Berat aerodrome and set on fire a petrol dump.

British troops in Abyssinia have penetrated far on the road to Jijiga and along the Srada-Rele road from Mogadishu to Addis Ababa *via* Neghelli.

London was the main target of Nazi airmen but the attacks were generally on a small scale.

The Royal Air Force made determined attacks on Dusseldorf and the submarine base of L'orient.

It is reported that two American cruisers and four destroyers have arrived in Auckland (New Zealand) on a training cruise.

The British submarine *Snapper* is overdue and must be considered lost (announces the Admiralty).

Men between 41 and 45 and women of 20 and 21 are to register for work of national importance (says a London message). "If we are to beat Hitler" declared Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, "We must have every citizen rendering service in the right place."

Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, conferred at Lisbon with Col. Donovan (President Roosevelt's Special Envoy to Europe) on the question of supplies to Spain and Portugal and unoccupied France.

17th Mar.—A violent attack on President Roosevelt was made by the official Italian News Agency, which accused the President of lying when he affirmed that the supreme war aim of the Totalitarian States was the destruction of elective governments. The Japanese press also exhibited anger but the President's speech was hailed by British newspapers as a historic utterance, giving pledges of whole-hearted support to the nations opposing the Axis which would ensure victory for the Democracies. The speech was also enthusiastically received by the majority of the newspapers throughout the United States. An increasingly belligerent tone towards the Axis was manifest and many newspapers openly suggested that America was now at war and was playing a positive role by encouraging raids on Germany and by stiffening the Balkan resistance to the Axis.

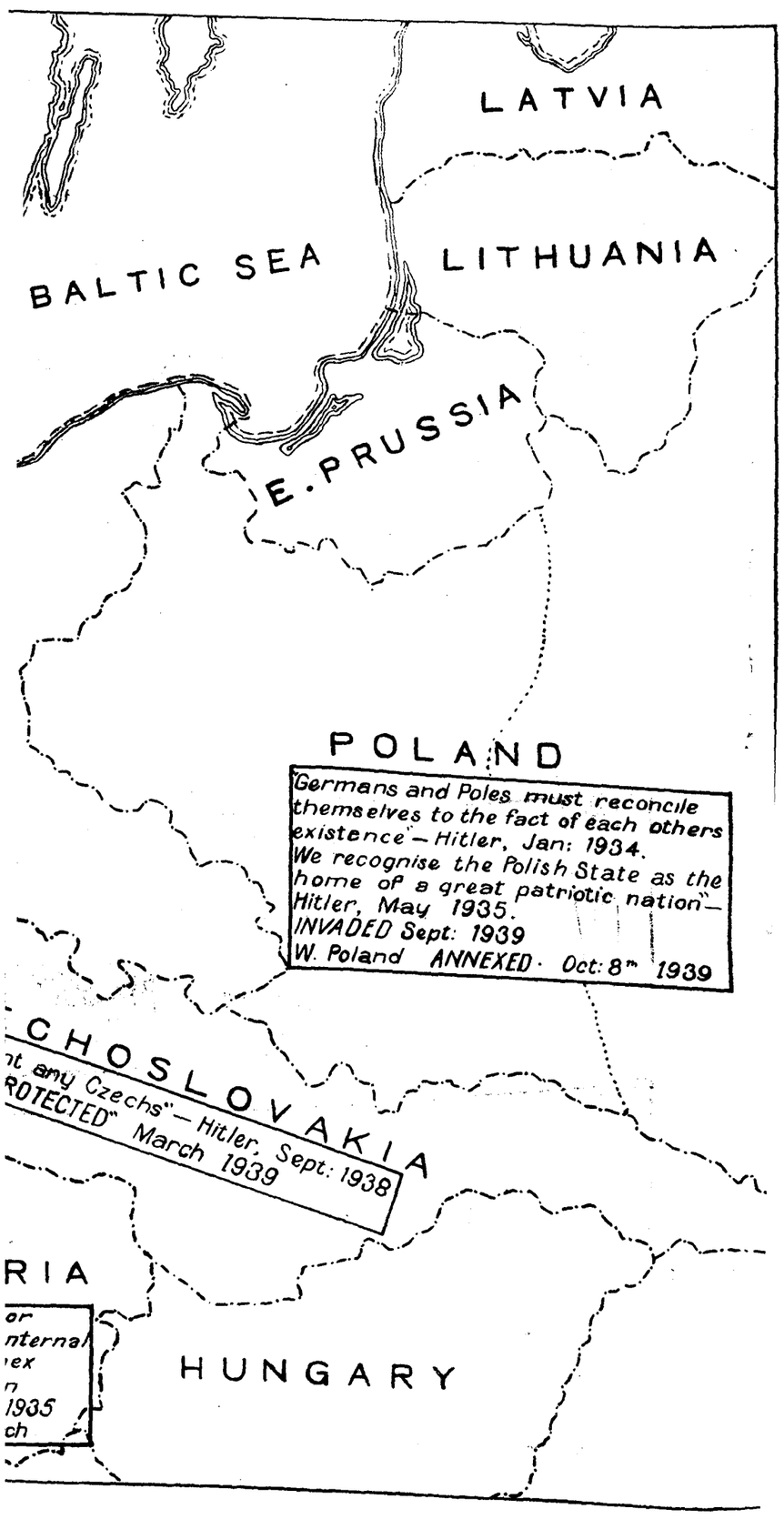
Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, has arrived at the Russian frontier station of Otpor, on his way to Berlin, which he expected to reach on April 1.

The Tokyo paper *Hochi Shimbun* advocated the bombing of "Chungking's military establishments" which, it alleged, had been transferred to Burma. The paper said that the Longween Aviation Factory, formerly in Yunnan, had moved to Burma while other assembly plants had been established "in the British colony" from which American planes, landed in Rangoon, were being flown by Chinese pilots.

"Licking their wounds" after their unsuccessful seven-day offensive on the central battle-front in Albania, the Italians refrained from any major attacks. The Italian High Command appeared to be enraged at the failure of their offensive despite the employment of 120,000 men. The loss of Italian effectives engaged was often as high as forty per cent.

Successful British air raids on Tirana and Valona are announced in a communique from the headquarters of the British forces in Greece. A British bomber, returning from an operational flight, shot down a large enemy seaplane into the sea near Corfu. One British aircraft was missing from all these operations.

Bristol was attacked by German aircraft at night in a raid lasting some hours. Considerable damage was caused by high explosive bombs and fires but all fires were under control early this morning. There were a number of casualties, including some people killed. Bombs were also dropped in a number of other areas but the total damage was small and very few casualties were caused. One enemy aircraft was destroyed. A newspaper office suffered severely from a blast but nevertheless the newspaper was published.



Fifteen thousand French Mohammedan Legionaries paraded at Oran, Algeria, before General Weygand and Admiral Abrial and took the oath of loyalty. General Weygand declared that Marshal Petain had given the Legion a special place in national policy so that it might be able to collaborate with him.

The British forces have recaptured Berbera, the capital of British Somaliland in the Red Sea. The town had been in Italian hands since soon after the Italian entry into the war. Further advances have been made in the Keren area in Eritrea. The Italian discomfiture extends to Abyssinia, where the general advance of the Imperial and the Patriot forces continues in all sectors.

Heavy attacks were made on aerodromes at Castel Benito and Makina in Tripolitania. In Eritrea, very heavy attacks were made on enemy positions in and around Keren. The Royal Air Force also bombed and machine-gunned a motor transport and troop concentrations and also railways and roads.

It is reported that a tightening-up in the shipping position is likely and the final step in the process will be taken by the Prime Minister himself. Many members of the Commons favour the appointment of a man of the Beaverbrook type to the Ministry of Shipping. Others call for somebody who combines the fullest knowledge of the intricacies of the shipping industry with sufficient personality to see that the Admiralty, which is now responsible for merchantship construction, does full justice to merchant shipping needs.

The German Consulate was reopened at Tangier, reoccupying the building which was the German Consulate before 1914. This had been the official residence of the representative of the Sultan of Morocco, known as the Mendoub.

There were authentic indications that German plans had met with some setback in Yugoslavia and the first consequences were to slow down whatever action Germany might have contemplated against Greece. Germany's primary aim of securing the right of transit through the Vardar valley and the second alternative of securing Yugoslavia's benevolent non-belligerance by joining the Axis Pact, both appeared to have been resolutely resisted. Even the concentration of sixty thousand Italian troops on the Dalmatian frontier did not make Belgrade more tractable.

18th Mar.— Two German bombers were shot down into the sea off the coast of Britain. Two British fighters returning to their bases were attacked by a number of enemy fighters and shot down. But both the pilots are safe. It was announced that five hundred were killed and five hundred injured in German air raids on the Merseyside on two nights.

The Royal Air Force Bomber Command made fairly heavy attacks on the German naval bases at Wilhelmshaven and Bremen. Emden, Oldenburg and Rotterdam were also attacked. An enemy fighter was shot down in flames. Coastal Command planes of the Royal Air Force torpedoed and sank a heavily-laden German supply vessel (5,000 tons) off the Frisian coast. No British aircraft was lost in all these operations.

The Royal Air Force also blasted Tripoli harbour. The Royal Air Force took a hand in the operations in the Keren area in Eritrea and it was revealed that armoured cars belonging to the Air Force played a leading part in the fighting in British Somaliland.

Italian airmen continued the practice of bombing the open town of Larissa which had already suffered heavy damage in the recent earthquake. Italian offensive in the northern sector in Albania ended in severe losses to themselves. Terrific fighting raged round Tepelini both day and night and British and Greek air forces in their turn bombed the Italians' bases at Berat and Elbasan.

German-Greek relations are reported to be reaching towards a crisis.

It is reported that President Ineunu has sent his reply to the personal message from Hitler.

A declaration of Yugoslavia's strict neutrality was made in *Samouprava* the organ of the Yugoslav Radical Union. The British Minister in Belgrade had an interview with the Yugoslav Premier. A Belgrade message to the *New York Times* stated that Yugoslav leaders are insisting that for purposes of the projected Non-Aggression Pact, Salonika must be considered equivalent to Yugoslav territory and should not be occupied by Germany. Such occupation would endanger Yugoslavia's independence and integrity.

A French proposal for two French ships to be allowed to take food and grain to unoccupied France was considered by the United States Government. The State Department at Washington emphasized that the United States Government must assure themselves that the final consumption of the food sent should take place within the area of unoccupied France.

Admiral Darlan, Vichy's Vice-Premier, and Comte de Brinon, Vichy's representative in Paris, conferred with the German Emissary, Abetz, in Paris.

American citizens in unoccupied France have been asked to leave by the United States Embassy.

Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking at a Pilgrims' Society luncheon to the new American Ambassador, revealed that German battle cruisers as well as U-boats had crossed the Atlantic and sunk ships not in convoy. The Prime Minister also announced the certain destruction of three German U-boats. He did not minimize the gravity and vital importance of the "Battle of the Atlantic," but said: "We are not alone." He thanked President Roosevelt for his pledge of speedy help.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Aircraft production stated in the House of Commons that more aircraft, both bombers and fighters, were produced in Britain during the short month of February than during any previous month during the war.

The United States House of Representatives began a debate on the seven billion dollars (aid to Britain) appropriation. The House faced a tersely worded warning from the Appropriations Sub-Committee that this huge sum must be quickly approved or the reputation of the United States among the nations would suffer.

The first of twenty-two giant Boeing four-engined, long-range bombers, left Dayton (Ohio) to join the Royal Air Force. The bombers would leave at the rate of one per day.

The Nazis admit "severe damage" to their crack liner Bremen as the result of a fire.

19th Mar.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Britain's Foreign Secretary, met M. Sarajoglu, Turkey's Foreign Minister, in the Island of Cyprus for the second time in a fortnight and had a "highly satisfactory" talk on the situation in the Balkans and in the Near East.

The British Imperial Forces continued their triumphal march in Abyssinia. Jig Jiga has been captured and Abyssinian Patriot Forces have been putting on pressure against Debra Marcos. The Royal Air Force bombed and machine-gunned Italian troop concentrations round Keren.

The Royal Air Force also carried out a most successful raid on Durazzo and north of Tepelini on the Albanian Front. The Greeks repulsed repeated Italian local attacks.

The Royal Air Force bombed at night the German bases at Wilhelmshaven and Kiel, Rotterdam petrol harbour, the docks at Emden and aerodromes in Holland. German shipping off the Dutch coast was bombed and machine-gunned during the day.

London had its longest alert of the year so far during the night but the casualties and damage were remarkably light. In conformity with their evident policy of concentrating on British ports, the German air raiders reserved their onslaught for Hull, causing widespread damage to property. But fire-watchers, firemen, warders and police dealt effectively with the fires started by incendiary bombs.

The famous German liner Bremen of over 51,000 tons has been totally destroyed by fire.

Admiral Darlan, Vichy's Vice-Premier returned to Vichy after his talk in Paris with the German Emissary.

Auckland (New Zealand) accorded a civic welcome to the American Naval Squadron on a training cruise in the Far East.

The British Government have formally agreed to provide credits for financing the Free French War effort.

20th Mar.—Belgrade continues to maintain a firm front against Nazi intrigues and Yugoslav mobilization goes on.

Greek advance units entered Tepelini, the last town held by the Italians on the road to Valona. In the Central sector in Albania, the Greeks took possession of enemy positions at heights of 4,500 feet. An Italian offensive in the Northern sector has also been repulsed with heavy losses. An Italian warship was among the ships sunk or damaged in a series of attacks, which the British Fleet Air Arm made against Valona and Durazzo.

Intense Royal Air Force activity continues in Eritrea, particularly in the Keren sector and in Tripolitania. British bombers unloaded a stick of bombs on concentrations of shipping in Tripoli harbour. The British forces are making steady progress in Abyssinia. It was learned in London that any request by the Italians for the safe conduct of the two hundred thousand Italian non-combatants in Abyssinia could only form part of a general capitulation.

The Royal Air Force (Bomber Command) attacked the industrial quarters in Cologne, oil storage tanks at Rotterdam and three aerodromes in the Netherlands. Coastal Command aircraft attacked the submarine base at L'orient. German authorities have ordered the evacuation of children from large industrial centres in Western Germany and from Berlin district which are liable to air attacks.

The submarine *Triumph* sank two deeply-laden Italian supply ships, each about 2,500 tons; the submarine *Unique* torpedoed a fully-laden Italian supply ship of 3,000 tons, and the submarine *Utmost* attacked another convoy of two deeply-laden Italian transports of about 6,000 and 4,000 tons, which were crowded with troops.

The United States Senate has approved the £862 million Bill to help finance America's Two-ocean Navy.

Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador, continued his discussions with the State Department in Washington on the question of food for France.

There was slight activity over Britain by enemy aircraft during daylight. Bombs were dropped on a Kent coast town where houses were damaged and a small number of casualties occurred. The Admiralty records that a German dive-bomber destroyed the drifter Young Mun and the Yacht Chico.

A great welcome was accorded to the United States Naval Squadron at Sydney by the Government and people of Australia.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th March 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over enemy and enemy-controlled coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 5 Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweep over N. France. R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on invasion base at Boulogne.	3	1
March 6, Thursday.	No reports	..	..
March 7, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on invasion base at Den Helder; aerodromes at Ockenberg; shipping off Dutch coast (*1 supply ship sunk*).	Nil.	..
March 8, Saturday.	No reports	..	..
March 9, Sunday.	No reports	..	..
March 10, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over N. France. R.A.F. night fighter raids on aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (Hohenzollern Bridge approaches, inland port, industrial objectives); naval bases at Brest and Cherbourg; Channel invasion bases, particularly Boulogne.	3	3
March 11, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on oil-stores at Rotterdam; factory near Utrecht; other objectives in Holland. R.A.F. night bomber raid on naval bases at Kiel and Bremerhaven; two aerodromes in N. W. Germany. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	Nil.	2

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th March 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on Allied shipping in N. W. European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 5	Nil.	1
March 6	Nil.	1
March 7	Nil.	2
March 8	Nil.	3
March 9	Nil.	[illegible]
March 10	Nil.	3
March 11	Nil.	1

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The news of the week is, of course, the historic speech which President Roosevelt made on Saturday last, an analysis of which appears elsewhere. Mr. Churchill, in his speech at a Pilgrim's Luncheon in London spoke of the sense of encouragement and fortification in the resolve which had come to England by those " stirring, august and fateful Presidential words." He described the President's acts and words as a draught of life telling Great Britain that she is no longer alone. In addition to the American destroyers, he pointed out, " our flotillas are growing in number. Our air power over the island and seas is growing fast. We are hitting back with increasing effect." Addressing Mr. Winant, the new American Ambassador, he said that he had come " at the grand turning point in world's history " and Mr. Winant replied by saying that Great Britain and America would work to " help one another to build a new world happier than the last."

Of equal importance is the capture by British forces of Berbera, the capital of British Somaliland. Two ships convoyed by warships landed troops, Indian, British and Somali and the story is told of how four men in a boat bore the great responsibility of commencing the operations. The capture of Berbera means the beginning of the end of the Italian occupation of British Somaliland. Jijiga, in Eastern Abyssinia, has also been taken. Diredawa on the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway, is only sixty miles from Jijiga which is within fifty miles of Harrar, the second largest town in Abyssinia. The heart of the Italian East African Empire is being surely and quickly approached by Imperial Forces.

To all appearances Hitler appears to have commenced his Spring campaign, so far, at any rate, as the " Battle of the Atlantic " is concerned. Shipping losses are more than normal and measures are being taken to combat this undoubtedly serious menace. In regard to invasion, Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister for Home Security, has urged the people of England to study carefully the leaflet issued by his Ministry in regard to precautions that they should take in case of an invasion. These precautions are based on the assumption that as there can be no Nazi victory unless it was won in the West, Hitler will make this attempt. That is why Mr. Morrison exhorted his people: " Stand firm. Carry on. Beat the invader."

But Hitler's plans in other directions are not bearing fruit. Yugoslavia is still firm. Greece is ready to meet Hitler's mechanized army. Advanced Greek troops have entered Tepelini. Turkey is steadfast. Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, flew to Cyprus on Tuesday last to meet M. Sarajoglu, Turkish Foreign Minister, to review the events which have happened in the fortnight since their last meeting. The meeting was highly satisfactory.

Mr. Churchill, in the speech which he made on Tuesday, referred to the " Battle of the Atlantic," which, he said, must be won in a decisive manner. " German U-boats and battle cruisers have crossed the Atlantic," he said, " and sunk some of our ships not sailing in convoy." He also announced that three German U-boats had been recently destroyed. That Great Britain is taking every possible measure to win the " Battle of the Atlantic " is obvious and Admiral Sir Percy Noble has been appointed to direct the operations of this battle.

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL

The Rome Radio, like Lord Haw Haw, is indignant about the passing of the Aid to Britain Act—no wonder, because that great historic Act of the Congress means America's determination to put an end to Hitler and Nazism once and for all. If one considers the remarkable fact that 89 out of 95 Senators voted either for the Bill to help finance America's Republican Senators proposal of a straight dollar loan to Britain, it will be obvious that the real issue in the last few months has been not whether America should help Great Britain, but what the methods are which should be followed to ensure British victory. It is significant that the passing of the Bill will lead to greater co-operation than now and even isolationist newspapers are now saying that American disunity has disappeared.

It is well to remember that the amendments which have been rejected show the consensus of American opinion in favour of standing by Great Britain. The prohibition of American troops being used for fighting outside the Western hemisphere without the consent of Congress and the prohibition of convoy by

American armed forces of war material shipped from America were, it will be remembered, rejected. Of course, the President should obtain Congressional consent for money spent on armaments which are to be transferred to other countries and he should, moreover, specify the countries concerned and the amounts allotted to each of them, but that will not interfere with the flow of ships, planes, food and munitions to the Democracies.

The Act, in the first place, authorizes the President to transfer to Britain armaments of the United States Armed forces existing or already ordered, to the extent of 1,300,000 dollars or £325,000,000. In other words, armaments of this value already sanctioned by Congress and paid for by America may be handed over at the President's discretion. In the second place, the Act authorizes the Congress to vote money for a new class of expenditure—that is, war materials to be lent and leased to friendly powers. This constitutes really the acceptance of the principle of unlimited aid.

The House of Representatives is now considering the request of the President for an appropriation of 7 billion dollars. As finance is mostly within the province of this House, the Senate is expected to pass the appropriation as soon as it is placed before it. The appropriation proposed includes an item of £50,000,000 for the repair of the defence articles of any country whose defence is considered vital to the United States by the President. This clearly means that British warships can hereafter be repaired in American ports.

THE BALKANS.

Mr. Eden's mission to the Near East—he has just had a meeting with the Turkish Foreign Minister in the island of Cyprus—and President Roosevelt's firm determination to implement the provisions of the Lease-Lend Act with the maximum speed are producing striking results in the Balkans. Yugoslavia, which is isolated, has so far resisted Nazi blandishments and shown herself reluctant to walk into the German parlour. At the beginning of the week, the Nazis confidently announced that the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia would visit [illegible] and sign away their country's independence. It was even rumoured that the special military plane sent by Wilhelmstrasse to fetch them had arrived in Belgrade on schedule. But the Yugoslav Ministers did not make the trip. While the British Ambassador, Sir Ronald Campbell, has had a long interview with the Yugoslav Premier, the German Minister's visits to the Foreign Office at Belgrade do not seem to have produced the desired results yet. It appears that the Yugoslavs are not willing to allow a German occupation of Salonika, Greece's second greatest port and her most important strategic centre, since it would endanger Yugoslav independence and integrity. The immense strength of the forces that Germany can throw into the battle must be reckoned with in any forecast of Balkan developments, but it is evident that Yugoslavia is heartened by the firm attitude of Turkey, who apparently treats any assurances contained in Hitler's recent note with suspicion and continues to adopt an attitude of preparedness, and the undaunted demeanour of the Greeks in the face of the new menace on their flank. Greece's resources have had to endure heavy strain but she has not only beaten off the counter-attacks launched by the Italians this week in Albania under the immediate inspiration of Mussolini himself but gone on to capture Tepelini, key town on the road to Valona. Soviet Russia's first overt rebuke to Bulgaria and Germany, unmistakably fixing on the latter the responsibility for trying to spread the war in the Balkans, has probably stiffened Yugoslavia's resistance to the Axis. And Mr. Antony Eden and Sir John Dill have presumably let her statesmen understand what Britain will do to help her in the event of German aggression. While Berlin and Rome have been very free with plans, threats and cajoleries, the British Government appear to have every intention of keeping the enemy guessing as to the plans agreed upon with their Allies. A report has also appeared, so far unconfirmed, that Russia has assured Turkey that she would not interfere if Turkey has to enter into hostilities with Germany and that she has asked Yugoslavia not to sign the Axis Tripartite Pact and promised her military help in case she is attacked for not acceding to the demands of the Nazis.

BRITISH CAPTURE BERBERA.

The Union Jack again flies over Berbera, the capital of British Somaliland, thus symbolizing the end of Italy's shortlived occupation. When, with the collapse of France, Italy entered the war against the Allies, the strategic position in Africa and the Near East was vitally affected. Mussolini thought it was a splendid opportunity to capture British Somaliland, his forces being vastly superior in numbers to the little police force that was all that Britain could spare at the moment. The British forces withdrew and Gayda, Mussolini's barking-dog, shouted " Britain is finished. Nothing can save her now." The Rome Radio proclaimed: " The collapse of the British Empire is now inevitable. The Red Sea has been closed to the Royal Navy." For some time, Britain had to be content with occasional naval raids on the Somali coast. And it was not till General Wavell launched his lightning campaign in Libya and scored the most spectacular victory of the war against Marshal Graziani that Britain could find an opportunity to re-occupy her lost Somali territory. After effective operations by the Navy and the Air Force, British troops landed in Berbera and took possession on Sunday, the 16th March. These troops were convoyed the previous night by warships,

(*Continued on Page 9*)

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S GREAT SPEECH

STERN WARNING TO DICTATORS

On Saturday evening last Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States, addressing the White House Correspondents' Association made a striking speech, containing a stern warning to Dictators and expressing the determination of the United States of America to help Great Britain, Greece and China against aggression. It is certainly the most important event that has happened after the downfall of France in June 1940. It has been made clear by this historic utterance—

(1) that America will play a great part in resistance to aggression,

(2) that the cause of freedom in the whole world is the cause which the United States has at heart,

(3) that the 130 millions of people of America are behind President Roosevelt in his noble endeavour to help the Democracies, and

(4) that the final issue of the war cannot hereafter be in doubt.

The speech, which will rank very high among the documents relating to the war, envisages the great part which America will play in world reconstruction. "Our country," said President Roosevelt, "is going to play its full part and when the Dictatorships disintegrate—and pray God that it will be sooner than any of us now dares to hope—our country must continue to play its great part in world reconstruction." It will hearten freedom-loving people throughout the world to know that, after the war, America will take a most active part in determining the new world order. President Roosevelt was in no doubt about the right of small nations to live in security and in the enjoyment of their liberty, freedom and independence. He said: "We believe that any nationality, no matter how small, has the inherent right to its own nationhood."

ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

As regards the part that America will play as a result of the Congress adopting the Lease and Lend Bill, President Roosevelt said:

(1) "In the last World War, the Germans were informed by their representatives in the United States that the latter was in a state of disunity. But let not the Dictators of Europe and Asia doubt our unity now. Before the present war broke out, I was more worried about the future than most people. The record shows that I was not worried enough."

(2) "The American people are writing new history to-day. The big news of this week is that the world has been told that we, as a united nation, realize the danger which confronts us, and to meet that danger, our Democracy has gone into action."

(3) "It (the new Act) is proclaimed, not with the voice of any one man, but with the voice of one hundred and thirty millions. It is binding on all of us and the world is no longer left in doubt."

(4) The President warned people of all classes to be prepared to make sacrifices and foreshadowed lower profits, higher taxes and longer hours. The United States was dedicated to a constantly increasing tempo of production, greater than ever known before.

(5) "There are almost a million and a half United States citizens in the armed forces to-day, and no better men ever served under Washington, Paul Jones, Grant, Lee or Pershing. The United States' determination must not be obstructed by unnecessary strikes, short-sighted management, sabotage or war profiteering. Americans recognize the extreme seriousness of the present situation. That is why they demanded and got a policy of unqualified, immediate, all-out aid for Britain, Greece, China and all the Governments whose homelands are temporarily occupied by the aggressors."

(6) "Never in all our history have Americans faced a job so well worth while. May it be said of us in the days to come that our children and our children's children will rise up and call us blessed."

WARNING TO DICTATORS.

President Roosevelt did not mince words in describing the great danger to the world arising from the doings of Dictators. He said:

(1) "We know that although Prussian autocracy was bad enough, Nazism is far worse. The Nazi forces are not seeking mere modifications in colonial maps or minor European boundaries. They openly seek the destruction of all elective systems of Government in every continent, including our own. They seek to establish systems of Government on the regimentation of all human beings by a handful of individual rulers, who seize power by force."

(2) "These men and their hypnotized followers call this a New Order. But it is not new and it is not order. Humanity will never permanently accept a system imposed by conquest and based on slavery. The nations of Europe and the United States did not previously appreciate that these modern tyrants find it necessary to eliminate all Democracies: but we do now."

(3) The decision (of Congress) is the end of any attempt at appeasement in our land, the end of urging us to get along with the Dictators, the end of compromise with tyranny and the forces of oppression."

(4) "We believe that the rallying cry of the Dictators and their boasting about the 'Master Race' will prove to be pure stuff and nonsense. There has never been, and never will be any race of people fit to serve as masters over their fellow-men. The world has no use for any nation which, because of its size and military might, asserts its right to goosestep to world power over other nations and other races."

DEMOCRACIES

As regards the future of Democracies, President Roosevelt said:

(1) "The process of elimination of European nations proceeded by plan through 1939 and 1940 until the schedule was shot to pieces by the unbeatable defenders of Britain. The enemies of Democracy now know that Democracy can still remain Democracy and reach conclusions and arm itself adequately for defence."

(2) "The light of Democracy must be kept burning. Millions in Britain and elsewhere are bravely shielding the great flame of Democracy from the black-out of barbarism. It is not enough for us merely to trim the wick and polish the glass. We must provide in ever increasing amounts to keep the flame alight. If Democracy failed, freedom of speech, expression and worship, freedom from want and fear, would become forbidden things. That is true of England, Greece, China and the United States today."

GREAT BRITAIN

The President was in no doubt as regards the noble and valiant resistance to aggression put up by Great Britain, thanks to the reports made to him by his emissaries and Mr. Wendell Willkie. Upon this point he said:

(1) "The British are stronger than ever in their magnificent morale, which has enabled them to endure all the dark days and shattered nights of the past ten months. They have the full support and help of Canada, the other Dominions and the rest of their Empire and the non-British people throughout the world who still think in terms of great freedoms. The British people are braced for invasion whenever the attempt may come—tomorrow, next week, next month."

(2) "In this historic crisis, Britain is blessed with a brilliant and great leader, Mr. Winston Churchill, but nobody knows better than Mr. Churchill himself that it is not alone his stirring words and valiant deeds that give the British their superb morale. The essence of that morale is in the masses of plain people, who are completely clear about one essential fact—they would rather die as free men than live as slaves. These plain people, civilians as well as soldiers, sailors, and airmen, are fighting in the front line of civilization. They are holding that line with a fortitude which will for ever be the pride and inspiration of all free men of every continent."

AMERICAN HELP

Finally, the world has been left in no doubt about the total help in a total war which America is going to render as a result of the Aid to Britain Act. President Roosevelt pointed out:—

(1) "We believe firmly that when our production and output are at full swing, the Democracies of the world will be able to prove that Dictatorships cannot win. Every plane and other instrument of war, old and new, which we can spare, we will send overseas. That is commonsense strategy".

(2) The President called on industry to move its products from the assembly lines to the battle lines of the Democracies now. 'We have not and never will have the false unity of a people brow-beaten by threats and misled by propaganda. Today, at least, ours is not a partial effort. It is a total effort."

(3) The President disclosed that many articles which he had approved immediately after signing the Lease and Lend Bill were already on their way. "Here, in Washington, we are thinking in terms of speed and speed now. I hope that this watchword will find its way into every home of the nation."

(4) "The British and their Grecian Allies need ships, planes and food. From America they will get ships, planes and food. They need tanks, guns, ammunition and supplies of all kinds. From America they will get them. China likewise expresses a magnificent will. China through Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek asks for our help. She shall have our help."

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page* 7)

furnishing one more proof that, while the Mediterranean is not Italy's *mare nostrum* but her nightmare sea, the Royal Navy continues to rule the seas.

With the re-capture of Berbera, another threat to Addis Ababa, the heart of what remains of Italy's East African Empire, is developing fast. British troops are now steadily closing in on the Abyssinian capital from no fewer than thirteen points. With the fall of Yavello and Jijiga to the British, Italian bases at Harrar and Diredawa are also threatened. Apart from the French-controlled line to Djibouti, Italy's only remaining channel to the sea from Abyssinia is the route *via* Asmara and Massawa.

The Italians are putting up stern resistance at Keren, the key-town whose inevitable fall will decide the fate of Italian Eritrea and perhaps the whole of Italy's African Empire. With Keren is immediately linked Asmara, the Italians' chief military base. In addition to their determination to make a stand, a factor to be reckoned with is the geographical position of Keren, where the western face of a great escarpment forms an immensely strong defensive position. General Wavell's strategy is, therefore, to consolidate his troops—which include Indians—round the town, cut off Italian supplies from the sea and thus ensure the minimum loss to himself in the final assault on the town. Most important, therefore, is the advance of the British column moving from the north to Keren, parallel to the coast, and promising any moment to turn the western escarpment and threaten the flank of the Italians. Latest despatches indicate that the Italian troops in Keren are in a desperate position. Italian losses in embittered counter-attacks against the beleaguring British Imperial Army are becoming increasingly heavy.

CAMPAIGN IN NORTH AND EAST AFRICA

STORY OF BRITISH SUCCESSES

Egypt, the Suez Canal, the Red Sea and India have now been finally saved from all fear of Italian invasion.

How has this been done?

When Mr. Anthony Eden visited Egypt in November 1940 Mr. Churchill gave a hint through the Foreign Secretary to General Wavell that he might ask—for reinforcements. General Wavell asked and he was given.

Reinforcements of all kinds then poured into Egypt from the east and from the west—tanks, guns, munitions of all kinds and above all trained soldiers from Australia and New Zealand, from England and from India.

The campaign of liberating Egypt and smashing the Italian African Empire began on December 7th and the first stage of it ended exactly two months later with the result that the whole of the eastern part of Libya called Cyrenaica fell into British hands.

How was this effected?

Wavell's victories—remarkable military victories they were with insignificant losses—have been won with the help of able generalship, brilliant staff work, far-sighted planning, combined strategy of British Navy, Royal Air Force and the land forces and the great fighting qualities of the rank and file.

This fascinating story may be briefly told—

LIBYA

Mussolini has complained that General Wavell forestalled Marshal Graziani by a few days. If that was so, it proves the British Wizard's power of intelligent anticipation of events. The British forces left the railhead at Mersa Matruh on December 7, marched into the desert with the utmost secrecy and took up positions the next Sunday in the desert unperceived by the enemy. In the initial operations the Indian troops played a most important and distinguished part when they took up the strongly held Italian camp near Nibeiwa which, with the help of British planes, they captured after a brilliant operation. The British forces made an encircling movement on the 10th. On the next day Sidi Barrani was attacked from the east, the south-east and the south and Great Britain gained its first victory in the Western Desert. Thirty-five thousand Italian prisoners were taken besides valuable war materials.

Fort Capuzzo was the next objective and with the complete mopping up of the Italians in the Sollum area the Italians were driven out of Egypt and the fighting on Libyan soil commenced. Bardia was the next objective and the siege lasted for about 20 days. There again the Royal Air Force and the British warships gave timely and effective help and on January 5th Bardia surrendered, the number of Italians killed and captured here being 44,868, while a large number of field guns, anti-aircraft guns, tanks and other materials were captured, making a goodly haul.

Tobruk, nearly 100 miles inside Libya, was next attacked, British armoured cars and tanks having been sent thereto even before the fall of Bardia. Tobruk fell on January 22 and 20,000 Italian prisoners were taken, including a Corps Commander, a Divisional Commander, two Generals and an Admiral. By this time Marshal Graziani had lost two-thirds of his effective strength in Libya.

BRITISH GAINS IN AFRICA TO DATE

Eastern part of Libya called Cyrenaica.

Hundred thousand square miles in Italian Somaliland.

A good portion of North-West Abyssinia.

Many strategical places in Eritrea.

Prisoners taken in the Libyan Campaign—1,40,000.

(This figure does not include thousands of Italian soldiers killed.)

Italian losses in Somaliland—21,000 dead or captured.

Guns captured in Libya—1,200.

Guns captured in Italian Somaliland—1,200.

Italian ships captured in Kismayu—Five totalling 28,000 tons.

Italian ships otherwise lost in Italian Somaliland—Five.

Italian planes lost in Africa—1,000.

Italian planes smashed in Eritrea—120.

(Besides, numerous Armoured Tanks, Armoured Field Guns, Anti-Aircraft Guns, Light Guns, Light Tanks, Transport Vehicles, Food, Oil and Stores of all kinds have been captured in these operations.

A week after, Derna, a small fishing port, fell and then Apollonia, 40 miles west of Derna. Afterwards, the British troops entered Cirene which was Graziani's headquarters for the invasion of Egypt. From Cirene a lightning leap was made along two parallel roads to Benghazi, 130 miles away, and the British forces captured that important port three days later as a result of the brilliant double-thrust. General Wavell split his army in two after Tobruk had been captured. One part continued the westward drive along the coastal road to Derna and Cirene and the other went inland through Mechelli, 90 miles from Tobruk. The operations were continued with the greatest secrecy, British armoured forces cutting the enemy's lines of communication south of Benghazi. Meanwhile, Australian troops brought off another of their lightning strokes for which they have become famous, while the Navy and the Air Force continued to bombard the port. Demoralized and outmanoeuvred, the Italians surrendered Benghazi without a fight, considering that discretion was the better part of valour.

Benghazi dominates the Central and Western Mediterranean. Its harbour is capable of accommodating large cruisers and transport vessels. It is about 360 miles from Malta.

Free French forces, marching north from Chad, have captured Kufra, 500 miles south of Benghazi. The Italians had an important aerodrome in this oasis.

ERITREA

What has been described as the most brilliant pursuit took place from Kassala to Keren in Eritrea. Mussolini's air force in East Africa has been practically wiped out. Bombers and fighters are now a wreck, a jumbled and twisted metal. One hundred and twenty of them have been smashed while the remaining have taken refuge in Massawa on the Red Sea coast. The first offensive of the British forces in Italy's East African Empire began with the recapture of Gallabat and the driving away of the Italians over the Abyssinian border towards Metemma on the 11th November 1940. Kassala in Eritrea was evacuated on the 18th January 1941. From this place to Agordat, 110 miles away, there was a headlong retreat by the Italian troops who were given no respite. The Italians were harried and fought rearguard actions in vain. Swift-moving mobile columns harried the retreating forces. The story has been told again and again but it is enough to record here that after the lightning marches and assaults characterized by skill and daring, Agordat fell to the British on the 1st February and the British Army found 1,000 enemy dead and took 500 Italians prisoner, besides capturing a large quantity of material. Barentu was taken the next day. Here again 450 Italians were taken prisoner besides large quantities of material. Indian troops, as in the "miraculous perfection of the battle of Sidi Barrani," played a great and glorious part in the swift and courageous operation. Sikh battalions, Rajputs, Garwhali and Baluchi troops, Punjabi units, Indian Engineers and Sappers and Miners distinguished themselves so well that General Wavell, in a special message, characterized their action as a magnificent performance. Keren, which is about 70 miles north-west from Asmara, is being attacked from the north, east and south and its fall would enable the British forces to march into Asmara and from there to Massawa, the Red Sea port.

ABYSSINIA

Thousands of square miles to the north-west of Lake Tana have already been freed from Italian control. It is apparent that Emperor Haile Selassie, with his former commander-in-chief, Ras Kassa, is conducting his operations with the help of British trained troops from somewhere in this region. Progress is being made along the road to Gondar. The Abyssinian Patriot forces have occupied the Italian garrison-post of Burye and are harassing the Italian column withdrawing towards Debra-Markos. In Western Abyssinia the British forces made a double thrust along the dusty camel tracts and through high elephant grass towards Asosa which has been captured. The Sudanese and East African troops have captured the Afodu escarpment. Advancing from the south, the Patriot Forces have captured Yavello, 70 miles north of Mega. British Forces advancing from the Italian Somaliland surprised the enemy at Daggahbur, 100 miles south of Jijiga and captured a large number of prisoners. The Imperial Forces are smashing their way towards the important centre of Harrar after capturing Jijiga. Abyssinia is therefore, being attacked from several points and the Royal Air Force is giving remarkable aid to the attacking forces. As many as 1,700 troops belonging to Italy have deserted. It is expected that the march to Addis Ababa will not be long delayed. Addis Ababa, which is of course surrounded by an elaborate system of barbed wire defences, is now a vast concentration camp and it has been turned into an Italian city. All the Abyssinians have been removed to a specially built town several miles away. The British Government have made a solemn declaration that Great Britain has no territorial aims in Abyssinia but the conduct of military operations require military guidance and control in consultation with the Emperor and such guidance and control will be brought to an end as soon as hostilities cease; and assistance and guidance in economic and political matters will be subject to international arrangements at the conclusion of peace. The British Government welcome the reappearance of the independent Ethiopian State and recognise the Emperor's claim to the throne.

ITALIAN SOMALILAND

All the hinterland from the Juba river to Webbeshebeli in Italian Somaliland is in British hands. Thousands of prisoners have been taken in the operations in this country by the South African Expeditionary Force which captured the second largest port of Kismayu on the 15th February. West African troops captured Brava, 150 miles from Kismayu, on the 24th February and on the next day Mogadishu, the capital of Italian Somaliland, fell into the hands of the South African troops. On the 7th March Ferfer was occupied and on the 9th March the British Forces occupied the important post of Gabre Darre on the

(Continued on Page 12)

THUNDER OF THE PROPHETS

Dr. Goebbels has made another prophecy, this time to Spanish newspaper correspondents, as reported from Madrid, March 9.

"I affirm again that before the year is over Germany will finish the war. The attack on England will be carried out in an inexorable manner when the weather is sufficiently favourable."

Hitler was to have dictated his terms to the world from Buckingham Palace on August 15 last, but he has not succeeded in bombing out its present occupants. Here are some other Nazi prophecies that have gone astray:

Dunkirk

"It is now impossible for Great Britain to withdraw her troops." (*May 28, 1940.*)

"The British and French troops in the area in which they are encircled by the German forces are faced with annihilation." (*May 30, 1940.*)

Invasion of Britain

"The German artillery will smash everything to bits. London will become a heap of ruins and the poor wretches waiting for the Nazis will never see them. The remnants of the streets of London will remain quiet for ever." (*July 17, 1940.*)

Shipping

"The sinking and destroying of the whole of British shipping will become a matter of two months." (*August 7, 1940.*)

Starvation

"Britain's food stocks will last only a couple of weeks." (*July 19, 1940.*)

Collapse

"A complete collapse of the (British) war instrument is imminent this coming winter." (*August 9, 1940.*)

"British economy is on the verge of collapse." (*August 10, 1940.*)

"The collapse of England may come within sixty days." (*Attributed to U.S. Col. Knox, August 15, 1940.*)

Lord Haw-Haw himself provided the answer to these prophecies on October 12, 1940, when the 60 days had just elapsed. "On the whole," he said, "it is better to avoid predictions concerning the immediate future. They are much too easily shattered."

While their war machine threatens new frontiers, the Nazis mingle wild threats with protestations of peaceful intentions. Their campaign of words is intended not only to confuse, beguile and terrify smaller nations but to obtain information of British military intentions. The Axis has learned to fear the silence of Wavell.

The bait is refused. Britain makes preparations, not prophecies.

CAMPAIGN IN NORTH AND EAST AFRICA—(*Continued from Page* 11)

main Mogadishu-Harrar road. The Italian forces have split into two parts and are retreating northwards by divergent lines. The British Navy's co-operation in the operations in the Italian Somaliland has been most useful and it is due to its work that many Italian ships have been either captured or have been forced to scuttle themselves. All the ports and practically all the habitable coastline of Italy's "farthest and dearest colony" has thus passed into British hands, and operations are still continuing.

With an ever dwindling force and with no hope of reinforcements, Italians in Eritrea, Abyssinia and Somaliland are in a precarious position.

FLASHES FROM AFRICA

Here are a few striking examples of the amazing contradictions which Italian Radio broadcasts have been indulging in with regard to the African campaign:—

"The defence of Bardia is the defence of Libya and of Fascism"—Rome Radio, December 21.

"Bardia is neither a city nor a fortress—simply a sparsely inhabited place on the road to the frontier"—Rome Radio, January 4.

"Bardia is a terrible warning. Woe to the heedless"—Ansaldo's broadcast from Rome, January 5.

The fall of Benghazi, capital of Cyrenaica, due to a brilliant double-thrust by the Army of the Nile has astonished the world.

Last December, when General Wavell's campaign opened with the capture of Sidi Barrani, the German paper *Frankfurter Zeitung* dismissed this as "not a decisive action", and added: "Before using the word 'decisive' the British would have to advance as far as Benghazi; securing the air base for an attack on Italy itself."

Libya is "a most important strategic point" according to Mussolini (February 23) who has lost the better part of it.

"Kassala is the key to the Sudan. The occupation of this sensitive part of the Sudan is regarded as a fatal blow to England", said Rome Radio in Arabic on July 6, 1940, when Kassala was captured by the Italians following the withdrawal of the British garrison.

"Kassala was well outside our frontier. Its sole purpose was that of an outpost and observation post", said Rome Radio in Italian on January 21, 1941, when Kassala was retaken by the British.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Explaining Lofoten

The British raid on the Lofoten Islands on March 4 seems to have upset Dr. Goebbels as much as it delighted the islanders, as the broadcasts in the week ending 9th March clearly show. During the subsequent three days, the Nazi radio has been working hard in an attempt to explain just why the Germans were caught napping in this remote but important corner of Hitler's northern battle-front.

On March 5, Berlin said that the British had "attempted to take possession of unfortified islands off Northern Norway". The primary object of the raid, as all the world knows, was not to take possession of the islands, but to put out of action the fish-oil installations which had been a valuable source of supply to the German armament machine—and this object was successfully achieved. Moreover, if the islands were unfortified, how was it that seven German naval men (including an officer) were killed, and some 215 sailors and technicians captured?

"After a short stay" went on Berlin the same day, "the enemy left at full speed in order to escape German counter-measures". All reports of the raid testify to the unhurried smoothness with which it was carried out, while the only "German counter-measures" attempted while the British were at hand seems to have been the appearance of a bomber—which made off as soon as the warships opened fire. Once the British had left, however, German counter-measures included the shooting of a Norwegian civilian for "obstinacy" and the burning to the ground of the homes of the 300 Norwegian patriots who, at their own request, had been taken to Britain.

The Long and the Short of it

While on March 5, Berlin referred to "a short bombardment, which destroyed only a number of Norwegian fishing-vessels," the following day the Nazi radio said that "the British warships even continued their bombardment long after it was evident that the hail of shells was destroying the peaceful and defenceless Norwegian villages. The truth is that the bombardment—long or short—sank nine German merchant ships (including one of 10,000 tons), one Norwegian ship under Nazi control, and a German armed trawler, a total of 18,000 tons.

Finally, on March 7, after declaring that the attack was carried out by "astonishingly strong forces" which (somewhat paradoxically) revealed "Britain's growing weakness", Berlin sums up the raid as "an attempt to terrorize the Norwegian people". The Norwegian people on the islands, it will be recalled, were so terrified that they put on their Sunday clothes to welcome the raiders, while British acts of terrorization included the distribution of food, soap, and other comforts, to the islanders—who have been systematically robbed of these commodities ever since the German invasion of Norway.

Side-Lights on Bulgaria

Berlin on March 4 quoted the Nazi paper, *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, as saying that the German occupation of Bulgaria represents the "positive side" of the Three-Power Pact, whereas "the negative side can easily be deduced from Greece's fate". Since "Greece's fate" has so far included the expulsion of the last Italian invader from Greek soil, the capture of many important positions in Albania with a loss of 122,000 Italians killed, wounded and missing, and the destruction of at least 200 Italian warplanes, the results from the Axis point of view can certainly be described as "negative".

Another Nazi paper, *Frankfurter Zeitung*, is made responsible for the opinion that Bulgaria's adherence to the Axis might be regarded as an indication of the failure of General' Wavell's offensive. This will doubtless be a great comfort to the Italians, who up to the present may have been inclined to regard General Wavell's offensive as anything but a failure.

Debunking a Classic

The latest weekly shipping losses (60,864 tons) published by the Admiralty finally dispose of Goebbels' claim, now almost a classic, to have destroyed 14 ships in convoy off the Azores last month. It is now known that out of 19 ships attacked, 12 have arrived safe in port. Of the remaining 7, one was torpedoed 12 days later and the other 6 were sunk by the raider. The Germans claimed to have sunk 14, rather more than twice the actual total. Later, put wise by the Admiralty, they reduced their claims to 8.

The torpedoed ship has been counted by the Germans twice over—in the convoy and in the next week's losses—and this helps to explain their claim to have sunk 75,000 tons in the week ending February 23 instead of the true figure of 60,000 tons. But it does not explain why Hitler's claim (in his speech on February 24) that 215,000 tons had been sunk in two days has been completely left out of account. Evidently the German Admiralty relies as little on Hitler's figures as Hitler relies upon his Italian allies.

British Shipping and Japan

On March 5, the German wireless quoted 'a report from Osaka' to the effect that "the wellknown P. & O. Line, the last British line to ply between Japan and Bombay, has suspended its sailings because of a lack of tonnage".

Unfortunately for Dr. Goebbels, it was on that same day that the Japanese Domei Agency reported that the P. & O. Line's steamers would still call regularly at Japanese ports.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Blockade and Counter-Blockade

On March 4, the German broadcast in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic, reported the arrival of a 3,300-ton German ship in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and, according to the Nazi version of comments in the Brazilian newspapers, this fact was " proof positive of the ineffectiveness of the British blockade ".

The best possible proof of the effectiveness of the rigorous British blockade is the fact that in Germany it is news if a single German vessel reaches its destination; moreover, the 233 enemy ships lying useless in neutral harbours testify to Britain's ability to enforce her blockade on the Axis.

On the same day, the Nazi radio further announced that the German counter-blockade was " not a joke " and that it would not be possible for Britain to import war supplies from the United States of America.

Final statistics for British trade in 1940, however, show that Britain's imports have risen from £885½ millions in 1939, to nearly £1,100 millions—an increase of approximately 25 per cent.

The most important conclusion which can legitimately be drawn from this comparison is that neither shipping losses nor the so-called " German blockade " have had any marked effect on Britain's imports. Furthermore, the recent arrival in Britain of thousands of Canadian troops, travelling in several great liners, yet again exposes the hollowness of Nazi pretensions.

Britain and American Aid

In stating that in Germany everything is ready, while America has only a plan on paper to help Britain, the German broadcast of March 2 infers that Great Britain is totally unprepared to meet the Nazi challenge. Considering that the output of aircraft in the United States of America rose from under 800 units in December 1940 to 1,036 units in January 1941, and also that the United States President has set up the " Production Planning Board ", the American expansion plan may be said to have passed the paper stage.

In any case, however, Mr. Churchill for the Army, Lord Beaverbrook for the Air Force, Lord Chatfield for the Navy and Sir Walter Citrine for munitions, have made it clear to America that Britain is not depending on immediate aid. American aid is not a prerequisite for the survival of Britain, but its volume will determine the length of time required to defeat Germany.

Germans Misread the Rome-Tokyo-Berlin Pact

On March 7, the German broadcast in Hindustani proudly announced that " the Pact was made with the object of crushing Britain wherever she may try to raise her head."

It appears, however, that in stating this the Nazis had ignored the Japanese point of view, expressed on February 28, when the Japanese broadcast in English unequivocally stated that " the Triple Alliance is not primarily aimed against any third power."

Busy British Shipyards

On March 7, the Nazi broadcast in Arabic gave publicity to some unspecified Stockholm reports that shipyard workers' efforts to make good the losses suffered by the British Navy would be too late. Mr. A. V. Alexander, Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty, said on March 5 that " new ships delivered from British yards, plus the tonnage acquired abroad and the volume of captured enemy ships now in our service, has replaced more than two-thirds of the tonnage of British ships lost by enemy action."

" On the other hand ", went on Mr. Alexander, " the enemy has lost over 2,000,000 tons, sunk, captured or scuttled, and over a million tons are lying useless in neutral harbours ".

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

21st Mar.—The Royal Air Force released photos showing how they set fire to the luxury German liner, *Bremen*, which the Germans reported to have been destroyed by fire.

The Royal Air Force attacked L'Orient, the enemy submarine base in France.

One of the fiercest air raids of the war was carried out by the Germans on Plymouth just after Their Majesties the King and Queen had visited the town. Churches and hospitals were hit. Stray raiders were reported over London.

22nd Mar.—The Royal Air Force again attacked L'Orient for several hours, also the naval bases of Emden and Wilhelmshaven. Synthetic oil plants in Ruhr were also set aflame.

Plymouth was heavily bombed by the Germans for the second night in succession. There were no raids on London.

23rd Mar.—Two German bombers were destroyed over Britain. Enemy air activity was only slight. London had no alerts during the night.

The Royal Air Force (Coastal Command) planes visited the French " invasion " coast and destroyed German barracks at the submarine base of Quiberon. An enemy escort vessel near Brest was hit directly.

Lord Beaverbrook broadcast that Britain had more fighters and bombers than she ever had before.

Four-engined aircraft from the United States of America are now being delivered to Britain.

24th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombers raided Berlin, penetrating a box barrage and dropping 10,000 incendiary bombs and other high explosives. The naval base of Kiel and the important railway centre of Hanover were heavily raided as also Calais and Cherbourg.

Britishers on the other hand slept soundly, almost undisturbed by gunfire, bombs, or sirens.

25th Mar.—An Air Ministry communique reports the sinking of an enemy vessel off the Dutch coast by aircraft of the Bomber Command. Evidence that the Royal Air Force has been hitting Germany harder than ever is found in the wholesale evacuation of families from the Ruhr and Nazi cities and ports to Austria and occupied France.

London had its fourth successive night without alerts. There was only slight enemy air activity over England and South Wales.

26th Mar.—London had its fifth consecutive raid-free night. There was very little enemy air activity over the rest of the country.

A small German convoy was intercepted and bombed by the Royal Air Force off the Dutch Coast. An anti-aircraft ship was also damaged in another attack off Ameland. A pilot of the Coastal Command sank an enemy supply ship.

27th Mar.—London had its sixth consecutive raid-free night. Slight activity over the rest of England was reported. Two raiders were destroyed.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

21st Mar.—The Royal Air Force and South African Air Force have heavily pounded Italian troops in Abyssinia.

22nd Mar.—The battle for Keren continued. The Royal Air Force bombed Keren, Assab, Diredawa, and other places in Abyssinia and Tripolitania. Trains and barracks were hit. The Italian garrison at Jerabub has surrendered.

23rd Mar.—British forces are occupying the Abyssinian town of Neghelli, which dominates the cross-roads leading north, east and west. The Royal Air Force heavily raided Asmara and also the Djibouti-Addis-Ababa railway.

24th Mar.—The Rome Radio admitted intense British pressure on Keren. The British advance inside Abyssinia has been progressing satisfactorily as also Patriot activities. The South African Air Force prepared the way for the advancing British troops, and a supply train near Diredawa was hit. Other trains were attacked at Miesso and Awash. It was announced that British Somaliland was now again completely under British control and that the road from Berbera to Hargeisa was open.

25th Mar.—British forces are now approaching Harrar, the eastern gateway to Addis Ababa, following a victorious action at Marda Pass. Operations north-west of Neghelli are continuing successfully and British troops have repulsed yet another counter-attack south-west of Keren. The South African Air Force has continued its attacks on the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway between Awash and Diredawa.

Emperor Haile Selassie reviewed his troops in state at Burye in Gojjam Province.

Marshal Graziani, Italian Commander-in-Chief in Africa, has resigned "at his own request," says an official announcement in Rome. He is succeeded by General Italo Garibaldi. Graziani also ceases to be Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, Governor of Libya and Supreme Commanding Officer of the Armed Forces in North Africa.

The Under Secretary for War revealed in the House of Lords that British casualties in Africa up to February 23 were only 2,966, of which 604 were killed, while Italians suffered 200,000 casualties and lost 180,000 by capture.

26th Mar.—The British Imperial Army was only twenty miles from Harrar in Abyssinia. The Royal Air Force carried out an intense bombing of Keren. The railway between Addis Ababa and Diredawa was successfully bombed as also Tripoli.

A Junker 88 was shot down by anti-aircraft fire over Malta: an enemy dive-bombing attack caused little damage.

General Weygand finished his tour of French Morocco and arrived at Algiers.

General Smuts said in the House of Assembly Capetown, that South African troops would be used in any part of Africa and if they were to be sent overseas, Parliament would be summoned and asked to decide the question.

27th Mar.—The capture of Keren and Harrar is officially announced. British and Indian troops, ably supported by the Royal Air Force, won a victory over numerically superior enemy forces. British columns were advancing from all directions on Addis Ababa.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC.

21st Mar.—The opinion is growing that the United States of America will shortly be convoying their vast supplies across the Atlantic.

It was reported that the next five United States battleships to be built under the Two-Ocean Navy programme would be from 60 to 65 thousand tons. They would be the biggest battleships in the world.

22nd Mar.—It is stated in Washington that a production schedule to supply 20,000 war planes to Britain in the next 18 months has been worked out by United States Administration officials.

It is reported from New York that President Roosevelt has granted the British request to use American Naval yards for repairing British ships.

The largest and most powerful bomber in the world, the 82-ton Douglas B-19, it is stated, will attempt a Transatlantic non-stop flight.

24th Mar.—The German Radio announced that British warships had chased German battleships for two days in the Atlantic but no comment was available in London.

The Baltimore Son reported that a British cruiser was heading for the Navy-yard at Norfolk (Virginia) for repairs, but no confirmation was available from the British Embassy at Washington.

It was learned that Mexico would undertake to construct ships, thus relieving pressure on United States yards and helping to give immediate aid to Britain.

The United States Senate passed the Bill for authorizing an appropriation of seven billion dollars to implement the Lease and Lend Act, by 67 votes to nine. The Bill was sent to the President for signature.

25th Mar.—"The war in Europe must end in the eradication of Nazism", said, Mr. Wendell Willkie, in a broadcast speech at Toronto. He said that Britain and the United States must work together in post-war reconstruction.

Lord Halifax, in a speech to the Pilgrims' Society at Washington, defined Britain's peace and war aims as winning the war, preventing the repetition of such a tragedy and helping to ensure future prosperity.

Canada and the United States are to build army and navy vessels in the shipbuilding yards on the Great Lakes. The conclusion of an agreement on this point was announced by the United States Administration.

That no information regarding British ships coming to the United States to be repaired should be published or broadcast is the view expressed by Col. Knox, United States Secretary for the Navy.

26th Mar.—The United States War Department has requisitioned two liners of 24,000 tons, *The Washington* and *The Manhattan*, for use as auxiliary transport.

The Dutch Foreign Minister, Van Kleffens, broadcasting from New York, said that United States plane-production would be fifteen times larger in June than at present. The increase afterwards would be even greater.

At a press conference, Lord Halifax said that the duration of the war would depend on the speed of American help. While he felt sure that final victory would be with Britain on account of her resources he added that they would fight, if need be, even for twenty years.

27th Mar.—The extension of the German counter-blockade to within three miles of Greenland was referred to by Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, at a press conference today. Col. Donovan, Mr. Roosevelt's Special Envoy, broadcast to America today. He said that the Lease and Lend Act was an act of war and that the Americans had to decide whether they would resist Hitler or merely keep quiet. He paid a tribute to the genius of Wavell and expressed deep admiration of the cool bravery of the Britons in face of a terrible enemy.

GREECE AND ITALY.

21st Mar.—In tremendous but unavailing attacks on Greek positions in Albania, the Italians suffered 25,000 casualties. Lt.-Col. Tuveri, a cousin of Sgr. Mussolini, is now a prisoner of the Greeks.

22nd Mar.—This was another bad day for the Italians, Greek artillery fire being responsible for heavy Italian losses.

Generals Wavell and Dill have sent their congratulations to General Papagos on beating off the Italians' recent offensive.

23rd Mar.—The Italians launched a new attack north of the river Aoos. The Greeks, however, forced them to flee in confusion. Italian planes raided Corfu. Some civilian casualties are reported.

Niccoli Giani, Director of Fascist Ideology, has been killed in Albania.

24th Mar.—Royal Air Force bombers raided the Italian base at Berat in Albania.

Important movements of German troops through the Struma Valley towards the Greek frontier were reported and a German High Command communiqué, which contained the significant announcement that German troop movements in Bulgaria were proceeding "according to plan".

25th Mar.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a message to the Greek people on Greek Independence Day, paid a tribute to the valour that the Greeks have displayed in the sacred cause of freedom and said: "We are resolved to sustain it".

Many Italian local attacks were repulsed in Albania. According to information given by captured Italian prisoners, General Geloso has replaced General Cavallero as Commander-in-Chief of the Italian Army in Albania.

26th Mar.—Two Italian attacks in the central sector of the Albanian front were repulsed. A determined Italian effort to regain important positions north of River Aoos was also beaten back. The Italians fled and left their lines strewn with dead. Fifty prisoners were captured.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ AND IRAN.

21st Mar.—The Turkish Foreign Minister, Mr. Sarojogulu, reported to President Ineunu the substance of his talks with Mr. Eden at Cyprus. "The meeting was worth an army of Imperial troops", wrote *Cyprus Post*.

Germany's 'compromise' terms have caused a split in the Yugoslav Cabinet.

22nd Mar.—The Turkish Ambassador in Moscow interviewed the Deputy Commissar for Foreign Affairs and it was understood that Turkey and the Soviet Union would exchange assurances of goodwill.

Russian, Turkish and British diplomacy has been active in checking pro-German tendencies in Yugoslavia but the Yugoslav Government seemed to prefer a pro-German policy as indicated by their directions to the Editor of *Politika*, the famous Democratic paper, to prepare the country for a pro-Axis policy.

Prince Paul, the Yegoslav Regent, conferred with the Premier, following the resignation of three Serbian Cabinet Ministers, who would not agree to any compromise with Germany.

24th Mar.—It was announced that the Yugoslav Premier and the Foreign Minister would leave for Vienna to sign a pact with the Axis Powers. The British Minister in Belgrade, Sir Ronald Campbell, presented a note to the Yugoslav Government making an eleventh hour appeal and sounding a note of warning. It was announced that the Yugoslav Minister of Justice had withdrawn his resignation and that the two other vacancies in the Cabinet had been filled.

25th Mar.—The adherence of Yugoslavia to the Axis Tripartite Pact is announced from Vienna. In two written assurances, the German Foreign Minister affirmed Germany's intention to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia and said that the Governments of the Axis Powers would not make any demands on Yugoslavia to allow the passage or transit of troops through Yugoslav territory. Hitler had a talk with the Yugoslav Ministers at Vienna.

Popular demonstrations against the Government were banned in Yugoslavia, all army leave had been cancelled and the army was confined to the barracks.

The Soviet Government have informed the Turkish Government that should Turkey be the object of aggression and be led to go to war for the defence of her territory, Turkey might count on the entire understanding and neutrality of the Soviet. Turkey has given a similar assurance in return. This joint declaration removes apprehensions over Turkey's eastern frontier and deals a knock-out blow to German propaganda in Turkey.

26th Mar.—There were country-wide demonstrations in Yugoslavia against their Government's decision to line up with the Axis Powers. Rioting was the order of the day in Yugoslav towns, including Belgrade. Prince Paul's broadcast to the country had to be postponed. The German Radio announced that the German army may march into Yugoslavia to restore order.

Mr. Eden reaffirmed British aid to Greece till the final victory in a message to a meeting of the Anglo-Hellenic League in London to celebrate the Greek Independence Day.

The Duchess of Kent (Princess Marina of Greece) broadcast a message of congratulations to the Greek nation.

President Roosevelt, in a message to the King of Greece, felt sure of the final victory of the Greeks.

27th Mar.—Sensational news came from Yugoslavia to-day. The Regent, Prince Paul, fled the country and the Prime Minister and his colleagues were arrested. The boy King Peter assumed full control and appointed General Simovitch of the Air Force to lead the country and form a Government. Mr. Churchill announced this news in a speech in London, declaring that Yugoslavia had

discovered her soul again. Mr. Sumner Welles promised all possible United States aid to Yugoslavia against Germany. Mr. Churchill promised all British aid to Yugoslavia.

SHIPPING SITUATION.

23rd Mar.—A spokesman of the United States Maritime Commission stated that the United States of America would build 400 merchantmen for Britain under the Lease and Lend Act at a cost of £500,000,000.

25th Mar.—A further fall in Britain's losses in the Battle of the Atlantic was revealed in the list of shipping losses issued by the Admiralty for the week ending March 16. Seventeen British ships (60,670 tons) and six Allied ships (11,103) were lost. The losses had thus been halved in the course of a fortnight.

Meanwhile the Germans and the Italians had lost 300,000 tons of shipping in the course of five weeks. Another loss to German shipping was inflicted when the merchantship *Oder* (8,516 tons), trying to escape from Massawa, was intercepted by the British sloop *Shoreham*.

26th Mar.—German and Italian ships can now use Spanish ports without paying any harbour dues, according to an order issued by the Ministry of Public Works.

27th Mar.—The Anglo-American agreement for the lease of Atlantic bases to the United States was signed to-day in London.

Mr. Churchill expressed the hope in a speech in London that he would be able to announce in a month that they had decisively won the battle of the Atlantic.

FAR EAST

23rd Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka, Japan's Foreign Minister, arrived in Moscow.

24th Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka, accompanied by the Japanese Ambassador at Moscow, had a talk with Molotov. M. Stalin was present at the interview. Prior to his departure for Berlin, Mr. Matsuoka called on Sir Stafford Cripps, the British Ambassador to Russia.

25th Mar.—A Moscow despatch to the official French News Agency said that the presence of M. Stalin during the Matsuoka-Molotov interview indicated rapid progress in Soviet-Japanese relations.

26th Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka arrived in Berlin and was given a welcome by Ribbentrop and other Nazi leaders.

27th Mar.—Hitler received Matsuoka and Ribbentrop was present during the interview. The Berliners gave Mr. Matsuoka an enthusiastic reception. The talk covered the whole scope of the war against Britain.

In an interview given to *Angriff*, Matsuoka complained of Britain and the United States interfering with Japan's constructive work in the Far East!

VICHY.

21st Mar.—According to the Tass Agency the rank of M. Bogmolov, Soviet Charge d' Affairs to the Vichy Government, has been raised to that of Ambassador.

22nd Mar.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, said that the British Government had agreed to allow the French foodships from America to pass the blockade to a port in unoccupied France as, they had received assurances from Vichy Government that the food would not reach the Germans and that the ships would return immediately to America.

24th Mar.—A convoy of French ships, escorted by destroyers, passed the Straits of Gibralter, heading for the Southern Atlantic. The British blockade authorities did not try to stop the convoy. Considerable unrest is reported in Syria, where growing food-shortage is causing great discontent.

26th Mar.—Four Muslims from French North Africa were appointed by Marshal Petain to seats in the newly-formed French Consultative National Council.

27th Mar.—A food barter agreement between the Vichy Government and German-occupied France was reported. The United States Government asked Admiral Leahy, their Ambassador at Vichy, to report on the situation.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

21st Mar.—The German Commissioner in the Netherlands has threatened to impose martial law, if necessary, for the maintenance of public order and safety. Widespread disturbances and strikes in the Netherlands, with heavy fines on the cities concerned are reported. Fifteen Dutchmen, alleged to have been involved in sabotage and espionage, were shot by the Nazis.

24th Mar.—Food shortage is reported from Bulgaria, where butter, vegetable oils and lard are to be rationed.

26th Mar.—The Zurich correspondent of *The New York Post* suggested that the mass expulsion of Jews from Vienna might be on account of Hitler having decided to shift his capital there from Berlin, which was being battered by the Royal Air Force.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES: SPAIN, RUSSIA, ETC.

22nd Mar.—Red Army manoeuvres are taking place in Siberia and Kiev, reproducing actual war conditions.

The German Ambassadors to Argentina, Peru and Bolivia held a secret meeting at Santiago in Chile.

23rd Mar.—Spain's ability to retain her neutrality was emphasized by the Under Secretary of the Press and Propaganda Ministry.

24th Mar.—The Swedish Minister of Justice said that, owing to the uncertainty of the coming months, when a decision in the war would doubtless be sought, Sweden must be prepared for all eventualities.

26th Mar.—Sensational reports concerning Nazi infiltration into Chile were made by the Santiago paper *Defensa*, which gave details of fifth column activity.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 18th March 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over enemy and enemy-controlled coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 12, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin (railway stations, marshalling yards, barracks); Bremen (dockyards, factories); Hamburg (docks, naval shipbuilding yards, factories, barracks); other objectives in N. W. Germany; invasion bases at Ymuiden, Ostend and Boulogne; aerodromes at Schipol (Holland) and in S. Norway; naval shipping in Skaggerak (1 German destroyer torpedoed).	5	1
March 13, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on aerodromes at Calais. R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Hamburg (docks, naval shipbuilding yards, warehouses, factories, aerodromes); naval bases at Bremen and Emden; oil stores at Rotterdam; aerodromes in Holland; shipping off Norway and Frisian Islands (2 supply ships sunk).	6	1
March 14, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Gelsenkirchen (synthetic oil plant); industrial targets at Dusseldorf; factories, communications and other objectives elsewhere in Ruhr; oil stores at Rotterdam. R.A.F. night fighter bomber raids on shipping, aerodromes and docks from Norway to Brest. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	2	...
March 15, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives at Dusseldorf and elsewhere in W. Germany; submarine base at L'Orient.	Nil.	..
March 16, Sunday.	No reports	..	..
March 17, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks and factories at Bremen and Wilhelmshaven; oil stores at Rotterdam; shipping off Frisian Islands (1 supply ship-sunk). R.A.F. single-plane night attacks on Emden and Oldenburg.	Nil.	3
March 18, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day attacks on shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Kiel (docks, shipbuilding yards, factories) and Wilhelmshaven (docks, shipbuilding yards); docks at Emden; oil stores at Rotterdam; military target at Texel; two aerodromes in Holland.	1	(1 admitted by Germans).

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 18th March 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on Allied shipping in N. W. European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 12	1	9
March 13	Nil.	13
March 14	Nil.	6
March 15	Nil.	1
March 16	Nil.	1
March 17	Nil.	..
March 18	2 (pilots safe.)	2

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

Hitler has had a nominal victory. He succeeded in forcing Yugoslavia to sign the Axis Pact. The Pact was signed on Tuesday at Vienna with the usual ceremonies, Hitler and his Foreign Minister being present. Yugoslavia was told that her sovereignty and territorial integrity would be respected and that no demands on her to allow the passage or transport of troops would be made. But within 48 hours a wonderful thing happened. A bloodless revolution occurred. Young King Peter assumed kingship, the Regent fled the country, the Quisling Ministers were put in prison and a new Government was formed. England and the United States of America have promised help to Yugoslavia to resist aggression and the army and the people are behind the King. As against this diplomatic success of Germany, the announcement that the Soviet Government has informed Turkey that should she be the object of aggression and be forced to defend herself, Turkey may depend upon the entire neutrality of the Soviet has considerably relieved the situation. Turkey has been somewhat nervous on this point for some time past and this declaration is important and has been welcomed at Ankara, London and the United States.

A notable event of the week is the adoption by the Senate of the United States of the Bill authorizing the appropriation of 7,000 million dollars to implement the Lease and Lend Act for aiding the Democracies, by 67 votes to 9. President Roosevelt who is on a holiday cruise, is expected to sign the Bill very soon.

Berlin had a severe thrashing by the Royal Air Force on Monday, over 10,000 missiles being dropped by the British pilots. Plymouth has already suffered very badly but measures are being taken to deal with night-raiders. As a matter of fact, 187 German aeroplanes were lost over Britain during nights from June 1940 to the middle of March. "New devices," particulars of which have not yet been revealed, are responsible for the increasing toll. The Germans are now definitely day-shy; their striking power is very much less than before, the personnel being not so well-trained as the old ones. Great Britain is now using long-range machines carrying heavy loads and British night fighters are a great success. The efficiency of fire-fighting and fire-watching arrangements has reached a high pitch.

A series of successes in Africa have been reported. Jerabub, south of Tobruk, has been captured. So also Harrar and Neghelli in Abyssinia, which are very important in the inevitable encirclement of Addis Ababa. Keren, the Eritrean key-town has also fallen, after a stiff resistance to the British Imperial troops Indian troops played a wonderful part in the capture of Keren. A curious coincidence is that Marshal Graziani, called Marquis of Neghelli, has now resigned his post in North Africa as Governor of Libya and Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

It is remarkable that British casualties in the whole African campaign up to the end of February was only 2,966, of whom only 604 were killed. Italy, on the other hand, sustained a loss of 200,000 men, and 180,000 Italians have been made prisoners.

Mr. Matsuoka who is on a visit to Berlin and Rome visited M. Molotov at the Kremlin on Monday. M. Stalin was present at the interview. It is stated that negotiations may be started soon for an economic and possibly political agreement between Russia and Japan. Mr. Matsuoka has, however, stated very clearly that the foreign policy of Japan will revolve round the Tripartite Pact as the pivot, but that he had no particular end in mind in coming to Europe. But it is pretty clear that he is on a 'voyage of discovery' because he wants to know how Germany intends to help Japan out of her own troubles. Will Germany help Japan with planes and motor cars and also munitions and materials if, at the instigation of Germany, she embarks on a policy of aggression in the South Pacific?

An announcement, which is to some extent comforting is that during the week ending March 16, only seventeen British ships of a tonnage of 60,670 tons and six Allied ships (11,103) tons were lost. It will be remembered that during the week ending March 2, twenty-nine ships with a tonnage of 148,038 were lost.

BLOCKADE AND FOOD SUPPLY TO FRANCE

The announcement that two shiploads of flour for France would be allowed to pass through the British blockade has naturally given rise to some amount of speculation as to the proper attitude of Great Britain in regard to this matter. This is a gift to the French people from the United States and the distribution will be supervised by the American Red Cross; but can Great Britain afford to relax the blockade? The economic situation in France in respect of wheat and grains is very serious, according to a report from Vichy. Why should it be so? The Nazis now occupy the most fertile districts of France where two-thirds of her food is grown. The Nazis now systematically steal this food. There are certain factors which have to be borne in mind in a discussion of this question. In the first place, the problem of shortage of food supply in occupied countries is one for Germany to solve. In the second place, Vichy, which is a prisoner of Hitler, cannot possibly fulfil the promise which she makes that American supplies of food would not be stolen again by Germany. In the third place, while Great Britain desires to help France, it should be remembered that she could not afford to relax the stranglehold on the enemy by means of the blockade. On the other hand, it should be strengthened and that is the only humanitarian method of saving the lives of thousands of people in Europe by forcing Germany to feel the pressure of the blockade and give up.

Again, North Africa is now providing France with plenty of supplies of cereals, fruits, oilseeds, phosphates, etc. Great Britain is allowing shipping to pass unhindered between unoccupied France and the African colonies. It appears, moreover, that the Joint Commission of the Axis Powers exercises considerable authority at Marseilles and goods imported into that port are systematically diverted to Italy and Germany. Dr. Goebbels has been, as usual, making different statements on different occasions to different countries on this question. At one time the German Radio said that Europe had enough food supplies. On a second occasion, it pointed out that Germany could not be held responsible for food-shortage in occupied countries. Now she plays a different tune and is fomenting a quarrel between Vichy and London by saying that the British blockade is effective and France's troubles are the direct result of that blockade. Acting under pressure, Admiral Darlan stated the other day that he would use the French Navy to convoy supplies.

The whole question bristles with difficulties. Mr. Vernon Bartlett puts forward two solutions. One is that it would be suicidal for the British to run any risk of prolonging Germany's own staying power. Great Britain must draw the line somewhere and the Vichy Government should agree that food should be distributed as in Spain by an Anglo-American Committee. The second suggestion is that Great Britain should know where she stands in relation to the Vichy Government. He points out:—

> "It is obvious that German control of such West African port as Casablanca or Dakar would immensely complicate the supply of aid to Britain in accordance with the Lease and Lend Bill.
>
> "If Admiral Darlan continues along his present course, these ports as well as Bizerta and other Mediterranean ports and very valuable aeroplane landing grounds in North Africa may have to run up the Swastika flag. It therefore becomes very important for the British Government to know exactly what the future intentions of Marshal Petain, Admiral Darlan and General Weygand are and to act accordingly."

AID TO BRITAIN

Now that the 7,000 million dollar Appropriation Bill has been passed by the Senate, the Government of the United States may well be expected to be busy in considering how supplies could be rushed to Great Britain. Reports have already been published that 20,000 planes will be produced in America in the next 18 months for Great Britain, that United States Naval yards will be used by Great Britain for repairing British warships, that orders for 400 merchantmen will be placed very soon and that the United States will see to it that her supplies reach Great Britain in spite of the Battle of the Atlantic where German surface raiders, submarines and aeroplanes are very busy. The question of providing convoys is being actively discussed in America. Though of course, the President is not definitely authorized by the Lease and Lend Act to supply convoys, it is stated that constitutionally he could use the Navy for such a purpose. There is a certain amount of lively expectation, now that the Aid to Britain Act is passed, that nothing remains for America except to begin to send food, planes and munitions to Great Britain. It is well to remember that the President cannot, even if he would, strip the defences of America to meet Britain's needs and those of her Allies. It is possible that a certain number of merchant vessels and motor torpedo boats for submarine hunting, foodstuffs and armaments may be spared, but all this cannot be done on an enormous scale. It may well be expected that United States will aid Great Britain in the Battle of the Atlantic, but the gigantic resources of American industry must take some time to be co-ordinated before they are placed at the disposal of Great Britain.

Banker, a British periodical, made recently a survey of the armament situation in the United States, in the course of which it stated:—

> "On a wholesale anticipated rate (American) spending in 1941 is tremendous. It is of the same order and magnitude as Britain's present rate of spending and if Britain obtained the use of even half it would represent an increase of one-half in Britain's war effort and would push our economic effort well over that of Germany. Even in 1942 this rate of spending will strain America's resources hardly as much as Britain's were strained in the first nine months of war. American hidden reserves have not begun to be tapped—and Germany is practically exhausted. Up to the beginning of 1941, according to Mr. Morgenthau,

we received 330 million sterling worth of equipment from America—rather less than one-quarter of our own production. During 1941 the addition to our resources will reach a strong flow in autumn—the total amount received in the whole year may be one-third of British production on the assumption that British production goes ahead fast. In 1942 the flow from America will certainly be half as much as British production. In 1943 and 1944, if we are still fighting, then America will be producing more than any other power in the world and will be delivering to us as much as we are producing for ourselves."

YUGOSLAVIA AND THE AXIS

After a week marked by news and rumours, it was announced that Yugoslavia had signed the Axis Three-Power Pact. The actual ceremony took place at Vienna; Ribbentrop represented Germany; Ciano, Italy; General Oshima, Japan; and Yugoslavia was represented by her Prime Minister Tsvetkovitch, and her Foreign Minister Cincar Markovitch. Hitler went specially to Vienna to meet the Yugoslav statesmen and the German Radio claimed another diplomatic triumph. It would, of course, be idle to deny that the pact, though in its original shape, might not have seemed alarming, would have given Germany an opportunity to force more concessions out of Yugoslavia as time went on. The Yugoslav Premier was able to patch up a superficial unity by prevailing on two practically unknown statesmen to agree to replace the Serbian Ministers who resigned in protest, but the people could not be held down though all public meetings were banned, army leave cancelled and the army itself confined to the barracks. A wave of indignation swept the country, Prince Paul's broadcast to the nation had to be postponed and popular leaders appeared determined 'to undo what had been done, to unseat those who did it and to confront Germany with an about-face of Yugoslav policy.' And they did. A bloodless military *coup d'etat* took place in Belgrade on March 27. The boy King, Peter, took over the Administration and appointed General Simovitch, Serbian army veteran, to lead the country. Prince Paul, the Senior Regent, fled with his wife; and the other members of the Regency Council resigned. The Prime Minister, M. Tsvetkovitch, who signed the Axis Pact and other Ministers, were placed under arrest. These dramatic events, which must have come as a rude shock to Hitler, were the climax of country-wide demonstrations and uprisings.

Both Mr. Winston Churchill, on behalf of Britain, and Mr. Sumner Welles, on behalf of the United States, have welcomed this revolution in Yugoslavia and have pledged their full support to her should she become the object of aggression.

Added to these reactions, Hitler himself was probably not feeling very comfortable with the actual Pact itself, which differed from the pacts with other Axis satellites in the virtual absence of military clauses. Two assurances had to be given in writing by Ribbentrop before the Yugoslav delegation could agree to sign it. "The German Government affirmed its determination to respect at all times the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia"; and "in the name of the German Government" Ribbentrop confirmed that "during the war, the Governments of the Axis powers will not make any demands on Yugoslavia to allow the passage or transit of troops through Yugoslav territory."

One knows what precise value can now be placed on Axis undertakings. And the provision guaranteeing to the Reich the right of transit in sealed wagons of war material and wounded soldiers might necessitate the presence of German officials throughout Yugoslavia and prove the thin end of the wedge of actual intervention in her internal affairs. The world knows that Hitler makes promises only to break them.

BRITAIN CAN TAKE IT

Night-raiding bombers rain,
Death and destruction,
Britain builds up again,
Speeds war production;
White-hot her purpose glows,
Nothing can shake it,
Hardened by hammer blows
Britain can take it.

Hark to the Treasury
Calling up War Loans,
War Bonds for victory,
More loans and more loans,
Every pound they will spend
Fast as we make it,
No matter *what* we lend
Britain can take it.

Railways are all employed
Serving the nation,
Doubling fares to avoid
Vicious inflation;
Transport's full steam ahead,
Nothing can brake it,
Well have the Railways said,
"Railways can take it."

Will there be price control?
At the first rumour,
Corner the market whole,
Skin the consumer;
Britons on Britons prey,
Never mistake it,
Britain must pay and pay,
Britons will take it.

Britain can only win
Through sacrifices,
Vast the war effort in
Piling up prices;
Once they have heard the call.
None will forsake it,
There is no doubt at all
Britons can take it.

SAGITTARIUS.

Taken from *The New Statesman and Nation*, dated December 21, 1940.

TURKEY, THE SOVIET AND GREECE

German propaganda has been busy all these days with the thesis that Turkey will be immobilized in the event of any developments in the Balkans and the Near East by the attitude of Russia. And even the Anglo-Turkish Agreement contained a special clause that Turkey's actions would be governed by Russia's reactions. With the war threatening every day to spread to the Balkans, where the German forces are stated to be marching in mass formation across Bulgaria towards the Greek frontier, Turkey naturally felt anxious if her eastern frontier would remain inviolate if she were forced to take up arms against the Nazis. It must, therefore, have been with considerable relief that she received, on the Soviet's own initiative, assurances that should she be the object of aggression and be led to go to war for the defence of her territory, she might count on the entire understanding and neutrality of the Soviet Union. A communiqué, published, jointly in Ankara and Moscow, stated:

"Declarations were recently exchanged between the Turkish and Soviet Governments. Following the publication in the foreign press of reports saying that if Turkey was led to go to war, the Soviet would take advantage of the difficulties of Turkey and launch an attack upon her in their turn, and in connexion with the question put on this subject, the Soviet Government informed the Turkish Government as follows:—

"Firstly, such reports correspond in no wise to the attitude of the Soviet Government; secondly, should Turkey be, in fact, the object of aggression and be led to go to war for the defence of her territory, Turkey may, in conformity with the Non-aggression Pact between her and the U.S.S.R. count on the entire understanding and neutrality of the U.S.S.R.

"The Turkish Government have expressed to the Soviet Government their most sincere thanks for this declaration and informed them that should the U.S.S.R. find themselves in a similar situation, they might, on their part, reckon on the entire understanding and neutrality of Turkey."

The form of the declaration leaves no doubt that the Soviet Union frowns on German adventures in the Balkans which cannot but lead to an extension of the war. And she probably fears that the control of the Dardanelles may pass into German hands if she does not back up—at least negatively and in a spirit of good-will—the one remaining bastion of peace in South-East Europe and the only stumbling-block on a probable drive by Germany to the oil-fields of Iraq. And it must not be forgotten that Soviet diplomacy had been very active with British and American in trying to dissuade Yugoslavia from signing the Axis Pact.

Two statements have been made on the attitude of Turkey which clarify the situation to some extent, explaining the Soviet-Turkish understanding. An Ankara message says that Russia has not agreed to assist Turkey if she is attacked, and that the significance of the new declaration is that if Turkey has to defend herself, she would, in the Soviet view, not be fighting an imperialist war, but would be doing so to safeguard her integrity. In fact, it is surmised that Russia's relations to Turkey would be the same as those towards China. On the question of the Anglo-Turkish Alliance, Refet Canitez, Vice-President of the Turkish National Assembly, said that there was absolute community of interests between Great Britain and Turkey. "The danger has now," he said, "penetrated into our zone of security and assumed an extent which constitutes a threat to her existence. On the day our security is encroached upon, the Near East will be transferred into a battlefield."

Heartened by the knowledge that the Turks would not let them down, the Greeks are determined to resist any Nazi drive in support of the Italians. Mr. Churchill, in the course of his message on the Greek Independance Day celebrations, reiterated the pledge that Britain would sustain the valour the Greeks have displayed in the sacred cause of freedom. And the Greek Premier undertook to fight all aggressors till the bitter end.

The Greeks are not mere talkers unlike the Fascists. And every day they register a victory against the demoralized Italians in Albania, whose counter-attacks have been unavailing.

The indomitable courage of the Greeks in the face of great odds is a great factor working for stability in the Balkans. It will be remembered that when Italy first invaded Greece, the German Legation at Athens suggested that the Italian assault was an outrage which Germany heartily detested. When Italians were driven out of Greece and were pursued into Albania, Germany offered to mediate for an honorable peace, and to guarantee her frontiers if Great Britain was kept out of this sphere. As the position of Italy grew worse, these offers were coupled with threats of swift and drastic action if the Greeks consented to the landing of a British Expeditionary Force. Now, however, the Germans have entered Bulgaria and their army is within sixty miles of Salonika. German occupation of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria has made the strategical position of Greece very vulnerable. In such a dilemma, the spirit of the Greeks, or indeed of any nation, might well have faltered and the temptation to accept a German peace might have proved too strong. It was at this stage that Mr. Eden, British Foreign Secretary, and General Sir John Dill arrived at Athens from Ankara. To have abandoned Greece to her fate would have been to violate all the principles for which Great Britain was fighting. The reaction of the Greek people to this gesture was electric, and the sense of near danger and the presence of British representatives have had a remarkably reassuring effect and emboldened them to tell the world that a resurgent Hellas would be true to the ancient Athenians.

SPAIN TODAY

Now that the Battle of the Mediterranean is moving towards its crisis and the Battle of the Atlantic has begun in earnest, the position of Spain whose shores are washed by both affords interesting and profitable study. Nearly two years have passed since the Civil War ended and the Republican Government under the Presidency of Senor Azana lost to General Franco, whose revolt was supported not only by the entire Spanish army and part of the navy but also by Germany and Italy. The Nazis and the Fascists were, of course, bitter opponents of the liberalism and the enlightened regime that characterized the "Popular Front" in Spain and looked with concern at the growth of "Popular Front" movements in Europe. They also wanted to bring Spain into the Axis sphere of influence and the most certain way of ensuring this was to earn Franco's gratitude by giving him decisive help against Snr. Caballero, Snr. Negrin, Snr. Prieto and other Republican leaders. The "Non-Intervention" policy which the Democratic powers adopted in order not to spread the war virtually enabled Franco to overthrow the Republican Government. Italy sent 100,000 troops and Nazi personnel operated throughout the tanks, artillery and aircraft sent in large numbers by Germany.

But Spain has not yet found real peace. It is now known that a million men perished in the civil strife and it will take years to repair the damage done to her industry and agricultural economy. And Snr. Alvarez del Vayo, the Foreign Minister of the last Republican Government, revealed not long ago that hundreds of thousands were still behind prison bars. It is true that General Franco, who rules Spain as a dictator ("Caudillo") declared a partial amnesty early in the past year and talked of forgiveness and clemency and of restoring prosperity to his country. But the only authorized political organization in Spain, the Falange, has evidently no hesitation in dealing in summary fashion with its political opponents. Much valuable manpower that can be employed in the work of reconstruction is thus being wasted inside the prison-cells.

No wonder that Franco declared for neutrality as soon as the present war broke out. In May 1939, he signed the Anti-Comintern Pact but he did not enter into a military alliance with the Axis powers. And he is said to have been profoundly shocked by Hitler's quick change of front and the signing of the German-Soviet Pact. With Italy's entry into the war and the fall of France, Franco moved a step nearer the Axis and Spain became professedly non-billigerent instead of neutral. Spanish youth has indulged in demonstrations for the "return of Gibraltar" but apart from a somewhat equivocal action in overthrowing the international regime in Tangier—and even here British rights and interests have been safeguarded in a provisional arrangement—Franco has so far indulged in no overt act of hostility to the Allies. Indeed, the Under Secretary of the Spanish Ministry of Press and Propaganda has reiterated this week Spain's ability to retain her neutral position in the war though he thinks that "the most serious risks are inherent in our geographical position and we cannot live unarmed on unwatchful."

Indications are, of course, not wanting to show that Germany is again exerting severe pressure on Spain in order to make her line up against the Allies. The Diplomatic Correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* writes, however, that Franco refused about a fortnight ago to concede the German demand for facilities to fly military planes over Spanish territory "as being inconsistent with the honour of Spain" and that he has recalled from Berlin his Ambassador whom the Germans charged with having entered into a verbal agreement with them on this question. Since they already have control of a chain of air bases across Italy and Sicily, the Germans obviously are not merely seeking a new route towards Libya (where the Italians have had to yield the province of Cyrenaica to the British). They are aiming at the most westerly part of the African coast—probably French Morocco in order to exercise pressure on the French Commander-in-Chief, General Weygand, who has hitherto shown no inclination to fall in with Axis plans involving North Africa. The Nazis have recently sent to French Morocco a large number of officers, ostensibly to assist the Italians in the work of the Armistice Commission, and they may be hatching a plot against the French African Empire. But Spain, too, is interested in Moroccan affairs. The Spanish authorities have just ejected the Mendoub of Tangier, abrogating all his functions. Franco is credited with planning an early annexation of Tangier at the expense of the Sultan of Morocco, who has always recognized the French protectorate over his territory. Though for the moment Spanish and German policies may run on the same lines and both now aim at striking a blow at French influence in North Africa, their interests are bound to clash sooner or later.

That there is already a rift in the Axis lute is evident in the formal presentation by Italy to Spain of a bill for 275 million dollars—to be paid in twenty-four annual instalments—for help rendered in the Civil War. As a writer in the *Christian Science Monitor* remarks, "To Spain, already staggering under the financial burden of trying to rebuild itself after the Civil War, this must be unpleasant. The interesting thing is that this bill was not submitted until now. You will recall that only a week or two ago Franco met Mussolini in Italy. It was apparent that Italy sought Spain's help in getting release for the Italian troops in Africa. If he had helped out Italy, he probably would have found the note 'paid in full'."

Franco has thus shown a firm front to the Axis Powers whenever he felt that the interests of Spain demanded it. When Hitler paid him the unexpected honour of travelling to the Spanish frontier to meet him some months ago, he refused to give the Nazis the right of passage for German troops across Spain to Portugal in their efforts to obtain control of the entire Atlantic seaboard of the Continent of Europe. Later (as stated above) he administered a rebuff to Mussolini's hopes of retrieving the remnants of his beaten army from Libya and has now rejected the latest German proposal "to use Spain as an aircraft carrier for the Luftwaffe." But how long can he resist Axis pressure and how strong is his will to do so?

Franco has doubtless joined the Anti-Comintern front but, unless a secret treaty exists of which the world has not been informed, he is under no specific military obligations to Hitler or Mussolini. However, in addition to the Spanish designs on Gibraltar and the French possessions in North Africa referred to already, Franco possibly believes that an Axis victory in the war with Spanish help would help Spain to dominate, if not annex, Portugal. His natural sympathy for fellow-dictators in trouble, his conviction that the future of the dictatorship system is bound up with their success and the definitely pro-Axis leanings of his brother-in-law and Foreign Minister, Senor Serrano Suner, are other factors to be reckoned with. The Falange is committed to the Axis principles and every day the Spanish newspapers are singing their praise and calling on Franco to range himself more actively on the side of Hitler and Mussolini.

But Spain is on the verge of starvation, her internal economy is disorganized and her people are bitterly divided politically. She cannot look to Germany or Italy for food, money or other supplies, since they are financing their own war effort and are facing the rigorous British blockade of the European Continent. Such help as Spain now receives comes from Britain and America. The American Red Cross is sending her food-ships with the approval of the British, who have granted navicerts for the shipment of more than a million tons of wheat and have "unfrozen" Spanish credits in Britain. Britain is ready to despatch manganese ore, which Spain needs urgently, meat, milk and other goods to Spain and she has entered into a contract to buy up the whole year's crop of Spanish oranges. But both she and America naturally expect, in return, that Spain should do nothing to facilitate Axis aggression. And even the belief of the extreme Spanish nationalists in the much publicized invincibility of the Axis must have received a rude shock from the resounding defeats that Italy has sustained in Greece and in Libya, the resistance of Britain to Nazi air attacks, the increasing destruction that the Royal Air Force is causing to military objectives in Germany itself and the virtual control that the British Navy has established both in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. Indeed, this last factor must weigh heavily with Franco in any reckoning of his chances; for Spain has a long and exposed coast-line and the British have proved, as in the spectacular raid on the Lofoten Islands off Norway, that they can land troops under the very nose of their enemy. Finally the advice that the United States has been giving to Spain to stay out of the war is strongly reinforced by the Governments of the Spanish-speaking South American Republics with whom Spain has deep cultural and other affinities.

But Germany is vitally interested in neutralizing Gibraltar as a naval base and depriving the British Navy of its only base in Western Mediterranean and she might think this might be achieved by combined air and artillery operations from Cadiz (in Spain) and Ceuta (in North Africa) though the Rock itself might withstand all attack. And Germany, if Franco hesitates, may decide to occupy Spain or part of it. Major Fielding Elliot, the American military expert, indeed, takes the view that Hitler has got more chances of success in a Spanish adventure than in the Balkans where General Wavell can throw into the scales against him a body of trained and seasoned troops. But if Hitler decides to overrun Spain and the Italian Peninsula—with or without Franco's approval—he might so arouse the people of the United States and of Latin America to bring closer a declaration of war or even the American occupation of Spanish and Portuguese islands in the Atlantic. But this risk (Major Fielding Elliot thinks) the Germans are probably prepared to discount in favour of immediate prospects of victory. "Germany is trying to win quickly", he says "for if the war drags on much longer, Germany has lost it anyway."

A German move into Spain does not appear to present Hitler the disadvantages of the dreaded war on two fronts, involving as it does no new and formidable enemy; he has no need to retain large forces in Spain and can content himself with despatching a part of his air force for action from Spanish bases. But the British High Command can put a new complexion on affairs. They may get enough troops into Southern Spain through Gibraltar or any other Spanish port for occupying the hinterland and protecting Gibraltar from direct attack. If 50,000 British troops dig themselves in, the Germans might have

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THE GLORY THAT IS GREECE

ATHENS ANSWERS BERLIN.

On one front the Geeks have smashed the desparate Italian attempt, under Mussolini's personal supervision, to turn the tide in Albania. On the other, the threat of powerful German armies on their border has found them unyielding.

Hitler once described himself, to flatter the Duce, as Mussolini's pupil. The stab-in-the-back technique, as practised by Italy on France, clearly excites German admiration. But there is a lesson for Berlin in the reward that the Fascists are reaping for their cowardly policy.

Without a shred of provocation, and after months of intrigue designed to persuade the Greeks to cease fire against the aggressor and accept a Hitler " guarantee ", the Nazis have now moved their forces across Bulgaria in order to force Greece to break her alliance with Britain, get rid of the R.A.F., and allow Germany into the Aegean.

In an open letter to Hitler, the editor of the Greek paper *Kathinarini* gave the Greek answer on March 8 :

" Your Excellency, there are some infamies which are not done by Greece. We can send away neither the dead nor the living. Instead we shall stand beside them till some ray of light shines again and the storm finally passes.

" And you? They always say you will try to invade Greece. We do not believe that an army with history and tradition will want to soil itself by such despicable action. What will your army do, Your Excellency, if instead of divisions of infantry and artillery. Greece sent to garrison her frontiers a force of 20,000 wounded, legless and armless, bloody and bandaged to welcome it? Will there be an army to strike at such a garrison?

" Small or great, the free army of Greece will stand in Thrace as it stood in Epirus. It will fight. It will die there too. In Thrace it will await the return of that runner from Berlin who came five years ago and received the light of Olympia, and has changed it into a bonfire to bring death and destruction to a country small in size but now made great, and which after teaching the world how to live must now teach the world how to die."

BRITAIN AND HER ALLY.

The Greeks know that Britain will never abandon them. As the new danger arises, so British help also increases. The Athens visit of Sir John Dill and Mr. Eden served to re-emphasize the British pledge as well as to decide on the forms that it may take now that the urgent task in Libya has been accomplished.

America's aid is also ensured, and the passing of the Lease and Lend Bill has put fresh heart into all victims and threatened victims of the new slavery.

Greek recognition of the aid of her friends is expressed in a leader in the newspaper *Estia* quoted by the Athens Radio :

" When the late Premier took what was perhaps the most momentous decision in Greek history, he doubtless knew that he could count on British assistance, but Greece did not set a price on her decision, which was dictated by her history.

" Now, while the Greek army goes from victory to victory, assistance comes from all sides and in every form.

" The Italians well know the quality of British support to Greece. They see it every day, at Taranto, in Sicily, the Dodecanese and Albania.

" Help comes to us from the United States of America, Egypt, Canada, Transjordania, Australia, the Dutch Indies and Alaska—from every continent and every land where free men dwell comes in money, wheat, medical supplies, wool or clothes."

Such is the aid which makes her more determined than ever to continue the war until final victory.

SPAIN TODAY

(*Continued from Page* 11)

to undertake long and costly siege operations which would ruin any chance of their victory. And the masses of the Spanish people, starving and desperate and with no love for the German airmen who ruined their cities and destroyed men, women and children during the civil war, may rise in guerilla warfare and assail Germany's communications and lines of supply. The American expert may well recall the plight of the French army in Spain a century and a half ago, especially Massena's troops before the battle of Torres Vedras with the country swept bare of food behind him. Napoleon's misfortunes in Spain enabled Wellington to overthrow him finally. " It would be a curious historical repetition if the Iberian Peninsula were again to prove the graveyard of a conqueror's hopes."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Between the Lines

Berlin hopefully pretends to find, in a B.B.C. talk by Mr. Vernon Bartlett on March 9, " a hint at a decision by the British Government in favour of leaving Greece in the lurch."

Needless to say, Mr. Bartlett's broadcast contained no such hint, but it is nothing new for Nazi propagandists to pretend that Britain will let the Greeks down—they prophesied as much when the Italians first invaded Greece. So did the Italians, at first—but they very soon changed their tune; as long ago as the second week in January the Rome Radio was saying : " By now, whole of the Greek Army is organized by the British—the artillery is British, the air force is British, the command is British."

But perhaps the Germans' slanders against Britain are intended to cover up the fact that it is they who have let the Italians down. For weeks Hitler stood by and watched Mussolini being thrashed out of Greece, as no big nation has ever before been thrashed by a small one; and now German aid for Italy looks like being too late. The *Luftwaffe*, operating from Sicily, has been powerless to stop strong British convoys from reaching the Greeks; and the presence on the Graeco-Bulgarian frontier of enormous Nazi forces has not prevented the Greeks from successfully repulsing, during the past week, the heavy Italian counter-offensive ordered by Mussolini himself.

Just Another Brick

Dr. Goebbels, as a matter of fact, has been singularly clumsy in his recent attempts to console the Italians for their staggering reverses in Albania and Africa. His latest discovery, broadcast by Berlin on March 10, is that " General Wavell was forced to launch his Libyan offensive because German naval strategy had made it impossible for Britain to send supplies round Africa through the Suez Canal to Egypt."

Even if that extraordinary assertion were true, it would hardly reconcile the Italians to the loss of the greater part of their African Empire. But of course it isn't true; on the contrary, the vast bulk of the material and muitions, as well as many of the troops, which General Wavell used in his offensive, travelled from Britain by that very route—*i.e.* " round Africa through the Suez Canal to Egypt."

Just Another Coincidence

" The systematic attacks carried out by the *Luftwaffe* against Britain, " announces the German Wireless on March 16, " have seriously affected the country's aircraft production and have obliged the Air Ministry to use many out-of-date types of aircraft."

By an odd coincidence, this flight of oratory (and of fancy) was delivered four days after Germany had endured its heaviest R.A.F. onslaught of the war, carried out by large forces of new bombers, heavier, faster and more powerful than any hitherto used by the Air Ministry; and three days after a record number (13) of Nazi night bombers had been brought down over Britain, 11 of them by new and deadlier types of R.A.F. night fighters.

Footnote on Food

Berlin on March 11 quotes Mr. Herbert Hoover as denying that the food supplies he is anxious to send to Belgium would find their way to Germany, who has " made it clear that she herself is anxious to solve the problem of Belgian supplies."

No doubt she is—which is all the more reason why Britain, who happens to be at war with Germany, should do nothing to relieve her enemy's anxieties.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

R. A. F's Technical Superiority

The German broadcast in Hindustani and Arabic proudly announced on March 11 that German and Italian air power was bigger than that of Britain's and that, as a result of this, Britain could not resist the Axis air attacks on Malta.

It is true that the Axis air forces still enjoy superiority in numbers, but the incontrovertible fact remains that the Royal Air Force has technical and moral superiority. This is conclusively proved by the fact that during the past 17 months, in two theatres of war the Royal Air Force destroyed some 4,250 German and 700 Italian aircraft for the loss of fewer than 1,800 British planes.

As for Britain's alleged inability to resist enemy attacks on Malta (which is still undaunted after no fewer than 400 air raids) the fact is that during one recent German raid on Malta, on March 5, in which the Nazis used over 100 planes, the British destroyed 16 German machines and damaged many more for the loss of only one Royal Air Force fighter.

Lease-and-Lend Act

On March 11 the Nazi broadcast quoted the President of the American Anti-War Committee as stating that military circles in Washington and London had ignored the fact that the American people did not support the passage of this measure. President Roosevelt, however, declared on March 15 that the measure was argued out not only by Congress

but throughout the country and finally was settled by the American people themselves. America's aid-for-Britain policy, declared the President, has been proclaimed not with the voice of any one man but with the voice of 130 millions.

Again referring to the Lease-and-Lend Act, the Nazi broadcast of March 13 made much of Dr. Goebbels' statement that Britain's hope of receiving American help was futile. America's determination to see that arms reach Britain is expressed by *The New York Times* which says: "The Axis Governments were wrong when they thought that the United States would never intervene in this war. They will be wrong again if they think we intend to produce vast quantities of finely-finished weapons for our allies only to have these weapons sunk in the Atlantic Ocean."

R. A. F. over Germany

On March 13 the Nazi broadcast in Hindustani gave prominence to the report of a London correspondent of a netural newspaper stating that, as opposed to the destructive Nazi raids on England, Germany had not been subjected to such attacks.

It is noteworthy that, 24 hours before the Nazis broadcast this statement, Hamburg, Bremen and Berlin were being subjected to the heaviest blows British bombers have yet struck at Germany. **This raid lasted from soon after nightfall on March 12 until an hour or so before dawn on March 13.**

Axis Broadcast for Home and Abroad

On March 14 the Berlin Radio reported that during the latest Royal Air Force raid on Hamburg, a bomb fell on the American Consulate and a hospital was hit. "From this alone," declared the broadcaster, "you can realize how blindly British planes drop bombs whenever they carry out a raid."

It is significant, however, that the Nazis, dared not tell this story to the people of Hamburg. In fact, in their home service bulletins the German Radio admitted that the Royal Air Force raid had caused damage to "industrial and harbour installations" at Hamburg.

The Axis, it should be reiterated, has evolved a definite technique in this matter. Broadcasting from Rome to Malta recently, an Italian news bulletin referred to the British in India, Palestine, Egypt and Sudan and said: "After years of occupation the British are still living like prisoners. The quarters where they live have iron bars and after sundown no one may come in or go out. In India no European can go out after dark." Naturally this news could not be included in the Italian broadcast to India!

Nazis and Typewriters

Announcing the British Government's request to the owners of typewriters to lend or sell their machines to the Government, the Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of March 9 gloats over the serious plight of the British who have been reduced to such straits. Now, whatever this measure means, it does not signify shortage of typewriting machines. Actually—and this is another proof of Britain's command of the seas—large shipments of typewriters are still going out to Portugal, China, Egypt, Chile, Morocco and India, among them one type designed specially for Ceylon, which carries all the 80 letters of Ceylon's alphabet and the special symbols as well.

Censorship in Britain

On March 10 the German broadcast in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic, attributed to the Swedish Minister of Justice the statement that British papers were subjected to severe censorship. Mr. Quentin Reynolds, a famous United States journalist in London, stated on December 25, 1940: "This matter of British censorship seems to worry everyone except those of us who are subject to it. . . . Most of us have worked in Germany and in France and some of us have worked in Moscow. After the rigid, tyrannical censorship of these countries, the British censorship is very mild. We can express any opinions we wish and criticize any one we want."

Indiscriminate Bombing

The Nazi broadcast of March 12 quoted the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral as saying that the Cathedral was intact in spite of the fact that all its surrounding buildings had been destroyed, and went on to assert that the Germans took care not to damage churches. According to the Vatican Radio, however, 1,986 churches in London and the provinces have been destroyed or damaged by German bombers in their quest for "military" objectives. In London alone, those churches which have been destroyed include 14 Roman Catholic, 120 Anglican and 125 Free Church. The Vatican added that 45 monasteries or convents had also been hit.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

28th Mar.—Royal Air Force bombers attacked Cologne and Dusseldorf while Coastal Command aircraft harassed enemy shipping from the Frisian Islands to La Rochelle on the coast of Brittany. A supply ship received direct hits in the harbour at Alderney.

Of two German bombers that attempted to attack a British convoy, one was shot down into the sea and the other limped home, badly crippled. London had a raid-free night.

29th Mar.—London had a short alert—for the first time in eight nights.

British Fighter Command aircraft made offensive sweeps over Belgium and Northern France.

30th Mar.—There was little enemy air activity over Britain. A Spitfire shot down a German bomber near Middlesborough.

The Royal Air Force made heavy attacks on Calais and other "invasion" ports. A Blenheim of the Coastal Command sank a German anti-submarine vessel off the Loire Estuary. A German anti-aircraft vessel and a supply vessel were machine-gunned and bombed off the Dutch coast.

31st Mar.—The Royal Air Force made a daylight sweep across the channel and over occupation ports in France, raining bombs on Bordeaux where were sheltering the two German warships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*. Two tankers were sunk off Le Havre.

London had a very brief alert but no raid.

1st April.—The Royal Air Force raided objectives in Bremen and Emden, employing a new type of high-explosive bombs which caused great damage. Rotterdam, Bremerhaven and Oldenberg were also attacked. A German destroyer was twice hit off the Frisian Islands by Blenheim aircraft which later bombed German troop positions in Ameland and an enemy supply ship in convoy.

London had its eleventh successive raid-free night though Nazi airmen attacked a town on the North-east coast.

2nd April.—Five German bombers were destroyed over England; London had no raid. It was learnt that 35,000 German children were to be evacuated from the Ruhr to Slovakia in view of the Royal Air Force raids.

3rd April.—A British minesweeper and a gunboat each successfully tackled three German bombers, shooting down one.

Two German bombers were shot down over England.

Royal Air Force bombers crippled an armed enemy ship off the Dutch coast and bombed aerodromes in France.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

28th Mar.—The British Imperial forces began a pursuit of the Italian troops from Keren to Asmara.

The Royal Air Force raided the Dodecanese Islands.

The British Submarine *Parthian* attacked an Italian convoy and sank a 10,000-ton tanker and a 6,000-ton tramp steamer with a cargo of timber.

29th Mar.—The South African Air Force made very successful attacks on the track, trains and stations in the Diredawa-Addis Ababa railway sector.

Three Italian cruisers, one large destroyer and a smaller one were certainly sunk, another cruiser and a destroyer almost certainly sunk, and a battleship of the Littorio class (35,000 tons) damaged in a naval action in Central Mediterranean. The British forces under Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham suffered no loss. Naval planes and the Royal Air Force, keeping vigil over the Ionian Sea, played a notable part in the fighting which the Italians tried their best to avoid. About 1,000 Italian sailors were picked up and also a few Germans.

30th Mar.—The Italian High Command admitted the evacuation of Diredawa (Abyssinia).

The Royal Air Force raided Tripoli (Libya) and Asmara (Eritrea).

His Majesty the King sent a message to His Excellency the Viceroy, congratulating India on the part played by her armed forces in the capture of Keren.

31st Mar.—The British Imperial troops occupied Diredawa. The Royal Air Force again attacked Tripoli.

1st April.—The British Imperial Forces captured Asmara, the capital of Eritrea.

2nd April.—The Royal Air Force raided enemy aerodromes in Tripolitania, and the South African Air Force bombed enemy communications in Abyssinia.

A British submarine sank an Italian U-Boat in the Mediterranean; an Italian destroyer, trying to escape from Massawa, was also sunk by naval aircraft, and a German ship was captured by H.M.S. "Kandahar."

3rd April.—British aircraft sank another Italian destroyer that had escaped from Massawa. One more Italian destroyer was left sinking.

It was announced that the Royal Indian Navy had played a notable part in assisting the land operations in Eritrea.

British forward units were withdrawn from Benghazi.

UNITED STATES AND ATLANTIC

30th Mar.—President Roosevelt, broadcasting on Jackson Day, called on the Americans to unite in the determination that "with all our resources and all our power, we shall help those who block the Dictators in their march towards the domination of the world."

Guards were placed on 27 Italian vessels in United States ports by the American Coast-Guard authorities to prevent their crews from attempting to destroy machinery. A German oil tanker was also reported to have been placed under guard in Boston harbour.

31st Mar.—It was revealed that President Roosevelt had authorized to transfer of additional war supplies to Britain, including torpedo boats. The *Journal of Commerce* (New York) reported that between 120 and 140 American warships were being transferred to British Registry.

President Roosevelt indicated that he had personally ordered the seizure of Italian, German and Danish ships at American ports (and at Manila). The seized ships totalled nearly 300,000 tons. Mr. Cordell Hull explained that the United States Government were justified in their action because the attempted sabotage in the ships endangered American ports. Treasury Officials hinted that these ships might be put in service with a view to help Britain to overcome shipping shortage.

1st April.—The Axis Powers protested to the United States against the seizure of their ships and demanded their release. Meanwhile the United States Authorities issued warrants for the detention of 100 German and 75 Italian members of the crews of 69 seized ships for violation of immigration laws. Reports of Italian and German sailors setting fire to their ships in South American ports were received.

2nd April.—The United States rejected the German and Italian demands for the release of the ships seized in United States ports.

The Government of Peru suspended the Lufthansa (German) air services and took over the planes.

Mr. Roosevelt held important conferences with his Defence Chiefs in order to speed up aid to Britain.

3rd April.—The United States Government asked the Italian Government to recall Admiral Alberto Lais, their Naval Attache, from Washington. United States officials were studying the question whether the seized Axis ships could be forfeited to America.

GREECE AND ITALY

28th Mar.—It was revealed that the Italians had asked the Greeks for an armistice for a day to bury their dead, having sustained heavy casualties in their desperate counter-attacks.

29th Mar.—Greek aircraft attacked Italian installations and the Royal Air Force raided the aerodrome at Lecce in "the heel" of Italy. Many enemy planes were set on fire.

30th Mar.—The Royal Air Force raided Italy's Albanian bases of Berat, Dukai and Dukati.

The Vatican Radio issued a call to Catholic Germany to awake and face the Pagan tendencies which the Nazi regime was spreading.

31st Mar.—The Royal Air Force raided Durazzo and Elbasan in Albania.

Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill arrived in Athens to resume consultations with the Greek Government with the aim of preventing an extension of the war in the Balkans.

1st April.—The Greeks again took the offensive in Albania and two companies of Italian troops were wiped out.

Mr. Eden was received in audience by King George of Greece.

3rd April.—The Royal Air Force made a successful raid on Teppelini; an Italian raid on Volos proved costly, three out of four raiders being shot down.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

28th Mar.—King Peter of Yugoslavia took the oath of his exalted office and the new Premier, General Simovitch, in a statement after the first meeting of his Cabinet said "Let us look after our own interests—independent and respected."

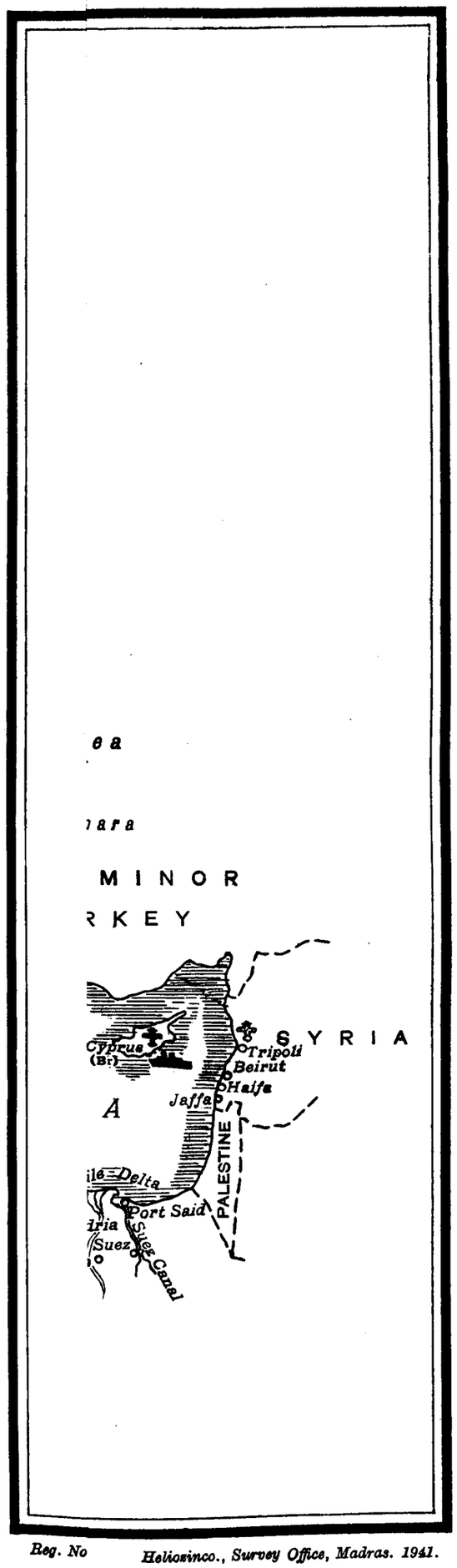
There was stupefaction in Berlin and in Rome at the *Coup d'etat* in Belgrade and the German Government asked the Yugoslav Government whether they would adhere to the Tripartite Pact.

29th Mar.—Belgrade began to settle down and the new Cabinet was reported to be playing for time with regard to the repudiation of the Axis Pact. President Roosevelt sent a message of greetings to King Peter.

30th Mar.—The frontier between Yugoslavia and Austria was closed by the Yugoslav authorities.

The Rumanian Premier, General Antonescu, was reported to have stated that "Rumania can never reconcile herself to the situation which has been created and will be forced to request Berlin and Rome to reconsider the Transylvanian question."

31st Mar.—Extra military classes were called up in Yugoslavia as a precautionary



Reg. No Heliosinco., Survey Office, Madras. 1941.

measure, following a German radio campaign on familiar lines against Yugoslavia. It was stated that Germans and Italians were leaving the country under orders from their home Governments. An unconfirmed report from Belgrade stated that Germany had sent an ultimatum to Yugoslavia, asking for immediate demobilization of the army. The new Yugoslav Premier appealed to the nation to keep calm in face of provocation, but resolved to guard the Fatherland against aggression.

1st April.—The Yugoslav Premier replied to Germany. It was stated in Belgrade that Yugoslavia would not agree to demobilization.

2nd April.—The Turkish Ambassador in Washington began negotiations with the U.S. State Department in order to facilitate Turkey's receiving war material under the Lease and Lend Act.

3rd April.—Dr. Matchek, the Croat Leader, joined the Yugoslav Cabinet as Vice-Premier.

Italy's efforts to mediate between Germany and Yugoslavia proved a failure. All the Germans in Yugoslavia had left, except the Military Attache and the Charge d'Affairs. It was reported that the Yugoslav armies had taken up their positions to resist any invasion. Belgrade was declared an open town.

Meanwhile, Yugoslavia was stated to be sending two envoys with a special message to Moscow; and one of her Cabinet Ministers also visited Ankara.

The Hungarian Premier, Count Teleki, committed suicide because he could not resist Nazi pressure to break away from Yugoslavia.

SHIPPING SITUATION

1st April.—It was revealed to-day that shipping losses due to enemy action showed a considerable fall last week as compared to the three previous weeks. Only 17 ships were lost with a total tonnage of 59,141. Of these 10 were British with a tonnage of 24,940.

FAR EAST

30th Mar.—The Moscow Radio announced that residents in Japan would be obliged from March 31 to surrender all gold objects in their possession to the Japanese Government. Failure to do so would be punished by a fine of 5,000 yen.

Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Far East, announced the arrival in Singapore of army and air force reinforcements from Britain and India.

31st Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, arrived in Rome in the course of his European tour.

1st April.—Mr. Matsuoka had an interview with Mussolini.

2nd April.—Discussions began in the Philippine Islands between British and American defence chiefs in the Far East.

3rd April.—Mr. Matsuoka, who left Rome for Berlin, was stated by the Tokyo paper *Asahi Shimbun* to have discussed " conditions for peace " and Japan's " New Order for East Asia " with His Holiness the Pope.

It was announced that Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese Ambassador in London, had been appointed Foreign Minister of China.

Japanese authorities seized five British ships in Shanghai port on the ground that their cargoes were destined for China. The British Consul lodged a protest.

VICHY

30th Mar.—The British Admiralty reported an incident in which a convoy of four French merchant ships carrying contraband for Germany defied the British Blockade control. Though fired on by French shore-bateries and fully justified in attacking the convoy and its escort, the British in the interests of humanity did not do so. French bombers were also said to have attacked the British but without inflicting any damage or casualties.

31st Mar.—It was learnt that the United States authorities were studying reports of the convoy incident and that France might forfeit American sympathy altogether by acting as Hitler's tool.

The tension in Syria necessitated the patrolling of all big cities by tanks and troops.

1st April.—It was announced by General Dentz, France's High Commissioner, that Syria was to have a new Government in which the principle of her independence would be recognized.

2nd April.—It was announced that the Vichy Government had failed to implement its agreement of September last with Britain over the exchange of French and British merchantships in British and French ports respectively.

3rd April.—The Vichy News Agency reported a clash in Beirut (Syria) where the military had to be called out. Two persons were killed.

It was stated in London that Britain had received no protest from Vichy over the convoy incident.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

31st Mar.—Nearly a quarter of a million people, including 90,000 children, were attending Warsaw soup kitchens, declared an official of the American Commission for Polish Relief.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (SPAIN, RUSSIA AND EIRE)

29th Mar.—Mr. De Valera, in a speech at Limerick, warned the people of Eire that they would face complete starvation if the harvest was not up to standard.

1st April.—General Franco, the Spanish Dictator, signed a law, liberating 40,000 political prisoners, on the second anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

3rd April.—Mr. De Valera revealed in the Dail that Eire had protested to the German Government against Nazi air attacks on four Irish ships and demanded compensation.

Brazil protested to Germany against the bombing attack on the merchant-ship Tanbate off Alexandria.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th March 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over enemy-controlled coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 19, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (communications, river docks, factories, oil stores); oil stores at Rotterdam; submarine base at L'Orient; 3 aerodromes in Holland.	1 day-fighter.	1 night-bomber.
March 20, Thursday.	R.A.F. day attacks on E-boats and other naval craft off Frisian Islands; supply ships off Norway. R.A.F. night-bomber raids on submarine base at L'Orient. (Raids on Germany cancelled owing to weather.)	1 day-fighter.	..
March 21, Friday.	R.A.F. day attacks on jetty and shipping at Egersund; aerodromes in Norway; naval and supply shipping in Heligoland Bight off Norway, Frisian Islands and Belgium. R.A.F. night-bomber raids on submarine base at L'Orient; invasion base at Ostend. (Raids on Germany cancelled owing to weather.)	2 night-bombers.	1 night-fighter.
March 22, Saturday.	R.A.F. day attacks on shipping at Egersund. (No reports on night activity.)	Nil.	..
March 23, Sunday.	R.A.F. day attacks on invasion base at Quiberon (barracks destroyed); submarine base in Britanny; convoy near Brest. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin (railway stations, goods-yards, factories); Hanover (railway junctions and yards); naval bases at Kiel, Bremen, Emden; invasion bases at Den Helder, Calais, Cherbourg; shipping off Dutch coast.	3 night-bombers.	..
March 24, Monday.	R.A.F. single-plane dawn-bomber raid on docks at Cherbourg; troops at Harfleur. R.A.F. day-bomber attacks on shipping off Holland (1 supply ship sunk). (No reports of night activity.)	1 day-bomber.	..
March 25, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on convoy off Holland; naval craft off Ameland Island (Holland) and Borkum Island. (No reports of night activity.)	1 day-bomber.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th March 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 19	Nil.	2 day-bombers, 1 night bomber.
March 20	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
March 21	Nil.	..
March 22	Nil.	..
March 23	Nil.	2 day-bombers, 1 night bomber.
March 24	Nil.	2 day-fighters.
March 25	Nil.	1 day-bomber.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

HITLER'S POT OF TROUBLE.

The week has brought nothing but distress and dismay to the Axis Powers. The bloodless revolution in Yugoslavia was followed by the stupendous success of the British Navy in what is known as the ' Battle of Matapan '. The daily newspapers are full of accounts of this " 1941 Trafalgar " fought on the night of March 28 and 29 in the Central Mediterranean (Ionian Sea). The result is that three Italian cruisers and two destroyers were sunk for certain and one additional cruiser and destroyer were probably sunk. A new ship of the Littorio class was severely damaged, while other enemy units also were certainly damaged. Not one British ship was damaged and not one rating was killed; only one plane was lost.

Italy has fared no better in her oldest colony in East Africa. Following the fall of Keren in East Africa, British and Indian troops captured Asmara four days after a remarkably swift operation which has thrilled the world. The splendid co-operation between the Royal Air Force and land forces has made this quick success possible. The way is now open to Massawa, the Red Sea port of Eritrea, and with Massawa's fall, which is imminent, the end of the Italian Empire in East Africa will begin.

Diredawa in Abyssinia has been captured and the railway line between Addis Ababa and Jibuti has been cut. Addis Ababa is being approached by the British, East and South African and Abyssinian Patriotic Forces from many directions.

Benghazi, has, however, been evacuated in the face of strong German and Italian forces, only after all stores had been removed.

Nor has the Luftwaffe been conspicuously successful in a military sense apart from the destruction of some places. The Royal Air Force bagged 155 German aircraft, losing 41 of its own machines, during the three months ending March 1941.

Mr. Matsuoka, who is now on a visit to Rome after interviewing the High Command in Berlin, should now be disillusioned and he should also be feeling rather nervous because of the announcement made early this week that units of the British army and the Royal Air Force have now reached Singapore in order to reinforce the army in the Far East. As the Commander-in-Chief of the Far East said, this increased strength is not a threat to anybody but is a great stabilizing force. It also proves two other things: the unsurpassed supremacy of the sea held by the British and the lessening of the tension in other theatres of war.

The action of the United States in taking over many Danish, Italian and German ships at American ports during the last week-end is a slap on the face of the Axis Powers. They have, of course, protested against this move, which America has justified on the ground that there was an attempt at sabotage of the ships likely to endanger American ports.

The suicide of Count Teleki, Prime Minister of Hungary, has been reported. The reason stated is that he was unwilling to be a tool for any policy which would disturb Hungary's cordial relations with Yugoslavia.

YUGOSLAVIA.

The situation in Yugoslavia after the bloodless revolution is still in a fluid condition. King Peter's action in taking supreme power and the universal rejoicings which have followed the *coup d'etat* have upset Hitler's plans of invading Greece. What the Fuehrer's next move will be may be gathered from the " atrocity " stories which have already begun to be broadcast from Germany. The ' war of nerves ' against Yugoslavia is based on alleged anti-German tendencies in that country and the ill-treatment of German nationals—stories which the Yugoslav Government and the nationals of Germany and Italy have promptly denied. There are reports that Germany has demanded the full publication and ratification of the Tripartite Pact and demobilization of the Yugoslav army. It may well be expected that Yugoslavia would not yield to this pressure and that, heartened by the British successes in Eritrea and Abyssinia and the Greek successes in Albania. King Peter's Government would steadfastly refuse to walk

into Hitler's parlour. Already Belgrade and two other towns have been declared open towns.

Since the time when King Alexander of Yugoslavia was assassinated in October 1934, the whole familiar procession of 'tourists,' propagandists, economic experts and fifth columnists has passed across the stage, wrenching Yugoslavia from the protective arms of the Western Democracies and preparing the way for the final blackout. Even after seven years' intensive preparation, Nazi diplomacy has at last failed to achieve a victory and, for the first time, Hitler has been forced to accept defeat. The Government of Yugoslavia, in signing the Pact, of course, acted without popular support in the country and mainly as a result of German intrigue and pressure. The Yugoslav Government, which has now been overthrown, followed the well-known fifth column methods—gagging the press, cutting off communication with other countries, covert intimidation of individual ministers, constant intrigue, threats in general, etc. All these underhand methods ultimately only served to accentuate public abhorrence of the policy of surrender and pave the way for the *coup d'etat*. It should be stated, however, that the declared policy of Yugoslavia is still neutrality. Mr. Churchill has promised all possible aid and succour by the British Empire, but that of course would be required only in case Yugoslavia is invaded by Germany. The resistance of Yugoslavia is the first important failure in the so far successful German technique used for the enslavement of small countries and Yugoslavia's stern refusal to accept dishonourable conditions is an example of how this technique can be defeated. It is not likely to help the Germans to impress the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka, who should have been witnessing the happenings in the Balkans. Germans must now face complete revision of their Balkan strategy and the position of Greece is daily improving. The psychological effect of the revolution in strengthening resistance to the Axis throughout all Balkan countries cannot of course be minimized, and the presence of Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill in Athens for the second time should not only be welcome to Greece, but be hailed with satisfaction in Yugoslavia also and put courage into the hearts of the people of the Balkans.

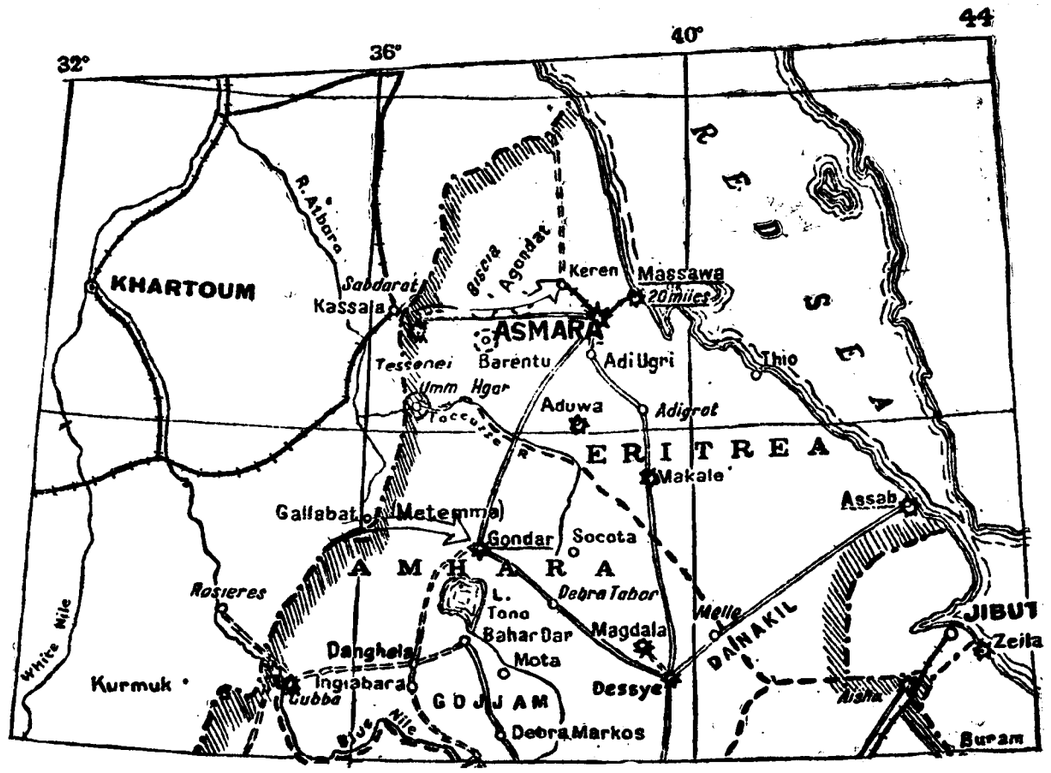
ITALY.

The position of Italy is now very sad indeed, and there is a good deal of force in what an Italian soldier appears to have said: "The politicians made war and left us to fight it." Discontent is spreading in Italy itself against Fascism and there is great indignation felt because of the increasing subservience of Italy to Germany, which is draining the Italian labour forces for her own purpose. The hold of the Fascist Party Organization, reinforced by Gestapo agents, is so tight that serious upheavals are not likely in Italy and the point is obvious that the cracking up of Italy cannot be expected until Italian hopes of eventual victory, despite the present reverses, are finally dashed by the failure of Germany's spring and summer campaigns. Mussolini is wholly responsible for the Italian disasters and the Italian soldier is fighting against his will for a cause about which he is extremely doubtful.

Italy's population is 45 millions and that of Greece 8 millions. Greece has established for herself a reputation which will live for ever in history. Mussolini, after his return to Rome from Albania, has had to bring news of his defeat in the counter-offensive in Albania—a particularly humiliating finale to his hopes of retrieving the situation.

There is the question of non-combatants in East Africa which should be considered. The Abyssinians have great cause for retaliating against the Italians, e.g., in Addis Ababa alone 600 persons were shot when the Blackshirt garrison ran amok at the end of 1937, but the British High Command has taken steps to see that excesses do not occur and, generally speaking, British forces have always paid considerable attention to the task of protecting enemy non-combatants. The Holy See paid the other day a high tribute to the behaviour of the Imperial troops in Italian Somaliland, who, faithful to their traditions of humanity and civilization, have succeeded in assuring the safety of European civilians left behind by the retreating Italians, but there is a limit to what the British High Command can do. No request for assistance to non-combatants has yet been made by the Italians and such requests can obviously be only considered as part of a general capitulation, because operations in progress cannot be suspended. Capitulation would mean that the safety of 200,000 non-combatants may be assured and if the Duke of Aosta does not see the wisdom of the step, then the blame must attach entirely to the Italian authorities if excesses occur behind the lines.

MAP ILLUSTRATING THE BRITISH CAMPAIGN IN ERITREA



INDIAN TROOPS IN AFRICA

In a message to His Excellency the Viceroy a few weeks ago, His Majesty the King thanked the Princes and people of India for sending out "a constant and invaluable stream of men, money and material to swell the rising flood of the Empire's war resources." Moreover, His Majesty graciously added, "while her fighting forces have been upholding in many widely scattered theatres of war the military traditions for which India is so justly famed, her people have been giving freely to relieve suffering and distress." We know that Indian troops are manning the defences of Singapore, that bastion of democracy in the Far East, and only this week we learnt that famous Indian regiments formed part of the reinforcements sent to the Far East Command under Sir Robert Brooke-Popham. That these representatives of India will give a gallant account of themselves if occasion arises is the certain conclusion that emerges from the magnificent achievements of Indian troops in the African campaign.

The reports reaching us now of the exploits of Indian artillery and infantry units, sappers and miners in the fighting in Lybia and Eritrea evoke memories of the Great War when the Indian Expeditionary Force covered themselves with glory as much in the unfamiliar mud and mist of France as in the warmer regions of Palestine. In this war, General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Near East, expressed his appreciation of the smartness and efficiency of the Indian soldiers by giving them the honour of leading the attack on Sidi Barrani which opened the Libyan drive. Right nobly did the Indians, especially Mahratta soldiers, acquit themselves and the auspicious start they gave to the campaign enabled it without doubt to proceed with such speed and success as have electrified the world.

And now come details of the fine performance of the Indian units of the British Imperial Forces which first drove the Italians in one rush from Kassala on the Eritrean border to the highly fortified outskirts of Keren, more than a hundred miles deep in Eritrea, and then, after a fierce and persistent siege, captured that key-town and then the Eritrean capital, Asmara, and drove the enemy on towards the sea.

The drive was initiated at about the same time by two columns, each including a large proportion of Indian troops. One drove on to Agordat while the other fought its way through the southern region of Tessenai and Barentu. In the course of the operations, the Frontier Force battalion dislodged the enemy from a fortified position at Aicota by a clever outflanking movement; and the Punjabis shared the honours with a British battalion in an attack on Gogni Ridge on the Aicota Road, which was finally secured after a series of attacks and counter-attacks. The Punjabis and Frontier-men negotiated rough country,

captured Alamale and joined up with the northern British force before Barentu, which soon fell.

ACTS OF HEROISM.

Many individual acts of heroism were witnessed in these actions. An Indian commissioned officer led his men over ground swept by machine-gun fire at Gogni and gained a steep ridge. The party withstood several enemy counter-attacks in strength, but were at last forced to vacate the position. Although he was wounded, the officer led all his men back to safety. During the same action a stretcher-bearer, who was bringing back a wounded sepoy, was almost surrounded by the enemy. He seized the sepoy's rifle, beat them off, and brought the sepoy back. A Dogra machine-gunner kept on firing his gun in the face of overwhelming odds, inflicting many casualties, until he was killed by bombs. After the enemy had been driven off, his body was found beside the gun, his finger still on the trigger. A young Punjabi sepoy went with a small party through a hail of fire and destroyed an enemy machine-gun post. He beat off a counter-attack by setting his gun close to the disabled enemy machine gun. Later he leapt on to a parapet and cheered his comrades on. He was wounded in both legs, but refused to be carried; he walked to the Dressing Station. The part played by Indian Sappers and Miners in these engagements is specially noteworthy. Between January 23 and February 2 they removed no fewer than 575 mines and attended to a blown-up bridge near Alamale. About 190 of the mines were removed from the Barentu defences alone.

And so on to Keren, where the enemy made a determined stand, exploiting the natural defences of that town which stands on an escarpment 7,000 feet high. An Indian army eye-witness of the twelve-days battle which ended in the capture of Keren on March 27 writes that the enemy had concentrated at Keren his best white and African troops, with the evident hope of finally stemming our advance. They had the advantage of greatly superior numbers, of being on the crest of hills in a naturally strong position, and of holding points which gave them observation over the valley along which all our supplies had to be brought and where our own gun positions had to be established. Our first efforts to break through at Keren found the enemy in too great strength for our advance troops to capture the heights. A pause was necessary after the swift advance from Kassala in order to bring up stocks of ammunition and supplies and extra troops. In the meantime, our advance forces with great determination and tenacity held the ground gained on the lower slopes around Keren, in spite of unremitting attack by Italian artillery, mortar and machine-gun fire from the overlooking heights. Our administrative services kept on bringing up more and more supplies over ground watched by the enemy and covered by hostile fire. The Sappers and Miners, who kept the railway going though the enemy had it under direct gunfire, were magnificent. This whole phase, in fact, called for great powers of 'sticking it.' The enemy held the whole of both sides of the gorge through which runs the Agordat-Keren Road. This gorge had been blocked by demolition of the cliff side, and high mountains dominated the whole position. These heights, and particularly Fort Dolgordoc on the south side of the road were the scene of fierce fighting for 12 days. The troops had to fight in a temperature around 105 degrees in the shade, demanding the highest standard of fitness and endurance.

BATTLE FOR KEREN.

The battle opened early on March 15 with attacks on the north side of the gorge, preceded by heavy bombardment of the enemy infantry and artillery positions. Throughout this and the next few days, the fighting was severe, as the enemy fiercely contested every step. Later, on the same day, our forces also attacked on the south side of the gorge and early on March 16 took Fort Dolgorodoc, together with 400 prisoners. The capture of the fort was followed up that night and the following day by an advance towards Mount Zeban, with the enemy widely and continually counter-attacking. In many cases these attacks were beaten off only after grim hand-to-hand fighting with bayonet and grenade. Defensive fire by our artillery inflicted heavy casualties during these counter-attacks, and several times actually managed to smash the attacking formations as they were forming up. High tributes have been paid to the excellence of the artillery support provided and to the gallantry with which valuable observation posts were established and maintained under heavy fire in the most forward areas. After four days and nights of intense fighting, there was a lull, preparatory to the next phase, while our troops held on in forward areas under heavy enemy bombardment. The next phase opened on March 25 when the assaullt was renewed to develop the successes on the Dolgordoc side of the gorge and in order to cover the clearing of the road block. Although the road was under constant shell-fire, the work was carried out without pause, and by dawn on March 27, a path for tanks to advance to Keren was cleared. This was the signal for the infantry to storm their way over the hills into Keren, taking many prisoners on the way, while the mechanized units pursued the retreating enemy along the road towards Asmara.

CAPTURE OF ASMARA.

It took three months of the fiercest fighting of the war in Africa to reach Asmara, the capital of Italy's oldest colony. The city stands on a great 7,000 feet high plateau protected on all sides by diminishing ranges of hills. Our troops advanced more than 250

(*Continued on Page* 11)

BATTLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Mediterranean is the Sea of Destiny. Geologically the youngest part of Europe, historically it is the oldest and has played a vital part in the history of civilization. Great Britain controls both the western and eastern approaches to the sea—at Gibraltar and at Suez. Gibraltar dominates Western Mediterranean and enjoys a unique strategic position at the centre of the chief trade routes from Europe to the rest of the world. She commands both the Cape and Suez routes and also communications from the Americas to Western Europe and North Africa. At the eastern end of the Mediterranean, Britain stands guard at Suez and at Alexandria where, thanks to her alliance with Egypt, she has secured naval and military bases. She has also alliances with Greece and with Turkey, who controls the Dardanelles, the Sea of Mormora and the Bosphorous, connecting the Black Sea with the Mediterranean. She holds a mandate over Palestine and her influence over Iraq and Transjordenia is increasing. The naval station of Haifa is fortunately situated near the pipe-line from the oil fields of Iraq. Italy, too, holds the islands of Sicily and Pantelleria in Central and the Dodecanese Islands in Eastern Mediterranean and she has for long had ambitions to try conclusions with Britain in this region. In fact, she has always claimed the Mediterranean as "Our Sea" (*Mare Nostrum*) and Mussolini once said that whereas it "is for Great Britain only a route, one of the many routes, I should say a convenient short cut," it was Italy's life-line. It is strange to see, therefore, the units of the Italian navy turning tail when they sight British vessels and avoiding a fight wherever possible.

ITALIANS OUTFOUGHT

The action in the Central Mediterranean last week, in which the British Mediterranean Fleet under Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham inflicted severe losses on the Italians, has not only served to focus attention on the Battle of the Mediterranean but also exposed the fact that the Italian ships wanted to evade a fight. They scattered but some units were brought to action by British tactics and here one must pay a tribute to the co-ordination between the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force; Naval and Royal Air Force aircraft kept vigil over the Ionian Sea and took a prominent part in the ensuing action. Three enemy cruisers, *Fiume*, *Pola* and *Zara*, each of 10,000 tons, were sunk as well as a large destroyer (1,700 tons) and a smaller one (1,500 tons). One enemy battleship of the Littorio class (35,000 tons), carrying nine 15-inch, twelve 6-inch and twelve anti-aircraft guns, with provision for three aircraft and having a complement of 1,600, was damaged. There were no British casualties. It is true that the Italians made the mistake of sacrificing strength and firepower to speed in constructing ships but even then one would have expected them to put up a fight in a sea which they claim as their "lake".

ROYAL AIR FORCE *vs.* GERMAN AIR FORCE

It is an open secret that the Italians relied not merely on their navy but on a combination of air and sea power to hold the British Navy in check. Here, too, their calculations have been upset. For one thing, the Royal Air Force, by a series of magnificent operations both on the Greek-Albanian and North African fronts, has driven the Italian air force off the air. By concentrated raids on Italian air bases and aerodromes, the Royal Air Force has destroyed the striking power of the enemy. The Italians have had to look to the Germans for help. A group of Nazi dive-bomber squadrons has been established at Catania in Sicily. They have attacked the British Naval base of Malta repeatedly but without any effect on the movements of British convoys or warships. Recently the German airmen tried to dive-bomb a convoy but the latter reached its destination (Greece). It is true that one cruiser of the escort H.M.S. *Southampton*) had later to be sunk by British gun-fire and an aircraft-carrier and a destroyer were damaged. The former (the *Illustrious*), however, reached harbour on her own steam, beating off a second attack by Nazi raiders. Against this damage sustained by the Royal Navy must be set the heavy toll paid by the Luftwaffe. Alike in air combats and in terrific raids on Catania, the Royal Air Force have destroyed hundreds of German aircraft. And the British Navy continues to sail the Mediterranean on its appointed tasks. Its spirit is well exemplified by an Order of the Day issued to his sailors by Admiral Cunningham: Nazi or Fascist, these pests will have to be shot out of the sky.

BRITISH NAVAL SUPREMACY

The Navy commands the main waters of the Mediterranean in the sense that there is no free movement of either Italian warships or Italian commerce to all parts of that sea. This cannot prevent occasional ships from reaching particular points such as the Dodecanese Islands, which are fortified Italian positions near the Turkish mainland, or Tripoli in Libya, where a small number of German troops are reported to have made their appearance. The British Navy has also free passage through the Sicilian Channel where our convoys have passed through frequently in spite of German dive-bombing attacks. And the recent naval bombardment of Valona shows that British ships can also pass through the Straits of Otranto.

Supremacy at sea involves the destruction of the enemy's fleet or confining it to its harbours and sweeping the enemy's commerce from the sea. The British Fleet and the Fleet Air Arm gave an admirable object-lesson in their main task by their attack on Taranto, in which the Italian battleship Cavour was sunk besides other vessels, sunk or damaged;

they gave another in the recent bombardment of Genoa, the flourishing Italian sea-port where even the most rigorous censorship could not conceal the extent of the damage inflicted. Taranto especially was considered an invulnerable base, with its inner and outer harbour defences, its mine-fields and its nets to catch unwary submarines. But nothing could check the Fleet Air Arm.

Indeed, with initially inferior naval forces, the British have always dominated the Italians in the Mediterranean. But their twofold objective—to sweep the enemy off the sea and to protect their own convoys requires not only a fleet in being, which keeps the hostile fleet in its harbours, but a sufficient number of patrolling vessels and aircraft to spot any merchant ships by day or night; waters wide enough to be out of range of enemy shore batteries and impossible for the enemy to cross in the hours of darkness; and, lastly, weather conditions such as make continuous patrol possible. It may be stated at once that the weather has been generally, though by no means always, favourable to British Naval strategy. But the Mediterranean with its length of miles and its great stretches of enemy coastline makes complete and water-tight policing extremely difficult.

STRAITS OF OTRANTO

The Straits of Otranto are forty-five miles wide. Shore batteries cannot command the sea channel so that British ships can sail through. On the other hand Italian ships can cross over in three to four hours under cover of darkness. Alternatively they can sail down the Yugoslav coast of Dalmatia from Trieste and Venice under cover of innumerable islands and hug the Albanian coast till they land their cargoes (or men) either at Durazzo or at Valona, the only big harbours left to the Italians in the Albanian sector since the Greeks captured Santa Quaranta and Porto Edda. This traffic is practically impossible to stop and no doubt accounts for the fact that the Italian army in Albania, reported at the beginning of the Greek War to be about 20,000 strong, has maintained both its numbers and its supplies in spite of the terrible hammering it has received at the hands of the Greeks. But the Greeks, after their recent successes in the Tepelini sector, are heading straight for Valona. If Valona is captured, the British Navy can use it as a base for ships and planes operating against the Italian fleet and Italian towns and harbours. The time may well come when Valona, which has served Mussolini well, will serve the British even better. "For Britain", it has been well said "is not only a great sea power; she has captains who know how to use that power." That Mussolini realizes the importance of the operations around Tepelini is shown by the fact that his Commander-in-Chief, General Cavellero, launched fifty fierce counter-attacks in this sector in thirty days after January 10, that during January and February the Italians (on their own admission) sacrificed more than 20,000 effectives in a vain endeavour to stop the Greek advance on Tepelini; and that the Duce himself spent a week behind the Italian lines while a further 2,000 were killed and 8,000 wounded or captured in an abortive large-scale offensive by 120,000 troops. The failure of the desperate Italian offensive action has enabled the Greeks to advance to the very gates of the town where the Vjosa Valley opens out into a 30 mile wide coastal plain, stretching from Valona to Durazzo. Thirty miles of first-class road link Tepelini with the port of Valona. It has been estimated that the loss of Valona would deprive the Italians of a third of their maximum supply facilities. At the same time, the Greeks, now heavily handicapped by difficulties in supply, would gain the advantage of speedy and effective support brought by sea.

SICILIAN CHANNEL

Another vital centre of the Mediterranean is the Sicilian Channel. At its narrowest point from south-west Sicily to the coast of Tunis in French Africa, it is 90 miles wide. From Tripoli (the one important port still left for Italy in Libya) to Cape Passero is 290 miles, and to Catania 360 miles. Though the British island fortress of Malta lies athwart this route, Italian ships can, by skirting the battery-protected coasts of Italy and Sicily, cross the 90-mile channel in the hours of darkness and then hug the Tunisian coast to Libya. Regular convoys can be protected off the Sicilian and Tunisian coasts by aircraft operating from bases in Sicily and Libya.

The British have only the base of Malta from which to interfere with this traffic. If Royal Air Force bombers were to operate over the coast of Sicily, they would need the protection of fighters whose range is admittedly limited. The naval surface craft that could go into action are limited in size by the proximity of Italian and German air bases to Malta and in numbers by requirements elsewhere. The Central Mediterranean would require a very large number of small vessels to patrol it continuously and effectively. And these are not available so readily, considering that the British Navy has now to do the work done by five fleets in the last war—British, American, Japanese, French and Italian. There remain submarines, which can operate from Malta; and the Libyan harbours captured by the British Imperial Forces, may, when ready for use, also assist in the task of patrol by providing bases for cruisers and long-range reconnaisance aircraft.

AIR POWER *vs.* NAVY

Finally, it is heartening to know that even the Germans have no means of contesting the British command of the Mediterranean except by the use of land-based aircraft. The only bases now available to them are on the Italian mainland and Sicily, where the Royal Air Force is giving blow for blow. The Germans cannot use their squadrons in Africa, Albania, the Dodecanese or Sardinia unless they can contrive some means of transporting the very extensive ground equipment of those squadrons overseas in face of the British Navy. Major Fielding Eliot, the American military commentator, rightly remarks "When we consider the shifts of air forces from one theatre of war to another, we should remember that air power is tactically highly mobile, but strategically highly immobile. This is because of its huge ground establishment, which it cannot move itself, but which must be moved for it, and guarded *en route* either by land forces or sea forces".

While, therefore, we cannot expect a speedy or complete cessation of the Italian traffic to Albania and Libya, it is possible to harass it by surface sweeps, by aircraft, and by submarine activity. How splendidly successful the British Navy is in these harassing tactics we all know; the frequent news of the sinking of Italian supply-ships culminated in the certain sinking of two and the almost certain sinking of two more supply ships by submarines announced on March 20. The British submarine Parthian attacked an Italian convoy and sank a 10,000-ton tanker and a 6,000-ton tramp steamer carrying a cargo of timber. An enemy warship was among the vessels sunk or damaged in the recent series of torpedo-bomber attacks on Valona and Durazzo. And the several Italian destroyers that escaped from Massawa harbour into the Mediterranean have been swiftly accounted for by the Royal Navy.

BRITISH SUCCESSES IN AFRICA

Lastly, it must be borne in mind that Britain, commanding both Gibraltar and Suez, has closed the gateways to the Mediterranean to enemy ships, and has won such striking successes in land operations in Africa as to bring a long stretch of coast-line under her authority. The Fascists had never ceased to brag of their so-called 'quadrilateral of fire' roughly a parallelogram with its four points at Taranto, Tripoli, Tobruk and Lero (in the Dodecanese Islands). But Britain has now captured Tobruk, her Fleet Air Arm has proved how insecure is Taranto as a naval base for the Italians and her Royal Air Force every day threatens Tripoli and Lero. Italy's campaign against Greece to forge a short cut to the Dardenelles has proved costly and humiliating to her and her own ports in Albania are threatened and Italy's drive towards Egypt and the British naval base of Alexandria has recorded on her with such effect as to deprive her of most of the Libyan ports and to limit the usefulness of Tripoli itself. With her own home bases and her long vulnerable coast-line threatened by the British Air and Naval forces, with her oil imports cut off by the British control of Suez and Gibraltar, Italy is not in a position to impair the British mastery of the Mediterranean or impede the free movements of British ships. And all Germany's wiles to induce Spain to attack Gibraltar—the Spanish well know not only that that rock is impregnable but that their whole peninsula is exposed to attacks by the British Navy—or France to cede Bizerta and other African bases, or Turkey, the watchful guardian of the Dardanelles, to repudiate her alliance with Britain have proved unsuccessful. There is not the least doubt as to who is winning the Battle of the Mediterranean.

INDIAN TROOPS IN AFRICA

(*Continued from Page* 8)

miles across the country, stubbornly pushing back the enemy more than twice their number. The Italians had the advantage of native troops who are used to the country. They are renowned fighters but their spirit was broken at Keren by the stubborness of the British and Indians. Between Keren and Asmara, the Italian High Command appeared to pin its faith on crack Savoy Grenadiers and other white troops freshly brought from Addis Ababa, but these quickly crumpled before the dash and determination of our forces.

In breaking through the fourth road block encountered our troops destroyed a battalion of Savoy Grenadiers. Seventeen officers and five-hundred men were captured including a Colonel who was found hiding in a ditch. Over a hundred Eritreans were taken. Our armoured vehicles advanced along the road to Asmara, Indian troops ranged over the hills on both sides pushing the Italians from the heights and simultaneously another mobile force advanced down the railway six miles to the south. The capitulation of the capital was the sequel.

General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, and Sir Archibald Wavell sent messages to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, expressing warm appreciation of the part played by the troops from India in the capture of Keren. His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal, who paid a visit to the front and was fortunately present at Keren when our troops stormed it finally, said on his return to India "Our boys were marvellous at Keren where they eclipsed even their own deeds at Sidi Barrani. India has every reason and every right to be proud of them." To crown all, His Majesty the King sent the following message to His Excellency the Viceroy: "I heartily congratulate India on the part that her armed forces have played in the capture of Keren. This victory in the face of heavy odds has added fresh laurels to India's military renown."

INDIAN NAVY'S EXPLOITS

And His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Station has paid a striking tribute to the work of the Royal Indian Navy in general since the outbreak of the war and particularly their part in the recapture of Berbera.

Well done, India! Keep it up.

CANADA

THE BUILDING OF WARSHIPS ON THE GREAT LAKES

(a) The agreement between Canada and the U.S.A.

The agreement of Canada and the United States to build warships on the Great Lakes is a further landmark in the growth of mutual trust and friendship between the British Empire and the United States. It involves a re-interpretation of the Rush-Bagot agreement of 1817, but it is a re-interpretation which shows how far mutual trust has now proceeded.

(b) The Rush-Bagot Agreement.

The Rush-Bagot agreement was part of the settlement which followed the settlement of the war of 1812 with the United States. This war, which arose out of blockade and contraband disputes in connection with the British blockade of Napoleonic France, was ended by the Treaty of Ghent in 1815. This simply stated that the war was at an end, leaving all outstanding questions to be settled by further negotiations. The contraband question was tacitly dropped by both sides, but the chief remaining problem, the delimitation of the American-Canadian frontier, was solved in the next few years. The principals were the famous President Munroe and his ambassador to England, Richard Rush, on the one side, and Castlereagh, British Foreign Minister, on the other.

By the efforts of these men agreement was reached.

(i) The Great Lakes and the whole Canadian frontier were demilitarised. No warships were to be maintained on the Lakes and no fortifications were to be erected on the frontier.

(ii) The frontier was fixed at the 49th parallel N. from the Lake of the Woads to the Rocky Mountains.

(iii) The region known as Oregon further west was to be jointly administered by America and Britain.

Since ships at that time could not leave the Lakes owing to the obstacle of the Niagara Falls, (i) meant that warships could not be built on the Great Lakes. This obstacle is now overcome by canals on both sides of the frontier, one of which has a depth of 25 feet.

Full details will be exchanged by both sides of warships to be built; when complete, they will be passed down the canals to the St. Lawrence and the Atlantic. The Lakes will thus remain demilitarised as before, and the agreement only serves to show the complete confidence that prevails between the two parties.

(c) Anglo-American relations.

The Rush-Bagot agreement established the method of peaceful agreement and arbitration instead of war in the settlement of Anglo-American difficulties. This example has been consistently followed, as the following instances show :—

(i) The Oregon boundary (from the Rockies to the Pacific) was settled amicably in 1846.

(ii) The " Alabama " claims, arising out of the American Civil War, was submitted to arbitration in 1872, Great Britain subsequently paying compensation.

(iii) The Venezuelan dispute was similarly settled in 1890, when America paid compensation.

(iv) In 1911 Britain and the United States agreed to submit all disputes to arbitration and to abide by the award.

(v) In 1929 the Macdonald-Hoover Declaration laid it down that war between Britain and America was unthinkable.

The whole history of Anglo-American relations since 1815 has been an example to the world of what can be achieved by peaceful means where goodwill exists.

NAZI METHODS

ENCIRCLEMENT

" Encirclement " has long been a Nazi slogan for whipping up war-fever in their own country and for justifying their murderous attacks on others. In nearly every speech Hitler complains of the " encirclement " of Germany.

Now look at the Nazi record.

March 1938. Military invasion of Austria in order to forestall a plebiscite placed Czechoslovakia in Nazi pincers between Silesia and Austria.

September 1938. Encirclement of Czechoslovakia tightened by Hitler's demands conceded at Munich.

March 1939. Invasion of Czechoslovakia, against every undertaking, began encirclement of Poland by creation of Slovakian puppet-state on her southern border.

August 1939. Hitler's pact with (formerly " bloodstained ") Soviet completed encirclement of Poland required for Nazi war.

Autumn 1940—*Spring* 1941. Successive Nazi occupations of Rumania and Bulgaria (involving encirclement of Hungary) resulted in isolation of Yugoslavia. Plan of complete encirclement frustrated by gallant and successful Greek resistance to Italy.

TECHNIQUE OF BARBARISM

With all these countries Germany was at peace. All of them had been assured that she intended to remain so.

When there is talk of " German diplomatic pressure ", remember what this means.

The threat to bomb Prague to destruction was used in the night-long bullying of President Hacha of Czechoslovakia in Berlin in March 1939. Twice Hacha collapsed and was revived with stimulants before yielding at last to Hitler's demands.

The crowded Dutch city of Rotterdam was on May 14, 1939, methodically turned by Nazi bombers into an inferno in which 30,000 defenceless people perished in half an hour. Later in the day the Dutch Commander-in-Chief was threatened with similar attacks on other big cities. He capitulated.

THERE IS ANOTHER ANSWER

Britain is attacked from bases along the Scandinavian, Lowlands and Atlantic coasts. But she is not encircled. The seas surrounds her, and British sea power is maintained.

Greece, with British help, is valiantly defending her land-frontiers and fighting the Italian aggressors on the soil they stole from Albania. Her long sea-coast is a source of strength. She cannot be encircled while Britain commands the Eastern Mediterranean.

Britain, the Empire and Greece said " No! " to the Axis. They will go on saying it until there is no Axis left to talk to. Civilians and fighting services say it with the same voice.

Turkey too stands firm. The Amir Abdulla of Transjordan has told Ankara of the belief that were Turkey attacked all Arabs would come to her aid. That is a sufficient answer to the allegations, apparently spread in Syria to conceal the administrative troubles there, that Britain contemplates a share out of the Arab world with Turkey.

Axis terror-propaganda has also suffered a setback in the exchange of assurances between Turkey and Soviet Russia. These mean that Turkey will not be encircled, as Poland was. If she is attacked (and the common aggressor Germany offers the only threat), Russia undertakes to remain neutral.

To yield to force is not to avoid suffering. To resist is to shorten it for all the world.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Goebbels Goes Kite-Flying

The Berlin radio announced on March 17 that the Iraqi Premier had issued a statement " rejecting tendentious British reports to the effect that Mr. Eden's recent journey has led to certain agreements with the Iraq Government."

This is a double lie, the Iraqi Premier having issued no such statement and the British no such reports. What annoys the Germans, of course, is that Great Britain and Iraq have a Treaty of Friendship and Alliance to which both parties adhere faithfully, while the Iraqi Foreign Minister's recent talks with Mr. Eden in Cairo have no doubt aroused Axis curiosity to fever-heat—hence this ingenuous attempt to find out what the two statesmen talked about.

" Only 20 Destroyers "

The German radio on March 20 waxes very sarcastic over the fact that " the British Navy has only been able to put 20 new destroyers into commission since the beginning of the war ". Nazi sarcasm is here rather badly misplaced, since the commissioning of this new batch of 20 destroyers (revealed in the latest issue of Janes' *Fighting Ships)* represents a remarkable achievement by British shipyards, which began the building of these vessels in the summer of 1939 and completed them within 18 months.

It is strange, too, that the Germans should have forgotten that the British Navy " has been able to put " another 50 destroyers into commission recently—since their transfer by the United States infuriated Goebbels' propagandists so much that for weeks they were scarcely able to talk about anything else.

Berbera Then and Now

With the British recapture of Berbera, port and capital of British Somaliland, it is worth recalling some of the things which Axis propaganda said when the British forces were withdrawn from Berbera last August.

" The incessant Italian attacks on Gibraltar and Malta and the occupation of British Somaliland have resulted in the Mediterranean losing its value for the British Empire."—*German broadcast in English, 21st August* 1940.

" By the loss of Somaliland, British influence in the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and Aden has been endangered."—*German broadcast in Persian, 21st August* 1940.

" The defeat of the British in Somaliland will have far-reaching effects, particularly in Arabic countries."—*Italian broadcast in Arabic, 21st August* 1940.

" The British route from India has now gone out of British hands."—*German broadcast in Arabic, 21st August* 1940.

Fake Successes

The Italians, moreover, not only " quoted " Yugoslav papers as writing that " Italian activities will now be directed against Aden ". They even circulated to the Yugoslav press a photograph of the Italian flag " flying over Aden."

This, like certain other Italian successes, was a fake. The first Italians to reach Aden were the crew of a submarine captured by a British trawler and towed into port.

Similarly, the fall of Giarabub last week recalls frequent Italian boasts during the past month that the garrison of that desert town were " holding out gallantly against repeated British attacks."

The truth is that the British force which had been keeping an eye on Giarabub ever since the capture of Bardia did not attack until March 20, the Italians surrendering 24 hours later. The British refrained from shelling or bombing Giarabub because the oasis is sacred to the great Arab sect, the Senussi, whose founder is buried there.

Dutchmen are not Deceived

Berlin, on March 20, quotes " official circles in Amsterdam " for the opinion that Royal Air Force raids on Holland are intended to terrorize the civilian population. Berlin, however, does not attempt to explain why Britain should want to terrorize Dutch civilians—who are almost 100 per cent pro-British and certainly 100 per cent anti-German.

Dutchmen know that British bombs are aimed at (and hit) Nazi military targets in the Netherlands—particularly the great oil-storage tanks at Rotterdam, which were heavily attacked on five nights last week. They know, too, that after these Royal Air Force raids on military objectives in Holland, German planes frequently bomb Dutch residential districts, in order to lead the Dutch to believe that the British have been attacking them.

This typically Nazi manœuvre, which altogether fails to deceive Queen Wilhelmina's subjects, has been attested by numerous reports reaching Dutch official circles in London.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Germany's Exploitation of France

On March 18 the German broadcast in Hindustani and Arabic ascribed to a Turkish journalist the statement that, while Germany was sending food supplies to France, Britain was treating her differently. When we remember, however, that the German Army of Occupation is costing France 20 million marks a day—three times as much as Germany was ever asked to pay as reparations under the Dawes Plan—and that the Nazis demanded even from unoccupied France as much as 53 per cent of that country's livestock for themselves, we see the utter hollowness of Germany's self-styled generosity.

That Vichy's recent campaign for the lifting of the British blockade against unoccupied France was inspired by the Nazis themselves will be evident from the fact that Admiral Darlan's threat to convoy French merchantmen with French warships was anticipated—by no less than 24 hours—by the Nazi-controlled Paris radio. In any case, Britain's anxiety to alleviate needless suffering in France is proved by Mr. Sumner Welles' announcement on March 22 that the British Government had agreed to allow two shiploads of flour to pass through the blockade to a port in unoccupied France, after the British had received assurances from the French Government that the food would be distributed in unoccupied France, and that no equivalent foodstuffs would pass from unoccupied to occupied territory.

Talking of the so-called collaboration between France and Germany, the Nazi broadcast of March 21 treated us to the view of a delegation of French workers that Germany and France, working together, could solve all political and economic problems. It may be mentioned that Germany and France have been " working together " since June 17, 1940. The price of this collaboration is 80,000 French soldiers killed, 20 lakhs war prisoners, all the food that Germany wished to take, an occupation costing £827 millions yearly and the loss of the economic and political independence of France.

Britain's Finances

On March 16 the Nazi broadcast in Hindustani stated that Britain's financial condition was so bad that she was begging for help throughout the world. That Britain's finances are remarkably sound will be demonstrated by the fact that during the 46 days from January 1 to February 15, the total expenditure in Great Britain amounted to £559½ millions and the State's income aggregated to £562½ millions, so that expenditure was fully covered. Another proof of the public's faith in the country's financial stability is provided by the fact that between November 1939 and February 1941, 20 to 25 million small savers voluntarily contributed to the State over £603 millions in savings.

Support for Roosevelt

The Nazi's Hindustani broadcast of March 17 stated, on the strength of what it vaguely described as reports from New York, that President Roosevelt's policy of aid to Britain had alarmed people in America. Mr. Roosevelt's policy, which is embodied in the Lease and Lend Act, has had overwhelming public support. It has also been widely appreciated that Britain is America's first line of defence. Writing in this strain, the *New York Times* declares: " Either we help Britain now to hold and control the Atlantic, or we fight Hitler for it later." Another newspaper, the *Philadelphia Record*, commenting on the nature of Mr. Roosevelt's backing, says: " Roosevelt, the American people are behind you. They cry, all out and full speed!"

Implication of American Aid.

According to the Nazi's broadcast of March 19, a Russian paper had stated that difficulties involved in transport of American war materials, combined with Britain's inability to produce steel products herself, would render England's position precarious. Lord Halifax, Britain's Ambassador in the U.S.A., stated on March 17, that " Germany had been unable substantially to interrupt the flow of American supplies to Britain."

As for the steel position, apart from her own resources, Britain could draw on America's steel output. Mr. Harriman, President Roosevelt's personal representative in Britain, has in this connexion revealed that America had produced 85 tons of steel this year—more than the rest of the world's steel put together—and this could be substantially increased next year.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

The next issue of the Madras War Review will be published on Thursday, the 10th April 1941 on account of Easter Holidays.

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SERENADE

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

4th April.—German bombers raided Bristol at night. Four enemy planes were shot down over England. The Royal Air Force again raided the naval base of Brest and bombs were seen to fall across the dry docks. An enemy aerodrome in Northern France was also raided.

5th April.—German raiders bombed the coastal areas in West and South-west England and East Anglia. Three raiders were brought down.

Sticks of heavy bombs were seen to straddle both the German cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau when Royal Air Force bombers attacked Brest.

Rotterdam and industrial targets in the Ruhr were also raided.

6th April.—For the sixteenth consecutive night London was raid-free. The Royal Air Force attacked L'Orient.

7th April.—Royal Air Force Coastal Command aircraft scored a direct hit amidships on a German destroyer in a daylight raid on the continent and also bombed another destroyer. Steel works at Ymuiden in occupied Holland were bombed and set on fire. London had another bomb-free night.

8th April.—The Royal Air Force made heavy and very successful raids on the German naval base of Kiel, also on Emden and Bremerhaven.

The German Air Force was active over North Ireland, Scotland and some places in Britain. Five bombers were shot down.

9th April.—A very powerful force of Royal Air Force bombers raided Kiel for the second successive night.

The German Air Force made a savage raid on Coventry. Eight bombers were brought down by night-fighters.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4th April.—The South African Air Force heavily bombed retreating Italians on the Addis Ababa-Dessie road, and transport on the Diredawa-Addis Ababa road.

British forward troops withdrew to prepared positions 90 miles from Bengazi after inflicting on the enemy huge losses in personnel and tanks.

Two Italian destroyers were scuttled by their crews off the coast of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea, and a third destroyer left in a sinking condition on the previous day was also sunk.

5th April.—British Imperial forces occupied Adowa. South African troops, advancing from Diredawa, crossed the Awash river.

A series of attacks on five enemy destroyers in the Red Sea were described in a Royal Air Force despatch.

6th April.—British Imperial forces reached Addis Ababa after marching 100 miles in two days, thus ending the five-year rule of Italy in the Ethiopian capital. The Empress of Ethiopia conveyed her thanks to Britain.

Free French forces reached a point eight miles from Massawa.

The Royal Air Force made heavy bombing attacks on Tripoli and Addis Ababa, destroying a number of enemy planes on the Addis Ababa aerodrome.

7th April.—The Royal Air Force made heavy attacks on Italian and German transport in the region of Agheila in Cyrenaica. Abyssinian Patriot forces captured Debra Markos, north-west of Addis Ababa. The Duke of Aosta, Italian Viceroy of East Africa left Addis Ababa on his way northwards after conveying his appreciation of the British initiative to protect women and children in the Abyssinian capital. The Royal Air Force raided Calato aerodrome in the island of Rhodes.

8th April.—It was announced that over 10,000 prisoners had been taken by the British troops in Eritrea since March 25.

The Italians and Germans claimed the occupation of Derna in Libya.

The Italians began a retreat towards the Blue Nile, following the fall of Debra Markos in Abyssinia.

9th April.—The British troops captured Massawa, Italy's Red Sea port, and the Imperial forces were marching on to Dessie to tackle the remnants of the Italian army in East Africa.

The Royal Air Force raided Cyrenaica. It was announced that the German-Italian thrust would be stopped at Tobruk.

A British submarine attacked an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean, torpedoing two ships of 12,000 and 6,000 tons, respectively.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

4th April.—President Roosevelt announced that he had allocated another 500,000,000 dollars from the Lease and Lend Act appropriation for the construction of 212 merchantmen. He also disclosed that the United States Government might soon remove the Red Sea area from the list of combat zones and permit United States vessels to ply thither with cargoes. The United States flatly rejected the Axis protest against the seizure of their ships and refused their demands for the release of the ships and crews.

It was stated that United States Army officers would fly with British pilots in the role of observers when the new American four-engined bombers raided Germany.

5th April.—Uruguay, following other Latin American countries, seized Italian ships in Monte Video.

6th April.—Mr. Cordel Hull, after conferring with President Roosevelt, announced that the United States Government were proceeding as speedily as possible to send military and other supplies to Yugoslavia. The American Red Cross decided to send speedily a million dollars worth of aid to Yugoslavia.

7th April.—Following on Mr. Cordell Hull's condemnation of the "barbaric" invasion of Yugoslavia, it was reported that many in America called for the despatch of troops to help the Yugoslavs.

8th April.—President Roosevelt sent a message to King Peter, assuring all help to Yugoslavia.

Mr. Roosevelt said that he would ask the United States Congress for legislation empowering the Government to buy the Danish ships seized in U.S. ports; he indicated that the seized Axis ships could be forfeited.

The U. S. Naval Under Secretary arranged to leave for Britain to establish a close liaison between the Navy Department and the British Admiralty. Col. Knox, U. S. Naval Secretary, revealed that British warships were being repaired in American yards.

9th April.—Mr. H. A. Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, urging immediate and full help to Britain, said she would win the war.

GREECE AND ITALY

4th April.—The Royal Air Force raided the Italian base of Berat in Albania. The Greeks captured 70 prisoners in a successful local action.

6th April.—German troops invaded Greece, crossing the frontier at two points, and met with stout resistance in the Struma Valley. The Greeks, in a successful counter-attack entered Bulgarian territory at one point.

It was announced by the German radio that British troops, fighting in Greece, were offering stiff resistance to the Germans.

The Greeks captured a strategic mountain peak on the northern front in Albania after fierce hand-to-hand fighting. Greek bombers attacked Italian supply bases.

7th April.—The Moscow wireless emphasised the strong resistance being offered by the Greeks to the Germans.

The Royal Air Force drew first blood in the air war in the Balkans, shooting down five German planes in the Rupel Pass area and bombing German military concentrations in Sofia and motor transport in the Struma Valley.

Earlier, the British Government had officially announced that British, Australian and New Zealand troops had landed in Greece and that the Royal Air Force in Greece had been strongly reinforced. General Wavell is to be the Allies' Supreme Commander in the Balkans.

8th April.—The Greeks' left flank was uncovered by the German thrust in South Serbia but the Greeks contested every inch of territory with the Germans.

9th April.—The Germans entered Salonika. It was revealed that the British troops in Greece had not yet made contact with the enemy.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

4th April.—Dr. Matchek, the Croat leader, joined General Simovitch's Government as Deputy Prime Minister and, in a manifesto, appealed to the Croats for loyal co-operation.

The Italian Minister in Belgrade had conversations with the Yugoslav Foreign Minister in an effort to avert war between Germany and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia requested the United States to supply her with certain types of war material.

Rumania decided to suspend service on her foreign debts.

M. de Bardossy took the oath of office as Prime Minister of Hungary, whose active military help (it was reported) was sought by Germany.

The Nationalist leader, Rashid Ali, staged a *coup d' etat* in Iraq when the Regent was absent from the capital.

5th April.—German motorised divisions were marching to the Yugoslav frontier through Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary. The German radio and press accused Yugoslavs of anti-German excesses though the German Consul-General at Ljubljana said that the allegations were baseless.

The new Iraq Premier declared that his Government would fulfil all international obligations, and especially the Anglo-Iraq Treaty.

The British Ambassador at Baghdad was instructed that His Majesty's Government considered the Iraq *coup* as completely unconstitutional and awaited the formation of a proper Government.

Bulgaria opened consultations with Hungary with a view to presenting joint revisionist demands to Yugoslavia.

6th April.—The German troops invaded Yugoslavia, Hitler, in a proclamation to his troops, abusing both Britain and the new Government in Belgrade.

German bombers raided the open town of Belgrade.

It was announced that Russia and Yugoslavia had signed a Pact of Friendship and Non-Agression, the Soviet press paying a tribute to the Yugoslav Government for their efforts to preserve peace.

The British Military Mission, after their talks with the Turkish General Staff at Ankara, left on an inspection of Turkish defences in Thrace. The Turkish Cabinet held a meeting after the Foreign Minister had received the British, Greek, and Yugoslav Ambassadors. The German Ambassador was reported to have given an assurance to Turkey that she need have no cause for apprehension as a result of the latest German moves.

7th April.—The Germans claimed a 20 to 25 miles advance near the Greek–Yugoslav frontier. Belgrade was bombed again. Italian planes raided Split and Kotor, Yugoslav ports on the Adriatic. Yugoslav artillery opened operations on the Yugoslav-Albanian frontier. The Italian News Agency reported Yugoslav air raids on the suburbs of Sofia and on three towns in Western Rumania.

The British Government broke with Hungary, which "has now become a base for operations against the Allies"; and at the same time pledged all help to Yugoslavia.

The Soviet Ambassador called on the Turkish Foreign Minister at Ankara.

The Regent of Iraq, in a broadcast from Basrah, called on the Iraqi people to reject the new Premier and his Government, who had seized power. Many arrests were reported in the country.

8th April.—The Yugoslav Government moved south from Belgrade, which was again raided by the German Air Force.

Yugoslav troops occupied the Italian town of Fiume, Sentari and Zara.

The Royal Air Force made a successful raid on Sofia as reprisal for the raid on Belgrade.

A despatch from Vichy stated that an exclusively military cabinet had been formed in Iraq. Trukey, it was learned in London, had withheld recognition from the new Iraqi Government.

9th April.—The Yugoslavs evacuated Skoplje but took another town, Leshe, in Albania. The Turkish Cabinet considered the Balkan

situation for two hours. The Turkish Foreign Minister received the British, Greek and Yugoslav Ambassadors.

SHIPPING SITUATION

4th April.—It was reported that Sir Arthur Salter, who is on a mission to Washington, would request America to send more ships to Britain.

8th April.—The British drive against U-boats in the Battle of the Atlantic was reported to be registering many successes. The famous German U-boat Commander Kretschmer had been taken prisoner.

The allied merchant-shipping losses for the week ending March 30–31 were twenty ships, representing 77,375 tons.

9th April.—The Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission announced that contracts for the construction of 2,000 more ships for Britain had already been given to United States yards. They would include 950 merchant-ships and 913 naval craft.

FAR EAST

4th April.—It was stated that Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo would be the next Chinese Ambassador in London.

Mr. Matsuoka arrived in Berlin from Rome and had a second talk with Hitler.

Sir Robert Craigie, British Ambassador to Japan, discussed Anglo-Japanese relations with the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokyo.

5th April.—Mr. Matsuoka had a final conversation with Ribbentrop.

The Chinese War Minister revealed that the Japanese lost 20,000 killed and wounded, including three Generals, in the Kiangsi battle.

The Japanese were reported to have established naval bases in an island off Shanghai.

6th April.—Mr. Matsuoka arrived in Moscow on his return journey to Japan.

The British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East was on his way to Manila to meet President Quezon as well as the Netherlands' Foreign Minister.

7th April.—Mr. Matsuoka resumed conversations with MM. Stalin and Molotov. A Japanese newspaper emphasized the Soviet menace to Japan's rear in case she took action according to the Three-Power Pact. The Chinese War Minister said that China had five million troops at the front and another ten million in training.

8th April.—The Chinese intensified Guerilla warfare, forcing Japan to withdraw more troops from Shanghai to cope with this. The Japanese Air Force raided Kunming, the capital of Yunnan province.

9th April.—" A fresh, big crisis may develop in East Asia at any moment " on account of the British and American economic blockade of Japan, said Baron Hiranuma, the Japanese Home Minister.

Sir Robert Brooke Popham expressed satisfaction at the strength of Hongkong's defences.

VICHY

4th April.—Six Syrians were killed in demonstrations against the authorities at Damascus.

The Syrian President and the Secretary of State resigned, following the appointment of Khaleb Bey Alem as head of the new Syrian Government. It was reported that the Syrian Nationalists were not satisfied with the half-hearted reforms announced by the French High Commissioner.

6th April.—The French Resident-General in Morocco had a long discussion with Admiral Darlan at Vichy.

7th April.—Marshal Petain, while expressing confidence in Admiral Darlan, said " It is a matter of honour for us to do nothing against our former Ally."

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5th April.—The Royal Netherlands Government in London were reported to be spending large sums of money for buying and storing food and materials necessary for replenishing the stocks in Holland after the war.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (SPAIN, RUSSIA, EIRE, ETC.)

4th April.—The Australian Premier, Mr. Menzies, had an interview with Mr. de Valera at Dublin.

9th April.—Dr. Dalton revealed in the House of Commons that very little, if any, oil had reached Germany from the Soviet since March 1.

An article in the Soviet Army organ *Red Star* stated that the prospect of a German invasion of Britain had receded and that Hitler was " facing a serious enemy " in the Balkans.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 1st April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over enemy-controlled coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 26, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping (1 supply-ship sunk.)	Nil.	..
March 27, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on naval and supply shipping, from Frisian Islands to La Rochelle, including harbour at Alderney. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne (river port, railway yards); Dusseldorf (factories, railway station); naval base at Brest; invasion bases at Dunkirk and Calais.	5 bombers.	..
March 28, Friday.	No reports	..	..
March 29, Saturday.	R.A.F. day-fighter attacks on aerodromes, road and rail transport and coastal shipping in Belgium and N. France.	Nil.	..
March 30, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on naval and supply shipping off Loire Estuary (1 anti-submarine craft sunk) and Dutch coast (1 anti-aircraft ship and 1 supply-ship sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; invasion base at Calais.	Nil.	..
March 31, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off French coast (2 tankers sunk). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over Channel and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on warships, aircraft and supply ships off Frisian Islands; guns and troops on Terschelling Island and Ameland Island. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Emden and Bremen.	2 day-bombers.	..
April 1, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on supply shipping off Denmark (1 ship torpedoed); naval craft in channel; guns in N. France and Belgium.	1 day-bomber.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 1st April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft loeses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on Allied shipping in N. W. European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
March 26	Nil.	2 day-bombers.
March 27	1 day-fighter.	1 day-bomber.
March 28	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
March 29	Nil.	..
March 30	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
March 31	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
April 1	1 day-fighter.	5 day-bombers (*plus* 1 crashed in Eire.)

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

Hitler has taken the plunge and his troops invaded Yugoslavia and Greece on Sunday last. The conflagration has now spread to south-east Europe and now that British troops have already landed in Greece with a view to helping Greece and Yugoslavia, the world will witness one of the fiercest campaigns known to history. The Germans have entered Salonika in Greece and have occupied the town of Tekiya on the Yugoslav side of the river. Both the small countries are offering stubborn resistance.

It should be some satisfaction that there are indications that Russia does not approve of the step taken by Germany. Only two days before the invasion, the U.S.S.R. entered into a pact with Yugoslavia of non-aggression and friendship. This may not mean much immediately to Yugoslavia, but its potential value is very significant.

Many successes have been recorded in Abyssinia. The occupation of Adowa was announced on Saturday last. It was here that in 1896 an Italian army suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Abyssinians. Addis Ababa, the capital of Abyssinia, was entered by British troops on Saturday last, the Viceroy and the Governor having left the city. Following the fall of Addis Ababa, Debra Markos, north-west of Addis Ababa, has been captured, the Abyssinian Patriots being responsible for this striking success. The fall of Addis Ababa does not mean the end of the campaign, for there are Italian troops in various places, especially in the Adowa-Gondar road. Massawa capitulated on Tuesday afternoon and with its fall the last shreds of Italian resistance in Northern Eretrea have been overcome. Mr. Churchill and Mr. L. S. Amery have paid warm tributes to the gallant deeds of the Indian troops in the battle of Keren.

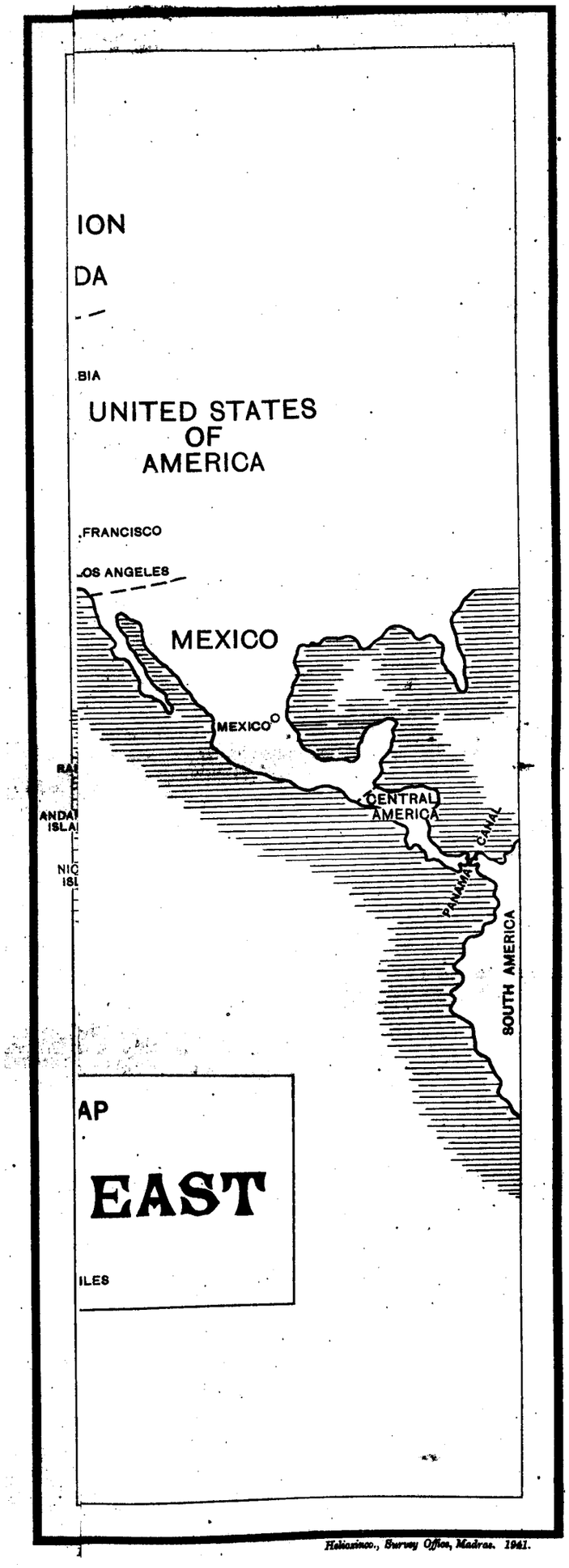
Besides the severe losses sustained by the Italian Navy in 'Otranto' and the 'Matapan' battles, Italy has lost five destroyers in the Red Sea, mostly by scuttling. It has been announced that over a quarter million Italians have been taken prisoner, killed or wounded in Africa and Albania; 140,000 prisoners were taken in Libya, 20,000 in Eritrea and Abyssinia, 3,000 in Italian Somaliland and 20,000 in Libya. The British casualties have been remarkably low—640 killed and 2,362 other losses.

There has been a *coup d'etat* in Iraq, a number of Ministers headed by Rashid Ali having seized power when Parliament was in recess and the Regent out of the capital. This is attributed to Axis machinations. The new Premier, of course, explained that he would abide by the Anglo-Iraq treaty, but there is some misgiving about the implications of the *coupe*. The Regent has arrived in Basra and he has called upon the Iraqi people to revolt against Syed Rashid.

Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, after a second conference at Berlin with Herr Hitler, has reached Moscow for having conversations with MM. Stalin and Molotov. He is rushing back to his country, it is said, on a very important mission.

MADRAS GOVERNOR'S WAR FUND PASSES THE CRORE-MARK

The Madras Governor's War Fund has passed the crore-mark and the event was celebrated in Madras City and in various centres in the mufassal by holding public meetings, processions, feeding the poor and in other ways. Eighty-eight lakhs out of this amount has been sent to the Air Ministry in London and this amount has enabled Madras to give the Royal Air Force about 58 machines. As His Excellency in his message pointed out, this 'magnificent achievement' of Madras has given a 'mighty lead' to other provinces. His Excellency, in a message he has issued to the people of Madras, rightly said that this Presidency should be truly proud of having subscribed more than a crore in nine months. His Excellency further referred to the co operation of the citizens of the Presidency in investing in Defence Bonds and Savings Certificates. Officers and Members of War Committees in every district had heartily co operated in the effort and His Excellency asked them to continue their splendid work He also stressed the need for propaganda and in this connexion referred to the steps which



are being taken to have a number of reading circles in rural parts for the dissemination of accurate news about the war.

At the public meeting held in Senate House at Madras on the 7th evening, Sir George Boag, Adviser to His Excellency, presided in the latter's absence, owing to indisposition. He pointed out that it was not the intention of His Excellency to close down the fund as the need for support would continue so long as the war lasted. Sir George referred as one of the causes for the success of the fund the realization of the people that the war is being waged for grave and great issues, and he paid a tribute to the unceasing efforts of His Excellency himself. He expressed the hope that the Governor would " so moderate his efforts as not to run any further risk of knocking himself out " and added " He is much too valuable a propagandist to be left out of action even for a day."

THE BATTLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The withdrawal of British troops from Benghazi has undoubtedly been received with misgivings. It is a setback, but the incident has to be viewed in the proper perspective. It has been known for some time that the Germans were reaching Tripoli in some numbers with equipment. The enemy forces consist of mechanized units of Italians and Germans, supported by tanks and infantry and aircraft. In the first place, it must be remembered that this advance of the enemy is three weeks late because it was intended to relieve the harassed Italians in Eritrea and Abyssinia. Eritrea is almost wholly in British hands and Allied forces have entered Addis Ababa, so that the ultimate object of the Nazi drive in Cyrenaica cannot be fulfilled. The British forces are withdrawing to a position from which they can give a good fight with assurance of success. In the second place, in view of the remarkable leadership of General Wavell, it is well to trust that wizard and await developments, because that tried soldier knows when to strike and when to retreat. Finally, it is well to remember that the situation in North Africa and throughout the Middle East would finally depend upon the Battle of the Mediterranean which has already opened. That battle is being fought on the European side of that sea—at Germany's back-door—and that is due to the heroism of the Greeks who have defeated the Italian counter-attacks. Greece has, moreover, withstood the blandishments and threats of Germany and for that signal service done at a critical juncture, civilization owes them a great debt. What is the position of the British Empire at this stage? That Empire stands pledged to see Greece through in this terrible ordeal which faces that country and in honouring that pledge, considerable material help is being sent. It is unthinkable that the British Government would leave Greece to face these odds and abandon her to her fate. That would be a violation of the principles for which Great Britain stands. An important development in the policy of the United States is the possibility of sending 100 American ships to British bases in Egypt and the Near East to help the British in the Mediterranean and the Balkans. The Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea, thanks to General Wavell, have been practically cleared of the enemy and the United States of America will be well within its rights in declaring these two areas as being well beyond the war zone. The liberation of Abyssinia and support to Greece and her Balkan Allies are intimately connected.

VICHY

What is happening in France? There are definite signs that Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan are unable to withstand Nazi pressure. There are no fewer than a million and a half French prisoners under the Nazi heel and that is the principal bargaining factor. The Oran incident was purposely exaggerated by the German radio into a definite anti-French move on the part of Great Britain. The party set up by Laval, which had only a handful of Quislings, has had a short life and Laval has not yet been taken back into the Vichy Cabinet. Admiral Darlan is constantly on the move to and from Paris, seeking to appease Germany and collaborate with the Nazis. Some time ago Admiral Darlan stated, with reference to the barter agreement entered into with Germany, that the Germans were more generous than the English and he appealed to American humanitarian feeling for sending food supplies to France. The result was that two ships taking wheat sailed for France, the British blockade being relaxed for this purpose. But what is the truth about this barter agreement? Unoccupied France is to supply occupied France with 190,000 cattle, 565,000 sheep and poultry, 600,000 pigs and calves, 36,000 tons of cooking oil, 100,000 tons of salt, 60,000 tons of dried vegetables, 8,000 tons of cheese, and 373,000,000 gallons of wine. In return, the occupied zone will send 800,000 tons of wheat, 200,000 tons of sugar, 100,000 tons of bran and 800,000 tons of potatoes. The 800,000 tons of wheat which Vichy is to receive is part of 2,000,000 tons looted by the Nazis from French reserve stocks. The same is the case with other foodstuffs which are now being returned by Germany as part of a hard bargain. Admiral Darlan should be strangely ignorant of the meaning of words when he calls this generosity on the part of Germany! No wonder that there have been protests in the United States against America being a party to the sending of food to France because such food, it is apprehended, will really go to feed the German war machine.

The French shore batteries fired on British ships which tried to stop the convoy of French merchant ships carrying what is believed to be contraband for Germany at the end of last

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GERMANY INVADES YUGOSLAVIA AND GREECE

On Sunday morning last the German Army invaded both Yugoslavia and Greece. Yugoslavia has the Adriatic Sea on the east, beyond which is Italy; Austria, now occupied by Germany, is to north-east; Hungary is just north; Rumania and Bulgaria in the east. All these three countries, that is, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, are now slave states of Germany, which has numerous mechanised army divisions in those countries and a large number of aeroplanes. The reasons for this invasion of Yugoslavia are as follows:—

(1) It is alleged by Germany that the Yugoslav Government have been ill-treating the German minorities, but this allegation has been hotly denied not only by the Yugoslav Government but by leaders of the German minorities themselves. It will be seen, therefore, that this is an utterly false charge.

(2) The Yugoslav people have refused to become subservient to Germany. Can a small State dare to defy a big State like Germany? Germany is, therefore, angry and though the Yugoslav Government under King Peter have not yet repudiated the pact with Germany entered into by Prince Paul, the previous ruler of Yugoslavia, Germany thinks that the new Government will not follow its commands and hence the invasion. Hitler is no respector of language. His foul-mouthed tongue does not hesitate to use words which no gentleman would and so he has stated in his proclamation to his troops that the German army will lay down its arms only when the "band of ruffians" in Yugoslavia has been definitely and most emphatically eliminated and "the last Briton has left that part of the European Continent." Yugoslavia is a small country. It has not and cannot have a very large army, but it can count upon more than a million and a quarter of men who are hardy and tough, who know no fear and will fight to their last breath. They are well equipped, but perhaps lack anti-tank and other modern weapons. Yugoslavia has also a decent air force. The people's passion to safeguard their independence and the bravery of their army may well be depended upon to check the German advance.

Belgrade, the capital of Yugoslavia, though it has been declared an open town, has been bombed and many fires have been started. It is also stated that the Government have removed the capital to an unknown destination.

So far as Greece is concerned, the German complaint is that that country has allowed the British troops to land in their country, but the invasion of Greece had been planned by Hitler long ago and the present excuse is silly. Yugoslavia is on the north-west of Greece and Bulgaria is on the north-east. On the west of Greece is Albania and on the east is Turkey. The German troops have commenced their attack on Greece in Thrace and Eastern Macedonia and it is reported that the Greeks are offering a stubborn resistance to the enemy in the Struma Valley, the Struma being a river leading from Bulgaria to Greece. The Greeks, who have shown remarkable strength and perseverence against the Italians, may well be depended upon to give a good account of themselves against the German onslaught.

There are a few favourable features in the Balkan flare-up which should be noticed. The first thing is that British help has been promised to Yugoslavia. As a matter of fact, there are British land forces now in Greece. They have been there for some time because Greece has been threatened by Germany for some weeks past. The news of the presence of British troops in Greece has not been divulged so far for strategic reasons. The campaign in East Africa is now practically over and numerous British and Dominion troops with all kinds of equipment have been taken over from that country to Greece by the British Navy. Further, the Royal Air Force in the Balkans has been strengthened and the British Navy will give all the support it can in the campaign against Germany on its eastern front. How can England desert Greece, which has so nobly stood by her and which has resisted that treacherous foe, Mussolini?

Another circumstance which should be noticed is that America has promised support to Yugoslavia. Greece, it is believed, is already receiving help from the United States, so that the countries which are fighting the battle of freedom can be sure of assistance from President Roosevelt.

Turkey is, of course, in a very difficult situation and Hitler has now told her that she need not worry herself much because he does not intend to invade that country. But who can believe Hitler's words? Turkey is alert and alive to the dangers and may be depended on to defend herself if her interests are threatened. Her policy has been now declared to be one of neutrality.

The last point is about Russia. A few days before Germany started the trouble in the Balkans by invading both Yugoslavia and Greece, the Yugoslav and the Russian Governments had been discussing the possibility of a pact which has now been signed. Considerable importance is attached in England and in the United States to this treaty, according to which both countries promise to abstain from aggression towards each other. It is stipulated that if one of the two countries be subjected to aggression by a third State, the other contracting party will preserve its policy of friendship. This treaty will be in force for five years. Obviously Russia does not like Germany to spread the war in the Balkans and one can only hope that if the war progresses, Russia will see the folly of remaining neutral and warn Germany against further adventures. Of course, Russia is self-centred and she will take a bolder line only if Yugoslavia and Greece succeed in resisting Germany with the help of British forces. These the latter may well do—under the brilliant leadership of General Wavell who, after a series of striking victories in Africa, has now taken over the supreme command of the Allied forces in the Balkans.

It appears as if Hitler has miscalculated the odds in his latest adventure. The dispassionate and far-sighted American press already sees in it a huge gamble. If he wins in the Balkans, it does not mean that he will have won the war. Great Britain will still be there —with her resources intact and growing, with her Navy dominating the seas and with the immense reservoir of American supplies being tapped regularly and systematically. If, on the other hand, Hitler loses the Battle of the Balkans, his defeat may have repercussions on his prestige at home and on his resources and jeopardise his chances of winning the war. Anyway, the British High Command will certainly remember General Weygand's prophecy that the war will not be won in Western Europe but in the plains of Vienna. And, with the probability that Hitler's plans for an invasion of Britain have been postponed indefinitely, they will go all out to help their gallant Allies. The probability of Yugoslavia attacking Italians in Albania and the Yugoslav Navy cutting off the supplies and reinforcements now reaching Albania from Italy cannot be comforting to Mussolini.

TALKING POINTS

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month. French bombers also attacked the British vessels. The British had a perfect right, under International law, to search these vessels and the action of the French authorities certainly constitutes an act of war. The conclusion is irresistible that Admiral Darlan, if he is responsible for this development, is something more than a willing tool to embroil France and Britain in open hostilities, which, on this occasion, were prevented from becoming more serious only because the British Naval authorities exercised considerable self-restraint and limited themselves to self-defensive action. It is furthermore a tragic circumstance that these incidents should take place at a time when, even at risk to her own interest, Britain is discussing with the United States Government the question of lifting the British blockade in order to feed unoccupied France. It appears, therefore, more than probable that Admiral Darlan is prepared to go to any length to collaborate with the Nazis against Britain, the only effect of which would be that the attitude of both London and Washington towards Vichy's plea for less drastic blockade measures would have to be changed. But Marshal Petain may yet restrain his Prime Minister. He has just stated that though Darlan has his "entire confidence," it is a matter of honour for France to do nothing against her former Ally.

THE SPIRIT OF FRANCE

But the people of France are sound. Gen. de Gaulle was perfectly right when he stated the other day: "I defy the men of Vichy to go to war with Britain. National opinion would never tolerate such a step." The fact is that the French people differ from the Petain Government and the only counter to the Quislings are the people who realize more and more that Great Britain is bound to win in the end. Confirmation of this fact comes from a remarkable article which has been received in England from unoccupied France and the correspondent is reported to be an acute judge of political conditions. He says: "At least 90 per cent of the French people are with you. I have realized this once again during a journey through Southern France, where I had many talks with the peasants. Everybody is against Vichy. I have seen official prefects' reports, stating that public opinion in France disapproved M. Baudouin's anti-British policy. This is well known in the environment of Petain. . . . Laval is hated and despised both by the people at Vichy and by the whole of French opinion. Public opinion—I mean the real one—is completely ignorant of all the intrigues, but nevertheless knows that something is brewing. Everywhere in provincial France one sees scribbled on the walls 'A bas Vichy' and 'Vive I'Angleterre'—and let me add that the people of France profoundly admire the proud people of England. The British radio is listened to by millions of Frenchmen three or four times a day. The French Government is very nervous about this popularity of the London wireless. . . . Please 'phone my friend X and ask him to inform the B.B.C. that it constitutes an absolutely dominating influence in France and that the events of Dakar have changed nothing in this respect. The French are too intelligent not to have realized that the Vichy version of what happened was false. The French bombing of Gibraltar produced profound indignation here. . . . We are all sure that you will win, even if it is long and painful."

JAPAN'S DREAMS OF CONQUEST

Mr. Matsuoka, Japan's Foreign Minister is rushing back to Tokio after visiting Moscow, Berlin and Rome as "important affairs of State," it is stated, demand his immediate attention. On the eve of his departure from Germany he declared that his visit to Berlin and Rome had definitely cleared up the policy underlying the Pact of the Three Powers—Germany, Italy and Japan—and that the result of his visit had been of great benefit to Japan. Earlier, before leaving Rome, he affirmed that the Pact would be valid for a century! Mr. Matsuoka met MM. Stalin and Molotov at Moscow, obviously in order to explore the possibilities of a Pact with Russia. But he has not been so eloquent in describing the results of his talks with the Soviet leaders as he has been in dealing with his meetings with Hitler and Mussolini. And thereby hangs a tale!

It is almost certain that Hitler, Mussolini and Matsuoka should have discussed many new designs for Axis supremacy in the world, with all of which Russia cannot be expected to agree. Japan needs no lessons in the technique of aggression which she perfected long before Hitler and Mussolini woke up to its possibilities. Mr. Matsuoka has revealed himself just as capable as the two Dictators in talking of world peace with one breath and threatening other peaceful nations with the other. How far Japan has moved from the international policies of the Great Democratic Powers can be realized from the fact that, while she took up her stand with them during the Great War, she had definitely come out as the friend of their enemies in the present conflict.

Germany is obviously trying to use Japan as a means of threatening Britain's Far East defences and intimidating American opinion lest the United States of America should come into the war. In this Germany is helped by the tradition of aggression which Japan's ruling classes have built up. The dominant Japanese political idea is *Kodo*, the theory that Japan is a "superior" race destined to rule "inferior" ones. Japan is ruled by a hereditary military aristocracy and all her education promotes the ideas of mass subservience and military aggression; the masses are peace-loving, and war-weary. Japan's leaders have nothing to give the world except a poor imitation of the Nazi regime. Ever since Japan modernized herself towards the end of the last century, she has pursued an aggressive policy whenever occasion offered, She atacked China in 1894, when she was only restrained from making large annexations by the intervention of the Great Powers. Overborne for a time by the menace of Russia in the Far East, Japan signalized her victory over Russia (in 1904–05) by seizing Korea in 1910. Since 1915 she has pursued an aggressive policy towards China, culminating in the seizure of Manchukuo in 1931 and the beginning of the undeclared war against China in 1937.

In fact, Japan only moves when the backs of powerful neighbours are turned. She seized Korea, as pointed out above, when Russia was weak. She presented her "Twenty-one Demands" to China in 1915 when the Great Powers were at war and could do nothing about it. She kept up her pressure after 1917 in spite of the fact that China was her ally against Germany. When the Powers were strong again, she agreed to the Washington treaties (in 1921). But when the great depression lay over Europe, she seized Manchukuo; when Europe was pre-occupied with the Nazi menace, she launched her attack on China; and now when the energies of the British and American peoples are directed to the overthrow of gangsterdom in Europe and when the Great French nation is under Hitler's heel, Japan is planning a drive southwards towards the possessions of these three powers. Japan, who formally announced her adhesion to the Axis in September last, obviously expects to assume in Asia the role of leadership which Germany and Italy aim at in Europe. Her cherished hope of a "New Order in Asia" is to be fulfilled—so the Dictators must have told her—by the annexation or control of China, the Dutch East Indies, Siam and French Indo-China. She hopes to become the sole mistress of the Pacific, with all that it implies to the British Commonwealth and United States.

The Dutch East Indies and French Indo-China were both invited by Japan some time ago to join the new "Co-prosperity Sphere of South East Asia." When the Dutch refused, an attempt was made to side-trap the Dutch Government in London and far-reaching demands were made—mining and fishing concessions, the right of exploration and exploitation of undeveloped areas, and free entry for Japanese professional and small businessmen. But the Dutch, like the proud, freedom-loving people that they are, have maintained their ground and insisted on the sovereignty and status of their London Government under Queen Wilhelmina.

And Japan concentrated at Hainan (in Indo-China) military and naval forces, comprising five infantry divisions, a fleet squadron, an aircraft carrier and three hundred bombers. Simultaneously she regaled Thailand (Siam) with false reports of British troop concentrations on her frontiers and British warships in the Gulf of Siam. By these means, she won for herself the position of arbitrator in the frontier dispute between Thailand and Indo-China. The former had been egged on by Japan herself to demand territories from Indo-China who could no more look to the French Motherland for effective help. Thailand no doubt got what she wanted.

But she has taken the first opportunity of reaffirming her traditional cordial friendship with Britain and scouting the inspired rumours of a British threat to Thailand. Japan, it is true, exercises some influence over the court at Bangkok. She has received many concessions for her nationals and has designs on the Kra Canal, which she would like to develop and use as a counter-blast to Singapore. But the Thailand Government have no desire to be used as a tool by Japan. And they will resist Japanese domination as long as they are able.

And China, which knows that the "New Order in Greater East Asia" is but a cover for military domination and economic exploitation by Japan of the territories of other nations, is determined to resist it under the great leadership of Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek. She has managed not only to stick it out for four years and immobilize a considerable portion of Japan's fighting forces but actually to grow stronger and stronger.

The British Commonwealth, the United States and Soviet Russia have been helping China with arms and supplies. The reopening of the Burma Road means that Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek can look forward to a steady stream of supplies landed at the port of Rangoon. And the railway, which will link the northern terminus of the Rangoon Railway with the Chinese frontier, will further expedite the flow of arms. No wonder Prince Konoye, Japan's Prime Minister, made this confession not long ago. "Although the Chinese conflict has entered in its fifth year, there is little prospect of settlement. I feel unpardonable before the Throne and the entire nation that already millions of yen have been spent and thousands of soldiers sacrificed." While China's vast man-power resources—which are being trained rapidly in her western regions—can stand any number of casualties, Japan cannot do so. And her war-bill is "mounting to such an extent as to cast doubt upon the future solvency of the country." Her budget estimates reveal that her ordinary expenditure will this year amount to half as much again as the entire revenue and this excludes the cost of the China campaign, one year of which alone demands as much as the total ordinary revenue.

Then there is Soviet Russia, ever watchful on Japan's flanks. Stalin has shown himself such a political realist that he is hardly likely to enter into any pact with Japan which is not favourable to him. In 1935, the two countries signed an agreement by which Japan purchased the Soviet-owned Chinese Eastern Railway. The Russians apparently thought that Japan had designs only in the south, but they must soon have been disillusioned by Japan's activities in Inner Mongolia, the building of strategic railways in Manchuria and Jehol, her numerous "fishing" expeditions into the Soviet Maritime Provinces. The Soviet is maintaining a strong force in the Far East to meet any eventuality. This is not to say that Stalin will refuse to sign any pact with Japan. Only he will take good care that it is the Soviet and not Japan that will benefit from it! And he has taken every opportunity to affirm that Russia will continue to help China with arms as long as she keeps up her resistance to Japan.

Finally, the British Empire, and Australia in particular, are taking all precautionary measures in the Far East. They have strongly reinforced the Singapore Base under the Command of Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham. The Australian Cabinet has uttered a grave "hands-off" warning to Japan. Both the British and Australian Governments know that they can rely on the utmost help from the United States if Japan takes steps to launch her southward drive—plans for which were found, by the way, in the wrecked plane that was carrying Admiral Osumi to take over the command of the Japanese South Seas Fleet. President Roosevelt has stated that American help to Britain would not be affected "even if America should be dragged into a war in the Pacific." Large appropriations for the fortification of Guam and the development of Samoa as a naval base have been voted by the American Congress. The main American Fleet is stationed in the Pacific at Hawaii and reinforcements have been sent to the Philippines. These, like the British measures in the fortified base of Singapore, are purely defensive, aimed (as Sir Robert Brooke-Popham said) at stabilising peace in the Pacific, and do not threaten any other peace-loving nation. But the Japanese know what to expect in case they are cajoled by Hitler to pull his chestnuts out of the fire by creating a diversion in the Far East. And the British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East has had important talks at Manila with American Naval Command in the Pacific.

Japan is thus faced by Russia and China in the North, the United States of America in the East, and Great Britain in the South—not reckoning the by no means negligible naval forces at the disposal of the Dutch East Indies and the forces that Indo-China could use if she decided on resistance with the help of Britain and America. Japan has already been nearly four years at war in China, losing more than a million of her best soldiers. And she is overpopulated and cannot feed herself. Rice is being rationed in Japan from this month. She has few raw materials and depends on other countries, specially Britain and the United States, for oil, rubber, scrap iron, iron, raw cotton, wool and fertilisers. The United States has already imposed an embargo on aviation petrol and other commodities which Japan badly needs.

These considerations must weigh heavily with the Japanese rulers against any adventure in the South. Probably they also account for the desire for "world peace" with which Japan's Foreign Minister occasionally regales us!

Bases Agreement with U.S

The Nazi broadcast of March 27 described the leasing of some British islands in the Atlantic to the U.S.A. as the auctioning of the British Empire. Britain's use of every disposable commercial asset to pay for what she has received from America has been part of a straightforward financial policy, but Britain has not transferred her sovereignty over a single British subject in the West Indies or elsewhere. Furthermore, it is realized that British interests, no less than those of the United States and the Empire, will be served by an arrangement under which facilities are to be given to the U.S.A. in order that the Americans may ensure what the Prime Minister described as " security against the unmeasured dangers of the future ".

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

(FOR THE USE OF PROPAGANDA SUB-COMMITTEES)

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

10th April.—The Royal Air Force started big fires in Berlin after a three-hour raid The German High Command admitted heavy damage and neutral observers estimated the casualties to have been between 2,000 and 3,000. The Luftwaffe attacked Birmingham, Coventry and Newcastle. Ten German bombers were shot down.

11th April.—The Scharnorst and the Gneisenau, German battle-cruisers, were again heavily attacked at Brest by the Royal Air Force. A number of targets in the Rhineland and the Ruhr were also successfully hit.

There was but slight enemy air activity over the South-east coast of England.

12th April.—The Germans bombed Bristol.

The Royal Air Force spent Good Friday on the ground.

13th April.—Another Royal Air Force attack was made on Brest and German battle ships were bombed. Lorient, the submarine base in occupied France, was also attacked. The docks at Bordeaux and the nearby aerodrome of Merignac were successfully bombed.

Two German bombers were shot down by British and Free French naval units.

14th April.—Very little damage was caused by German raiders who dropped bombs at places in England far removed from each other. German aircraft were sighted over Northern Ireland, too, but no damage was reported.

15th April.—The Royal Air Force again attacked Brest and the German battle-cruisers, Scharnhorst and Gneisenau. In a daylight attack on an escorted enemy convoy off the Dutch coast, a supply vessel of 4,000 tons was hit.

16th April.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy raid on Kiel, also on Boulogne and Borkum. Many enemy ships were sunk off the French Coast.

The German Air Force concentrated its attack on Belfast.

17th April.—London experienced its worst air raid of the war but fire-fighters and rescue-workers reduced damage and casualties and six enemy raiders were shot down. Lord and Lady Stamp and their heir were killed.

The Royal Air Force made widespread attacks on North Germany, particularly on Bremen. Brest, Heligoland and Belgian territory were also raided.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

10th April.—East of Bengazi, British troops withdrew to an area more suited for future operations. The Germans captured a few Generals and about two thousand prisoners, half of whom, however, were not combatants.

11th April.—Ethiopian Patriot Forces continued their pursuit of the Italians out of Abyssinia. Fourteen German dive bombers were shot down by fighter planes, and at Derna six Heinkels were destroyed.

12th April.—The enemy occupied Derna and El Meghalli. Four thousand Italian prisoners were captured in Addis Ababa.

13th April.—The Emperor of Ethiopia was reported to be leading his Patriot troops towards Addis Ababa.

14th April.—A German attack on Tobruk was beaten back. Heavy casualties and great damage were inflicted on the enemy. Leaving Tobruk aside, the enemy seized Bardia, and was on the Egyptian border.

Royal Air Force long-range bombers inflicted great damage on the harbour of Tripoli.

15th April.—Between two and three hundred German prisoners were captured, over a hundred Germans were killed, fifteen enemy tanks were destroyed and twenty-two enemy aircraft were brought down by the British forces at Tobruk when the Germans launched an attack on the town. The Royal Air Force raided Tripoli.

General Santini, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian army in Eritrea, was captured.

The military situation was discussed at a secret session of the Egyptian Chamber of Deputies which issued a statement later that the " House was glad to hear from the Government that the present conditions (in Libya and the Western Desert) cause no concern."

16th April.—An indication of the disintegration of enemy forces in Abyssinia was given by the Duke of Aosta, who sent an emissary to the British Headquarters to discuss terms of surrender.

Lord Halifax said at New York that the setback in Libya caused by the withdrawal of troops for Greece was being countered by speedy reinforcement of the British Imperial troops.

The Royal Air Force made daylong raids on enemy concentrations in Libya.

An entire enemy convoy consisting of five supply ships and three destroyers, bound from Sicily for Tripoli was sunk by the British Mediterranean Fleet. The British lost only one destroyer.

17th April.—The British forces at Tobruk repulsed further attacks and a patrol penetrated enemy positions. The British Navy bombarded Fort Capuzzo.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC.

10th April.—It was disclosed by the United States War Department that all army transports had been diverted to move troops and supplies between the United States and her overseas bases and possessions.

The United States decided to establish air bases in Greenland. An agreement to that effect was signed with the Danish Minister in Washington, the German-controlled Government of Denmark being ignored.

11th April.—President Roosevelt reopened the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden to American ships. American ships will soon be unloading war material on Egyptian soil.

The President asked Congress for broad statutory authority to take over any foreign-owned vessels lying idle in American ports.

12th April.—Thirty Danish ships, recently taken over by the United States Government (it was stated), would be used to carry war supplies to the Red Sea.

In an address at Chicago, Col. Donovan, who was Mr. Roosevelt's Special Envoy to Europe, pleaded that American convoys should escort American ships carrying supplies to the Allies.

13th April.—An ever-increasing flow of aeroplane-engines, guns and bombs was going to England, declared Major General Arnold, Chief of the United States Army Air Corps.

The Danish Minister in Washington was recalled by the German-controlled Danish Government, but he refused to go back. The United States continues to regard him as duly authorized.

15th April.—The United States, while rejecting the protest of the German-controlled Danish Government, stated that the use of the Greenland bases would be available to all the American Republics for the common defence of the Western Hemisphere.

President Roosevelt placed Mr. Harry Hopkins to be in charge of the purchasing and acquisition of war materials for all countries benefitting under the Lease and Lend Act.

A bill increasing the officer and enlisted strength of the United States Navy and Marine Corps to 232,000 was passed by the Senate and sent to White House. The President, under the Bill, is authorized to acquire 200,000 tons of auxiliary vessels for national defence and raise the number of men enlisted to 500,000 if necessary.

Legislation authorising President Roosevelt to purchase, requisition, or take possession of foreign merchant ships lying idle in United States ports was laid before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The British cruiser *Bonaventure* (5,450 tons) was torpedoed and sunk while escorting a convoy.

16th April.—President Roosevelt said that the United States would protect her merchantmen " wherever they go so long as they do not enter the combat zones proclaimed under the Neutrality Act."

Mr. Roosevelt stated that Greenland would be restored to Denmark as soon as she had an independent government and not a government under duress.

The President said that American help would continue to be given to China in an increasing measure.

Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Premier, left for Washington to see President Roosevelt.

17th April.—Col. Knox, U. S. Secretary of the Navy, said that British warships brought to the United States for repairs were given priority over everything else in the Navy Yards.

GREECE AND ITALY.

10th April.—German armoured forces entered Salonika. Local enemy attacks on the Albanian front, however, were repulsed by the Greeks.

11th April.—The Greek forces withdrew intact from Salonika. The Royal Air Force rendered magnificent help to the Greeks and inflicted very heavy damage on the Germans.

In Northern Greece British troops came into contact with the German troops for the first time.

12th April.—The Nazi advance in Florina continued. Terrific damage was caused to German armoured units by the Greeks.

13th April.—Three German planes were shot down when they raided Volos.

British forces in Northern Greece drove back German tanks and infantry on the eastern sector of the Allied Front, and the Royal Air Force continued to harass German motorised convoys.

14th April.—British infantry repulsed an attack by the crack Adolf Hitler division. Hitler chose his favoured division for the first attack on British Imperial troops but all the extraordinary care taken in the selection of proper men to fill this division was of no avail.

15th April.—The British forces in Greece repulsed several attacks by German mechanised troops on the right sector.

The German air force bombed the Piraeus region but their dive-bombers were driven back by the Royal Air Force who shot down five Junkers and damaged others.

The Greeks withdrew to prepared positions in the Northern Albanian front, evacuating Koritza, in view of the German thrust from Southern Serbia.

16th April.—The British Imperial Forces were in contact with the German forces over the whole of the front-line in Greece. Eleven enemy planes were destroyed by the Royal Air Force.

17th April.—The Anglo-Greek line in Western Macedonia repulsed heavy German attacks. The Royal Air Force continued to hammer away at German troop movements.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

10th April.—The Turkish Government would maintain a policy of non-belligerency, declared M. Sarojoglu, the Foreign Minister addressing the People's Party.

Yugoslav forces captured Alessio, 25 miles south-east of Scutari, and reached the outskirts of Mamuras. But the Yugoslavs evacuated their northern frontier region.

Mr. Attlee declared in the House of Commons that the British Government held that the recent *coup* in Iraq was unconstitutional.

11th April.—The Germans captured Zagreb. They declared Croatia an " independent " state. Hungary made haste to recognize the new state.

The Hungarians entered Yugoslavia and proceeded to occupy territories up to the old frontier before the Treaty of Trianon.

12th April.—The Italians claimed that the Axis forces had established contact with each other in Northern Albania.

Rumanian forces also entered Yugoslavia to " protect " the Rumanian minority in that country.

The U.S.S.R. rebuked Hungary for entering Yugoslavia four months after the signing of a Treaty of Eternal Friendship between the two countries. How would Hungary feel if a foreign power should attack her in a similar manner to settle the minorities question, she asked.

The resolution, deposing Regent Prince Abdul Illah and appointing Sheriff Sharaf instead, passed by the Iraqi Parliament, was considered in London to be of doubtful legality.

13th April.—The Germans bombed Sarajevo and claimed to have inflicted losses on troop-camps and railways.

In a broadcast, Mr. Churchill paid a high tribute to Yugoslav valour.

14th April.—The Germans entered Belgrade.

Sofia was raided by the Royal Air Force.

The British Ambassador to Turkey was received by President Ineunu. Mr. Sarajoglu was present during the interview.

The Royal Air Force and Greek Air Forces hammered the Germans in the Monastir area.

15th April.—Yugoslav forces were stated to be threatening Skoplji and one report said that the town had been captured.

A Cabinet was announced for the German-sponsored State of Croatia.

Hungary has replied to the Soviet, saying that the latter had " misapprehended " her change of policy towards Yugoslavia.

Hitler appointed civil administrators for German-occupied Yugoslavia.

16th April.—It was stated in London that there was an end of unified resistance in Yugoslavia and that only guerilla warfare was considered possible.

Diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia were broken off and Bulgarian troops began to occupy that part of Thrace between Alexandropolis and the Struma river.

17th April.—The official German News Agency claimed that the Yugoslavs had laid down their arms unconditionally.

SHIPPING SITUATION.

15th April.—It was learned that in future British merchant shipping losses would be published monthly instead of weekly, making it difficult for the enemy to deduce what proportion was due to submarines or mines.

The British losses for the past four weeks were reported to be 394,000 tons.

An armed and heavily laden enemy tanker of about 10,000 tons, bound for a port in occupied France, was sunk by the British submarine Tigris.

THE FAR EAST.

10th April.—Mr. Ohashi, Japanese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, admitted that the "China Incident" was far from its end.

The British Naval Commander-in-Chief of the China Station said that irrespective of American aid, "if the balloon goes up in the Pacific, we will get powerful naval reinforcements quickly."

11th April.—Large quantities of supplies from Russia were reported to have reached China.

12th April.—Mr. Matsuoka and M. Stalin and M. Molotov had discussions for two hours on Japanese-Soviet relations, in Moscow.

13th April.—A Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact was signed at Moscow. It was agreed that in case one of the contracting parties was attacked by a third power, the other party would observe strict neutrality.

14th April.—The Chinese Government formally repudiated the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact, refusing to recognize the authority on any foreign power in Outer Mongolia or in Manchukuo. The clauses in the recent Soviet-Japanese Pact recognizing Soviet rights in Outer Mongolia and Japanese rights in Manchukuo would have no binding force on the Chinese Government.

Mr. Matsuoka left Moscow for Tokyo; M. Stalin saw him off at the station.

15th April.—The Japanese Minister to Australia said that the Russo-Japanese Pact did not imply any threat of a southern drive by Japan.

An early announcement of American aid to China under the Lease and Lend Act was indicated by the Chinese Ambassador to the U.S.A. after a conference at White House.

16th April.—The British Ambassador to Japan called on the Japanese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokyo to discuss the situation arising out of the Soviet-Japanese Pact.

17th April.—Evidence that Japan was contemplating a southward drive was found in her declaration of a blockade of the South China Coast and in the meeting between the Thailand Premier and Japan's Minister in Thailand.

VICHY.

11th April.—A Communiqué, issued by Marshal Petain, warned Frenchmen against crossing over to Spain or to England to join General de Gaulle's forces.

12th April.—Japanese troops in Indo-China were definitely not in excess of the numbers agreed to in the recent treaty between Indo-China and Japan, declared the Vichy Radio.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

13th April.—Italian troops in large numbers were replacing German troops in occupied France; but it was stated that no Italian troops would be entrusted with coastal defence.

15th April.—In a daring raid on a northern Norwegian port by Norwegian and other Allied warships, communications were cut, local "Quislings" rounded up, stocks of fish oil seized, a factory destroyed and harbour works blown up. The Germans were taken completely by surprise and the Allies left the port without a single loss.

16th April.—A Russo-Belgian agreement for the supply of food-stuffs to Belgium was reached in Moscow.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

13th April.—Mr. De Valera in a broadcast tonight reiterated Irish neutrality but warned the nation to be prepared for all eventualities.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 8th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over enemy coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 2, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on aerodromes at Maupertuis (near Paris), Caen, Haamstede; Dutch wireless station; shipping off Dutch coast.	2 day-bombers.	..
April 3, Thursday.	R.A.F. day-fighter attacks on aerodromes in Belgium and N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest (harbour, dry-dock, battleships); oil stores at Rotterdam; invasion base at Ostend. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	1 day-fighter. 4 night-bombers.	1 night-bomber.
April 4, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on naval craft off French coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest (warehouses, oil stores, harbour, dry-dock, battleships); oil stores at Rotterdam; industrial objectives in Ruhr.	2 day-bombers. 1 night-bomber.	..
April 5, Saturday.	No reports	..	..
April 6, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on troops, motor-transport, guns and aerodromes (including L'Orient) in N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on Ymuiden (iron and steel works, blast furnaces, gas-holders); naval and supply ships off Dutch coast (1 destroyer sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; invasion bases at Ostend and Calais; aerodromes in Holland and Belgium.	3 day-bombers. 1 night-bomber.	1 day-fighter.
April 7, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on military transport and aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on objectives in Denmark, Holland and Belgium; invasion base at Cherbourg; shipping in N. Sea. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Kiel (docks, warehouses, Deutschewerke shipyards, submarine-building yards), Bremerhaven and Emden.	1 day-bomber. 4 night-bombers.	..
April 8, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off Frisian Islands; objectives in occupied territory. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Kiel, Emden, Bremerhaven; oil stores at Rotterdam. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	5 night-bombers.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 8th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 2	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
April 3	1 day-fighter.	3 day-bombers.
April 4	Nil.	4 night-bombers.
April 5	Nil.	1 night-bomber.
April 6	Nil.	..
April 7	Nil.	1 day-bomber. 1 day-fighter. 5 night-bombers.
April 8	..	1 day-fighter. 7 night-bombers.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The week has been full of events of considerable importance. After the capture of Salonika by Germans, Monastir has also fallen while some towns in Yugoslavia including Belgrade have been taken by Nazis. The latest news, however, is to the effect that Yugoslavia is resisting enemy pressure though unified command has ceased and it has taken the important Albanian port of Durazzo. The Greek and British lines from Olympus to Lake Ochrida are being strengthened. This will be a great obstacle to further Nazi moves.

The Imperial Forces in North Africa have had to evacuate after the fall of Benghazi, Derna and Bardia. Tobruk is being strongly defended and a strong attack by enemy infantry supported by tanks has been completely repulsed. Bardia is to the east of Tobruk and the Germans appear to have taken it after making a detour round Tobruk. There is no disposition to take a tragic view of the situation as there is complete confidence in General Wavell's strategy; and Egyptian reports say that reinforcements are pouring in. The British Navy is helping in the attacks on enemy troops. The Royal Air Force is making astonishing progress in pounding enemy positions and American supplies arriving by the Red Sea route should appreciably help the Allies.

An envoy of the Duke of Aosta, has arrived at General Cunningham's Headquarters presumably to negotiate terms of surrender.

Five thousand Italians, and four thousand Africans have been made prisoners since the capture of Addis Ababa.

A remarkable achievement of the British Navy is reported. On Tuesday, an entire enemy convoy consisting of five supply ships, escorted by three destroyers, bound from Sicily for Tripoli, was sunk. Twenty thousand tons of enemy shipping have thus been lost in this encounter having valuable cargo of motor transport, besides the three destroyers. One British destroyer was sunk.

There have been savage raids by the Luftwaffe. Belgrade, though it was declared an open town, was repeatedly shelled from the air and the capital of Yugoslavia is now in ruins. A moving statement has been issued by the Yugoslav Government describing the indiscriminate, savage bombing of Belgrade even before the declaration of the war. Coventry, Birmingham, Bristol, Belfast in Northern Ireland and London have suffered severely at the hands of Germans and numerous buildings have been brought down, while civilian casualties are feared to be heavy. There are, however, a few features of aerial warfare which should be borne in mind. An increasing toll is being taken in Great Britain of German night raiders, a sure indication that arrangements for meeting the night menace are being improved steadily. There is no means of accurately gauging the extent of damage done by the Royal Air Force in Germany and German occupied territories, but it is obvious that the damage caused, especially to industrial plant should be enormous. Another factor is the perfection of the arrangements made for co-operation between the air forces and land forces in North and East Africa and in Greece. Finally, Mr. Churchill has referred to the continued and marked improvement of the Royal Air Force as compared with that of Germany. There has been not only an increase in the actual strength, but also in its bombing capacity; further the power and size of the bombers have been enormously increased. Mr. Churchill added: "We have already in our raids excelled in severity anything which any single town has in a single night experienced over here."

A development of some importance is the offer by Britain of a loan £2½ millions to Spain. This step in the policy of assisting the Spanish Government in the work of reconstruction, it is expected, should have a reassuring effect on the relations between Spain and Great Britain.

News of the neutrality pact between Russia and Japan cannot come as a surprise because of the opportunist policy followed by the Soviet Government for some years now. There is a good deal of speculation on its implications; Russia has gained more than Japan, it is said, while, on the whole, the international situation has not been much altered.

MORE TRIBUTES TO INDIAN TROOPS.

Generous praise has been given to the remarkable achievements of Indian troops in the North and East African campaigns. Speaking in the House of Commons on the 9th April, Mr. Churchill stated that in Eritrea "our Indian troops have at all points and on all occasions sustained the martial reputation of the sons of Hindusthan." In a special personal message to His Excellency the Viceroy, Mr. Churchill said that the whole Empire had been stirred by the achievements of the Indian forces in Eritrea and he added that "the story of ardour and perseverance with which they scaled and finally conquered the precipitous heights of Keren recalls memories of the North-West Frontier of long years ago and it is as one who has had the honour to serve in the field with Indian soldiers from all parts of Hindustan, as well as in the name of His Majesty's Government, that I ask Your Excellency to convey to them and to the whole Indian Army the pride and admiration with which we have followed their heroic exploits."

Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, in a speech on the 8th April, has added his own praise to this remarkable tribute. He particularly emphasized the heroic part played by the Indian troops in reaching unscaleable peaks in Keren. "The Battle of Keren," said Mr. Amery, "would live in the annals of war and would be a proud recollection for all troops, British, Indian and Free French who had participated in it". He gave instances of the "indomitable courage" of the Indian troops and paid a tribute to the "extraordinary feats of endurance and courage" by engineers, supply and ordnance services and the work of stretcher bearers in the front-line medical service. These and the contributions to the War Fund, Mr. Amery added, steadily justified "India's claim to an equal place with ourselves in a free partnership of the British family of nations."

COWARDLY HUNGARY.

Misfortunes never come single. Hungary has invaded Yugoslavia at the bidding of Germany—a disgraceful act and a treacherous proceeding equalled only by the unprovoked and treaty-breaking adventures of Hitler and Mussolini. Hungary, has, as a reference to the map will show, about 250 miles of common frontier with Yugoslavia. She was the first to sign the Protocol of the Three-Power Axis Pact. Ever since the Treaty of Trianon (1920) Hungary had been reduced to a quarter of her pre-Great War size and deprived of sixty per cent of her population. No wonder Hungarians have since then entertained ambitions for the extension of their territory. Hungary has been successful to some extent in realizing her ambitions. Germany has helped her in this reconquest. In the autumn of 1938, by the Vienna arbitration, 4,600 square miles of territory were restored to Hungary and her population was increased by 1,045,000. In March and April, 1939, Hungary annexed a further 4,960 square miles with a population of 672,000 from Czechoslovakia. In August 1940, an agreement was signed in Vienna finally fixing the frontier between Hungary and Rumania. This gave Hungary 45,000 square miles of Transylvania, with a population of 2,800,000. But in this ceded area one half are Hungarians and one half Rumanians and 400,000 Hungarians are still within the borders of Rumania in Southern Transylvania. Future trouble therefore lurks in this agreement and it will be recalled that General Antonescu made the following statement on March 30: "Rumania can never reconcile herself to the situation which has been created and will be forced to request Berlin and Rome to reconsider the Transylvanian question. Until this question is settled there can be no tranquillity in this part of Europe." Of course, Germany's object in encouraging Hungary in pressing her revisionist claims is for the purpose of gaining certain strategic advantages because it provided Germany a convenient jumping off ground for the conquest of Poland and partitioning of Czechoslovakia, for the subjection of Rumania and Bulgaria and the encirclement of Yugoslavia.

Hungarian troops marching into Yugoslavia have occupied Subotica which is the chief town in the territory taken from Hungary and given to Yugoslavia. The plan is to occupy a line formed by the rivers Drave and Danube, the old pre-Trianon Hugarian frontier. This move has been made at the dictation of Germany. It will be remembered that the former Prime Minister Count Teleki, who had never felt happy with the Axis partnership, committed suicide on April 3 because he did not feel able to carry on his difficult task. It was apparently in anticipation of some such pressure on the part of Germany that Count Teleki concluded only four months ago a pact of perpetual friendship with Yugoslavia with the object of removing the causes of political friction and establishing a basis of peaceful collaboration between the two countries. But man proposes and Hitler disposes. Hungary has now been compelled to occupy parts of Yugoslavia and Admiral Horthy, Regent of Hungary, in a tone of quiet decision which ill-accords with the treaty of 'perpetual friendship and non-aggression', has called on Croatia to proclaim its independence and tells the world that Hungary feels it necessary to protect her minorities in Yugoslavia!

Rumania, not to be beaten in this race for preying upon the fallen, is reported to have joined the attack on Yugoslavia. Bulgaria desires to move up her frontier into Yugoslavia and to annex the Strumica salient lost to Yugoslavia. One doubts whether Bulgaria can afford to send her troops because there is Turkey to answer.

Yugoslavia is, of course, a country populated by many communities—Serbs, Croats, Dalmatians, Montenegrians, Slovenese, Rumanians, Albanians, Bulgarians and Macedonians—but in recent months unity has been to a great extent achieved and Germany has been hard put to it to create minority problems, disaffection and ill-treatment.

No condemnation of Hungary's treachery can be stronger than the Soviet Government's disapproval. The U.S.S.R. has entirely disapproved of Hungary's action " four months after the signing of the treaty of eternal friendship with that country." The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, according to the Moscow radio, asked the Hungarian Minister in Moscow how his country would feel if she should find herself in such a predicament since, in Hungary also, there were substantial national minorities.

Germany has, as already reported, complete plans for the future of Yugoslavia. That country is to be wiped off the map—Serbia being placed under German control, Croatia to be formed mainly to serve the problem of German outlet to the Adriatic, Montenegro to be attached to Albania and Macedonia to be formed into a single protectorate under Bulgarian control. Nothing distinguishes Hitler's plans more than their completeness. The future will disclose how these demon-made projects will emerge into facts!

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

Magnificent as is the help provided by America, it is necessary to remember certain facts in order to remove any apprehension that may be formed in the public mind from statements appearing in newspapers that America is promising more than she is performing. America is a free country. Unlike as in the totalitarian countries, the people think aloud. There is no doubt that these expressions on the part of leaders indicate the trend of public opinion; but for various reasons, that opinion cannot be translated into action. As examples of expressions of opinion the following may be mentioned: that 75 destroyers will be transferred on the passing of the Lease and Lend Act, that the French liner *Normandie* will be used to transport war materials, that 140 merchant vessels will be transferred to Britain at a very early date, that American warships should be used to convoy supplies to Britain and that 500 cargo ships are to be built for Britain and so on. There are also statements as to what the Government of the United States are thinking of. For instance, the United States desires to give the British Navy certain dockyard facilities. It is also true the President has asked Congress for broad statutory authority to take over foreign vessels lying in U.S. ports. It will be remembered that 69 Axis ships in United States' harbours have been seized and this was done under the Act of 1916. Similar action was taken during the Great War. International law allows a free hand to requisition foreign ships on payment of fair compensation. In 1915, Italy seized 37 German ships on this ground, while still at peace with Germany, and this example was followed by Portugal, Brazil, Peru and Spain. It will be seen, therefore, that the protests of the Axis Powers have no basis on legal grounds. Perhaps Hitler anticipated the early seizure of Axis ships in American harbours to release American ships for transfer to Britain and his attempt to sabotage has been forestalled by U.S.A. President Roosevelt has reopened the Red Sea and the Suez Canal to American ships. By this procedure a great quantity of war material will be sent to Egypt, Libya, Greece or other theatres of war. The action of the United States in concluding a treaty with Denmark for securing a base in Greenland is perfectly correct. Denmark has repudiated the agreement and recalled its representative at Washington; but U.S.A. has rejected the protest and the Danish Minister has refused to go to Denmark. The report that similar action will be taken in regard to the Azores in securing bases should, however, be received with caution. It is said that the view is attributed to Colonel Donovan that the United States should institute convoys to give immediate aid for Britain and support is given to that idea by newspapers who say that this bold step should be taken and that a Churchill touch should be imparted to American policy. This should again be received with caution and hesitation as this is only an expression of opinion and not a Presidential or a Congressional act. There can be absolutely no doubt that increasing help is coming from the United States. The great American automobile industry has been virtually turned into big ammunition factories for the production of materials of war. After the Lease and Lend Act became law and nine million dollars voted for help to Britain, material aid for Britain is already on its way. The Axis-controlled ships are being used for this purpose. It is true again that one half of military aircraft production comes to Britain and more than a thousand aircraft are produced from month to month and this production is increasing.

Reg. Heliosinco., Survey Office, Madras, 1941.

THE WAR IN THE BALKANS

In reviewing the progress of the war which Hitler, without any provocation, has brought to the Balkans, we must not lose sight of the fact that he opened his campaign with tremendous initial advantages. His armies had already occupied strategic positions in Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria. His troops and those of his gangster ally, Mussolini, surrounded Yugoslavia from the Adriatic at Fiume to the Greek frontier north of Salonika; they were also spread along the border of Greece from the valley of the Struma river to Turkey in Europe. And the gallant forces of Greece were engaged in a life-and-death struggle with the Italian hordes in Albania. Hitler could deploy a great part of his two hundred divisions in simultaneous operations over a large front against two small countries.

The Germans have been pursuing the same strategy in the Balkans as in France last year when their drive against the " hinge " of the French and Belgian lines operated like a wedge between the Allied armies of the north and the south. Their first objective has been to cut off the Greeks from the Yugoslavs. Hence the German thrust towards Salonika. The Greeks had wisely decided to evacuate Western Thrace, well realizing that they could not defend the long stretch of territory running from the Struma Valley to Turkey along the Aegean coast. British army transport helped in the speedy and safe evacuation of a million people from that area. The Greeks' first line of defence was at the Rupel Pass where the Struma emerges from Bulgaria. And here took place fighting as heroic as any in the wonderful history of Greece. With " Disregard of Death " (to quote an Order of the Day issued by the Greek High Command) as their watchword, the Greeks put up a grand resistance to the German mechanised forces. Forts and important positions changed hands several times during a day's operations, but the Greeks appeared to have definitely slowed down the German advance.

The Germans, however, entered the valley of the Strumnitzla, which runs parallel to the Greek frontier, linking the Struma with the Vardar Valley. The Yugoslav forces were overpowered and had to retreat. A Greek communiqué stated: " The Yugoslav army fighting in South Serbia is withdrawing under pressure, which has uncovered the left wing of our heroic army on the frontier. Nevertheless, our army is fighting with unimaginable personal sacrifice, contesting step by step the soil of our fathers."

The German army reached the Vardar Valley after violent fighting and, advancing down towards Salonika, not only captured that important port but took the Greek forces defending the Rupel Pass in the rear. Salonika is Southern Serbia's outlet to the sea as also Northern Greece's. In taking it, Hitler has secured command of the Northern Aegean coast. Salonika is the terminus of the railway running from Greece northwards along the Vardar Valley to Uskub and thence to Nish, where it connects with the railway linking Belgrade and Sofia; Hitler has, thus, also cut off the supply line from the sea to Yugoslavia. But fortunately the British Navy, as ever, commands the Mediterranean and will no doubt make his hold on Salonika as precarious as possible. It will certainly make heroic efforts to nullify whatever advantages he hopes to reap by the capture of such an important port.

The Greek forces in Eastern Macedonia, which the German occupation of Salonika threatened to cut off from the main army, however, fought a superb rear-guard action and eluded the clutches of the Nazis. And the Greeks inflicted terrific damage on the German armoured units advancing in the Florina sector. The bombing raid on Athens and the Piraeus has only served to stiffen Greek morale.

The German forces had a similar warm reception in Yugoslavia. Unluckily for the latter, her main cities, Belgrade, Zagreb, etc., are in the exposed plains of the north and vulnerable to air attack. And the German High Command, true to their tradition, have not hesitated to order the bombing of open cities. In fact, it is now revealed that German airmen, ready with bombs, were already in the air when Hitler gave the orders to his troops to march. The Germans entered Zagreb, the capital city of the Croats, and with the aid of some " Quislings ", at once proceeded to proclaim an " independent " Croat State. Such arrangements, are however, bound to be temporary as the Croats, who have lined up with their leader, Dr. Matchek, behind the Yugoslav Government, will demonstrate when Hitler is beaten at the end.

The Yugoslav Government, in order to save the city of Belgrade from barbarous massacre from the air, left it for a destination further south. The Germans took Nish and Skoplje and thrust forward from Bulgaria right across Yugoslavia, linking up north of Lake Ochrida with the Italian forces on the Yugoslav-Albanian frontier and holding up the Yugoslav drive into Albania to help the Greeks which had already swept past the very important port of Durazzo. The Yugoslavs counter-attacked violently south-west of Skoplje. Yugoslav hopes of forming a triple front with the British and the Greeks in the south, however, have not been realized yet and Yugoslav commanders in the various isolated sectors have had to act independently though they are doing their jobs remarkably well. It must not be forgotten that the Yugoslavs are a brave nation and their guerilla tactics from their mountain strongholds may play havoc with the German transport lines. And,

after all, the Germans did not have an easy passage across the " waist " of Yugoslavia, though the lack of fighter aircraft and anti-tank guns handicapped the defenders. The Colombia Broadcasting System's correspondent reported that near Skoplje, eighty German tanks were destroyed by hand-gernades and numerous Germans were taken prisoner, including a General. And the Yugoslav Prime Minister, General Simovitch, in a stirring broadcast, said : " Germany's early successes cannot discourage us." Yugoslav fighting units, though isolated, will continue to resist the invaders and the German tanks cannot have such easy successes as in Flanders and in France.

But Hungary has now thought it opportune to claim the territories ceded by her to Yugoslavia by the Treaty of Trianon at the end of the Great War. Hungarian forces, acting under the orders of the Hungarian Regent, have moved into Yugoslavia and occupied territory up to a line formed by the Rivers Drave and Danube, the old frontier. And Rumanian troops are stated to have joined in the attack, ostensibly to improve the lot of the (small) Rumanian minorities in Yugoslavia.

British Imperial troops, it is well known, have been taking up positions in Greece ever since the German divisions started moving across Hungary and Bulgaria to the Yugoslav and Greek borders. General Wavell's victories in the African campaign, in which he put the Italians to rout, enabled him to transport with the aid of the British Navy a considerable body of well-equipped soldiers to Greece; and the Royal Air Force, which was already doing wonderful work to help the Greek army, was also very much strengthened. The German drive in Libya has not interfered with Wavell's plans; for the occupation of almost the entire territory of Abyssinia, Eritrea and Somaliland has enabled him to rush reinforcements to the British Army of the Nile on the Egyptian border without making any calls on his forces in Greece. Under the Command of General Wilson, these forces are holding the zone from Mount Olympus stretching north-west in the direction of Koritza in Albania. The Greeks are coming back from Albania and joining up on the left of the British. The line will put on the right of Mount Olympus. The German Radio admits that Nazi legions have met with fierce resistance from the British. British Infantry units repulsed an attack by the crack Adolf Hitler division in Northern Greece, inflicting heavy losses on the latter. Vigorous artillery fire from the British lines has held up the German advance. The application of reckless pressure by the Germans has only proved costly to them, in men and material without making any great impression on the rock-like British defences. Further contingents of British Imperial forces are arriving in Greece, despite the German propaganda stories that the Empire forces are evacuating it, while American aid will no doubt reach them in double quick time as President Roosevelt has declared the Red Sea a non-combatant area and allowed United States ships to carry arms and munitions straight to Massawa and the port of Ismailia on the Suez Canal. He has also indicated that United States warships will convoy them.

And last, but by no means the least, comes the magnificent work that the Royal Air Force has been accomplishing in the Balkans. As they drove the Italian air force out of the sky over Africa, British airmen seem determined to hold off the German air force and break up German troop concentrations and movements. They twice bombed Sofia, now the German headquarters in the Balkans, more or less as a reprisal for the German raid on the open city of Belgrade. In a combat over the Rupel Pass, they drew first blood from the Germans, bringing down a number of planes without loss to themselves. And every day they are inflicting heavy casualties and damage on the German land forces. The growing strength and striking power of the Royal Air Force cannot be palatable to the German High Command. Hitler cannot hope to repeat his triumph in Norway, where the British forces had no adequate air support. The Royal Air Force ranges the sky from Tripoli to Salonika and from Alexandria to Sofia. It will deal the death blow to German ambitions in the Balkans.

THE FAR EAST

The principal development of considerable interest, so far as the Far East is concerned, is the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact signed on Sunday last in Moscow. This is the result of Mr. Matsuoka's many talks with M. Stalin and M. Molotov and his stay for a week at Moscow on his way to Tokyo. Under Article 1 of this Pact, Russia and Japan agree to maintain peaceful and friendly relations between them and respect each other's territorial integrity and inviolability. Article 2 states that in case either party becomes the object of military aggression by one or more third parties, the other party shall observe neutrality throughout the period of such a conflict. The pact will come into force as soon as ratification is completed and will be valid for a period of five years, after which it will be automatically prolonged for another period of five years unless one of the parties abrogates it one year before its expiration. A joint declaration has also been made saying that Japan respects the territorial integrity and inviolability of the Republic of Mongolia, while the Soviet Union respects the territorial integrity and inviolability of the Empire of Manchukuo. The Prime Minister of Japan, Prince Konoye, is greatly satisfied that the Pact will contribute in a large measure towards the solution of pending questions between the two countries though Japanese opinion avers that it will be useless unless Soviet help to China is stopped.

It is interesting to observe the reactions in various countries produced by the announcement of this Pact. It is a neutrality agreement which differs from other agreements entered into by Russia, with, for instance, Yugoslavia and Turkey. It is asked, " What would happen if Russia or Japan takes the initiative in military action? " It is generally recognized that, so far as Mongolia and Manchukuo are concerned, the Pact merely recognizes the *de facto* situation. It is anticipated that the other points in dispute between Russia and Japan in regard to trade and fishing will soon be settled.

China is naturally very indignant. She has repudiated the Pact and has stated that she cannot recognize any agreement which is derogatory to her administration or her territorial integrity. The treaty can have no binding force on her as regards either Mongolia or Manchukuo. She asked for information from Russia as to her intention in regard to aiding her against Japan and sht has been told that such help will continue as before.

Russia is undoubtedly a great gainer by this Pact and the United States newspapers stress the fact that she can now face the German menace in the West and follow a more anti-German policy.

Will Japan remain neutral if the Axis powers attack Russia? She might do so according to the Pact. Whether she will do so is another matter.

On the whole, United States' reaction to the Pact is that it is merely a description of the existing situation. American policy in the Pacific will not change, but it will continue to discountenance Japanese aggression. The Pact, of course, removes any apprehension that Japan may have felt that in her drive south she may be attacked in the rear by Russia, but the British lion and the American eagle are there to resist any move on the part of Japan to disturb the *status quo* in the Pacific.

So far as China is concerned Chang Kai-shek is resolved to continue the struggle till the last Japanese leaves China. He is receiving reinforcements from America and Russia. Japan admits that the China " incident " is not likely to be concluded very soon. Responsible statesmen say plainly that it will be a hard, long and bitter struggle.

Will Japan engage herself in further adventures in the Pacific? Hitler ardently desires that Japan should do something in order to engage British and American forces in the Pacific so that the pressure on him in the west may be relaxed and American help may not reach England. Japan has so far received no direct benefits from being a party to the Tripartite Pact and one does not know what promises have been held out to Mr. Matsuoka by Hitler and Mussolini. Baron Hiranuma, Home Minister, addressing the Provincial Governors' Conference at Tokyo, warned them that a fresh big crisis might develop in East Asia at any moment because of the economic blockade against Japan that had been tightened and because increasing assistance was being given by Great Britain and America to China. Prince Konoye has also stated that Japan's object is to prevent America joining the war, though he admits that, so long as Japan is a member of the Axis, the United States is likely to exert economic pressure on Japan. As a matter of fact, it is anticipated that if Japan makes any forward move of an aggressive character, there will be increasing pressure on the U.S. Government by the public for banning the export of all war materials to Japan. Aviation petroleum is already on the embargo list, but public opinion will insist that the embargo should be made a hundred per cent success. Mr. Matsuoka's visit to Europe, the barter agreement between Japan and Russia which is stated to be nearing completion and the Neutrality Pact just entered into by those two countries cannot but have repercussions in the United States.

Now, let us consider for a moment what the Japanese have been doing during the last few months. Japan has secured valuable strategic bases in Thailand and Indo-China. Her influence in these two countries is now very great. So far as the Dutch East Indies are concerned the recent agreement for the supply to Japan by the Netherlands Government of oil and other materials is of some importance. But the Dutch Government have so far valiantly refused to agree to bring the Netherlands East Indies under the New Order for the East proclaimed by Japan. This attitude has, of course, been a thorn on the side of Prince Konoye who laments that the Government of the Netherlands East Indies hesitate to enter into any long-range commercial agreement because she apprehends that much of that material would go to Germany through Japan. He also suspects that the Dutch Government are stubborn because of the influence of Great Britain and the belief, widely entertained there, that Britain will win in the end.

Japan has, of course, become an adept in waging a war of nerves. Contradictory statements are being made from time to time so as to confuse the world as to her real intentions, but certain developments in regard to the disposition of her fighting forces should be noted. Japanese troops are stationed in Indo-Chinese territory. A new landing has been made in Kwangchow Bay in Kwangtung Province near Hongkong. In Southern China considerable forces are stationed. In Hainan, an island off the coast of French Indo-China,

she has land, navy and air forces and she has also landed troops on the island of Formosa. Japan has also bases in Yap and Palau islands, south of Guam and near enough to the Philippines.

So far as the British are concerned, Malaya and Singapore at its base, have been strengthened. Australian troops have landed in Singapore and the Air Force of that great bastion of liberty in the Far East has been considerably strengthened. Australia has recognized that for her defence the strengthening of Singapore is absolutely essential and of her own volition she has sent her troops to that great fortified naval base which is a formidable obstacle for any power hoping to come from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. Singapore is also joined to Johore by a causeway. The dock of Singapore, it is said, will take ships of 50,000 tons and powerful artillery defences have been installed. In the last few weeks the military status of Burma has been raised and her defences are being strengthened. Great Britain has also Hongkong, and Empire troops are at Fiji.

The United States has a series of bases in the Pacific. Starting from San Diego on the west coast of the United States, she has Honolulu, 2,000 miles from the west coast of America. Then there is Wake Island 2,000 miles further on; Guam is 1,300 miles still further and Manila in the Philippines is 600 miles from Hongkong. There is also Midway, forming an equilateral triangle with Honolulu and Wake, and there is Dutch Harbour in Alaska which belongs to the United States. These bases belonging to America can supply oil and fuel to the warships and airships and are hopping stations for long-range aeroplanes.

The Netherlands East Indies, that is, New Guinea, Borneo and Sumatra have their own defences, land forces, naval craft, including submarines and aeroplanes. They can in a contingency be greatly helped by the British forces, say from Singapore, which is very near Sumatra. The Dutch East Indies are, as a matter of fact, placed in a very convenient position to be supported from Manila in the north, Singapore in the west and Australia in the south and south-east.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the Far East, has recently been going to Hongkong, Manila and other places and his conclusion, after a close and first-hand study of the defences, is that Hongkong and Singapore are formidable and any venture by any Power would prove very costly. The Commander-in-Chief has had talks with American experts at Manila in the Philippines. It should be remembered that British and American interests in the Far East coincide and that they are in complete agreement in regard to the arrangements which have to be made and perfected for meeting any contingency.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

THE SETBACK.

Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of England, made an important speech on Wednesday, April 9. In his characteristic way he made no attempt to hide unpleasant facts or to gloss over setbacks. About Benghazi he said: "The loss of Bengazhi and the withdrawal imposed upon us by the German incursion into Cyrenaica are injurious chiefly on account of valuable air fields around Benghazi which have now passed into enemy hands." He revealed the fact that British commanders did not expect such strong armoured forces on the African shores. Mr. Churchill said that for the defence of Cyrenaica and Egypt severe fighting might be expected and he made it clear that future operations would depend only on military considerations and not on prestige values.

As regards the Battle of the Atlantic, Mr. Churchill said that "losses in British ships and their tonnage is very heavy and vast as are our resources, these losses could not continue indefinitely without seriously affecting our war effort. We have lost since the beginning of the war nearly four million tons of British shiping. As against this we have gained under the British flag over three million tons of foreign or newly constructed tonnage. Therefore, at the moment, our enormous fleets sail the seas without any serious or obvious diminution. The prospect would be gloomy but for the fact that several million tons of American ship-building will be available in the course of the next year and this will be supplemented by building schemes now in operation in Great Britain, Canada and Australia." To counteract the U-boat and surface raiders Mr. Churchill announced that United States revenue cutters—fast vessels of about 2,000 tons with fine armaments and a wide range of endurance—had already been placed at the disposal of the British Government and would be in action. The speech contained an appeal to Eire to realize that "it is as much in their interests as it is in ours that our naval and air forces must operate even further in the Atlantic."

GREECE.

Mr. Churchill referred to the futile attempts made by Great Britain to bring about a united Balkan front against Hitler's drive. Belgrade refused permission to Mr. Eden to enter the city. But Greece told Mr. Eden that she was resolved "to defend her freedom and native soil against aggression at all costs even if they were left wholly unsupported by Britain or Turkey or Yugoslavia." After this manly resolve, Great Britain had no hesitation in arriving at the conclusion that "we should share their ordeal and that the soldiers of the British Empire must stand in line with them." This decision was reached especially because British Generals told the Government that a safe military plan giving prospects of success could be made.

Mr. Churchill compared Hitler's action in relation to Yugoslavia to that of a boa-constrictor who had already covered its prey with its foul saliva and then had it suddenly wrested from its coils. "The supine miscreant," he said, "began his invasion of Yugoslavia with a howl of hatred" and it was to counter this move that Great Britain had promised Yugoslavia material help. After referring to the successes in Eritrea and Abyssinia, Mr. Churchill said; "When we look back upon the forlorn position in which we were left in the Middle East by the French collapse, we see the situation has been marvellously transformed, that we have taken more Italian prisoners than we had troops, that the British Empire had fought alone and conquered alone except for the aid of the gallant Free French and Belgian Forces."

UKRAINE.

After referring to the fact that it was not possible to anticipate Hitler's next move, the Prime Minister said that there were indications that an attempt would be made to secure the granary to Ukraine and the oilfields of Caucasus, as a means of gaining the resources with which to wear down the English-speaking world. "Once we have gained the Battle of the Atlantic," said Mr. Churchill, "and are sure of a constant flow of American supplies, then, however far Hitler may go or whatever new millions or scores of millions he may lay in misery, armed with the sword of retributive justice we shall be on his track."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

"A New Crime Against Europe"—Berlin radio.

On May 10, 1940, the Berlin radio declared: "The Allies have made up their minds to attack Germany through Holland and Belgium"—and then went on to announce the German invasion of Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg.

On April 6, 1941, the Berlin radio declared: "Britain is about to commit a new crime against Europe"—and then went on to announce the German invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece.

As always, when the Nazis are making a fresh assault on their neutral neighbours, Berlin's radio programmes on Sunday consisted largely of patriotic songs and military marches, interspersed with repetitions of the Fuehrer's latest exhortation to his subjects—who, after being promised peace by last Christmas, now find themselves committed to war with two more European nations.

Peace-Mongering?

Modestly enough, Hitler describes Britain as "the greatest war-monger of all time". Surely Hitler's Germany has not done too badly in that respect? Since September 1939, the Reich has invaded Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, Greece and Yugoslavia—all of them neutrals until Nazi troops crossed their borders.

"A band of ruffians" and "a criminal, British-paid clique", is how the Fuehrer describes the Yugoslav Government—oblivious of the fact that a week ago his own Berlin radio was describing that same Government as having been formed solely for puropses of internal reconstruction, while his friend Stalin has even more recently acknowledged its efforts for peace.

The Old Enemy.

Here are some other points from Hitler's latest apologia:—

"Britain still lets others fight for her." To take only one arm of Britain's fighting services, the Royal Air Force to date has destroyed at least 5,000 of the enemy's warplanes.

"After the campaign in the West, Mr. Churchill concentrated the whole strength of his Empire against our ally, Italy in Africa." If Britain herself has been thus denuded, why has Germany not invaded her, instead of two small Balkan nations?

"The British danger in the African theatre of war has been banished by the co-operation of Italian and German units." That co-operation has come too late to save the Italians in Eritrea, Abyssinia and Somaliland, parts of the African theatre whence the Axis vainly hoped to launch a flank attack on the Suez Canal.

"The Belgrade *coup-d'état* was followed by the persecution of Germans in Yugoslavia." That familiar-sounding lie had already been refuted by leaders of the German community in Yugoslavia throughout last week.

That Convoy Incident.

Referring on April 2 to what it persists in calling the British attack on a French convoy off the Algerian coast, Berlin says that four people were killed and seven severely injured.

To begin with, the British naval force did not at any time attack the French convoy, even when the latter ignored a perfectly legitimate demand that the French vessels should stop and submit to search. Consequently, any casualties which may have occurred were the result of the British warships' replying in self-defence to the French shore-batteries which, without any possible justification, opened fire on them. It is known that direct hits were scored on the shore-batteries.

Revolt in the Mountains.

The Nazi radio on April 3, quoted a Rome statement that the Italian troops had evacuated Asmara, capital of Eritrea, in order to prevent further British bombardment, "which had already caused hundreds of casualties to the Italian and native population".

The swift fall of Asmara was due to a revolt among the Italian Colonial garrison, which led the Italian bishop and the Chief of Police to appeal to the British forces to occupy the town and restore order. Almost exactly similar circumstances preceded the British occupation of Harrar, in Abyssinia, the two incidents occurring within a day or two of each other.

Friendship's End.

Reporting the death of the Hungarian Premier, who is now known to have committed suicide, the German wireless said on April 3: "Count Teleki led Hungary's policy with firm determination and in a spirit of co-operation with the Axis powers. Germany mourns the loss of a staunch friend."

Count Teleki, who shot himself through the head, left a letter declaring himself unable to carry on his "difficult and unhappy task". The announcement of his death coincided with reports that German troops were passing through Hungary towards Yugoslavia, a country with which Count Teleki had laboured long and hard to establish friendly relations.

Another Nazi Misquotation.

Lord Cranbourne, Secretary of State for the Dominions, is the latest British leader to be deliberately misquoted by the Germans. On April 4, Berlin reported him as stating categorically that the British Government had no intention whatsoever of including Dominion representatives in the War Cabinet.

What Lord Cranbourne actually said was that the Government opposed the suggestion as not being at present practicable and possible. But, he added, a point might be reached when a conference of Dominion Prime Ministers would be not only important but essential.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Axis Sabotage.

According to the Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of April 3, the German newspaper *D. D. P. Korrespondez* characterised the seizure of German and Italian ships by the U.S.A. Government as illegal. It also wrongly stated that the sailors of those countries had done nothing prejudicial to America.

America's action, taken under a law passed during the Great War of 1914-18, was perfectly legal. And as for the German and Italian sailors, they were engaged in acts of sabotage culminating in the burning of seven Axis ships in American harbours. Furthermore, warrants have been issued in Washington accusing 100 Germans and 75 Italians of violation of immigration laws by staying in port over the statutory limit of 60 days permitted to alien seamen.

Meanwhile, Berlin announces with unction that the Danish Foreign Ministry has instructed its envoy in Washington to protest to the U. S. Government against the measures taken against Danish ships in American and Philippine ports. The Danish Legation in Washington—which has the Atlantic between itself and Nazi influence—announces: "We have not protested, and are not going to protest, against the seizure of Danish ships".

Britain "Delivering the Goods".

The Nazi broadcast in Hindustani and Persian quoted on April 4 an unnamed Argentine newspaper as stating that the German submarines were dealing heavy blows at British merchant shipping.

But Britain is still delivering the goods. Interesting neutral comment on Britain's shipping position appeared in the Swedish newspaper, *Morgen Posten*, of March 27, in which tribute was paid to the continuity of British trade. The newspaper proceeded: "It is a remarkable performance of increased deliveries of textiles, chemical and electrical goods. Countries have found that they can depend not only on Britain's delivery of the goods ordered, but on their delivery in time. Neither U-boats nor bombers have been able to break the British shipping patrols".

How Vichy helps the Nazis.

Berlin's Hindustani bulletin of March 31, alluding to the incident off the Algerian coast when four French merchantmen passed the British contraband control, reported French circles as stating that the convoy was carrying rice, sugar and cereals to Algeria. Besides the fact that the French convoy's refusal to submit to search suggested that it was carrying war materials for German use it is definitely known that at least one of the four French ships was carrying a cargo of rubber, of which commodity Germany is very short.

It is also known that French vessels have been carrying goods destined for Germany, and most revealing in this connection is a programme for French railway transport drawn up by the Germans, covering January 15 to March 1, which has fallen into British hands. According to this programme, 30,000 tons of bauxite, 10,000 tons of aluminium and thousands of tons of rubber were to be transferred from or *via* unoccupied France to Germany.

British Naval Victory.

Both the German and the Italian broadcasts, while referring to the naval action in the Eastern Mediterranean, which will be known to history as the battle of Cape Matapan, stated that one large British cruiser was sunk and other British ships were seriously damaged.

It appears that, to console the Italians for losses so heavy that they could not be concealed, Axis propaganda had to inflict imaginary losses on the British—whose total losses, in actual fact, amounted to one aircraft.

England's Cotton Trade.

The Nazi broadcast of April 2 stated that the German naval and air raids had hit Britain's cotton trade so hard that the Liverpool cotton market had been closed. That Britain's cotton trade still flourishes is proved by the fact that she was in a position to purchase Egypt's entire cotton crop last year. When it is remembered that Great Britain needs for her own use only about one-third of the cotton she has purchased and that the remainder was probably resold, it becomes quite clear that the flow of British trade is still strong.

Truthful Tail-piece.

The German broadcast of April 3 claimed that the German High Command communiqués were always truthful. One of the latest examples of Nazi "truth" is their claim to have sunk 387,000 tons of shipping during the week ending at midnight on March 22, while in actual fact shipping lost during that period amounted to 59,141 tons.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

18th Apr.—The Royal Air Force made the heaviest raid yet on the German capital with the latest types of bombers and bombs. They also raided Cherbourg, Rotterdam and Cologne.

The German Air Force attacked Portsmouth.

19th Apr.—The Royal Air Force successfully attacked enemy shipping off Heligoland and Norway.

20th Apr.—The German Air Force made a heavy attack on London while British bombers sank more enemy ships in the North Sea.

21st Apr.—Britain was practically free of raiders and a British mine-sweeper destroyed two German aircraft.

The Royal Air Force raided Cologne, Dusseldorf, Aachen, Rotterdam, Dunkirk, Ostend and Brest. Several enemy ships were hit and left sinking.

22nd Apr.—While the German air force attacked Plymouth, the Royal Air Force raided the docks at Le Havre and aerodromes in Northern France.

23rd Apr.—While the German Air Force made a heavy attack on Plymouth, the Royal Air Force raided the naval base at Brest.

24th Apr.—German airmen raided Plymouth for the third night in succession. The Royal Air Force attacked industrial and military targets in Germany and occupied countries.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

18th Apr.—British and Imperial Air Forces harassed the enemy in Cyrenaica. British patrols, which were very active near Tobruk and Sollum, captured many German prisoners.

A statement issued from No. 10, Downing Street, said that if either Athens or Cairo were bombed by the enemy, His Majesty's Government would authorize the systematic bombing of Rome though the greatest care would be taken not to bomb Vatican City.

19th Apr.—British troops harassed the enemy near Tobruk and destroyed a number of vehicles in an enemy convoy near Sollum. Empire air forces destroyed German transport in Cyrenaica and Italian planes in aerodromes in Abyssinia.

Enemy aircraft attacked Malta but caused no great damage to Government property.

20th Apr.—Tobruk beat off a German mechanized assault, Indian mechanized troops taking part in the defence. Benghazi, Tripoli, Derna and Bardia were heavily raided by the Royal Air Force. The Imperial troops reached the outskirts of Dessie in Abyssinia where plans were being made for the return of Emperor Haile Selassie to Addis Ababa.

21st Apr.—The Italian Viceroy of Abyssinia was reported to have assured Mussolini that he would fight to the last and to have rejected the British offer of safe conduct for civilians if he and his troops surrendered. The Royal Air Force bombed Derna, Benghazi and Gazala. A heavily laden enemy tanker was sunk on its way to Tripoli by the British submarine *Tetrarch*.

Malta was twice raided by enemy airmen but without damage or casualties.

22nd Apr.—British forces began their assault on Dessie; patrols were active in Libya and the Royal Air Force bombed enemy bases.

A heavy bombardment of the port of Tripoli was carried out by the British Navy; and six transport or supply ships, one destroyer, a naval headquarters power-station and military stores were hit. Four German troop-carrying planes were shot down in flames.

A tanker (8,000 tons), a supply ship (6,000 tons) and an ammunition ship (7,000 tons),

all carrying supplies for the enemy in the Balkans, were torpedoed by British naval aircraft.

23rd Apr.—The battle for Dessie was in progress. Elsewhere the British Imperial forces continued their addvance in Abyssinia.

Military headquarters in London confirmed to-day that a British force was landed in Bardia to demolish enemy positions.

During raids from Tobruk, Imperial forces captured 17 Italian officers and 430 other ranks. Royal Air Force fighters brought down four enemy aircraft at Tobruk and also attacked shipping in Benghazi harbour.

24th Apr.—The Imperial Forces forced the Italians' forward defences at Dessie.

Eight enemy planes were shot down in an air battlle over Tobruk.

The Royal Air Force carried out systematic raids on Libyan towns and on the Dodecanese Islands.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC.

18th Apr.—United States troops left for Bermuda to form part of the new garrison there.

19th Apr.—Lord Halifax had a conversation with the United States Secretary of State and said afterwards that the Atlantic Ocean remained the decisive theatre of war.

20th Apr.—President Roosevelt had a long conference at New York with Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Premier.

Mr. Roosevelt urged American doctors to volunteer for service in the military and civilian hospitals of "Our British friends."

21st Apr.—A joint statement issued in America after the King-Roosevelt talks revealed that agreement was reached on the principle of joint mobilization of the resources of Canada and United States in aid of Britain and in the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

22nd Apr.—Mr. Mackenzie King announced that President Roosevelt would visit Canada in May.

23rd Apr.—Col. Knox, U. S. Secretary of the Navy, revealed that about 20 fast torpedo boats were ready for delivery to Britain.

Lord Beaverbrook stated that nearly 1,000 assembled American and Canadian aircraft had already been delivered to the Royal Air Force and that only one aircraft was lost on the ferry service between America and Britain.

24th Apr.—The British submarine *Urge* torpedoed and sank a heavily laden enemy oil tanker of over 10,000 tons which was endeavouring to run the blockade.

GREECE AND ITALY.

18th Apr.—The Greek and British Imperial troops began a gradual withdrawal to a shorter line of defence in the face of increasing and reckless pressure by the German forces. According to American reports, German losses in Greece so far included 60,000 dead.

The Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis, took his own life, unable to bear the strain of his immense responsibility.

19th Apr.—All German attacks were repulsed and the Anglo-Greek front remained unbroken.

20th Apr.—The Allies evacuated Mount Olympus as part of a plan of retirement to a shorter line. Their rearguards inflicted terrible casualties on the advancing Germans. The Royal Air Force played havoc with troop concentrations.

It was announced that King George of Greece had formed a new Cabinet under his direction.

The Vatican Radio made a sharp attack on the Nazi regime for its treatment of Catholics in Germany.

21st Apr.—The Imperial forces evacuated Larissa and Trikkla in the course of their systematic withdrawal but the Germans failed to break through the Allied line at any point. The British withdrawal was in conformity with the movement of the Greek army on the left. The Royal Air Force shot down no fewer than 16 German planes in air battles over Greece. German airmen raided the island and town of Corfu, Piraeus, Eleusis and Megra, also Attica, Missolonghi and Thebes. Several German raiders were shot down.

M. Emmanuel Tsouderos was appointed Premier of Greece and took the oath of allegiance. He said "We shall carry on our country's fight to a victorious finish."

22nd Apr.—Empire forces occupied defensive positions south of Lamia, 50 miles south of Larissa. The Germans claimed to have occupied Yanina in the Pindus sector, also the islands of Lemnos and Samothrace off the Turkish coast.

23rd Apr.—The Greek forces in Epirus and Macedonia laid down their arms and surrendered to the enemy. But King George and the Greek Government moved the capital to Crete and announced that the fight would go on and that the surrender in Epirus was unauthorized. The main Greek army stood side by side with their British allies, who were in contact with the enemy at the historic Pass of Thermopylae.

24th Apr.—British troops in Greece were fighting very gallant rearguard actions in Greece, according to Mr. Fadden, the acting Australian Premier.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

18th Apr.—The Germans claimed that the Yugoslav army had capitulated. It was revealed that 12,000 people were killed in the brutal Nazi air-raids on the open town of Belgrade.

19th Apr.—The Yugoslav Premier, General Simovitch, in a statement said that "the fight imposed on us was too unequal." Bulgarian troops entered Yugoslavia "to preserve peace and order among the people" in the "Bulgarian" territory "liberated" by the German army.

It was officially announced that strong British, Indian and other Imperial forces had arrived in Basra to open up lines of communications through Iraq and that the new Iraq administration was affording them full facilities in the spirit of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty. It was hoped in London that more normal relations between the two countries would soon be established.

21st Apr.—King Peter of Yugoslavia and General Simovitch arrived in Jerusalem. A Swiss report stated that their plane was attacked on their way from Athens and that a member of the Yugoslav Cabinet was killed. In a proclamation to his people, King Peter said he would not abandon the struggle against Germany and Italy.

Conversations between the German and Italian Foreign Ministers began at Vienna to chalk out the main lines of a new territorial settlement in the Balkans. King Boris of Bulgaria had already seen Hitler at his field headquarters. Meanwhile the Macedonian Komitadji were reported to be taking heavy toll of German troops in Yugoslavia. An armed band of 8,000 in the Skoplje region was fighting its way south in an endeavour to reach the Greek lines.

The Nazis made more demands of the Rumanian Premier, and threatened to back the Iron Guard against him. General Antonescu, however, held out. Hungaro-Rumanian frontier clashes were reported.

22nd Apr.—It was stated Hitler and Mussolini would discuss the partitioning of Yugoslavia after the preliminary talks going on in Vienna between their Foreign Ministers.

23rd Apr.—Mr. Eden assured the House of Commons that Britain would take firm steps to eradicate all possible German infiltration into Iraq.

24th Apr.—Bulgarian troops occupied almost the whole of Thrace.

Hitler received the Regent of Hungary at his Balkans headquarters. The Hungarian Premier foreshadowed an anti-jewish drive in his country.

SHIPPING SITUATION.

19th Apr.—Yugoslavia announced that approximately 120,000 tons of her shipping, now in American waters, would be made immediately available to Britain for "the common cause."

24th Apr.—The second of Britain's new battleships, "The Prince of Wales" was reported to be in commission.

THE FAR EAST.

18th Apr.—The Soviet gave China an assurance of continued assistance in her struggle with Japan.

19th Apr.—Japanese forces landed at Ningpo and other ports on the Chekiang coast in order to cut off seaborne supplies to China.

The British Ambassador to China left Singapore for Chungking at the conclusion of an important conference with the Governor of the Straits Settlements and the British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East.

The *Pravda* disclosed that the Soviet had refused to join the Three-Power Pact.

20th Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka, on his way back from Moscow, said that the Japan-Soviet Pact had exceeded Japan's fondest expectations and that both countries profitted from it.

21st Apr.—The Australian Foreign Minister contradicted Tokyo reports that a military pact, for the encirclement of Japan, had been signed by Britain, United States, China, Australia, India and the Dutch East Indies.

22nd Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka returned to Tokyo; he maintained that Japan's Pact with the Soviet did not conflict with the Tripartite Pact.

The United States Secretary to the Treasury foreshadowed an early agreement, by which America would advance £12½ million to stabilise Chinese currency.

Japanese forces entered Foochow, capital of the Chinese Province of Fukien and the last of the treaty ports in the possession of the Chungking Government. An air attack was also made on the Burma-China Road.

24th Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka reported on the Soviet-Japan Pact to the Privy Council at Tokyo.

VICHY.

19th Apr.—The Toulouse Radio revealed that many young Frenchmen were going to Portland on their way to join General de Gaulle's Free French Forces.

20th Apr.—Admiral Darlan suspended 22 Town Councils for adopting " a hostile attitude towards the State".

22nd Apr.—Reports that Hitler sent a message to Marshal Petain, offering to conclude a final peace with France if Laval was reinstated, were denied in Berlin.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

21st Apr.—The German authorities threatened severe reprisals against the Belgians as a sequel to the numerous acts of sabotage and " hostility towards the army of occupation " in the Hainaut province of Belgium.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

18th Apr.—Eire's Defence Minister stated at a meeting in Boston that Eire would not give up or lease ports to the belligerents. A German bomber crashed in Eire territorial waters off Cork; the crew came ashore and were interned. Penalties for the misuse of the rapidly dwindling stock of wheat flour were announced in Eire.

21st Apr.—The formation of a Basque National Council to continue the work of the Basque Government and to join the Democracies in their war with the dictators was announced by a Basque delegation in London.

24th Apr.—It was reported that Spain's Foreign Minister was supporting Hitler's demand for the right of passage for his troops through Spain to Gibraltar though General Franco was still hesitant.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 15th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over enemy coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 9, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at Brest; rail traffic and a radio station in Denmark; aluminium works at Hoyanger (S. Norway). R.A.F. night bombers raids on Berlin (railway station, goods yards, Government buildings in Wilhelmstrasse); naval base at Emden; other objectives in N. W. Germany. R.A.F. night fighter raids on aerodromes in N. France.	1 day-fighter. 7 night-raiders.	1 day-fighter. 1 night-fighter.
April 10, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on air base at Borkum Island (hangars, barracks, troops, naval craft). R.A.F. night bomber raids on factories at Dusseldorf and elsewhere in Ruhr and Rhineland; naval base at Brest (docks, battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*); Focke-Wulffe aerodrome at Merignac.	1 day-bomber. 7 night-bombers.	..
April 11, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on patrol and supply ships in N. Sea; fortifications on N. Frisian coast. (Night raids cancelled owing to weather.)	1 day-bomber.	..
April 12, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on industrial objectives in Ruhr; petrol stores at Flushing; power station at Leyden; shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. day fighter attacks on Le Touquet and other aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. night bombers raids on battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at Brest; Focke-Wulffe aerodrome at Merignac; U-boat base at L'Orient.	3 night-bombers.	1 day-fighter. 1 night-fighter.
April 13, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on naval and supply shipping off Dutch and German coasts. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Focke-Wulffe aerodrome at Merignac; invasion base at Bordeaux.	1 day-bomber.	..
April 14, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on convoy off Dutch coast; troops, power station and radio station at Leyden; power station at Haarlem; gun emplacements near Zandfoort. R.A.F. night bomber raid on battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at Brest.	..	..
April 15, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over channel and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off N. W. France; shipping and seaplane base at Borkum Island. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Kiel (naval base, ship-building yards); invasion base at Booulnge.	1 day-fighter. 2 day-bombers. 2 night-bombers.	2 day-fighters. 1 day-bomber.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The position in the Balkans continues to be serious. The Greek Prime Minister M. Korizis, committed suicide but King George lost no time in setting up a new Government under M. Emmanuel Tsouderos. The King had almost immediately to face another crisis. Greek troops in the Epirus and Macedonian Sectors, cut off from the main Greek army and unable to stand up to the German onrush, have laid down their arms without the consent of the Greek Government. The King and his Ministers have set up the headquarters of the Government at Crete and proclaimed their resolve to continue the fight with all the means in their power. Very severe losses have been inflicted on German troops by the air and land forces of the Allies. But, in spite of heavy punishments, the Germans continue to sacrifice thousands of men.

So far as Yugoslavia is concerned, intensive guerrilla warfare is now going on, there being no unified direction. The King, who is now in Jerusalem, has issued a statement saying that Yugoslavia will never surrender but will fight on.

The position in North Africa appears to have reached stabilization. Repeated attacks on Tobruk have been beaten off, while British heavy and light naval forces, with the assistance of the Royal Air Force, have bombarded the port of Tripoli. This was carried out at dawn on Monday last and continued for 40 minutes, shells of 15 inches and smaller calibres being fired at the harbour and port installations. It is announced that six transport ships, one destroyer, and the naval headquarters power station and military stores were hit and either destroyed or severely damaged. Further, four German troop carrying planes have been shot down. These operations, combined with the severe losses inflicted in the battle of Matapan, have appreciably increased enemy transport difficulties. Apparently, one of the special tasks of the British Navy is to obstruct transport of men and munitions from Sicily to Tripoli.

So far as Abyssinia is concerned, the Duke of Aosta has rejected the offer of the British Commander to lay down arms. Dessie is now being attacked and the British have forced the enemy's outer defences.

Mr. Matsuoka has returned to Tokyo with the Pact with Russia in his hand. He is in an exultant mood and he does not think that this Pact affects the Tripartite Pact which, in his view, remains the immutable basis of Japan's policy. America is of the view that the significance of the agreement could be over-estimated. So far as China is concerned, a more or less definite statement has been made that Soviet help to the Chungking Government will continue to flow.

A rather remarkable revelation is that Russia refused to join the Tripartite Pact in November last.

There have been severe air raids on London in the current week. Plymouth suffered rather badly on three successive nights and there has been good deal of damage, and many people appear to have been killed.

Mr. Churchill made a very brief statement on Tuesday in the House of Commons. He refused to be drawn into discussion of the campaigns that are proceeding because the present was an inopportune moment to do so and it was not fair to the troops that were gallantly engaged in a bitter struggle, to reveal more information.

An agreement between Canada and America has been announced. It will be remembered that there is already a Joint Defence Board set up for ensuring mutual security. The present agreement seeks to mobilize the resources of the two countries for helping Britain and strengthening the defence of the Western Hemisphere, each to provide the other with defence articles which it is best able to produce, that is to say, America will secure nickel and base metals for munitions manufacture, while Canada will be brought under the operation of the Lease and Lend Act for the purpose of securing munitions. It is also stated that Canada will join America in establishing a base at Newfoundland.

WAR IN MIDDLE EAST THEATRE.

The German forces in the Balkans have fully exploited their success in driving a wedge between the Yugoslav and the Greek armies through the Monastir gap and cutting the lines of communication between the two countries. They have also linked up with, and put fresh heart into the Italian forces who were facing utter rout in Albania. It was of course to be expected that the Germans would overrun the plains in Yugoslavia but it was confidently hoped that the Yugoslavs would offer stiff resistance in the mountains in the centre and the south, with their back to the

Adriatic Sea. Characteristically, Hitler sacrificed manpower and material in enormous volume and proved once again that the heroism of even so brave a race as the Serbs was no match for mechanical and aerial supremacy. The German air force, which showed the same callous disregard of humanitarian scruples that it had exhibited in Poland and the Low Countries, was responsible for the death of some 12,000 civilians in the open city of Belgrade. Similar havoc was caused at Serajevo and other towns. Unified resistance is now at an end in Yugoslavia. King Peter, General Simovitch and other members of the Yugoslav Government are now in Jerusalem. In a proclamation, King Peter reaffirms his decision to continue the fight and reports coming in from Yugoslavia speak of harassing guerilla activities and resistance by the Macedonian Komitadji. An army 8,000 strong is stated to be fighting its way from Skoplje to the south in order to join up with the Greeks. True, Yugoslavia is suffering the consequences of the refusal of her past Governments to get into staff conversations with the British. Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Italy, like the vultures they are, are clamouring for a share, but Yugoslavia may yet prove that she is far from being a corpse.

After the fall of Salonika (reported last week), the Greek army stretched in a line from Katerani near Mount Olympus along the hills towards Lake Ochrida and so on to Albania. The Germans, however, by their entry into Albania compelled the Greeks to fall back on the left flank; and on the right, advancing both along the coast and down the valley of the Vistritsa, they cut through the plain of the Thessaly. Larissa, an important town, was practically destroyed by Nazi bombers and powerful German columns pounded at the line held by the British, Australians and New Zealanders along with their Greek comrades. Both the Allied and German air forces played a most active part and the R.A.F. proved itself more than a match for the Luftwaffe. In the face of German superiority in numbers the Allied High Command ordered the withdrawal of their forces so that the front could be shortened and greater resistance offered. The Allies withdrew to Lamia, 50 miles south of Larissa, but their line was nowhere broken. And American estimates place the total German losses in dead at 60,000.

However, as stated above, the Greek troops in the Epirus and Macedonian sectors apparently could not withstand the terrific pressure exerted by the Germans and laid down their arms. This unauthorized defection has in no way affected the resolve of the King and his new Government to carry on the fight. From their new headquarters, both King George and his new Prime Minister have reaffirmed their determination and their faith in ultimate victory. The main body of the Greek troops continue to fight on by the side of the British, Australian and New Zealand forces who have taken up new defensive positions. The British forces are stated to be facing the Germans in the historic Pass of Thermopylae. The general situation is, nevertheless, very serious as can be gathered by the statement made yesterday by Mr. Fadden, Acting Prime Minister of Australia, who said: "We are seeing the last stages of a very gallant rear-guard action." What should be remembered, in discussing the position in Greece is that things might have been very different if Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey had, before the crisis developed, resolved to swim together. But once Greece had decided on fighting the aggressor, alone if need be, it would have been "one of the infamies of history", as Mr. Menzies of Australia, who is now in London and who has taken full responsibility for sending Australian troops to Greece, said, if the British Empire had, in such circumstances, refrained from rushing to the help of the noble and gallant Greeks.

Meanwhile, in Africa, the German thrust to Libya has been definitely halted near Sollum on the Egyptian border where British patrols have taken increasing toll of the enemy's advance units. The defenders at Tobruk, who now include Indian mechanized troops, have not only resisted all assaults but by brilliant sorties inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. The Royal Air Force has repeatedly raided Bardia, Derna, Benghazi and Tripoli, and the British Navy has proved once again that it is a force to be reckoned with in the Mediterranean by the successful bombardment of the port of Tripoli in Libya and by the lightning landing of a demolition party at Bardia. British naval aircraft also made a highly successful attack on a convoy of enemy ships carrying arms and other supplies to the troops in the Balkans. A tanker of about 8,000 tons, a supply ship also of 8,000 tons, and an ammunition ship of about 7,000 tons were torpedoed. The remnants of the Italian army in East Africa have been forced to give battle at Dessie, their Commander, the Duke of Aosta, having refused the British offer of safe conduct for Italians in Abyssinia in return for their surrender. Plans are ready for the arrival of Emperor Haile Selassi in Addis Ababa. His elder son, the Crown Prince, is at the head of the Patriot forces mopping up the Italians in Abyssinia while his second son, the Duke of Harrar, has been installed as the Governor of that city.

STRATEGY IN THE BATTLE OF THE MIDDLE EAST

In the Battle of the Middle East now proceeding with great intensity, the greatest possible care should be taken not to indulge in speculations and over-optimism. It is obvious that Germany did not reckon with the situation brought about by the splendid Greek resistance and the refusal of Yugoslavia to submit to German dictation. Great Britain, in the circumstances, acted in the only way in which she should have done, that is, by deciding to go to their assistance. Such assistance could not be rushed to Yugoslavia in time—a fact which Yugoslavia has acknowledged. It is obvious that Great Britain, has run serious risks and they have been taken into account by Wavell, the Wizard. A few facts have to be remembered in this connexion. Great Britain has been able to keep her supply line

across the Mediterranean, especially since the Battle of Matapan; and the conspicuous improvement in her Middle East supply position, the expulsion of the Italians from the Red Sea and the likelihood of American shipments to Red Sea ports enable Great Britain to hold her own in the present struggle.

We should recognize that there is a strategic unity in the battles now proceeding on both sides of the Mediterranean. The forces of the British Commonwealth of Nations are disposed in a great horseshoe, the centre of which is based on Alexandria and the Suez Canal. The left wing extends to Cyrenaica and the right wing, comprising Yugoslavia, Albania and Greece, is linked to the centre by the sea-lane through the Eastern Mediterranean which the Royal Navy commands. In the central sector, the battle is about to close with the completion of the conquest of Italian East Africa, the destruction of the Italian army, 200,000 strong and the Italian Navy, very nearly wrecked. This would necessarily mean that the Allied centre would pour an ever-increasing stream of supply both to the right and left wings. The chief lines of communications to supply bases are from Alexandria, whereto supplies proceed from the Red Sea ports which are linked to Capetown, Great Britain and America. An American commentator, describing the remarkable transformation of American policy in regard to the sending of supplies to Red Sea ports remarks: "When the British were hammering at the Italians on the Plateau of Keren, few people realized that one of the stakes of the battle would be transformation of the major geography of the war. But the day that the Red Sea becomes an open zone for American shipping, the transformation will have begun."

THE ALLIED RESISTANCE.

The failure of the Italian invasion of Greece and the revolt of Yugoslavia provided a great opportunity to the Allies in creating a right wing against Hitler on European soil. He has sent a powerful army to the south, which should necessarliy complicate the problem of supplies to Germany and German-occupied countries. It should be remembered in this connexion that the German war-machine, reinforced by plunder and the industrial resources of the greater part of Europe, is now at its peak. On the other hand, with American help, it will take some time before Great Britain can draw level. It is for this reason that Germany longs to finish the present campaign as quickly as possible and for this purpose is sacrificing thousands of men, irrespective of the consequences. The Greek and the Allied armies are now feeling the full fury of the German onslaught, but they will continue to hang on. Reverses, some of them very severe, are bound to occur.

Monastir Gap, Salonika, Mount Olympus and Larissa have been evacuated by the Allies. Thrace has been occupied by the German troops who have reached the Aegean Sea. All these mean substantial initial successes, but can Germany sustain these successes and extend her operations in extremely difficult mountainous country and against the troops of Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand, not to speak of Greece, who know quite well how to make full use of the topographical conditions? These forces in the Balkans must keep up the fight till the other British troops are able to join them. They are greatly outnumbered and there is no disposition anywhere to underestimate the very serious character of the position.

There is one point which must be made clear. General Wavell has been criticized for giving up Benghazi and withdrawing to Tobruk and for evacuating Bardia. These have undoubtedly been unpleasant reverses, but the argument that General Wavell should have continued his original advance over the desert and seized Tripoli is based upon ignorance of geographical conditions in Libya. In the first place, if he had extended his communications by a further 500 miles he would have had to retain considerable forces in Libya and that would have made the conquest of Italian East Africa impossible. For instance, Keren and Massawa could not have fallen into British hands but for the decision to stop with Bengazhi. Again, there was the immient danger of a German advance into Yugoslavia and Greece. When the alternatives of holding on to the deserts of Cyrenaica and assisting Greece are balanced, then it should be obvious to any reasonable mind as to which of the two has greater weight. Alexandria and Suez must be saved and this is being done by subjecting the enemy to losses as Allied troops withdraw until they have acquired a sufficient concentration to hold him. In the meantime, the Royal Air Force and the British Navy are busy sinking enemy transports in the Sicilian channel. The enemy in Cyrenaica is dependent on his long and exposed line of communications over the desert to Tripoli. He cannot escape by sea, while the British forces with shorter lines of communications and seapower can choose position from which they can threaten these enemy lines of communication. The enemy has lost many planes over Libya and replacement is rather difficult.

INDIAN TROOPS IN IRAQ.

Iraq, which has been much in the picture in the last few days, has Iran and Persia to the east, Arabia to the south and Turkey, Syria and Transjordan in the north and west. Its importance, therefore, to the Allies and Turkey is obvious. The Government of Iraq was recently overthrown by Sayyid Rashid Ali, who stated that his policy would be to uphold the Treaty of 1930 with Great Britain. According to that treaty, in the event of war, Iraq should furnish to the British Commonwealth on Iraq territory assistance in the form of all facilities in their power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and means of communications. The Iraq people are pro-British. The new Iraq Government was informed by the British Government that British troops would shortly arrive at Basra and assent to this action was readily given. British troops arrived in Basra on April 17 and 18 and these forces were welcomed on behalf

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GREECE

A GREAT AND GLORIOUS COUNTRY.

The Kingdom of Greece comprises an area of 130,000 square miles and has a population of six million and three hundred thousand. It looks small enough on the map but every inch of its soil evokes sacred memories. Six hundred years before the Christian era, the inhabitants of Greece had attained a degree of civilization which fills us even now with wonder and which has left its mark on the world's history. The ancient City States of Greece, led by Athens, were dedicated to the ideals of freedom, beauty, culture and perfection which sway our thoughts even now. And one of them, Sparta, upheld the laws of duty and conduct in many memorable ways.

The Greeks, till they became disunited and weak, were the masters of the Mediterranean seaboard and performed incredibly heroic deeds in defence of national freedom. Every schoolboy thrills to that first lesson in patriotism—the Battle of Thermopylae at which Leonidas and his little band guarded a small pass against a huge army. The Battle of Marathon, the naval battle of Salamis and the rout of the great Persian army at Platae were other notable events in the history of Greece.

And the Greeks produced a succession of great men and women whose works in different fields—literature, philosophy, history—are still read, enjoyed and admired. Who has not heard of the blind poet, Homer, who sang of the heroic ideals of Greece in his epic of the Trojan War? Or of Sappho, the first among women-singers? Then there were Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides, who were masters of the drama; Plato and Aristotle, the philosophers; Solon, the wise, Themistocles and Pericles, renowned for their statesmanship; Herodotus, the historian; Demosthenes, the orator; and perhaps the greatest of them all, in fact or in fable, Socrates, who gave his life for his opinions.

GREECE'S PART IN THE GREAT WAR.

The Greeks, with the exception of the Spartans, were freedom-loving and individualistic but always they united against a foreign tyrant as they have now done against the two bullies, Mussolini and Hitler. As they fought the Persians in the old days, they rose against the Turks in the last century and won their freedom, with the support of Great Britain and Russia. Their break-away from the Ottoman Empire gave an impetus to the revival of nationalism in Europe. When revolution broke out in Turkey in 1908, the Balkan States seized the opportunity to form a league but war soon resulted between Greece and Bulgaria. Greece was victorious and gained both prestige and territory; Crete

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 5)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 15th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 9	Nil.	3 day-bombers. 1 night-fighter. 12 night-bombers.
April 10	Nil.	1 day-bomber. 1 day-fighter. 10 night-bombers.
April 11	Nil.	3 day-bombers. 3 night-bombers.
April 12	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
April 13	Nil.	1 day-bomber. 1 night-bomber.
April 14	Nil.	1 day-bomber.
April 15	Nil.	1 day-bomber. 3 night-bombers.

and Salonika became Greek. Venizelos, the outstanding Greek statesman of the first quarter of the present century, led Greece into the Great War on the side of the Allies and sent King Constantine who was pro-German, out into exile. Greece fought loyally by the side of the Allies and at the end of the war got another large accession of territory, enabling her to dominate both sides of the Aegean Sea.

But in 1920, King Alexander died and his father, King Constantine, came back to the throne. Venizelos had meanwhile involved Greece in a fight with Turkey with a view to conquering those parts of Asia Minor which were inhabited by the Greeks. He hoped for a speedy victory but Turkey was now under the magnificent leadership of Mustapha Kemal. The Greeks fought as well as they could but their generals were of poor calibre and Venizelos would not listen to the advice of rising soldiers like Metaxas, who was later to lead his country so nobly and successfully. The Greeks were beaten by the Turks, Constantine abdicated again in 1922 and died a year later. The prestige of the monarchy was shaken and Constantine's son, King George II, was forced to abdicate in 1924. Greece became a republic and years of factional strife (between the Republicans under Venizelos and the Monarchists) followed. Venizelos was defeated in the elections of 1932 and 1933, tried abortive uprisings and was exiled in 1935. The Monarchist leader, General Kondylis, seized power and organized a plebiscite in favour of a restoration; and King George came to the throne (in April 1935). Venizelos died next year in Paris; Kondylis and Tsaldaris, another Royalist leader, died in unhappy succession; but General Metaxas, who was made Premier in 1936, restored order in Greece. He established a dictatorship in August, 1936; Parliament was dissolved and political parties were suppressed. Everyone thought that Metaxas would become the camp-follower of Mussolini and Hitler.

METAXAS REJECTS ITALY'S DEMANDS.

But the belief was mistaken. Metaxas, who had never concealed his admiration for the Spartan ideal of the supremacy of the State, would not barter away his Country's freedom and when Italy presented her three-hour ultimatum at 3 a.m. on October 28 last year, he spurned it aside and resolved to resist the aggression. Italy accused Greece of "tolerating the use of her territorial waters and ports by the British Navy for the prosecution of the war against Italy; permitting the organization of the British Secret Service in the Greek Islands; terrorism against the Albanian population of the Province of Ciamura and persistent attempts to create disorders on the Greco-Albanian frontier." These "provocations", it was said, could no longer be tolerated by Italy, since Greek neutrality had "become more and more a pretence," the responsibility for which "falls upon Great Britain." The Italian Government, therefore, demanded, "as a guarantee of Greek neutrality and Italian security" and "with full respect for Greek sovereignty," that the Greek Government should allow Italian forces to occupy strategic points on Greek territory (Corfu, Crete, Epirus and the Piraeus) for the duration of the conflict with Great Britain. In the event of Greek resistance, it would be suppressed (ran the ultimatum) by force of arms and the responsibility would fall on the Greek Government. General Metaxas summarily rejected the ultimatum, informing the Italian Minister that he regarded it as an Italian declaration of war against Greece. Ordering immediate mobilisation, the General issued a proclamation to his people: "The hour has come to fight for the independence, integrity and honour of Greece." At 5-30 a.m. on that fateful day, half an hour before the ultimatum expired, Italian troops crossed the Greek frontier from Albania.

People may ask why Metaxas, who must have known of the mechanised might of the Italian forces, took the decision to fight the Roman bully. The fact was, Metaxas knew that the valour and patriotism of the Greeks would score heavily against the dispirited and cowardly hordes of Italy. He had long worked out plans for defending the independence of his country among the mountains and valleys where the Italian tanks would be of no avail. He had also entered into a pact of mutual assistance with Turkey, with whom relations had become more and more cordial, and Greece was a member of the Balkan Entente (between Turkey, Greece, Rumania and Yugoslavia). The Entente, it is true, could not withstand the shock of German imperialism in Central and Southern Europe—Rumania had become a client and tool of Hitler but Turkey stood her ground firmly; and later the Yugoslavs, after one week of wobbling, chose to stand side by side with the Greeks in defence of freedom and civilization against Nazi barbarism.

But the chief strength of Greece lies in her traditional friendship with Britain and the guarantee of support against aggression that the British Government gave her in April 1939, soon after Italy had forcibly occupied Albania and thereby threatened Greece. When the war broke out between Britain and Germany in September of that year, Greece remained neutral and Britain, true to her principles, did not exert any pressure on the Greeks to enter the conflict. But the moment Mussolini invaded Greece, the British War Cabinet met and Mr. Churchill, in a ringing message to General Metaxas, declared, "We will give you all the help in our power. We fight a common foe and we will share a united victory."

ITALIANS ROUTED.

It was feared in many quarters that the Italian forces would over-run Greece before assistance could come to her but the Italian campaign appeared to be incredibly ill-planned. The Greeks, spurred on by their patriotism and assisted by the R.A.F., not only threw the invaders out of their country but actually carried the war into Albania. During the first phase of their campaign, the Italians attempted to advance in three directions: in the Florina sector, they tried to cut across the mountain passes, their objective being Salonika, second in importance among the cities of Greece and commanding the Aegean Sea; the Italians also advanced in the Pindus sector with the intention of capturing the town of Yanina; and in the Epirus sector, they tried to advance along the coastal strip opposite Corfu—which Italy had long coveted and from which she had been ejected by the League of Nations after a flagrantly criminal but fortunately short-lived occupation of that strategic island.

In the Florina sector, the Greeks, occupying the mountain heights above the invaders, held the latter's advance. They threatened Koritza, the Italians' chief supply base in Albania, which was within their shelling-range. Koritza fell to the Greeks in the middle of November after a fierce nine-day battle. The threat to Salonika had been removed. The Italians were at first more fortunate in the coastal region, reaching as far as the Kalamas river; but again the Greeks rallied and the Italians started another retreat back into Albania on November 13. The much boosted Italian navy was conspicuous by its absence, leaving the Italian land forces without any help. In the Pindus sector, the Italians advanced up to Yanina but there they were trapped and completely annihilated. The Greeks went on to capture Moskopolis and Pogradetz in November. Premeti, Santi Quaranta (the southernmost port in Albania) Argyrokastro, Delvino, Porto Palermo and Chimarra fell into their hands in December. Snow and blizzard in the Albanian mountain ranges held up hostilities in January and February this year, but the Greeks managed to secure Klisura, a key-town in the Central sector. Mussolini changed his commanders frequently and finally came over to Albania himself in a desperate effort to whip up courage and enthusiasm in his troops. But his efforts proved utter failures and the numerous counter-attacks that he launched proved costly and disastrous to his men and their morale.

GERMAN INVASION.

The Greeks, who had continued to fight on bravely in spite of the sudden death of their leader, Metaxas, had smashed up Italian plans by the middle of March. They had seen to it that no Italians, except those dead or captive, polluted their sacred soil; they were pressing on in Albania and were well on the way to the chief ports of Valona and Durazzo, which would give them and their British Allies the command of the Adriatic Sea. But a new threat to their independence was now developing fast. Hitler, baffled in his attempts to invade Britain and sorely worried by the series of Italian defeats in Albania and Africa, had now decided to enter the Balkan arena.

Early in March, German troops advanced across Bulgaria to the Greek frontier, hoping to intimidate the Greeks. Failing to do so, Hitler invaded both Yugoslavia and Greece. As was pointed out last week, the initial momentum of his mechanised forces enabled him to take Salonika soon enough, to drive a wedge between the Yugoslavs and the Greeks and to threaten them at various points simultaneously. Yugoslavia, which had previously practised neutrality to the extent of refusing to receive a visit from the British Foreign Secretary and the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, could not withstand the terrible German pressure. The Greeks, however, with their British allies, formed fresh lines of defence and checked the German onrush. M. Korizis, who succeeded General Metaxas a few weeks ago as Premier, took his life, unable to bear the weight of his responsibility. That they are as little overawed by the Germans as they were by the Italians is evident in the Order of the Day issued by their Commander-in-Chief, General Papagos, to his troops: "Our watchward is now, as always, Disregard of Death." Their King has formed a strong Government with M. Emmanuel Tsouderos as Premier. The Greek troops, isolated in the Epirus and Macedonia sectors and subjected to the full fury of the German onslaught have been forced to lay down their arms. In the eastern sector, the Greeks, the British and Anzacs are fighting a rearguard action. A very grave crisis faces Greece, but she is, as ever, brave.

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page 8*)

of the Iraq Government. It is also stated that the people of that port welcomed the British and Indian soldiers with whom they had contact during the Great War. German influence in the countries east of Turkey is active and Germany's attempt is to secure the permission of the Iraq and Iran Governments for the free passage of German troops to attack Egypt and the East. There are, of course, rumours about the German Ambassador Von Papen's attempt to bring about a non-agression pact between Germany and Turkey. Turkey, it is expected, would be told that her frontiers would be guaranteed against attack and perhaps a bait in the shape of territorial concessions in Syria might be held out. It is obvious that Turkey will not fall in the net spread for her by Germany because that would lead to her encirclement and domination by Hitler. There is a treaty, called the Saadabad Treaty, between Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan—countries which would be prejudicially affected by a German thrust through Nazi-prepared Iraq and disaffected Syria, to the Suez Canal. There is a report that there will be a conference between these countries to discuss the political situation. The presence of British and Indian troops in Iraq and Turkey's friendship with Great Britain are factors which should be distinctly discouraging to Hitler's plans for a drive to the East.

RUSSIA

Russian reactions to recent events can only be gathered from stray instances, but they are fairly clear. The nearer Germany advances to the Straits, the more definite has become Russia's policy, though it is still very cautious because the U.S.S.R. is afraid of Germany. It may be remembered that, at the time when Rumania was absorbed by Germany, the Soviet contented itself with saying that the occupation was made without her knowledge or consent. Moscow should have known of the developments in Bulgaria, but this time, after Bulgaria had been swallowed, Moscow went a little further and expressed disapproval of that step. As Germany is now within striking distance of the Straits, Russia has gone still further by giving Turkey a formal assurance that if the latter is forced into war for the defence of her territories, she may count upon complete understanding and neutrality on the part of the U.S.S.R. This is a rather negative attitude, but it has come as a considerable relief to Turkey. A few hours before Germany invaded Yugoslavia and Greece, the Moscow Radio announced the signature of a Pact of Friendship and Non-Aggression between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia on lines more or less similar to the pact with Turkey.

Russia has now entered into what is called a neutrality pact with Japan. Numerous and irreconcilable interpretations have been placed upon this pact. China has protested against Russia recognising Japanese annexation of Manchukuo and against Russian annexation of Mongolia. She asked Russia whether the pact would interfere with Soviet help to China and this has resulted in a categorical reply that such help would continue to be given. To the American interpretation that the pact has apparently been the result of apprehensions on the part of Russia that Germany intended to attack her, *Pravda* has replied that it is not against Germany; neither, it is said, has it been instigated by Germany. Russia's policy, it is averred, is completely independent of foreign influence and solely directed by the interests of the Soviet. The newspaper goes on to say that the pact is an instrument of peace. Mr. Matsuoka is evidently satisfied with the pact because it is the only tangible result of his visit. He has stated that the pact went far beyond Japan's expectations and he has vehemently protested against the idea that only Russia has gained by it and that Japan has not got anything in return. The neutrality pact does not provide, as non-aggression pacts ordinarily do, that both sides shall refrain from direct or indirect aid to the enemies of either party. Therefore, if no secret clauses to the pact exist, either of these countries can continue to help the enemy of the other just as Russia has already promised to continue to help China in spite of the pact. There is considerable force in the view that it is Russia that has gained more because, in view of what is happening in South-east Europe and of the long-range plans of Hitler as mentioned in *Mien Kampf*, Russia has the greatest interest in securing her rear, which she has done by this pact with Japan.

Why, it may be asked, should Russia adopt an attitude of bated breath and whispering humbleness? As already stated, she looks with suspicion upon Germany's ventures. In the last few weeks rumours have been spread that an early attack of the U.S.S.R. by Germany may be expected. These stories have no real foundation in the sense that Germany has decided upon such an enterprise, but these accounts appear to emanate from Berlin itself and is part of the war of intimidation upon which Germany is engaged against Russia. It is obvious that Russia's interests in the Straits and the Black Sea are threatened by the German drive in the Balkans. It may be possible that Germany is encouraging Finland to begin the same war of intimidation and Germany's present object is to prevent Russia from seeking to strengthen Turkish, Greek and Yugoslav resistance to the Nazi pressure. It may also be mentioned that Russia has become apprehensive of the extension of German activities and the parallel movement of Germany in regard to Sweden. It may be recollected that a few days ago the Swedish Government issued a statement that the comparative tranquillity which had hitherto existed might not continue and this was followed by the intensification of defensive programmes and the calling up of a number of reservists. What is the reason for this? Swedish authorities were requested to provide a larger number of lorries for the transport of oil and military stores across Sweden to Narvik and when this was refused, a request was made for a special train, probably intended for the same purpose. These demands were made, it may be presumed, because of the alarm created by the British raids on Lofoten Islands but these were refused, Sweden being heartened to do so apparently by the belief that Great Britain is winning; but the threat has a strategic value in that it causes Russia to glance nervously over her shoulder while watching the German approach to the southern gateway. There are indications that German subversive activities in Ukraine and Georgia are organized from Teheran.

Russia is afraid that if she merely does nothing, she may inevitably become subservient to German power throughout the Black Sea area. On the other hand, if she tries conclusions with Germany, the latter may show her fangs. Germany has not been lately delivering according to contract important consignments of machinery and Russia has told Germany that she would hold up the delivery to her of important commodities, eg., oil, if

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A GREEK CALENDAR

THE SMALL NATION THAT DEFIED THE AXIS POWERS

1928 SEP. 23.—Italo-Greek Pact of " Friendship, Conciliation and Judicial Settlement " signed in Rome.

1939 APR. 7.—Italian troops occupy Albania.

1939 APR. 13.—British and French guarantees to Rumania and Greece.

1939 JULY 12.—British trade agreement with Greece signed in London. Greece will make big purchases of British goods with aid of guaranteed credit for £2,040,900. Bonds will be issued by Greek Government bearing 5 per cent interest and repayable after 20 years to cover the amount involved, principal and interest being guaranteed by the Board of Trade.

1939 SEP. 3.—Britain and France declare war on Germany.

1939 SEP. 20.—Official declaration published in Rome :—

" The Italian and Greek Governments, considering it opportune during the present situation in European affairs to review actively relations between the two countries, are glad to note that these relations continue to be sincerely friendly and based on full reciprocal confidence.

" A tangible proof of these sentiments is afforded by the Italian Government's decision to withdraw her military forces from the Greco-Albanian frontier, as well as by the analagous measure which the Greek Government on its part is adopting."

Similar declaration published in Athens by Greek Foreign Ministry.

1940 FEB. 3.—Council of Balkan Entente—MM. Markovitch (Yugoslavia), Gafencu (Rumania), Sarajoglu (Turkey) and Metaxas (Greece)—meets in Belgrade and issues 7-point unanimous agreement *communiqué*.

1940 MAY 16.—Duce reassures Greece and Yugoslavia that Italy has no aggressive aims in the Balkans.

1940 JUNE 11.—Italy declares war on Britain and France.

Says the Duce :—

" I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag other peoples who are her neighbours into this conflict. Let Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Egypt and Greece take note of these words of mine."

1940 AUG. 6.—Greek steamer *Loula* torpedoed by Italian submarine near Crete; 8 lives lost.

1940 AUG. 11.—Italian Stefani News Agency alleges that Albanians in Ciamura—the Albanian province annexed to Greece in 1913—are oppressed and persecuted. Quoting a dispatch from Tirana, the Agency says that Daut Hoggia, an Albanian who had advocated the return of Ciamura to Albania, has been decapitated by the Greeks inside Albanian territory.

1940 AUG. 12.—*Popolo di Roma*, commenting on the Hoggia incident, accuses Greece of violating her neutral status by openly aiding the British to refuel naval aircraft and warships.

Italian charges *re* Daut Hoggia officially denied in Athens, where it is stated that Hoggia—a " notorious brigand, not an Albanian patriot "—was killed by two Albanians, who were arrested about two months ago when they crossed the frontier into Greece after their crime.

1940 AUG. 23.—Reports reaching Athens say Italian mountain troops have occupied strategic passes on Albanian frontier.

1940 AUG. 26.—Greek Government transfers the military Governor of Yanina to Athens, in order that there shall be no possibility of provocation on the frontier. Greek Navy mines Gulf of Arta.

1940, AUG. 28.—Reported in Athens (denied in Rome) that at least 110,000 Italian troops have been concentrated in the " demilitarised " zone of Southern Albania. Greek and Italian detachments have made contact at various points of the border as the Greeks have followed the Italian example and entered the demilitarized zone. The Greek Commander has given strict orders that all precautions are to be taken to avoid incidents.

1940, SEP. 27.—Three Power Axis Pact (for ten years) between Germany, Italy and Japan signed in Berlin.

1940, SEP. 27.—Greek official circles emphatically deny allegations made by the Italian Stefani News Agency that Greek troops have attacked an Albanian frontier post and that " Greek or British agents " are responsible for explosions at Santi Quaranta. The Greek Government, in face of these repeated threats, continues to maintain a non-provocative attitude.

1940, OCT. 28.—At 3 a.m., Signor Grazzi hands to General Metaxas a Three-Hour Ultimatum in which Greece is accused of

(i) " tolerating the use of her territorial waters and ports by the British Navy for the prosecution of the war against Italy ".

(ii) " permitting the organization of the British Secret Service in the Greek islands."

(iii) " terrorism against the Albanian population of the province of Ciamura and persistent attempts to create disorders on the Greco-Albanian frontier."

These " provocations " can no longer be tolerated by Italy, since Greek neutrality has become " more and more a pretence," the responsibility for which " falls upon Great Britain."

The Italian Government therefore demands, " as a guarantee of Greek neutrality and of Italian security " and with " full respect for Greek sovereignty," that the Greek Government shall allow Italian forces to occupy strategic points on Greek territory (Corfu, Crete, Epirus and the Piraeus) for the duration of the conflict with Great Britain.

In the event of Greek resistance, it will be suppressed by force of arms and the responsibility will fall on the Greek Government.

General Metaxas summarily rejects the ultimatum and informs the Italian Minister that he regards it as an Italian declaration of war against Greece.

Immediate mobilization ordered throughout Greece.

Hitler and Mussolini meet at Florence a few hours after the invasion of Greece has begun.

1940 OCT. 30.—British aircraft begin operations from Greek bases.

1940 OCT. 31.—Greek Navy bombards Italian troops advancing along Adriatic coast.

1940 NOV. 1.—Greeks advance three miles into Albania in Florina sector.

1940 NOV. 4.—Landing of British troops in Crete officially announced. Greeks surround Alpini division near Yanina.

1940 NOV. 6.—British Foreign Office announces that £5,000,000 has already been placed at the disposal of the Greek Government as first instalment of financial aid.

1940 NOV. 9.—Reported from Turkish sources that German " tourists " in Athens are acting as Italian intelligence agents and that many " fifth columnists " are being rounded up.

1940 NOV. 11.—Italian Navy crippled by Fleet Air Arm raid on Taranto.

Reported in Athens that the Italian division surrounded a week ago has been practically annihilated—14,000 dead, nearly 5,000 taken prisoner.

General Soddu appointed to command Italian forces following this *débâcle* in the Pindus.

British light naval forces sink three Italian supply ships and damage a fourth in the Straits of Otranto.

1940 NOV. 13.—Italians beginning to retreat from Kalamas river.

1940 NOV. 22.—Koritza falls after nine-day battle.

1940 NOV. 24.—Moskopolis occupied by the Greeks. Italians evacuate Konispolis and fall back towards Delvino and Argyrokastron. Retreating divisions heavily bombed by British and Greek airmen.

1940 NOV. 29.—Progradetz falls to Greeks after seven-day battle in a blizzard.

1940 DEC. 3.—Premeti falls.

1940 DEC. 4.—Santi Quaranta—Albania's southernmost port—now in Greek hands.

1940 DEC. 6.—Marshal Pietro Badoglio, C.-in-C. of Italian armed forces, resigns. General Ugo Cavallero succeeds him.

1940 DEC. 7.—Argyrokastron falls. Delvino occupied by the Greeks.

1940 DEC. 8.—Greek Government publishes White Book proving that Italian aggression against Greece was planned as far back as April, 1939.

1940 DEC. 13.—Porto Palermo captured by the Greeks.

1940 DEC. 22.—Port of Khimarra falls.

1941 JAN. 10.—Kelcyre—key town in the Central sector—captured after month of hard fighting in very bad weather conditions.

1941 JAN. 13.—Rome Radio announces resignation of General Soddu " for reasons of health." Albanian command taken over by General Cavallero.

1941 JAN. 14.—First British Aid to Greece convoy arrives at Greek port.

1941 JAN. 17.—Athens Radio reports sinking of two Italian liners packed with troops—*Liguria* (15,000 tons) and *Lombardia* (20,000 tons).

1941 JAN. 28.—Several Fascist leaders go to the battle front. Count Ciano, the Duce's son-in-law and Foreign Minister, is leading a bomber squadron. Signor Bottai, Minister of National Education, and Signor Gorla, Minister of Public Works, have " assumed command of detachments of the Alpini in the zone of operations ". Signor Farinacci, former Secretary of the Fascist Party, and Signor Ricci, Minister of Corporations, have joined them in Albania.

1941 JAN. 29.—General John Metaxas dies. M. Alexander Korizis succeeds him as national leader.

Greek submarine *Papanikolis* sinks another Italian vessel (10,000 tons) off Brindisi.

Cotton goods worth five lakhs of rupees to be sent to Greece from Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

1941 FEB. 12.—Within thirty days of taking over Albanian campaign General Cavallero has launched no less than fifty counter attacks without achieving a single objective of any importance.

1941 MAR. 2.—German troops advance through Bulgaria to Greek frontier. After their completely successful visit to Ankara, Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, and Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, fly to Athens for talks with King George of the Hellenes, M. Korizis, General Papagos and the British Ministers to Athens and Belgrade.

Earthquake in Larissa renders 12,000 Greek families homeless. Royal Air Force sends bombers loaded with medical supplies. Mussolini sends bombers loaded with bombs to cause greater confusion and disaster while rescue operations are in progress.

1941 MAR. 7.—Mussolini himself goes to Albania and throws 120,000 men into a suicidal assault on Greek positions in the Central sector—2,000 are killed, 8,000 wounded or captured; and the Duce returns to Rome (Mar. 15) with an even heavier heart.

1941 MAR. 15.—President Roosevelt :—
" The British and their Grecian allies need ships, planes and food. From America they will get ships, planes and food. They need tanks, guns, ammunition and supplies of all kinds. From America they will get them."

1941 MAR. 24.—German plans for bullying Yugoslavia into making concessions to the Axis reach a climax with the visit of Yugoslav Ministers to Vienna, but Ribbentrop has to drop military clauses before Yugoslavs line up (25th).

Turkey and Russia issue joint declaration that each will remain neutral in the event of the other being involved in war with a third country.

1941 MAR. 25.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a message to the Greek people on Greek Independence Day, paid a tribute to the valour that the Greeks have displayed in the sacred cause of freedom and said : " We are resolved to sustain it ".

1941 MAR. 26.—Mr. Eden reaffirmed British aid to Greece till the final victory in a message at a meeting of the Anglo-Hellenic League in London to celebrate Greek Independence Day.

1941 MAR. 31.—German Government has given an ultimatum to the Yugoslav Government demanding that the Yugoslav Army should be demobilised.

1941 APR. 1.—The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Eden, was received by King George of Greece.

1941 APR. 3.—Belgrade has been declared an open town. Germans in the capital receive instructions from Berlin to leave immediately.

1941 APR. 6.—Synchronising with the issue of a proclamation that Germany is at war with the Belgrade Government. German troops invade Greece, crossing the frontier at two points, and meet with stout resistance in the Struma valley. The Greeks, in a successful counter-attack entered Bulgarian territory at one point.

1941 APR. 7.—It was officially announced that British, Australian and New Zealand troops had landed in Greece and that the Royal Air Force in Greece had been strongly reinforced. General Wavell is to be the Allies Supreme Commander in the Balkans.

1941 APR. 9.—The Germans entered Salonika. It was revealed that the British troops in Greece had not yet made contact with the enemy.

1941 APR. 11.—Greek forces withdrew in tact from Salonika. The Royal Air Force rendered magnificent help to the Greeks and inflicted very heavy damage on the Germans.

1941 APR. 18.—The Greek and British Imperial troops withdrew to a shorter line of defence in the face of increasing and reckless pressure by the German forces.

The Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis, took his own life, unable to bear the strain of his immense responsibility.

1941 APR. 19.—The Allies evacuated Mount Olympus. The Royal Air Force played havoc with enemy troop concentrations.

King George of Greece formed a new Cabinet under his direction.

1941 APR. 21.—The Imperial forces evacuated Larissa and Trikkla in the course of their systematic withdrawal but the Germans failed to break through the Allied line at any point.

M. Emmanuel Tsouderos was appointed Premier of Greece and took the Oath of Allegiance. He said " We shall carry on our country's fight to a victorious finish."

1941 APR. 22.—Empire forces occupied defensive positions south of Lamia, 50 miles south of Larissa. The Germans occupied Yanina in the Pindus sector and also the islands of Lemnos and Samothrace off the Turkish coast.

The Greek armies of Epirus and Macedonia have laid down their arms. The capitulation was made by a Greek military delegation to the Commander of the Eleventh Italian Army on the Epirus front.

1941 APR. 23.—King George of Greece announced transfer of the Greek Government from Athens to Crete from where the fight will be continued.

British forces are engaged against German troops at the historic Pass of Thermopylae.

RUSSIA

(*Continued from Page* 12)

this state of things continues. Further, a good deal of discussion has taken place in regard to grain prices and freight rates. This may indicate mere hard bargaining. It may also imply the Russian desire to use economic pressure as a means of countering German diplomacy. Russia undoubtedly agrees with Great Britain and Turkey that, in the interests of peace in the Balkans, Germany should be kept out of South-Eastern Europe. But German intimidation of Russia has however had this result of preventing Russia from openly championing the cause of the Balkan countries, Germany has at the same time failed to induce Russia to undermine Turkish resistance and this should be uncomfortable to Hitler because once he starts a war in the Balkans and the German army is placed in a difficult position with long lines of communication through countries with many Pan-Slav sympathizers, he may well find Soviet Russia an unpleasant neighbour.

So far as Britain is concerned, it is perhaps safe to say that, though Russia may agree with Britain that peace in the Balkans depends upon keeping out Germany, she has yet no desire to become more friendly towards Britain and no desire for closer co-operation with her. Communist propaganda was very busy in Great Britain, necessitating the British Government suppressing *The Daily Worker* and *The Week*. Further, the People's Convention held in London in January last was fully commented upon in the Russian Radio. These facts show that Russian policy towards Great Britain has not altered very much for the better. The fact is, Stalin is afraid of Germany, but hates democracy, and so long as Germany remains strong enough to intimidate him, it is very unlikely that Stalin will change his policy of non-co-operation with Britain.

To sum up, there is a good deal to support the view that relations between Germany and Russia are not over-cordial. The Kremlin has given cynical support to Germany because it has been profitable and has extorted a high price—half Poland, the Baltic States, a dominating position in the Baltic and Dobruja in the south—in return for oil and other supplies. The support of Germany has, however, now ceased to be either profitable or expedient. Conditions are now different and Germany has been compelled to move in directions which cut right across the Russian path. Russia's open manifestation of regret at the German drive in south-east Europe shows that her pacts are the direct results of this growing tension. In spite of her evident anxiety to keep aloof, Russia is being forced into a dilemma; if she accepts German penetration into the Ukraine, she runs a great risk. On the other hand, rapprochement with Britain would mean an open breach with Germany and the opening up of the claims of the Baltic peoples to rule themselves and of the Poles for the restitution of their lands when the Allied victory is gained. In these circumstances, Russia is not at all likely to precipitate a crisis. In fact, she would strive her best to avoid it. Germany's oil supplies, it is said, are running out. Would she endeavour then to take hold of the Baku oilfields and the Ukranian granary? There is nothing that Hitler in urgent need will not do, but an open clash with Russia is not evidently an object about which he is very particular just at present, when his attention is concentrated on winning the Battles of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Bombs on Berlin

Britain's newest warplanes have lately been attacking Germany with bombs larger and deadlier than any ever used before, and on the night of April 9 a good many of these fell on Berlin itself. For once, the Nazis' howl of rage was so spontaneous that they forgot to make the usual pretence that no damage was done; for once, there were no " attic fires " or " bombs on open country " in the bellow that went up from Berlin on the morning after that memorable plastering. Here is a passage from the Nazi radio's account of the raid:

> " Numbers of high-explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped on the capital of the Reich. The results of this attack provide a further example of the inhuman methods of the Royal Air Force. Everything of German culture and artistic light was bombed indiscriminately. The venerable State Opera House in *Unter den Linden*, the State Library, museums and many other historic buildings were damaged. One hospital received a direct hit which destroyed its research department and several laboratories. . . . Direct hits on dwellings caused casualties to the civilian population."

This shriek of outraged virtue comes from people who machine-gunned terrified women and children on the roads of Poland, Belgium, Holland and France, just as they are machine-gunning them in the Balkans today; who last summer laid waste the greater part of the fair city of Rotterdam, murdering between 30,000 and 40,000 civilians in a couple of hours; who have attacked every sort of dwelling in Britain, from Buckingham Palace to workmen's cottages in Wales, besides innumerable churches (more than 2,000 were listed by the Vatican radio the other day), schools, hospitals and ancient buildings infinitely lovelier and more " venerable " than anything the gloomy capital of Hitler's ape-State could boast.

What the Neutrals Said

Naturally, Goebbels' hirelings said nothing about the burning out of one of the main Berlin railway stations, nor did they mention that all the capital's fire-brigades were still struggling at noon next day to cope with the terrific destruction wrought in the Wilhelmstrasse and the surrounding area—an area crammed full of grandiose Government offices devoted to the spread of German culture and artistic light throughout Europe and (when Europe shall have been enslaved) the rest of the world. Perhaps Goebbels himself was too dazed by the events of the previous night to prevent neutral journalists in Berlin from passing these details on to their readers outside Germany.

He had recovered sufficiently, however, to end his *communiqué* with his characteristic signature-lie, to the effect that " the total losses suffered by the Royal Air Force in the raid last night and during the day yesterday has reached the final figure of 30 planes." In actual fact, the Berlin raid cost the Royal Air Force seven bombers, while one fighter was lost earlier in the day—a total slightly above one-quarter of the German claim.

The " Fortress " of Belgrade

The Nazis' lamentations over the bombing of Berlin are all the more hypocritical when read side by side with their gloatings, repeated day and night throughout the past week, over the destruction of the greater part of Belgrade. Their excuse for this latest piece of barbarity is that Belgrade was a fortress presenting a number of military targets.

The whole world knows, however, that the Yugoslav Government, some days before the Nazi invasion, had declared their capital an open town, its position on the frontier rendering it indefensible from a military point of view. Belgrade does indeed possess a " fortress "—a picturesque relic of former days, which has as much relation to the needs of modern warfare as, for instance, the Purana Qila at Delhi. Was it this ancient monument that Goering's knights of the air were aiming at, when they turned Belgrade into a smoking shambles, its streets littered with the corpses of children, women and old men?

A significant side-light on the whole barbaric business has recently been furnished by several Nazi airmen since captured by the Yugoslavs. Even before Germany " declared war " on Yugoslavia, these ruffians confessed, they had taken off from aerodromes near Vienna with orders to bomb the Royal Palace in the centre of Belgrade. Thus the young King Peter is the latest recruit to that company of European Sovereigns—a company which already includes Their Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress, together with the Queen of the Netherlands and the King of Norway—who have been personally and deliberately attacked by Hitler's would-be assassins.

Revenge at last—Facist fashion

So long as the Italians were alone in facing the Greek Army, they received so severe a trouncing that they dared not cast any doubts on the courage or fighting qualities of their heroic opponents. Now that the Nazi hordes are at last marching to the rescue of the Fascist legions, however, Rome begins to feel brave enough to deride the Greeks.

Thus, besides being responsible for the fantastic story of New Zealanders firing on the Greeks to prevent their running away—a story quoted by the Nazi radio, and referred to in the second half of this Report—the Italian wireless announced on April 12 that the Greek

Macedonian Army, numbering some 80,000 men, had surrendered unconditionally to the German forces.

At the time of going to press, the Greek Macedonian Army is still resisting heroically, despite the fact that the German drive to Salonika had cut them off from the rest of their comrades in the west.

M. Filov Crosses his Fingers

Berlin on April 10 quoted M. Filov, the Bulgarian Prime Minister, as complaining that, whereas Bulgaria was not taking part in military operations, the wicked Yugoslav air force was bombing the sacred soil of Bulgaria.

Evidently M. Filov's recent association with Messrs. Hitler and Ribbentrop has impaired that passion for truthfulness which the world has a right to expect from a Bulgarian statesman. By conniving at the occupation of their country by the Germans, and later on by permitting that country to be used as a jumping-off ground for the Nazi attack on Yugoslavia, the Bulgarians assumed the role of aggressors, and mustn't complain if they get hurt in consequence. Moreover, Bulgarian troops have recently crossed the border into Yugoslavia, and it is now apparent that they were all along intended to be used in co-operation with the German forces.

When Duke and Duce Differ

The Italian *communiqué*, on the evacuation of Addis Ababa, quoted by the German wireless on April 8, says that "owing to the protection of the Italian police force," the civilian population of the town had not suffered any damage.

Naturally, Mussolini—who always writes the Italian *communiqués* himself, though he very seldom takes part in any of the operations chronicled therein—must be less well-informed on the subject of Abyssinia than the Italian Viceroy on the spot, the Duke of Aosta. In a special message which the retreating Duke sent to the British forces about to enter the capital, His Royal Highness expressed appreciation of "the initiative taken by Generals Wavell and Cunningham regarding the protection of the women and children in Addis Ababa." The British action, added the Duke, demonstrated "the strong bonds of humanity and race still existing between the two nations."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Nazis Spread the Conflagration

The Berlin news bulletin in Hindustani alleged (April 10) that British and American propaganda had dragged Yugoslavia and Greece into war. As Germany made the first move and invaded Yugoslavia, there is no doubt as to where the guilt lies. The Yugoslavs had even endangered their own safety by their policy of meticulous neutrality and careful avoidance of any action which might be construed as provocative by the Nazis.

As for the Greeks, on the very first occasion that Mr. Eden was received by King George of the Hellenes and M. Korizis, the latter declared spontaneously that his country was resolved at all costs to defend her freedom and native soil against any aggressor and that, even if they were left wholly unsupported by Great Britain, Yugoslavia and Turkey, the Greeks would fight to the death against Italy and Germany.

More Lies

Although Germany's published excuse for her inexcusable assault on Greece was the landing of British troops on Greek soil, the Nazis dragged out (Hindustani, April 11) the old lie about Britain "deserting her allies." In this instance Dr. Goebbels has made himself ridiculous, for both the Greeks and the Yugoslavs remember well how Britain fought shoulder to shoulder with them against the same barbarous enemy in the Great War.

Before their troops had even contacted the British Imperial forces in the Balkans, German announcers were broadcasting mythical stories of New Zealanders firing on the Greeks from behind and in Hindustani, on April 11, they accused the British of blowing up a bridge, thereby forcing the Greeks to lay down their arms.

The Germans are well aware of the untruthfulness of these reports; their object in circulating them is to provoke denials which might reveal the exact whereabouts of the Imperial troops.

The Nazi 'God'

On April 7 a German, broadcasting in Hindustani, made this remarkable statement:—

"It is noteworthy that the Germans were engaged in the worship of God at the time when war was declared on them by Britain."

The Anglo-French declaration of war (on Sunday, Sep. 3, 1939) was made at the very moment when German armies were marching through Poland, bombing defenceless families from their homes and machine-gunning them as they fled along the country roads. Was this being "engaged in the worship of God"?

Keren Casualties

Quoting an article published in the *Giornale d'Italia*, Berlin (Hindustani, April 11) claimed that at least 15,000 Indian soldiers had been killed in the battle for Keren.

The total casualties suffered by all the Imperial forces in this action were 4,000, which figure includes wounded as well as killed.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

25th Apr.—The Royal Air Force bombed the German naval bases of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven. An enemy supply ship of 16,000 tons was sunk off the Dutch coast.

Nazi aircraft raided an area in Southern England.

26th Apr.—"It is a tragedy, but they (the Germans) will get it back threefold," said Mr. Churchill after visiting Manchester which was raided by the German air force. The Home Secretary announced a vast improvement in Britain's fire-fighting forces and equipment. Conscription of men for fire-fighting duties was announced in London.

The Royal Air Force again raided Kiel and scored direct hits on supply ships in Rotterdam.

27th Apr.—The Royal Air Force hammered Hamburg with the new type of devastating bombs and also raided Emden, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, Le Havre (in France) in Ijmuiden (Holland).

Merseyside was raided by German bombers but the attack was not on a heavy scale.

28th Apr.—The Royal Air Force carried a daring daylight raid on Emden and also bombed Cologne, Ijmuiden and Dekody (Holland). The German communiqué admitted casualties and damage in a Cologne factory.

Enemy destroyers escorting a convoy were hit by the Royal Air Force off the Dutch coast.

The German air force raided Portsmouth where hospitals were hit.

29th Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked the German battle-cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in the docks at Brest.

The German air force concentrated its attack on Plymouth.

30th Apr.—Plymouth was again raided by the German air force and there were many civilian casualties. Eight German bombers were shot down over England.

Royal Air Force bombers raided Mannheim, the important German railway centre; set oil stores in Rotterdam on fire; and attacked enemy supply ships off the Belgian coast.

1st May.—For the fifth night in nine, Plymouth endured the fury of the German night bombers.

British bombers attacked Berlin, Hamburg and the naval base of Kiel.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

25th Apr.—The British forces at Tobruk repulsed an enemy attack on the outer defences.

Viscount Gort was appointed Governor of Gibraltar.

The British Admiralty announced new minefields in the Mediterranean.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey, Commander of the Australian Imperial Forces, was appointed Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Middle East.

The Royal Air Force raided Tripoli and Benghazi in Lybia as well as Sicily and the Dodecanese Islands.

26th Apr.—It was announced that Fort Mota in Abyssinia had been captured by the Empire forces.

27th Apr.—Enemy forces crossed the Egyptian frontier at several places in the Sollum area.

28th Apr.—The British Imperial Forces captured Dessie, one of the last centres of Italian resistance in Abyssinia.

The Axis troops took the Egyptian frontier port of Sollum but British armoured divisions soon established contact with the enemy.

The Royal Air Force machine-gunned a number of German troop-carrying planes at Benina aerodrome near Benghazi.

29th Apr.—The Axis thrust in Egypt was halted at Sollum.

It was announced that 5,500, Italians and 2,500 colonials were taken prisoner at Dessie.

30th Apr.—British Imperial Forces captured the Abyssinian town of Sokota. The Royal Air Force raided Benina, Derna and Benghazi.

King Faruk of Egypt conferred with the leaders of parties, possibly with a view to the formation of a Coalition Government.

1st May.—British forces converged on the Italian defensive position in the region of Amba Alagi. After fierce fighting the Germans penetrated the outer defences of Tobruk. British naval units successfully bombarded enemy troops and supplies in the El Gayala area in Libya.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

25th Apr.—Speeches by Mr. Cordell Hull and Col. Knox foreshadowed United States' decision to convoy supply ships to Britain. President Roosevelt stated that United States Neutrality Patrols would operate " as far into the waters of the seven seas as might be necessary," warning British ships of any prowling raider. He also strongly criticised " appeasers " like Col. Lindbergh.

26th Apr.—The Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, on which 21 American Republics are represented, recommended the seizure of 160 foreign ships lying idle in ports on the American continent.

27th Apr.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a broadcast, said " in order to win this war, Hitler must either conquer this Island by invasion or cut the ocean life-line which joins us with the United States."

28th Apr.—It was announced that Prof. J. M. Keynes, member of the British Economic Council, would visit Washington to confer with the United States Administration and the British Supply Council on the operation of the Lease and Lend Act and other related matters.

Col. Lindbergh gave up his commission in the United States Air Corps Reserve as a sequel to Mr. Roosevelt's condemnation of his attitude.

29th Apr.—President Roosevelt stated that United States warships might enter combat zones, if necessary, in the interests of the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

30th Apr.—Col. Knox said that United States expected to build substantial numbers of high-speed mosquito-boats for Britain.

1st May.—President Roosevelt asked the United States Maritime Commission for at least two million tons of merchant shipping to be used to supply all-out aid to the Democracies. The United States Senate passed the 3,400 million dollars Two-Ocean Navy Bill and send it to White House for signature. It was stated by a spokesman of the American aircraft industry that 18,000 war planes would be produced this year and 30,000 in 1942. (Nearly half of these will go to Britain.)

GREECE AND ITALY

25th Apr.—The Germans occupied the Greek islands of Lemnos and Samothrace. German bombers raided Corinth and other towns in Southern Greece and sank two Greek hospital ships.

H.M. the King, in an Anzac Day message, paid a tribute to the valour of the Empire and Allied troops in Greece.

26th Apr.—The Germans advanced to within thirty miles of Athens. The Greek cabinet met at Crete and instructed all Greek officials to remain at their posts in the mainland.

27th Apr.—The German army entered Athens. A great part of the British troops and equipment had been safely evacuated from Greece for service in North Africa.

28th Apr.—" We shall soon be back in Athens," said the Greek Premier, M. Tsouderos, in a speech at Canea in the island of Crete (which, he said, now formed with Britain the " last but worthy ramparts of the free people of Europe.")

President Roosevelt ordered the immediate " freezing " of Greek credits and cash in the United States in order to deny Axis agents access to them.

30th Apr.—The Germans claimed to have reached the south coast of the Peloponnesus. It was announced that 80 per cent of British troops had already been safely evacuated from Greece.

The Germans set up a puppet Government in Athens under General Tsolakiglu, a renegade army Commander.

1st May.—The Italians claimed the occupation of the Ionian Islands, of Caphalonia, Zante and Lenkas.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

25th Apr.—Yugoslav planes and troops arrived in the Middle East to join the Allied forces against the Axis.

A report stated that British troops had arrived at Mosul (in Iraq) to guard the oil-fields.

It was announced that the United States would continue to recognize the Yugoslav refugee Government.

26th Apr.—President Ineunu of Turkey left Ankara for Smyrna on a tour of inspection of the Turkish coast facing the Greek islands threatened by Germans. A general evacuation of Istanbul by civilians was ordered.

27th Apr.—The British Ambassador in Baghdad called on the Iraqi Ministers.

29th Apr.—A new Turko-German trade pact was ratified by the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Turkey agreeing to sell tobacco in exchange for machinery.

1st May.—The Yugoslav submarine Nebojsea and two Yugoslav motor torpedo-boats arrived safely at a British port.

Despite the Iraq Government's protest against the landing of further contingents of British troops at Basra, it was reported in London that more troops had arrived in Basra without any incident.

SHIPPING

28th Apr.—The Greek Minister in Cairo revealed that the entire merchant fleet of Greece, consisting of million tons of shipping, had been placed at the disposal of the British Government and that the Greek Air Force was continuing the struggle against the Axis powers.

1st May.—The U.S. Maritime Commission placed fifty oil tankers in special service to aid Britain.

THE FAR EAST

25th Apr.—Both the U.S.S.R. and Japan ratified the Neutrality Pact reached recently at Moscow.

26th Apr.—Several pro and anti-Japanese terrorist outrages were reported in Shanghai.

27th Apr.—An exchange of greetings between Mr. Matsuoka and MM. Stalin and Molotov took place after the Neutrality Pact had been ratified.

The Chinese launched vigorous counter-attacks in the Provinces of Chekiang, Fukien and Hupeh. They recaptured the ports of Taichow and Changlo.

28th Apr.—The Japanese Minister in Melbourne said that Japan had no designs on Australia. He had a talk with the Australian Labour Leader, Mr. Curtin.

29th Apr.—Mr. James Roosevelt, eldest son of the United States President, arrived in Chungking with a letter from his father to Marshal Chiang Kai-shek.

30th Apr.—Extensive Japanese aerial activity was reported over China. Japanese naval forces made further landings on the South China coast.

The British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East said that any possible opponents " would be in for a pretty squeaky time if they attacked Malaya."

1st May.—The Japanese occupied the port of Kiatze.

VICHY

26th Apr.—Admiral Darlan reported to the Vichy Cabinet on his visit to occupied France. The Admiral had a long conversation with the Spanish Ambassador in Vichy.

27th Apr.—Disorders occurred in various towns in Syria; the police opened fire on demonstrators.

Vichy reported the massing of Free French forces on the southern border of French Somaliland and the French Government said " There can be no question of our colony entering into negotiations with the dissident French." Free French circles in London, however, stated that the Vichy report was intended to cover up growing public feeling in Somaliland in favour of General de Gaulle.

29th Apr.—The United States Ambassador was reported to have warned Marshal Petain that the Vichy Government must stay neutral and avoid a display of hostility towards Britain if they hoped to receive further food supplies from America.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

27th Apr.—A fine of a million francs was imposed on the Channel Port of Dieppe by the German authorities as a sequel to demonstrations by a picture-house audience against Hitler and Mussolini.

30th Apr.—Dr. Benes declared in an interview that Sudetanland would again become part of Czechoslovakia in the peace settlement after the war. " The Germans must go back to the old borders—the borders before the invasion of Austria."

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

26th Apr.—Reports of the arrival in Spain of Rudolph Hess, the Deputy of Hitler, caused considerable speculation.

Germany was said to be bringing pressure to bear on Spain and Portugal to fall in with Axis plans.

28th Apr.—The Rome Radio broadcast a threat to Switzerland against allowing anti-Italian expressions of sentiment.

29th Apr.—Russia was stated to be speeding up her defences all along her western frontier as a counter to new German concentrations on the German-Soviet frontier in Poland.

The President of Portugal, Dr. Salazar, said : " There exist certain absolute values in life to which everything should be sacrificed and among them are the dignity of a nation, freedom, independence and territorial integrity."

30th Apr.—The Moscow Radio reported that 12,000 German troops had arrived in the Finnish port of Abo.

1st May.—Finnish circles said that the report of the landing of German troops had been much exaggerated and that the troops were merely on the way to Narvik in German-occupied Norway.

Russia was reported to be taking extensive steps to stiffen the already strong Soviet forces in the Ukraine, Poland and Estonia. These steps included the despatch of 25 army divisions to join the 40 already stationed there and the massing of aviation materials. The Soviet Defence Commissar, in a May-day Order of the Day, urged the need for the " permanent mobilization of the Red Army."

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 22nd April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over enemy coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 16, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on naval and seaplane base on Heligoland Island.	3 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on Berck-sur-mer (France). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Bremen (shipbuilding yard, factories); docks and factories at Cuxhaven and Wesermunde; naval bases at Wilhelmshaven and Brest; invasion base at Boulogne.	2 night bombers.	
April 17, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on Cherbourg (naval base, merchant shipping). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin (Government blocks in Wilhelmstrasse, other targets); Cologne and other centres in N.-W. Germany, oil stores at Rotterdam; other objectives in Holland.	8 night bombers.	2 night fighters.
April 18, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Norwegian coast and Heligoland Is. (2 merchantmen, 1 naval escort vessel sunk; 2 merchantmen left sinking).	8 day bombers.	..
April 19, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Dutch coast (2 merchantmen left sinking, 2 damaged). R.A.F. day fighter sweep over Channel and N. France.	1 day fighter.	..
April 20, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Norwegian and Dutch coasts (1 merchantman left sinking). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Cologne; Dusseldorf; Aachen; aerodromes in Germany and occupied territory, including Caen; oil stores at Rotterdam; naval base at Brest; invasion bases at Dunkirk and Ostend.	3 night bombers.	..
April 21, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raid on invasion base at Le Havre. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	*Nil.*	1 night bomber.
April 22, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Norwegian coast (1 merchantman and 1 mines-sweeper hit). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*).	1 bomber.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 22nd April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy raids (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 16	Nil.	6 night bombers.
April 17	Nil.	2 day fighter-bombers. 3 night bombers.
April 18	Nil.	1 day bomber (crashed in Eire).
April 19	Nil.	2 night bombers.
April 20	Nil.	2 day fighters.
April 21	Nil.	2 night bombers.
April 22	Nil.	1 day bomber. 1 night bomber.

GERMAN JUSTICE IN POLAND

The Manchester Guardian Weekly writes:

A report of the Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Justice published in "Deutsche Justiz" gives an interesting account of the administration of justice in German-occupied Poland. Three thousand jurists have been sent from Germany, but this number is apparently too small for the volume of work thrown on the courts, so regulations are in force under which administrative punishment can be imposed by a great many petty authorities. Leaders of the S.S. and police may send Poles to prison for three months. Thus there is no pretence that justice must be administered by persons with some judicial training or that justice should be in the hands of independent authorities. Presumably if Germany could establish her "new order" these methods would be applied all over Europe, for it is hardly likely that Germany could supply enough trained lawyers to meet the demands of a continent. When Napolean reorganized the Government of Germany, the introduction of French law brought in some States a great improvement; torture, for example, was abolished and privileges of various kinds disappeared. H. A. L. Fisher said in his study of the subject that certain great benefits flowed from French rule, among them "the sharp distinction between judicial and executive functions, the introduction of oral pleadings and the jury, and the stricter definition of judicial competence." The Nazi revolution would set up the worst kind of tyranny, giving to the Gestapo the powers of the magistrate.

STORMY WEATHER

"He may carry havoc into the Balkan States, he may tear great provinces out of Russia, he may march to the gates of India, but all this will avail him nothing." Mr. Churchill, Feb. 9, 1941.

The Battle of the Mediterranean is one and indivisible. It is the meeting ground of the German army, backed by the resources of an enslaved and despoiled Europe, and the armies of the British Commonwealth and their friends, backed by the growing might of American war production.

Disraeli whose foresight gave that Commonwealth predominant interest in the Suez Canal, now defended against a second Axis attempt, said in a speech in 1875:—

"Britain is not a country that, when she enters on a campaign, has to ask herself whether she can support a second or a third campaign. She enters into a campaign which she will not terminate till right is done."

"England has always had the armament that she needed. She always fought with those weapons which were necessary for success . . . Tenacity in her Government, as well as in the spirit of the broad masses, enables her to carry through to victory any struggle that she once enters upon, no matter how long such a struggle may last or how great the sacrifice that may be necessary, or what the means that have to be employed; and all this even though the actual military equipment at hand may be utterly inadequate when compared with that of other nations". —*Hitler, in Mein Kampf.*

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

This week has seen a notable broadcast to the Empire by Mr. Churchill. The British Prime Minister gave a frank survey of the war position and struck a soberly optimistic note. Defending the despatch of troops to help Greece as a matter of honour, he said " The fortunes of war are fickle and change, but an act of shame would deprive us of the respect we now enjoy throughout the world and would sap the vitals of our strength ".

The following are important points in Mr. Churchill's broadcast :—

" In mortal peril, Greece turned to us for succour, and we could not say them nay. There are rules against that kind of thing and to break them would be fatal to our honour, to the honour of the British Empire, without which we could neither hope nor deserve to win.

" It happened that the divisions available as the best suited for the task in Greece were from New Zealand and Australia and only about half the troops who took part came from the Mother country. German propaganda is trying to make bad blood between Britain and Australia over this, but I shall leave it to Australia to deal with that taunt.

" Never in our long history have we been held in such admiration and regard across the Atlantic. In the long run, the action of the United States will be dictated not by methodical calculations of profit and loss but by moral sentiment.

" Nothing that is happening now is comparable in gravity to what we passed through last year. Nothing that can happen in the East is comparable with what is happening in the West.

" We must now expect the war in the Mediterranean to become more fierce, varied and widespread.

" In order to win this war Hitler must either conquer this Island by invasion or cut the ocean life-line which joins us with the United States.

" The President and the Congress of the United States of America . . . have passed legislation and turned a large part of their gigantic industries to making the ammunition we need. They have given us valuable assistance. I cannot believe that they will allow the effort to which they have put themselves to be frustrated and the products of their skill and labour sunk to the bottom of the sea."

THE MIDDLE EAST CAMPAIGN

The German forces, as was only to be expected after the surrender of the Greek Army of the Epirus, have now occupied Athens and reached the south coast of Peloponnesus. They have also set up a puppet government in Athens under a renegade Greek Commander, but the Greek Cabinet meeting in Crete, has reaffirmed its determination to continue the war. The Greek Air Force is fighting side by side with the British; and the entire merchant fleet of Greece, consisting of millions of tons of shipping, has been placed at the disposal of Britain. " We shall soon be back in Athens " said the Greek Premier, Mr. Tsouderos, in a speech at Canea (in Crete), adding that the island of Crete now formed with Britain " the last but worthy ramparts of the free people of Europe ".

Meanwhile a great part of the British and Empire troops and their equipment has already been evacuated from Greece for service in North Africa. They will help the British Army of the Nile to check the Axis advance into Egypt. The frontier post of Sollum has, of course, fallen to the enemy but it was not seriously defended and no special importance should be attached to its relinquishment by the British forces. The situation around Sollum is roughly the same as before General Wavell's counter-attack when the Italians were advancing last year into Egypt. British armoured divisions now bar the way to further German advance.

The British garrison at Tobruk beat off more German attacks with heavy losses to the enemy before the latter could penetrate the outer defences of the fort. A severe battle is raging round the town. The Royal Air Force is taking toll of German troop concentrations, transport and supplies by a series of raids on Tripoli, Benghazi, Derna and other towns and harbours in Libya.

And the British Imperial forces have captured Dessie, one of the last Italian strongholds in Abyssinia, taking 5,500 Italian and 2,500 colonial prisoners and quantities of war material. It will only be a matter of days before the last Italian soldier in Abyssinia lays down his arms. A greater part of the country has already returned to the administration of Emperor Haile Selassie, who is having British assistance to restore peace and prosperity to his people.

HITLER'S STRATEGY

Side by side with the striking successes of Germany, diplomatic and military, in the Balkans, Hitler has again commenced his notorious ' war of nerves ' with France, Spain, Portugal, Syria, Turkey and Russia. His strategy is always to cajole, then, if that does not succeed, to threaten and if he fails there, as a last resort, to invade. Flushed by his *blitz* in the Balkans, he has been aptly described as desiring to ' cash in ' as quickly as possible on his successes. He has recalled his ambassadors in Moscow and Ankara for consultation, in order that he may know at first hand what the attitude of both countries will be about the Battle of Egypt. The Balkan offensive should be accompanied by supplementary action in the Western Mediterranean and North Africa. His apparent desire is to close the Western Mediterranean, establish air and submarine bases to harass means of communication from south round the Cape of Good Hope and South America. A German spokesman said the other day that the attack on Gibraltar cannot be long delayed and must take place by land and Hitler is further insistent that every country in Europe must take the part assigned to it by him in a united Europe under German domination.

HOW IT WORKS

Pressure on the Vichy Government is increasing day by day. It is said that the demands are many, passage of troops through France, handing over the French Fleet and naval bases, increased industrial output in unoccupied France for Germany, virtual control over French Morocco, where German tourists are at large; in return, it is said Hitler may think of reducing the payments now given by the Vichy Government for German occupation, perhaps also release a certain proportion of the two million French prisoners in concentration camps and rectify the frontier dividing occupied and unoccupied France. The ' war of nerves ' includes setting up and inciting of the Reassemblement Nationale Populare, an anti-Vichy organization inspired by Nazis. So great has become the danger to the Petain Government from this body that, it is stated, elaborate precautions have been taken in Vichy against any rising by pro-Laval forces. The part played by Admiral Darlan is rather suspicious. Many reports are current of the help he is actually affording Germany. It is known that at the eleventh hour Marshal Petain cancelled Admiral Darlan's order that the battleship Dunquerque should be moved from its place. There are reports that under Admiral Darlan's orders big stores of petrol in Tunis have been handed over to Germany and Italy, and that tanks have been transferred and ships lent for the transport of troops from one side of the Mediterranean to the other. The position in French Morocco is getting serious owing to the infilteration of German tourists, much against the desire of the native inhabitants, and to crown all, General Weygand's position is stated to be somewhat shaky. Hitler apparently considers his presence in North Africa to be an obstacle to his projects. He has, however, to recken, with the United States, whose Ambassador is reported to have warned Marshal Petain against showing any hostility to Britain if Vichy desired further food supplies from America.

According to newspaper reports Franco of Spain is being compelled by his whilom friend and helper, Hitler to allow passage of troops to Gibraltar and grant bases to Germany. Is it possible for Franco to refuse any longer Hitler's demands? That is the question which is now being asked. There is already a large body of Germans in various key positions in Spain so that the conversion of Spain into a Teutonic vassal country would not be difficult to bring about. Rudolf Hess, the envoy of Hitler, is now in that country and he may play upon the national sentiments of Spain in regard to Gibraltar. From cajolery Hitler has now passed on, it is said, to threats.

It is stated that in regard to Portugal, the horizon is darkening. Berlin radio is holding out significant threats to Portugal, alleging that Britain intends to establish herself in that country—another illustration of Hitler's base and unscrupulous strategy. Will Portugal be compelled to revise her pact with Britain? Her President has just declared that " there exist certain absolute values in life to which every thing should be sacrificed and among them are the dignity of a nation, freedom, independence and territorial integrity."

Nazi tourists from Iraq to Syria are in contact with Syrian Autonomist Party.

Lastly, Turkey, which apparently has so far refused to walk into Hitler's parlour, is about to be threatened. Reports suggest that Turkey wants an understanding with the Soviet Government with regard to Germany's designs, but she is firm in her friendship with Britain and is determined to resist aggression. So far as Russia is concerned, she has put the Far-Eastern question " on ice " for the purpose of concentrating her attention on the west. Russia has always put one question aside for a time in order to concentrate on another more effectively and that is the significance of the Soviet-Japanese Pact.

So far as Gibraltar is concerned, one of the next objectives of Hitler, that impenetrable rock, it is stated, is ready for a seige whether it comes from land, sea or air. Its defences have been strengthened and are being added to every day. Its northern front is now completely protected, shelters have been

cut into the rock and other defences such as artillery and anti-aircraft have been appreciably added to. Lord Gort has been appointed Governor of Gibralter—a move on the part of the British Government which has created a sensation in Gibraltar. Everything is being done to render Gibraltar a hard nut for Hitler to crack.

Meanwhile, the Democracies are confident about ultimate victory. In an interview at a press conference, President Roosevelt stated that "the current war can only be won by keeping the defence of democracy going—and that is by the defence of England." "The war," he pointed out "could not be won by one sea fight or one retreat in Greece or even in the whole Mediterranean." This point was explained by General Smuts in a remarkable statement which he made three days later. Germany is certainly winning victories, he said, but she is at the same time losing the war. The American giant has been roused from his slumbers. He is confident that great as is the help which is being given by America, she would be doing much more in future and added "Not in the Balkans but in the West and perhaps in the Far East the war will be finally fought out. This mortal struggle may be long, will certainly be hard, but our cause is right and we fight in the conviction of a final victory." It is not without significance that the Gallup Poll, a periodical test of American opinion, reveals that a striking majoirty of those approached are for direct participation in the present war!

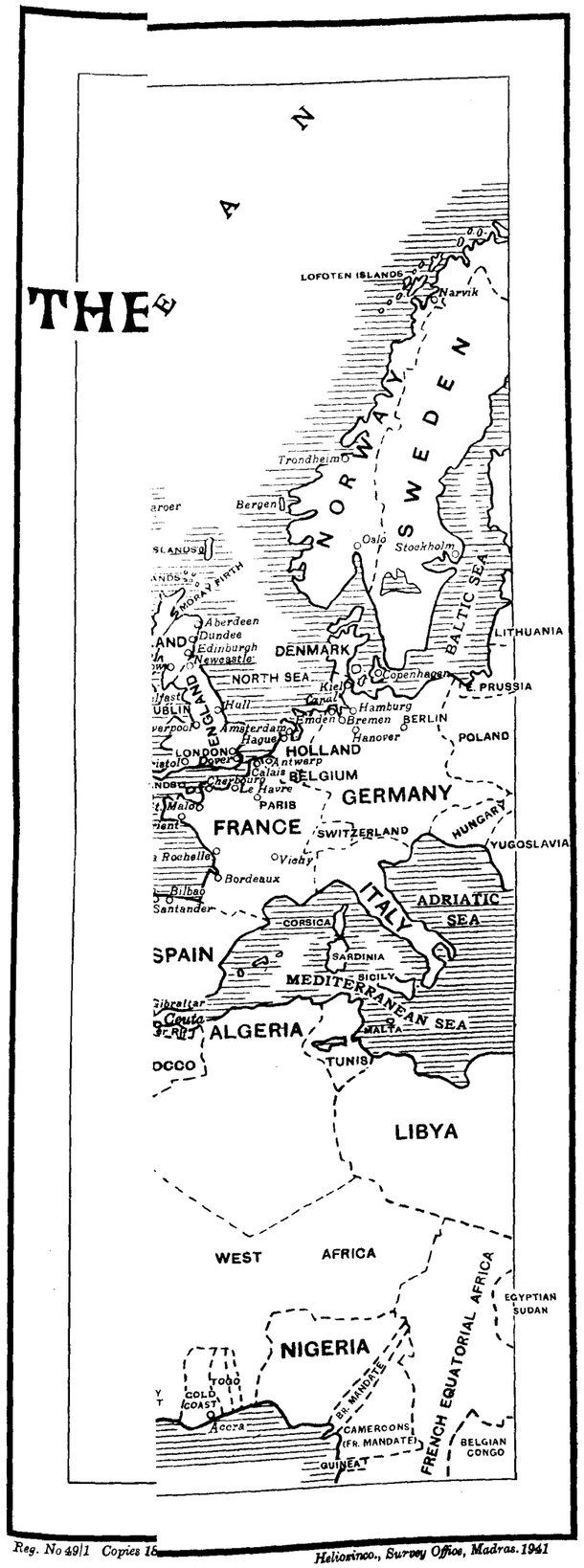
So long as Great Britain is in command of the seas, so long as Germany is frustrated in invading her, so long again as America sees to it that the tools which Mr. Churchill wants are given in the only way in which they could be given, that is by taking suitable measures that the tools, as the British Prime Minister said, reached England, so long further as the air-power, is being constantly strengthened, so that supremacy in the air may be attained—and that is not far off—victory for the Allies is certain.

THE FAR EAST

Mr. Matsuoka has become an admirer of German methods. He would like, if possible, to institute a German-like treatment of Japan's national life from today; but has Japan not copied almost to perfection the Nazi method of conducting a 'war of nerves'? Thailand is now under its influence and she has secured considerable concessions from Indo-China, but Japan's appetite is ever-increasing. She complains that French-Indo-China has not perceived that its destiny lies in fitting in with the New Order in the East, that is by becoming a vassal state of Japan. A Japanese newspaper has warned Indo-China to amend its ways and remove the restrictions placed on Japanese firms. It appears that air bases are being built in North Indo-China and that investigations are being made for new fields. A Japanese mission will soon survey all aspects of colonial life in that country and conduct investigations in regard to hospital facilities, drugs and foodstuffs. But the primary object of Japan's southward drive is Netherlands East Indies where she wants to secure for herself raw materials, such as rubber, oil, tea, spices, etc. The mission is not only to exploit that country but colonize it and afford an outlet for her surplus population. As is well known, Netherlands East Indies have two large islands, Java and Sumatra. Then come Borneo, one-third of which belongs to Britain, Celebes, one-half of New Guinea of Papua, the Moluccas and a large number of smaller islands. They have been known as Malay Archipelago or Spice Islands. A look at the map will tell you that on the north of these islands are the Philippine islands under the jurisdiction of the United States. The population of the Netherlands East Indies is 70,000,000 of whom the greater number inhabit Java. The islands produce 7,500,000 metric tons of crude oil, they are the second largest exporters of cane sugar, besides tea, palm oil, tobacco, quinine and spices. Bauxite for aluminium is also found. Of their strategic importance it is unnecessary to speak because they provide the link between the Far East and Southern Asia, including India, the Middle East *via* the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea and Europe itself. There are of course other routes, the Siberian Railway and the Burma Road. While the former connects only with northern Europe, the capacity of the Burma road is strictly limited and it is clear that both are uneconomic compared with the sea-routes. The Dutch Indies are very closely related to India which gave them their culture. Hindu thought and custom, epic and legend and art have found a resting place in Java. So far as trade is concerned, until a few years ago, India imported a million tons of sugar annually from the East Indies and India can now supply steel, cotton and textile goods to them. Therefore Japan would very much like to control the Netherlands East Indies to secure raw products, to obtain markets for the manufactured goods, to obtain "living space" for her and to secure strategic control in order to dominate the trade of the Far East.

But there is a great check on Japanese ambitions and that is American and British power in south Pacific. The Singapore defences have been largely strengthened by Sir Robert Brooke-Popham who is now Commander-in-Chief. Indian, English and Scottish troops have been stationed, air bases have been established in jungles, adequate food stocked and defences established in various other places.

Japanese moves during the last few months to secure influence in the Netherlands East Indies have been effectively thwarted. Recently Australia with whom Japan had professed genuine friendship has warned that country that any suspicious moves on her part to secure control and extend her influence would be promptly and effectively countered.



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THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

AMERICA'S GROWING HELP TO BRITAIN

In a broadcast from Capetown last week, that far-seeing statesman General Smuts said " We have gained a new ally, of all the most powerful and worth having in the whole world. With the United States of America and all its goodwill and vast resources behind us, we may indeed look forward to the end with steadfast confidence. For this, we have to thank Hitler who has roused the American giant from his slumber. Hence the re-election of President Roosevelt, hence the Lease and Lend Act, hence the firm and unshakeable alignment of all responsible American opinion on the side of the Allies. More will follow. America will yet go all the way ".

That Hitler realizes that Great Britain and the Commonwealth cannot be beaten as long as their lines of communication are open is evident from his renewed attacks on ships in the Atlantic Ocean as well as in his attempt to bottle up the British Navy in the Mediterranean Sea. In the latter he has failed so far despite his successes on the Balkans seaboard. It does not appear either that he will succeed in the future. The British Army of the Nile bars his way from Libya to the Suez Canal. The British conquest of Italian East Africa has resulted in the capture of Massawa, the Red Sea port. And President Roosevelt has declared the Red Sea a " non-combatant " area under the provisions of the American Neutrality Act and he is permitting American ships to carry arms and other supplies direct to the Middle East.

The Atlantic remains, in the words of Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, the decisive theatre of war. It is here that Hilter has launched a threefold attack on British ships, carrying supplies from America, by U-boats, surface raiders and bombing aircraft based on the French coastal regions. He is also bringing pressure to bear on Spain and Portugal in an effort not only to neutralize the strength of the British base in Gibraltar but to get naval and air bases of his own in the Iberian Peninsula.

SHIPPING POSITION

Mr. Churchill has made no attempt to minimize the gravity of the Battle of the Atlantic, which is being waged with growing intensity on both sides. The periodic publication of the shipping losses has also served to attract attention to the great battle going on in that vast stretch of ocean day and night. It is a long drawn-out struggle, which must continue for months and entail continuous sacrifice and endurance on the part of the Mercantile Marine, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. Britain has lost nearly four million tons of shipping in the war and in their place has gained three million tons of foreign or newly constructed ships. At the prevailing rate of losses, this gap—at present small—will widen with the passage of time and may cause a sensible contraction of the war effort in 1942. The weapons of sea power and industrial strength, which " work silently and gradually" are Britain's reply to Hitler and these must be kept intact.

Measures to meet the situation are : (1) building of merchant ships on a considerable scale; (2) acceleration of the turn-round of ships in the ports at which they have landed their cargo; (3) supplies of ships from America; and (4) intensification of anti-submarine measures. As far as Britain is concerned, work on her ship-building yards is steadily going on in the face of organized raids by the German air force; and new labour regulations have come into force, ensuring quick unloading and turn-round of ships at British ports.

As far as the supply of American ships is concerned, the Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission has announced that 950 merchantmen as well as 913 naval craft have actually been ordered from United States Naval yards for Britain and that America is prepared to hand over 2½ million tons of shipping, if necessary. It is now clear that America is making a shipbuilding effort comparable to that which finally broke the Germans in 1918.

The United States has also seized nearly a hundred ships, belonging to Denmark, Italy and Germany and lying in American ports, in order to save them from scuttling and sabotage. Legislation is about to be undertaken, authorizing the President to requisition and purchase all foreign vessels lying idle in the United States harbours and, if he thinks it essential, to hand them over to Britain. Despite German and Italian protests against the seizure of Axis ships, it is generally recognized that America's action is justified in international law. In fact, Italy took a similar step against Germany during the Great War when she was ostensibly the latter's ally and before she entered the war against her.

On the subject of anti-submarine measures, Mr. Churchill is right in saying that " the defeat of U-boats and surface raiders has been proved to be entirely a question of adequate escorts for convoys." True, the Royal Air Force has been systematically raiding Brest, L'Orient and other naval bases of the enemy, from which submarines go out on their nefarious expeditions and from which the battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisanau* have ventured out far into the Atlantic to attack unarmed ships. But the real battle must of necessity take place in the Atlantic itself. A recent despatch told us that fifty German U-boat officers and considerably more than 400 German petty officers and men were prisoners of war in Britain. The number of U-boats operating in the Atlantic has lately been large and British counter-measures have also met with correspondingly greater success.

BASES FOR DESTROYERS DEAL

But when all is said and done, Britain's Navy is now doing the work that five allied navies accomplished in the last war and the strain on her destroyer fleet has been great. That America has recognized this fact is evident not only in her handing over to Britain early this year of ten fast revenue cutters of 2,000 tons each, well armed and long-ranged, which are excellent vessels for vast convoy work, but in last year's famous deal by which she gave to Britain 50 technically " over age " destroyers in exchange for leaseholds on eight British base-sites in the Atlantic. The trade in destroyers was timely; they were not useless hulks as the German Radio falsely made out. Most of them were completed after the last war and some did not become over-age (16 years old) until 1938. Small (314 feet; 1,190 tons), lightly gunned and fast (35 knots), they were ideally suited to the work to which the British have put them—long-range, convoy and patrol.

Even more reassuring was the acquisition of the base-sites by America. It proved that the United States was trying to implement the declaration of the Congress of American Republics at Panama that 300 and not three miles was the limit of American territorial waters. The deal also announced to the world that the United States was determined to stop Hitler in the Atlantic. American strategists were of the opinion that in these bases the United States had obtained the equivalent of five new battleships or 2,500 airplanes or an army corps; but the moral and psychological effect on world opinion was immeasurably greater. These eight bases are located in Newfoundland, Bermuda, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Antigua, St. Lucia, Trinidad and British Guiana. " Newfoundland's harbour-dented southern coast is ice-free and open to navigation the year round," says an American journal, discussing the possibilities of the bases. " That coast and Avalon Peninsula harbours can base destroyers, submarines, flying boats. Bermuda's reef-bound Great Sound can base United States seaplanes, destroyers, submarines for patrol well beyond mid-Atlantic. The Bahamas will be useful for secondary patrol plane bases; with others in the chain, should give the United States absolute command of two Caribbean entrances: Florida Strait and the Windward Passage. Jamaica, now a minor British naval-fueling station, has a fine harbour at Kingston; can be developed as a secondary base for United States patrol planes, submarines, destroyers, cruisers. Antigua and St. Lucia guard the Anegada Passage and Windward Island approaches to the Caribbean; will be valuable as intermediate patrol plane and submarine bases. Trinidad locks the hitherto open southern gateway to the Caribbean. With a good harbour at Port-of-Spain, it may become a secondary fortified fleet-base; will certainly be a major base for long-range patrol planes (sea and land). British Guiana will probably serve aircraft and lighter naval vessels; will make safe a vital source of bauxite (aluminium ore) ".

The preliminary lease agreement was signed on September 2 last and the final agreement on March 30. It was intended, as *The Times* put it, as a barter agreement, in which the value of destroyers was set off against that of the bases without the need to weigh any nice question of pounds, shillings and pence, which it was even then felt—as it has since been recognized more and more—was inappropriate between two countries, each of whom has a vital interest in the defence of the other. The expenditure of billions of dollars " effectively and efficiently " on developing these bases is making the United States Navy " the most powerful protective force in the world " claimed Col. Frank Knox, the Secretary of the Navy, in February last. The United States was fortunate, he said, in having a " ring " of naval bases stretching from Newfoundland through the islands of the Atlantic, around the Pacific to the Aleutian Islands and across 2,100 miles of open ocean to Hawaii, the Gibraltar of the Pacific, and out to Midway and Johnston Islands. And it must not be forgotton that Britain has given a formal assurance to America that in the most unlikely event of Britain being occupied by the enemy forces, her formidable navy will not surrender but sail straight to America and fight the enemy from the bases there.

United States has already sent troops to garrison Port of Spain and Bermuda and is pushing on with the development of the other bases. Indeed, she has gone further and acquired the right to establish naval and military air bases in Greenland and thus facilitate the maintenance of the shipping links with Britain and the flying of short-range war planes across the Atlantic. This agreement was entered into with the Danish Minister in Washington, " acting on behalf of the King of Denmark in his capacity as the Sovereign of Greenland, whose authorities in Greenland have concurred therein." The United States has rejected the protest of the German-controlled Government of Denmark but has made clear that Danish sovereignty over Greenland is fully recognized and that the Island will be restored to Denmark after the war.

BASES IN GREENLAND

Greenland first came into prominence just a year ago when Germany occupied Denmark. The United States then took the same action as it took later with regard to the French possessions in the West Indies; it declared that it would not permit any change of ownership in foreign-controlled American territory without its consent. The present agreement, allowing the United States to establish naval and air bases in Greenland, is parallel to the lease of bases by Britain to America and the recent agreements made by the United States with Panama and Mexico for the joint control of bases in those countries. All these actions are in line with the Monroe Doctrine, which lays down that the United States will not permit European powers to interfere in the American continent, and with the decisions of the Congress of American Republics at Havana, which provided " for material co-operation in the defence of North and South America ". Greenland occupies an important position in the Battle of the Atlantic. Though mainly ice and snowbound from September to April, it has, during the summer, harbours and land which can be used for airfields. It is about 800 miles from Newfoundland and about 250 miles from Iceland; the latter colony of Denmark which has already been taken over by Great Britain for the duration of the war, is in its turn about 650 miles from Scottish ports. Together, Greenland and Iceland will form stepping stones by the help of which short-range aircraft could be flown to Britain instead of being carried by sea; and convoys could also be escorted in easy stages. Indeed the United States decided to take over the protection of Greenland only on learning that German troops had been flying over Greenland territory. The agreement again will be of considerable benefit to Britain because, like all the newly acquired United States bases, the Greenland bases will be available to Canada as one of the nations of the Western Hemisphere.

Once the United States builds its bases in Greenland, the plan of establishing a Northern shipping route to the limits of the Western Hemisphere, kept free of Axis raiders by American Neutrality Patrols operating from Greenland and Newfoundland as well as from United States ports, becomes a practical proposition. The preliminary step which is being urged on the United States Administration is to declare open all ports in the Western Hemisphere from which American vessels are now banned by the Neutrality Act. It is obviously ludicrous, it is declared, that United States ships cannot call at ports such as Halifax in Canada owing to possible belligerent activities when Halifax is within the Western Hemisphere and the so-called " safety zone " laid down by the Panama Conference of Pan-American States must be theoretically free of belligerent acts.

The development of these United States bases as well as the building of new ships must take some time. What is now urgently required is the provision of adequate escorts for ships in convoy. Here progressive American opinion is in advance even of the President's though two members of the Administration have now spoken out with refreshing and welcome vigour and Mr. Roosevelt, too, has given an unqualified affirmative answer to the query whether they spoke for him. As Mr. J. L. Garvin says " A world issue depends on the Battle of the Atlantic. That issue depends absolutely on American effort and American policy . . . This emergency is stirring the American people to their depths. When full action of the American Navy to guard convoys is ensured, the irresistible rise of the confederate democracies to overwhelming air mastery will do the rest . . . The Nazis are at the height of their effort; the democracies have to come to it. Awakened to supreme decisions by the final warning, Britain and America will make good by the doggedness of our breed and the tenacity of theirs."

UNITED STATES' CONVOYS FOR SHIPS.

A strong hint that the United States would convoy supply ships to Britain and her Allies was given by Col. Knox late last week. " Having gone thus far, we can only go on ", he said; " We must make good our promises to give aid to Britain. We must see the job through." The Secretary of the United States Navy was right in emphasising that " Hitler cannot allow our war supplies and food to reach England—he will be defeated if they do. We cannot allow our goods to be sunk in the Atlantic—we shall be beaten if they are."

Colonel Knox referred to " an America gradually becoming encircled by military powers whose ideals, institutions and methods are all irreconcilably antagonistic to ours ", and added, " These same powers have also openly and repeatedly proclaimed themselves our enemies and these openly-avowed enemies have joined themselves together in a Pact which, they do not hesitate to say, is aimed at us alone. Whenever, in the judgment of the Axis powers, it better suits their purpose to begin hostilities, the hostilities will begin and nothing we can do, save prostrating ourselves in abject surrender, will change this. There is no retracing our steps. We have committed ourselves to this world struggle. If we attempt to back out, England will go down in a catastrophic defeat and we would face a world-wide victorious Germany and her allies whom we should have to fight alone. We have declared that aggressor nations must not be permitted to win. We have irrevocably committed ourselves to see that this is prevented and we have acknowledged that our destiny—just as much as the destiny of the British Empire and the ultimate destiny of the conquered people of the Low Countries, Scandinavia, France and the Balkans—is at stake."

This outspoken declaration has been reinforced by a broadcast by Mr. Cordell Hull, the United States Secretary of State. He came out strongly against any attempt to make peace now, declaring that peace with Axis powers would be " nothing more than a trap." He declared " It is high time the remaining free countries should arm to the fullest extent in the briefest time humanly possible and act for their self-preservation." The United States, he pointed out, is certainly included in the Axis plans for world domination. It makes a difference who wins, the difference of whether we stand with our back to the wall, with the other four continents against us and the high seas lost, alone, defending the last free territories on earth, or whether we keep our place in an orderly world." Mr. Hull ridiculed the argument that because the Germans could not successfully cross the Channel, they " The reason the English Channel has not been

successfully crossed is because forty million determined Britons, in heroic resistance, have converted their island into a huge armed base, from which proceeds a steady stream of sea and air power. It is not water that bars the way, it is the determination of British sea-power and British arms. Were control of the seas by the resisting nations to be lost, the Atlantic would no longer be an obstacle—it would become a broad highway for the conqueror moving westward." The Secretary of State concluded "Ways must be found to ensure that aid to Britain reaches its destination in the shortest time and at the maximum capacity."

And finally the President of the United States, leaving the question of convoys alone, has declared that American Neutrality Patrols will operate "as far into the waters of the seven seas as might be necessary" and that United States warships would enter combat zones, if necessary in the interests of the defence of the Western Hemisphere. Mr. Roosevelt, after attacking all those appeasers who would make peace with the Axis, said last week that for a year and a half Neutrality Patrol vessels had been operating as far as a thousand miles from the Atlantic eastern shore. The Maryland Patrol had been extended and would continue to be extended from time to time. The President defined a patrol as a reconnaissance of an area to find if there were any aggression ship entering or approaching the Western Hemisphere. He compared the Neutrality Patrols to the American scouts of the pioneer days, who warned covered wagon caravans of the approach of Red Indian enemies, indicating that American warships ranging the Atlantic would similarly warn the British. President Roosevelt appeared to be purposely enigmatic when he parried questions about convoys but the general impression he gave was that American Neutrality Patrols would be extended further and further into the Atlantic. Later, the President said that the area of combat activities delineated by Germany round the British Isles had nothing to do with United States warships. They could go into it, if necessary for the defence of the Western Hemisphere, though it did not mean that they were actually doing so now. It is well understood that for political reasons President Roosevelt did not make any definite statement. At the same time everyone in Washington realizes that convoys are the only way by which American undertakings to Britain can be fully carried out if sinkings in the Atlantic continue at the present rate. As the United States Ambassador to the Argentine has put it, it is safe to assume that having devoted their strength and resources to produce planes, ships and munitions, the American people are not going to permit them to rust on the shores of the United States or rest at the bottom of the Atlantic.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST

Little surprise that Mr. Churchill, in his broadcast on Sunday last, after paying a striking tribute to the "wonderful exertions" made "by our men on the high seas, by the hundreds of minesweeping vessels, which with their marvellous appliances keep our ports clear in spite of all that the enemy can do; by the men who build and repair our immense fleets of merchant and naval ships; by the men who load and unload; and, need I say, by the officers and men of the Merchant Navy of the country, in all weather and in the face of grave dangers", went on to record his "indescribable relief" at "the tremendous decision lately taken by the President and people of the United States." The Prime Minister said, "American fleet and flying boats have been ordered to patrol the wide waters of the Western Hemisphere and warn peaceful shipping of all nations outside the combat zone of the presence of lurking U-boats and raiders belonging to the aggressor nations. We, the British, will therefore be able to concentrate our protecting forces far more upon the routes nearer home to take a far heavier toll of the U-boats there. As I told you, something like this was bound to happen. The President and the Congress of the United States of America, who have newly fortified themselves by contact with their electors, have solemnly pledged their aid to Britain in this war because they deem our cause just and because they know their own interests and safety would be in danger if we were destroyed. They are taxing themselves heavily, they have passed legislation and turned a large part of their gigantic industries to making the ammunition which we need. They have given us all this and other valuable assistance. I cannot believe that they will allow the effort to which they have put themselves to be frustrated and the products of their skill and labour sunk to the bottom of the sea."

The Prime Minister's broadcast has evoked swift response in America. President Roosevelt has asked the United States Maritime Commission to obtain the service of "at least two million tons of merchant shipping to be used to supply all-out aid to the Democracies". In a letter to the Chairman of the Commission, the President indicates that cargo ships of all types may be taken from existing or proposed trade routes to haul vital war supplies and food overseas. He also says that the United States Merchant Navy must be extended faster than planned so that more ships will become available to carry food and munitions of war to the Democracies of the world. The President says he fully realizes that diversion of ships from their usual routes will cause great inconvenience and loss of trade as well as sacrifices by the consuming public "but vital war materials are piling up in these ports or are delayed at the factories. We must supply these ships at once. I am sure owners will gladly co-operate in this essential enterprise." And the Maritime Commission has already ordered fifty oil tankers to be placed in special service to aid Britain within the next few days. These will carry oil from South American countries to North Atlantic ports where the oil will be transferred to British vessels. It is also stated that Britain is to get surplus foreign ships seized in American ports, that is, those which are not needed by the United States or the South American Republics.

TO-DAY IN LONDON

EXPERIENCES OF A LADY WORKER

It is remarkable, and this fact has been testified to by numerous neutral observers, that the peophle of England, men, women and children are standing bravely to the *blitzkrieg* and its consequences. The common suffering has promoted social harmony and greatly developed the spirit of social service and neighbourliness. The following is a graphic account of the experiences of the wife of an English I.C.S. Officer now in England. We are publishing this narrative through the courtesy of a lady friend to whom the letter was addressed from London.

"Where shall I begin to tell you of all the things that have been happening here? The facts you know from your wireless.

"It tells much but not everything. It gives, however, a very just account and the things it does not tell are things that would help the enemy. It certainly does not minimize our losses or seek to delude or misrepresent. That I can say quite surely.

"What it cannot tell is how these months have seemed to the individual and how it is affecting us. At the end of four months in London, working in the dock area of the East End, I can say that we have taken the shock and nothing can now defeat us unless we are one and all exterminated. We have settled down to this peculiar existence. We take it as a matter of course, that we shall sleep in shelters or basements or cellars, that meals, plentiful and of unimpaired quality, shall be eaten when and where we can get them; that we shall work all day harder than we have ever worked; that we shall see no friends, have no outside amusements, but returning at dark, retire to our cellar and stay there till it is time to get ready for work next morning. Planes droning overhead like a swarm of locusts, bombs dropping all round one, and guns firing with deafening roar from the street outside are now the normal accompaniment of one's nights and they no longer keep one awake. If a specially near one crashes loudly one may stir, thinking 'Thank God that one missed us', turn over and go to sleep again. A quiet night without an alert makes one more uneasy, it is so uncanny. This is no 'bit of writing', it is exactly how we feel. That is, if one is lucky. If one isn't lucky and is bombed or blasted, well, it is just too bad.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICE

"Obviously no amateur nurses were needed in London. Within an hour of my registering I was asked to go down to Poplar where they were clamouring for help as the *blitz* had hit that district first and hardest (the docks). I soon found myself up to the ears in work and being given charge of the reclothing of the borough. It was in a hell of a mess as you can imagine every one, needy and scroungers alike, beseiging for clothes. Parcels of second-hand stuff coming by the hundred, no check on anything and heaps of unsorted clothing clean, soiled and filthy, good, bad and indifferent, lace, ball dresses mixed up with dirty underclothing, men's evening coats and plus fours and ragged shirts. Too much of some things and not enough of others, people half naked and pathetically grateful for anything, sleek well dressed Jews storming because they could not get new clothes. Families of seven and eight all to be clothed somehow with queues storming at the doors. Scroungers coming back again and again, hoping they would not be recognized.

"Gradually the rush subsided, we got things straightened out and I took over charge. Insisted on cheques and card indexes and vouchers for all incoming and outgoing stuff. Got the number of enthusiastic but utterly useless helpers weeded out, trained the few good ones and now it is running smoothly and when we have bad bombings there we are ready and equipped to deal with them. We not only clothe those who come to the town hall but we supply the rest centres where the bombed-out go to live till they get new accommodation. We also run working parties to make new garments and to mend old. I have got quite a nice little band of local women who are enthusiastic to help their own people. They tell me that the best thing I have done is to get the local women keen and loyal. One woman tells me she wanted her husband to take her away when the *blitz* began there she was so frightened. Now nothing would move her, and she grudges the time she has to spend in doing her husband's cooking and washing and mending. She admits it has changed her whole outlook having this work to do, so I have made her my second in command and she is almost bursting with pride and importance and is extremely efficient. That is one fault I had to find with the Women's Voluntary Service. It was too West-end. It did not incorporate the local talent sufficiently. The clothing is my special department but I also help with the rest of the work which it does in Poplar. We administer Poplar's share of the Mayor's fund for giving extra relief over and above or beyond the scope of what Government can do. We find billets for evacuating babies under five and old people who do not come under any Government scheme. We help people to find work and equip them for it. We help to ease the difficulties of separated families, and thousands of other cases that are really nobody's business. Besides that we run a late night canteen for the A.R.P. workers, run a mobile canteen for rescue workers in night raids, organize and superintend shelter feeding, etc.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

" The American Red Cross have been very very generous to us. They give us an almost endless supply of garments (and some difficult to persuade our conservative Eastenders to wear, such as union suits, knicker-bockers and women's combinations with long legs and long sleeves!) but magnificent pullovers, boots, shoes, overcoats, dresses and a lot of wool and materials for us to have made up.

They have been most generous in money too. I must tell you a story of our Poplar centre. A party from the American Red Cross came down to see our work and said they'd like to give us a donation. We had to tell them that Women's Voluntary Service didn't have any funds of their own (we are attached to the Home Office and Government supplied our office expenses), but that if they liked to give a donation to the Mayor of Poplar, we could administer it for him. They asked how much we'd like and swallowing hard and hoping we'd be forgiven we boldly up and said a thousand pounds. They said " all right " and we sighed with joy. Presently along came the cheque which the office duly acknowledged. Back came a letter from the American Red Cross saying had we examined the cheque because it was for seven thousand not for one thousand—complete passing-out of the Women's Voluntary Service, Poplar!

AMERICAN SYMPATHY AND HELP

" And now we have Roosevelt's grand speech to Congress. He has managed things marvellously, never pressing the people further than they could go at the moment. We never doubted Roosevelt's sympathy but whether he could carry the nation with him was the question. His re-election was a great relief here, for whatever Willkie might have been, Roosevelt we knew and trusted. In him we knew we had a friend. I hope America will not have to come in as a military power. At present she is of far more use to us as an arsenal. What warms our hearts at the moment of his great speech is the knowledge that America realizes we are fighting for her too, and that if we cannot pay in cash we are paying in lives and suffering, in the devastation of our homes and great ancient buildings. We offer these our battered cities, our broken bodies and our ruined lives, our severed families, our little homes built up over years gone in one crash (a land mine wrecked five hundred the other night in Poplar) in exchange for the materials of defence that America can give us. Is it not a better exchange than cash? It is with great thankfulness that we see that America is realizing this, and that she is backing us to the limit.

UPLIFTING OF SPIRIT

" You know, horrible and awful as this is, it will be, I think, the saving of the world. Already here in England it has shaken us out of the soul destroying lethargy and smugness and false values. I keep saying to the people down in Poplar who have lost their little all, ' what do possessions matter? If you have your life and your health, you can get together a better home than you had before and we'll help you to it.' And to those who fear moving out to new places I say ' How dull to live always in one place, what a grand chance to see other places, making new friends, and what tales to tell to a new audience ' and they begin to think it's rather an adventure as living dangerously always is. The sap is rising; we see it like that here. A new adventure to be bombed day and night, a triumph if we can escape them, a martyrdom if we cannot, a sacrifice in a great cause. The spirit uplifts the whole nation and we fear nothing. Nothing but extermination can get us down and we are proud and glad to suffer. Don't pity us or fear for us. We have no fear and the ones who need the pity are those who are not fortunate enough to be here in the thick of it.

" My peace of mind here and my complete happiness are in sharp contrast to the agony of those months in India when I had not wholly accepted the tragedy of the war, when I saw from outside the wicked waste and was full of fear, so far away and so ignorant of what might be happening here. Now I see quite clearly that like the Crucifixion it was necessary for the regeneration of mankind. We were so *bloody* selfish and greedy and jealous of our privileges and so afraid of others filching them from us. There will be, there must be, a regeneration but that can only come after purification by suffering. This is not cant. I know it from my own experience, but the suffering must make the spirit strong. It is no virtue in itself just to have suffered, unless it leads us on to fight afterwards for a better world. I am thinking aloud as it were. As I talk to some one so, I find out what I believe and you are the recipient."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

A Goebbels Chestnut Re-roasted

When the German attack on Greece was in full swing, Dr. Goebbels re-commenced his old tactics of trying to sow dissension between the Greeks and their British allies. There was no new line of propaganda, of course—Berlin started it as long ago as the outset of the Italian invasion of Greece, when the Nazi radio was full of prophecies that " Britain would let Greece down." On that occasion, the effect was somewhat spoilt by the Rome radio, which (in order to explain away Italy's heavy defeats) was soon asserting that Greece's air force and artillery, as well as the direction of the Greek war-effort, was entirely British!

Undeterred by that earlier set-back, Berlin declared on April 13 that the appointment of Sir Henry Maitland Wilson to command the British forces in Greece, and the departure of Mr. Eden and General Dill to Britain. meant that the British were " preparing for the betrayal of Greece and for another Dunkirk."

Berlin ignored the obvious fact that the regular headquarters of the British Foreign Minister and the Chief of the Imperial General Staff is London, not Cairo or Athens. These two officials had spent several weeks in the Near and Middle East, holding important and fruitful conferences not only with their own colleagues on the spot, but also with Greek, Yugoslav, Turkish and Egyptian representatives. What more natural than that, their task completed, they should return to London—especially since (as Berlin itself is always proclaiming) the decisive struggle of the war will be fought in the West, and not in the Middle East?

African Hazards

There has been a good deal of wishful thinking in the German radio comments on the North African situation this week. Thus, on April 14, Berlin said : " Both Benghazi and Bardia having been occupied by German and Italian troops, all the gain of General Wavell's offensive has been lost by the British ".

This dictum leaves out of account the fact the General Wavell's primary object was not the occupation of Cyrenaica, but the destruction of the vast Italian army which Marshal Graziani had assembled on the Egyptian frontier. That objective was completely achieved, and the very fact that the Germans have had to rush so many troops into Tripolitania reveals how crushing was the defeat inflicted on the Italians. Enormous Italian losses in man-power, including at least 170,000 men taken prisoner, together with vast quantities of weapons, stores and ammunition, are some of the gains of General Wavell's Libyan advance which have not been lost by the British.

Moreover, the Wavell offensive had two phases—in Italian East Africa, as well as in Libya. Discreetly enough, Berlin says nothing about Mussolini's losses (and Britain's gains) in Somaliland, Eritrea and Abyssinia, as a result of which President Roosevelt has now declared the Red Sea open to American shipping loaded with supplies for the Allies.

Goebbels' Nightmare

On April 15, the Berlin radio announced rather naively: " The last remnants of the British Expeditionary Force in North Africa have concentrated in a harbour town, which they are defending until embarkation operations are carried out." Dr. Goebbels seems to have embarkation and disembarkation on the brain—perhaps because he has not yet been able to announce the embarkation of the German Expeditionary Force for Britain; but the above announcement is simply a tactful way of admitting that the Italo-German troops had not so far succeeded in taking Tobruk—a mix-up in the Axis time-table for which Berlin had not allowed.

As for those " last remnants of the British Expeditionary Force in North Africa," Rome could have told Berlin quite definitely that not all of them by any means were " concentrated in a harbour town "—and German troops were to find this out for themselves very soon, when they tried in vain to advance beyond El Sollum.

Tobruk Untaken

Two days later, Goebbels felt strong enough to mention Tobruk by name. " The position of the British Troops there," he announced on April 17, " is hopeless, but perhaps they will be evacuated by sea "—embarkation again! But even he cannot explain how, if the British troops could still be evacuated by sea, their position could also be " hopeless."

Meanwhile, the Tobruk garrison, which is now known to include Indian troops, appears to be in no hurry to embark. Throughout the past week they have been repulsing with great success both German and Italian attacks by tanks, infantry and warplanes, and very heavy casualties have been inflicted on the enemy. They have also made a number of successful counter-attacks—not an operation usually carried out by troops whose position is " hopeless."

The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain—which is so rapidly becoming the Battle of Germany as well—has also been giving Goebbels a good deal of trouble lately. On April 16, his wireless

announced that, while the R.A.F. had to pay dearly for any attempt to enter occupied territory by day, the *Luftwaffe* was continuing its successful bombing activity over Britain in broad daylight.

This statement represents almost the exact opposite of the truth. On four days out of the seven immediately preceding April 16, not a single German bomb fell on the British Isles by daylight, and only very slight raiding activity was reported during the remaining three days. On the other hand, the R.A.F.'s daylight programme for that week included raids on industrial objectives in the Ruhr, naval, air and military installations on Borkum Island, the battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at Brest, factories, railways, power stations and other targets in Norway, Denmark, Holland and France, and the usual routine attacks on enemy shipping. In all these operations, the R.A.F. lost five bombers and two fighters—not a heavy price for a week's highly successfull daylight activities.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Mr. Spender on Hitler's Programme

The Nazis' Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts of April 16 misquoted the B.B.C. as having stated that the Australian Army Minister, Mr. P. C. Spender, had said, "Since France's defeat, Britain is in a miserable predicament." This is only typical of how the Nazis invent what they call news. What Mr. Spender said was that the Empire was about to pass through her greatest test since the collapse of France. Mr. Spender also added : " Hitler is staking his all on the next six months but, when we have ridden the storm, he will be doomed."

British Fighting Qualities

Dr. Geobbels' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of April 14 referred to an Athens report which, according to the Nazis, stated that a ship carrying British military experts had reached Greece. They were, said Berlin, experts in carrying out retreats. The British fighting quality was demonstrated on April 11, when a British infantry repulsed an attack by the crack S.S. Adolf Hitler division in North Greece. The German's desire to wage the Balkan campaign without having to reckon with British resistance explains their spiteful propaganda.

The All-eating Herrenvolk Spider

The Nazi broadcast in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic stated on April 17, that the Norwegians still remember how the British deceived them last year by withdrawing from Norway. The fact, however, is that despite this alleged " deception," the Norwegians still work and hope for a British victory. As Mr. Johan Nygardsvold, the Norwegian Prime Minister, recently stated, " Norway has but one programme—to liberate the country from foreign rule and rid her of Quisling and his men, who have sold Norway into slavery."

The Norwegians understand only too well the German ideal of a new Europe. To mention only some aspects of the daily depredations going on, most of the meat, butter and eggs in the country has been requisitioned by the Germans, the all-eating Herrenvolk spider, and no less than Rs. 75 crores have been withdrawn already from banks in Norway for the expenses of the German army of occupation.

" London Can take It "

On April 17, the German broadcasts in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic conveniently quoted an unnamed London correspondent of an Argentine paper as stating that the British are " trembling in fear like a delicate stick." The United States of America's new Ambassador in England, Mr. John Winant, who toured the London districts after the worst raid that city had experienced, recently paid a magnificent tribute to the courage of the people, ending up with the remarks " Now I know what ' London can take it ' means."

British Admiralty and Shipping Losses

On April 18, the Nazi radio broadcast an alleged comment of the *New York Times* stating that the British Admiralty's decision to publish shipping losses once a month instead of every week meant that the Battle of the Atlantic had taken a serious turn. Actually, however, the decision is due to the increasing difficulties of presenting accurate figures week by week. The reason for delay, of course, is that ships do not communicate with shore while *en route* for fear of betraying their position. The Nazi criticism of the British decision is particularly inept, because the German Government have never published their own shipping losses.

Nazi Concern for Newfoundland

Dr. Geobbels' Hindustani broadcast of April 16 published the fantastic statement that Mr. Churchill had sold Newfoundland to America. The German concern over Newfoundland becomes understandable when it is remembered that, with the existence of air bases in Newfoundland, Greenland and Iceland, the American short-range bombers could be flown to England. That alone is the reason why the Nazis are misrepresenting a straightforward commercial transaction.

It is true that the U.S.A. is establishing air bases in Newfoundland, but Britain has not surrendered her sovereignity over a single British subject and the islanders are only too proud to make their contribution towards the defeat of the common enemy.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

2nd May.—The Royal Air Force made a daylight raid on the German submarine base of Den Helder in Holland. Two enemy supply ships were accounted for.

3rd May.—The Germans admitted extensive damage by a heavy Royal Air Force raid on Hamburg.

Five Nazi bombers were shot down when the enemy raided the Merseyside.

4th May.—Sixteen German bombers were shot down in a concentrated attack by the German air force on the Merseyside.

The Royal Air Force bombed Cologne and other towns in Germany and occupied countries. The German battle cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau were again attacked at Brest.

5th May.—Helped by the moonlight, the Royal Air Force took a heavy toll of German shipping from the coast of Norway to the coast of Britanny. Direct hits were scored on an enemy supply ship in a convoy off Skaggerak.

Eight enemy planes were destroyed during a German raid on Liverpool and Merseyside. Belfast in Northern Ireland was also raided.

6th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked Mannheim and other industrial towns in the Middle Rhine district. Aerodromes near Stavanger in Norway and coastal towns in France were also raided.

The German air force attacked the Dover balloon barrage but two bombers were shot down; Nazi airmen also raided Clydeside.

7th May.—Hamburg was again the principal target of Royal Air Force raids on Germany. Le Havre and the Frisian Islands were also attacked and an enemy supply ship sunk.

The German air force concentrated its attack on the Clydeside for the fourth night in succession.

8th May.—The record number of 23 German aircraft were destroyed in the night raids on Britain.

The Royal Air Force dropped heavy armour-piercing bombs on the German battle cruisers sheltering at Brest; and also raided Bremen, St. Nazaire and the Loire estuary.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

2nd May.—The British Imperial troops at Tobruk launched a successful counter-attack on the enemy.

3rd May.—General Smuts announced that South African troops would take part in the Battle for Egypt.

British Imperial forces in Abyssinia captured Waldia, 50 miles north of Dessie; Bahrdar at the extreme south of Lake Tsna; and Derbub near Amba Alagi.

The Royal Air Force raided enemy posts in Libya and Abyssinia and sank a destroyer and a merchantship in the Mediterranean.

4th May.—British mechanised forces in the Sollum area made a successful raid on the enemy.

5th May.—It was reported that Indian troops had advanced 250 miles south of Asmara into the mountain fastnesses of Northern Abyssinia.

6th May.—Exactly five years after the Italian occupation of Addis Ababa, Emperor Haile Selassie returned in triumph to his capital city.

The Royal Air Force made a terrific attack on the harbour at Benghazi and the aerodromes at Benina and three other towns in Libya.

An enemy air raid on Alexandria was beaten off by guns of the warships in the harbour and by the ground defences.

7th May.—British Imperial troops occupied Quoram in Abyssinia, taking a number of prisoners including one General.

8th May.—Emperor Haile Selassie offered the British Government the use of the Abyssinian forces on any front where they might be required.

The Italians evacuated Deberech in Central Abyssinia.

There were no casualties when enemy planes bombed the Suez Canal Zone.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

2nd May.—Lord Halifax conferred with Mr. Sumner Welles, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State.

The *Baltimore Sun* said that the hour of decision for the U.S. had come and that Britain must not stand alone.

3rd May.—President Roosevelt, in a letter to Messrs. Knudsen and Hillman, Defence Production Chiefs, asked that production of machine tools be expedited, that the defence industry work 24 hours a day and seven days a week and that the nation be combed for idle machine-tools to be placed in defence production.

Workers in U.S. defence industry were urged to forego their usual summer holidays in exchange for a bonus or a special increase in wages.

The B.B.C. reported the arrival in Suez of 26 American merchant ships, heavily laden with arms and ammunition for the British forces in the Middle East.

4th May.—Mr. Wendell Willkie urged that U.S. should convoy supplies to Britain as the present " sea patrol is inadequate."

Col. KNOX, U.S. Navy Secretary, said that within 90 days, United States' production of military equipment would exceed that of any other country in the world.

Speaking at the dedication of the late President Wilson's birthplace as a national shrine, President Roosevelt said that the American people had fought before and were " ever ready to fight again " for the existence of democracy in the world.

5th May.—The United States coast guard took certain precautions to ensure that Yugoslav ships in American ports remained loyal to King Peter and his Government in exile.

6th May.—The Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives expressed himself in favour of convoying arms shipments across the Atlantic by American warships.

The Mexican Foreign Minister pledged the help of his country to other American Republics in opposing totalitarian expansion.

President Roosevelt, who conferred with Cabinet Ministers and the heads of the Army and the Navy, asked Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War, to obtain " a substantial increase in heavy bomber production " in order to see that " democratic superiority in the air is made absolute."

7th May.—Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, in a nationwide broadcast, urged the immediate use of the American Navy to make the seas secure for the delivery of munitions to Britain.

The Australian Premier Mr. Menzies declared on his arrival in New York that the war was as much American's as it was the British Empire's.

Senator Vandenberg stated that only 8 out of the 205 ships that left American ports with supplies for Britain were sunk in the first three months of this year.

GREECE AND ITALY

3rd May.—Two small British destroyers were dive-bombed and sunk during the evacuation from Greece.

Italy announced the annexation of the North-Western part of Yugoslavia adjoining the Italian border. It would be known as the Province of Ljubljana.

5th May.—The Greek Prime Minister, M. Tsouderos, announced that the Allied Forces in Crete would be under the command of Major-General Freyberg, Commander-in-Chief of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force.

6th May.—Lord Moyne, Colonial Secretary, revealed that the Empire's total losses in Greece amounted at the most to 11,500, of whom a large proportion were cut off from re-embarkation; that the German losses had been colossal; and that the Imperial Troops had removed all their light equipment after destroying heavy armament likely to be of help to the enemy.

Greek submarines and torpedo-boats reached Alexandria to join the British Fleet there.

German troops occupied the Greek islands of Mitylene and Chios south of the Dardanelles.

The Greek Government dismissed five " Quisling " Generals.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

2nd May.—The British were compelled to take counter-measures when Iraqi artillery started shelling the British air base at Habbaniyah.

The Iranian Ambassador to Turkey denied reports of troop movements on either side of the Iran-Soviet border.

President Ineunu returned to Istanbul after inspecting the Western Anatolian defences.

The Royal Yugoslav Government issued orders to all Yugoslav ships at sea to go to British or U.S. ports.

3rd May.—The Ankara Radio reported that Iraqi forces were in control of oil-wells and installations in Mosul and that they had flooded oil-fields. The lawful Regent Abdul Ilah was stated to be gathering forces in Transjordania with a view to marching into Iraq and ousting the military clique who had usurped power. Turkey moved troops and planes into defensive positions in the Taurus Mountains (through which the Baghdad Railway line runs into Turkey).

4th May.—Hitler, addressing the Reichstag, defended German moves in the Balkans in a jejune speech. Vigorous action by the Royal Air Force in Iraq was reported as well as the expulsion of Iraqi forces from Basra.

5th May.—The Yugoslav Government, in their first authoritative statement after leaving the country, declared their determination to fight on by the side of the Allies. Sir Reginald Hoare was appointed British Minister to the Yugoslav Government.

The Egyptian Government, in an appeal to the Iraqi authorities, urged a speedy settlement of the dispute with Britain. It was announced that the British Government had rejected the Turkish Government's offer to mediate, pointing out that Iraqi troops must be withdrawn from Habbaniyah before any negotiations could be undertaken.

6th May.—Turkey took measures to fortify and secure the Turko-Iranian frontier.

7th May.—British Forces in Iraq captured Fort Rutbah. It was revealed that the Iraqi rebel troops were running short of ammunition.

8th May.—The Royal Air Force bombed Baghdad airport. Rashid Ali hurriedly left Baghdad after a public demonstration against his movement.

SHIPPING

2nd May.—It was revealed that the German U-boat commander who sank the battleship Royal Oak and 200,000 tons of merchant shipping, was missing.

3rd May.—The Admiralty announced the loss of the armed merchant cruiser Voltaire (13,245 tons).

THE FAR EAST

3rd May.—Japanese aircraft raiding Chungking were met by a barrage of anti-aircraft fire.

4th May.—Chinese forces stormed and reoccupied the important ports of Wenchow and Haimen (in the Province of Chekiang) which the Japanese had occupied a fortnight ago.

Mr. Matsuoka, Japan's Foreign Minister, rejected suggestions that he should go to U.S. to ascertain at first hand the American attitude to Far East problems.

5th May.—Mr. Matsuoka said " My peace policy towards the U.S. remains unaltered."

The Chinese Military Mission that toured India and Burma, arrived in Malaya on a visit to Singapore.

6th May.—Japanese detachments claimed an advance in Northern Honan.

Japan and Indo-China signed an economic agreement at Tokyo, incorporating " the most favoured nation " treatment.

The Dutch Foreign Minister, in a farewell broadcast to the people of the Dutch East Indies, said " We would fight if attacked in these territories."

8th May.—The Chinese Forces launched determined counter-attacks to recapture the important town of Chuki.

VICHY

5th May.—Admiral Darlan left for Paris, accompanied by two diplomatic advisers.

Two French freighters laden with 14,000 tons of American flour, arrived in Marseilles.

The Paris Radio announced that France, Italy and Germany would co-operate in developing the automobile industry in France.

6th May.—American press messages reported a difference of opinion between Petain and Darlan on the extent of collaboration with Germany, who had demanded air and sea bases in Morocco.

7th May.—An agreement between Admiral Darlan and the German emissary was announced at Vichy, involving a modification of the boundary line between occupied and unoccupied France and a reduction in France's daily payment to Germany.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

2nd May.—The Germans announced the arrest of Patriarch Gavrilo, head of the Orthodox Church in Yugoslavia.

5th May.—The French Nazi leader, Jean Fontenoy, was reported to have been killed in a Paris street.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

2nd May.—Another American Red Cross ship, with wheat, milk and medicines, arrived in a Spanish port.

3rd May.—Sir Clive Liddell, the outgoing Governor of Gibraltar, in a farewell message, stressed the impregnability of the Rock.

5th May.—Spain took over the Sherifian customs at Tangier.

6th May.—The Ankara correspondent of *The Times* reported that Germany had made certain demands on the Soviet consequent on the latter's default in fulfilling the trade agreement. It was said that refusal of these demands might involve Russia in a war.

Reports reaching America showed that Portugal was taking precautions to forestall German plans for a parachute invasion of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands.

7th May.—M. Stalin succeeded M. Molotov as Chairman of the Council of the People's Commissars.

8th May.—It was reported that a Soviet military mission was negotiating for the use of 12 air bases in Iran should Turkey be involved in war.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 29th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over N.W. European waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 23, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on Ibbenburen power station, near Osnabruck; wireless station and troops on Terschelling Island (Holland); shipping off Dutch coast (3 merchantmen believed sunk, others hit; 2 anti-aircraft ships hit). R.A.F. night bomber raid on battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at **Brest**; invasion base at Le Havre.	1 day bomber.	
April 24, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on wireless station on Norwegian island; shipping off Norwegian coast (1 tanker believed sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at **Kiel** (Germania, Deutsche Werke and other Shipbuilding yards, factories) and Wilhelmshaven; docks and other objectives on coasts of Norway, Holland, Belgium and France.	1 day fighter. 2 night bombers.	
April 25, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on **Ymuiden** (iron and steel works, docks, warehouses, barges, troops, A. A. batteries); factories on Baltrum Island (Germany); railways and 2 wireless stations in Denmark; military camp on Dutch coast; shipping in Nieuwe Waterweg canal, between Rotterdam and Hook of Holland (1,600-ton merchantman sunk, others hit); convoy off Heligoland (2 merchantmen hit). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Berlin** (including Friedrichstadt district); docks at Bremerhaven; targets at Lubeck; oil stores at Rotterdam.	2 bombers.	
April 26, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over Channel and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber raids on Norwegian aerodrome; shipping off Norwegian coast (1 merchantman sunk); convoy off Frisian Is. (1 merchantman damaged); anti-aircraft ships off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at **Hamburg**, Emden, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven; invasion bases at Ymuiden and Le Havre.	2 day fighters. 3 bombers.	2 aircraft (destroyed on ground).
April 27, Sunday.	R.A F. day fighter attacks on gun positions and a supply train in Holland. R.A.F. day bomber raids on Cologne (factory, military camp); docks at Ymuiden; aerodrome at De Kooy (Holland); naval craft off coast of Britanny (1 patrol ship left sinking).	*Nil.*	—
April 28, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweep over Dutch coast. R.A.F. day bomber raids on factory and railway yards at Moppel, near Zuyder Zee; docks at Den Helder; aerodrome at De Kooy; convoy off Dutch coast (2 destroyers hit) R.A.F. single-bomber day attack on Emden. R.A.F. night bomber raid on battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* at **Brest**.	5 day bombers.	1 day bomber.
April 29, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber, and fighter raids on convoys off Norwegian coast (1 merchantman sinking, 1 damaged), off Belgian coast (1 merchantman set on fire, 1 damaged) and off Hannel Is. (1 merchantman damaged). R.A.F. night fighter attacks on 3 aerodromes in N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim** (river docks, factories); oil stores at Rotterdam.	1 day fighter. 2 day bombers. 1 night bomber.	1 night bomber.

(Continued on Page 7)

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

Two disquieting events have happened in the current week, one, the trouble in Iraq which is being satisfactorily tackled by the Royal Air Force and the Empire land forces, and the other, the successful evacuation of the Empire troops from Greece; but the latter event was marked by surprisingly few casualties, thanks to the British Navy.

An announcement of considerable importance has been made by General Smuts. He stated that, at the request of Great Britain, the South African troops now fighting in Abyssinia will proceed to North Africa to fight the Italians and Germans who are now on the Egyptian frontier. A good part of the South African Air Force is already in North Africa.

Many places of importance have been taken in Abyssinia by the Empire forces, while the remnants of the Italian army in the region of Amba Alagi are being hemmed in both from the south and from the north. An event of great political importance is the triumphal entry of Emperor Haile Selassie into Addis Ababa, five years after his forced departure from there. And the Emperor has declared his readiness to place his Abyssinian Patriot Forces at the disposal of Britain for service on any front.

The Royal Air Force has been very busy in attacking various targets in Germany and occupied Europe and German losses in material should indeed be very heavy.

Raids on Merseyside and Clydeside by the *Luftwaffe* have been particularly heavy on successive days and Liverpool and Belfast have suffered badly. A bright feature has been, however, that the toll of German bombers taken during nights is increasing considerably as a result of new measures taken to combat night-raiders.

M. Stalin has taken over the portfolio of Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars, that is Prime Minister, from M. Molotov, at the latter's request. In fact M. Stalin has been the virtual Dictator of Russia and the present move makes him so in name also. No change in foreign policy is anticipated.

Hitler has again spoken. He gave exaggerated accounts of the losses of the British forces in Greece, referred to Italy's robbing Yugoslavia of a good slice of her territory and, strangely enough, stated that the Reich had no territorial or other interests in the Balkans! There are two significant omissions in the speech. He did not refer to Germany's relations with America and further he omitted any prediction of an early peace because, evidently, he now thinks that the war is likely to be a long-drawn out affair. The rest of his speech contained the usual abusive references to Mr. Churchill and the Democracies.

Mr. Churchill's broadcast speech to the Polish people on the occasion of the Polish National Day was a masterly one. After referring to the great privations and sufferings of Poles in their own country and of his firm belief in the ultimate triumph of Poland, he referred to Hitler's atrocities and the scale of violence perpetrated by him. "This is a war," he stated, "against mechanized barbarians who, slave-hearted themselves, are fitted only to carry their curse to others. This war will be long and hard, but the end is sure. The end will reward all the toil, all disappointment, all suffering in those who faithfully serve the cause of European and world freedom. The day will dawn, perhaps, sooner than we now have a right to hope, when the insane attempt at Prussian domination, of racial hatred, of the armoured vehicle, the secret police, the alien overseas and the still more filthy Quislings, will pass like a monstrous drama, and in that morning of hope and freedom, not only the embattled, and at last well-armoured Democracies, but all that is noble and fearless in the New World as well as in the Old, will salute the rise of Poland to be a nation once again."

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday last, Mr. Churchill replied to the debate on the motion for a vote of confidence in the Government which was adopted by a huge majority—447 votes to 3. Mr. Lloyd George spoke in a defeatest tone, which naturally roused the Prime Minister's spirit. In the course of a frank, dignified and powerful speech, Mr. Churchill declared: "When your enemy has five or six times the regular army that you have, when he is more adequately equipped and is much stronger in the air and in tanks and when he lies in the centre of the war scene and can strike out in one or two or three directions simultaneously out of

a choice of seven or eight, it is evident that your problem becomes rather difficult. It is not possible to avoid repeated rebuffs and misfortunes and these we shall very likely have to go through for quite a long time." And he added: "I have never promised anything but blood, tears, toil and sweat to which I will add our full share of mistakes, short comings and disappointments, and also that this may go on for a very long time at the end of which I firmly believe that there will be a complete and final victory." About that consummation he felt no doubt whatever. "When I look back," he concluded, "on the peril which we have overcome and remember all that has gone wrong and all that has gone right, I feel sure we have no need to fear the tempest. Let it roar, let it rage. We shall come through."

THE WAR IN AFRICA

Except in Abyssinia where the British Imperial Forces are sweeping everything before them, the war in Africa has reached a more or less stationary phase. The garisson at Tobruk has beaten off heavy tank attacks, inflicting considerable losses on the enemy. The Germans have, thus, been denied the use of the coastal road (from Bardia to Sollum). And in the Sollum sector, not only has the **Axis advance been halted, but British patrols have frequently come forward and taken heavy toll of the enemy's advanced units. The Royal Air Force has kept up terrific raids on** the harbour at Benghazi, the aerodrome at Benina and enemy transport and troop concentrations elsewhere in Libya.

Exactly five years after the Italian occupation of Addis Ababa, Emperor Haile Selassie returned in triumph to his capital city and was welcomed by Lieut.-Gen. A. G. Cunningham, General Officer Commanding the British Forces in East Africa, who was chiefly responsible for freeing his country from the Italian yoke. The Empire troops have captured Waldia and the main fighting is now proceeding along the Addis Ababa-Asmara Road near the mountain fortress of Amba Alagi. The forces coming up from the south have captured Quoram, about 90 miles north of Dessie, while those from the north have come down as far as Derbub, so that the two Imperial forces are now separated only by some 30 miles with the Italians wedged in between them. The country is very difficult and ropes have to be used to transport men and equipment over the mountains, but it is only a question of days before the last Italian soldier on Abyssinian soil is disarmed.

Emperor Haile Selassie, in an interview, stated that he had offered the British Government the use of the Abyssinian forces on any front where they might be required. He also stated that he was determined to re-establish democratic Government in Abyssinia and that his internal programme included intensive educational, agricultural and social development. The Emperor hoped that the British Government would grant a loan to carry out his plans. The loan would be repaid from mineral resources, including gold.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 5)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 29th April 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attack (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 23	Nil.	3 night bombers.
April 24	Nil.	1 day fighter. 1 day bomber.
April 25	Nil.	1 day bomber.
April 26	Nil.	1 day fighter.
April 27	Nil.	2 night bombers.
April 28	Nil.	2 day bombers. 4 night bombers.
April 29	Nil.	6 night bombers.

India is particularly happy that her soldiers are winning undying fame in the North and East African campaigns. Eye-witnesses speak of the dash and discipline displayed by an Indian brigade in an action at El Mechili, 100 miles west of Tobruk when the enemy began his drive on Benghazi. The Indians, by their barvery, evoked memories of the historic charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimean War. And now a Press Note issued in Simla, bears official testimony to the grand work of the Indian soldiers in Abyssinia. Indian troops, says the Press Note, have now advanced some 250 miles south of Asmara into the heart of the mountainous fastnesses of Northern Abyssinia. The advance continues along winding tracks up the sides of peaks, some of which rise to over 10,000 feet and through deep gorges, where the enemy uses every advantage given to him by the terrain in a series of desperate delaying actions. The mountain of Amba Alagi, the present objective of the Imperial forces, towers to 11,000 feet and, over part of the approach, there is only one road. A bridge-head on this road was rapidly secured by a squadron of Indian mechanized cavalry. A laconic description of this action by one of those who took part in it says: "In a raid at dawn, we moved forward and reached the bridge-head without much opposition. The enemy opened machine-gun fire which we silenced with counter-fire. A troop then went forward, secured a feature overlooking the area, and was quickly reinforced. Enemy colonial troops, though a few in number, tried to counter-attack, but we broke this up with machine-gun fire. The active clearing of road blocks and other obstacles by Indian sappers and miners continued and these devoted men are constantly risking their lives to maintain the speed of our advance. Meanwhile, the Indian units in Asmara are fraternizing with the local population, buying souvenirs and visiting cafes and cinemas. After weeks spent in the field and many hard-fought actions, they are finding Asmara a centre of life and a welcome change to the heat in which they had to live and fight in the Sudan and Western Desert. All these troops are in good heart and health.

India, who showed her sympathy with Ethiopia in such unmistakable fashion when she was overrun by the Italian hordes five years ago, is doubly pleased that her gallant sons have played no mean part in restoring that country back to the rightful Emperor.

And the virtually complete occupation of Abyssinia by the Allied troops has made it possible for the South African Government to release all their troops fighting there for action in Egypt and Libya. The tempo of the Battle of Egypt is bound to increase but we are fortified by the knowledge that the British Army of the Nile is being rapidly reinforced by the troops from the Abyssinian theatre as well as by those 45,000 so gallantly evacuated from the coasts of Greece under the very noses of the German dive-bombers. General Wavell has half a million men under his command. And the 26 American ships, fully laden with arms and ammunition, that have arrived in the Suez are but an earnest of the immense help that will reach the British forces in the Middle East now that President Roosevelt has permitted United States vessels to sail straight to the Red Sea ports. Well might Mr. Churchill say that he would not like to be in the place of the Commander of the German troops now facing General Wavell's men!

Mr. Churchill does not minimise the importance of this battle. In his characteristic speech on Wednesday last in the House of Commons, he pointed out that the loss of the Nile Valley and the Suez Canal, of the position in the Mediterranean and of Malta would be among the heaviest blows the British could sustain. He announced Great Britain's determination to fight for them with all the resources of the Commonwealth and expressed the firm hope that she would be successful. And he added: "We intend to fight with all our strength for the Nile Valley and command of the Mediterranean. Our troops and resources will give a good account of themselves. Therefore, let there be no feather-headed or defeatist talk about cutting our losses in the Middle East."

GREECE

A good deal of the attention of the public all over the world has been directed to the events in Greece and very properly. It is only too true that wars cannot be won by evacuations. In the face of superior enemy forces the Empire Forces have been compelled to withdraw from Greece and this evacuation was completed on Friday, the 2nd May. For the loss of only two destroyers, about 45,000 of Empire troops have been safely taken away from Greece.

It would have been deplorable cowardice on the part of Great Britain if she had not moved her troops into Greece when the Greek Government decided upon resisting the German aggression. Any such course was unthinkable, for not only would it have brought undying shame, but Britain would have lost the confidence of the enslaved people of Europe who look to her for their ultimate liberation. In his speech in the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Churchill, referring to Hitler's opinion that, in the circumstances which faced Great Britain in Greece, she should not have gone to the aid of the Greeks, said: "I do not want to enter into arguments with experts, but this is a kind of crime of which he is a good judge." "If we had to tread," he further said, "that stony path even with the knowledge we possess to-day, I for one would do the same thing again." It is better to have fought with the gallant Greeks and lost than never to have fought at all. More troops could not be sent to Greece because it was necessary that Egypt and Suez Canal should be defended. For the loss of a small part of the Empire army Great Britain has now kept her word of promise to Greece, her position elsewhere has not been prejudicially affected, the attack on Egypt has been brought to a stand-still and the British control of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Suez remains. The world has witnessed how a small nation like Greece can stand up against a mighty army with the most modern implements of war. Now let us look at the other side. It was Hitler's intention to march to the Aegean without firing a shot, but what are the facts? He has had to fight to secure this objective. Casualties in the German army have been heavy and there has been considerable wastage of war material. Valuable supplies and oil have been used up. Communications have been badly disorganized. While there is guerilla warfare in Yugoslavia, both that country and Greece are now full of embittered populations who will never reconcile themselves to Nazi control. Hundreds of planes have been brought down.

Abyssinia and East Africa are now lost to Italy. Germany is forced to maintain her forces in North Africa all along the long coast in the face of the British sea supremacy. Germany has, of course, air bases on the Aegean sea, but she can make a further move only either by invading Turkey or by invading Egypt or both; and both moves would be resisted.

British operations in Greece have, of course, ended in a failure, but Great Britain's position, as has already been stated, is no worse except in Libya than it would have been, had she not rushed to the support of Greece. Great Britain and Greece are firmly established in the harbours and aerodromes of Crete. The vital area of the Atlantic is unaffected for Britain by the developments in the Mediterranean.

TURKEY

In these anxious times the position of Turkey has become very difficult and delicate. Her policy is, of course, one of friendliness to Great Britain, but she does not want to involve herself in difficulties with any other country so long as her sovereignty is not affected. The trade pact with Germany is an illustration of this point. Authoritative statements have been made that Turkey will not only honour her pledges to Great Britain but will resist with all the strength that she possesses any overtures on the part of any totalitarian country to distract her friendship with Great Britain. A prominent Turkish deputy, writing recently in a Turkish newspaper, stated that "If Turks are compelled to fight for their national honour, the Turks will stand at Britain's side, not because Britain asks it, but because British and Turkish ideals and interests are identical." He further added that "it is impossible for Turkey to detach herself from her friendship with Britain and pass into the other camp. Such an action would mean that Turkey was disowning herself." Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, in his speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, referred to the Turkish statesmen whom he had occasion to meet in his tour of the Middle East. He said that he was deeply impressed by the loyal friendship shown by all of them and by the determination of the Turks to stand firm against any menace to their sovereignty or any encroachments on their rights and interests. "Since the beginning of the war," he continued, "Turkey has rendered great service to our cause by her policy of independence. The importance of her role as a bulwark against further aggression in the Middle East is obvious. I am sure that loyalty to their alliance with this country will as ever be the basis of the Turkish Government's policy." In the light of this tribute the report emanating from a Spanish source that a pro-Nazi Government is likely to be installed in Turkey should be discounted. Answering a complaint made by Mr. Llyod George during Wednesday's debate in the Commons that German vessels had been reported to have been allowed to pass through the Dardanelles, Mr. Churchill said that Turkey had no right to stop them. And he pointed out that Turkey was a country "whose relations are so highly valued by us and whose part to play in this great world's conflict is of the greatest importance." There is no doubt that Turkey will resist any German attempt to send troops through her territory and she is further fortunate, as has been stated, in having no national minorities. His Majesty's Government are in closest touch with the Turks both militarily and politically and Great Britain fully recognises and appreciates Turkey's special interests and needs in relation to Balkan strategy. Turkey is performing a valuable service to the Allied cause by barring the land route to the Middle East and her defence preparations in this respect are quite satisfactory.

Will Hitler invade Turkey? Of course, Hitler, if it serves his interests, will not scruple to do so, but he realizes that to force a passage across Turkey he would need a very large force and now that the British are in Iraq, he may well hesitate to rub Turkey on the wrong side.

THE GENERAL POSITION

What then are Hitler's possible moves? Invasion of England, sending of strong forces to Libya to start an offensive against Egypt, attack on Turkey in order to secure Mosul oil-wells and menace Egypt from the north, air landings in Syria, the closure of the Western Mediterranean, an assault on Gibraltar *via* Spain, penetration of North-West Africa *via* Spanish Morocco, occupation of the Azores and the Cape Verde islands as advance bases for the Battle of the Atlantic. So far as Spain is concerned, the position is very obscure—all or any of these may be in the offing. The Falangists are fanatically pro-Axis. The Spanish Government is subjected to extreme pressure by Germany and the pressure has increased after the signing of the Loan Agreement with Britain of £2,500,000 to be spent in the sterling area. Offers of substantial economic assistance might tip the

balance in favour of Germany, but it should also be remembered that Spain is in a very desperate plight as regards food and her final decision will perhaps be taken on the outcome of the struggle now going on in the Libyan-Egyptian frontier.

Much weight should not be attached to the statement of Senor Suner that Spain is not on the eve of joining the Tripartite Pact. It should be remembered that there are more than 2,500 Germans in Madrid in various guises, that they have an organized secret police, that they have considerable influence in aerodromes, particularly in the south, that dumps of food and petrol have been placed at strategic points, but, though General Franco remains in the background, there does not appear to have been any split in the Government. The position is, therefore, one which is complicated and full of perplexities, but the Gibraltar Rock is, from all accounts, impenetrable.

So far as Vichy is concerned, the position is still obscure, but there is reason to believe that, though Admiral Darlan has now more or less definitely gone to the German side, Marshal Petain's influence is still considerable and he is unwilling to go to the length which Laval and Darlan desire the Vichy Government to go. But Hitler is unceasing in his efforts to coerce France to give him what he desires—facilities in the Atlantic and in the Mediterranean.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

It is well to remember, in dealing with expressions of American opinion, that that opinion is accustomed to express itself in forthright terms leading to some misunderstanding in other countries. The Isolationists are losing ground. Senators Nye and Wheeler are renewing the campaign of doubt and scepticism of Britain's powers to survive and Colonel Lindberg is doing his best privately to assist these people. On the other side are those who would desire America to declare war on Germany. The *Baltimore Sun*, a few days ago, wrote that "the hour of decision had come" and called upon the United States in order to safeguard her safety and security not to leave England alone, for if Great Britain was defeated, America would be in danger. "Half measures," the paper said, "would not do and bold action has become desperately necessary." It may be remembered in this connexion that General Smuts has very recently stated that it will not take long for America to become a belligerent. President Quezon of the Philippines, declared at a special sitting of the National Assembly, the other day, that "the trend of events seems to point strongly to the possibility of American entry into the present war." Miss Dorothy Thompson, the well-known American commentator, has just said that President Roosevelt is on the eve of taking the greatest decision that any man has ever been called upon to take. But, whatever the future may have in store, so far as this aspect of American policy is concerned, there can be no doubt whatever that there is an insistent call on the part of the leaders and the Administration to rush American help to Great Britain. The Mexican Foreign Minister has called upon the people in that country to prepare to fight totalitarianism. A Democratic Senator, Mr. Pepper, asked Americans to get tough and has requested the President to declare a state of national emergency and also to close exits from Europe, Africa and Asia against any possible attack on the American continent by jointly occupying with Britain, Greenland, Iceland, the Azores, Cape Verde islands, Canary islands, Dakar and Singapore. Mr. Wendell Wilkie regrets that sea-patrol is inadequate and states that there should be a rapid delivery of goods to Britain by convoy, aeroplane accompaniment or any other method deemed best. Further, an influential manifesto has been issued, signed by prominent military and naval authorities. In that statement it is stated that Germany's industrial plants are within easy reach by the R.A.F. while Britain's supplies are from the Dominions and America, which are immune from air attack, that while German production has now reached its maximum, military production of the United States is only just beginning, that the U.S. Navy should be able to turn the balance of the struggle in regard to safety of the convoy routes. So far as actual help is concerned, it is known that American destroyers, submarine chasers, mine sweepers and other naval craft are gathered in great numbers along the Atlantic coast for effective patrol and 200 vessels are being engaged on that task. Production of machine-tools will be expedited and President Roosevelt called all the chief heads of his administration to consider the need for producing heavy bombers rapidly. What can be more heartening than Mr. Roosevelt's appeal that Democracies must and can achieve command of the air and that America should see to it that the process is hastened so that Democratic superiority in air can be made absolute? Already 26 American vessels have arrived in Egypt laden with war material and ammunition for the Allies and Mr. Menzies, Australian Prime Minister, will use his personal influence in America to whip up production. The Chairman of the House of Naval Affairs Committee stated the other day, "The people are not going to be tapped for goods to be sent to England, only to see them sent to the bottom of sea." No wonder American agitation for "convoy" is gaining strength. It is significant that, arising out of the debate on the Bill authorizing the President to take over idle foreign ships in United States ports, a motion to prohibit the transfer from one belligerent to another of any ships taken over by United States for its own defence purposes was defeated by the House of Representatives. If this motion had been passed, the transfer of these vessels to Britain would have become impossible. Another measure of importance which is being taken is to plug leakage of supplies from South America through United States to Axis Powers.

MR. STIMSON'S GREAT SPEECH

The following are a few points from the broadcast speech made on Wednesday last to the American nation, and it is obvious that, coming from the Secretary of State for War, it should have far-reaching repercussions on American opinion :—

"The world is facing so great a crisis that all our efforts must be turned toward the defence of our nation's safety."

"Both within and without Germany they (Hitler and his gang) have set back the clock of time more than five centuries."

"The growth of freedom has been so long and so steady that we had come to believe that it will soon be the recognized system of the whole world. All at once it has been dashed aside and trampled upon by these Nazi rulers who are proposing to establish a world order in which they shall be masters, the people of all other nations their slaves. They have left no such thing as individual rights of liberty within their territory or international rights of independence outside their territory. Both domestic and international law have gone down under their blows. For the rule of Law they have substituted the rule of the Gestapo Secret Police under whose malign terrorism no vestige of personal freedom is safe."

"Nazi advanced agents are already busy among the Republics to the south of us, building strategic air lines through vital portions of that continent and creeping up towards our Panama Canal. Its armed forces are threatening West Africa, looking towards a jumping-off place within easy reach of the Brazilian coast. Its propagandists are already vigorously active in our population."

"This so-called New Order of Hitler is not new; and it has not and never will create an order in this world. Hitler's regime of brutal lawlessness is merely one of those temporary reactions which have occurred at intervals during man's long history of progress upward. Since his origin millions of years ago, ambitious men have many times attempted world-wide conquest over the liberties of their fellowmen. But they have never permanently succeeded and they never will."

"Hitler has not only torn up the rules of international law, but he is expanding his lawless activities into our hemisphere. Germany's recent unrestricted submarine warfare in the Atlantic Ocean is not legal blockade but virtual piracy and it is time that America put a stop to this lawless aggression on the ocean."

"The British Isles, which have been a fortress against any despotic approach to our shores through the northern reaches of the Atlantic, are threatened both by attacks from the air and blockade from the sea. If their Government should fall either from starvation or from attack, the British Fleet, if it survived at all, would have no adequate base for its continued operations. If, the British Isles should fall, all the great ship-yards of Britain would pass into the hands of the aggressor-nations; and their maritime ship-building capacity, thus augmented, would become six or seven times as large as our own. Under such conditions, our own fleet would be quite unable to protect the Western Hemisphere from the overwhelming sea power which would then confront it."

"Ten months ago we began to build up those air and ground defences, and the progress which has thus far been made has been satisfactory; and a trained Air Force and Army in a country of this size cannot be created in less than a minimum of two years, fit to meet the air forces and army which Germany has been spending six years in producing. Time is an essential factor, and time cannot be had if sea power is lost. Today the wide-flung forces of the British Navy are threatened in the North Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Malaya. Those thinly spread forces today alone are securing to us that precious time."

"The life-line of Great Britain is threatened. The high-water mark of the Nazi effort is at hand in the shape of attacks on shipping."

"If today the American Navy should make secure the seas for the delivery of our munitions to Great Britain, it will render as great a service to its own country and to the preservation of American freedom as it has rendered in all its glorious history."

"And while we hold in our hands the instrument ready and able to make all these steps effective, shall we now flinch and permit these munitions to be sunk in the Atlantic Ocean?"

"Development of modern air power makes it necessary for us to command not only the reaches of the oceans adjacent to our own shores, but the entire reach of the oceans surrounding the Western continent; for, if hostile nations possessing powerful armies and air power can once make a landing on the shores of our weaker neighbour nations, either north or south of us, our immunity is gone."

"If our Navy's assistance should be withheld until the power of the British Fleet and nation is broken, its own power of execution would at once shrink to but an impotent fraction of what it could do at the present moment. If we should allow the present strategic moment to pass until the power of the British Navy has gone, our Navy would become merely a secondary power instead of the decisive winning power in the world contest."

"Unless we, on our side, are ready to sacrifice and, if need be, die for the conviction that America must be saved, it will not be saved."

THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR

WHERE HITLER'S HORDES WILL BEAT IN VAIN

Gibraltar is once again in the news. The "cornered maniac," as Mr. Churchill aptly describes Hitler, is seeking fresh fields for mischief before his inevitable doom overtakes him. The steady development of the resources of the United States and the growth of Britain's armed might will bring his ambitions crashing down to the earth. Before that happens, he wants to see if he cannot do something to break British sea power. Hence his drive towards Egypt and the Suez, which has been halted at Sollum by the British Army of the Nile. Hence, too, his attempts to make Spain agree to allow passage of his troops to Gibraltar. His deputy, Rudolph Hess, is reported to have arrived in Spain and to be working on the feelings of Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, and other extreme nationalist leaders with dreams of their own of reviving the glories of the old Spanish Empire, to join Germany in an attack on British interests in Africa and the Mediterranean. It remains to be seen if Hitler's attempts in this direction will succeed, if, that is to say, Spain's leader, General Franco, will lightly exchange the invaluable supplies of food and medicine which Britain and America have been sending to his starving and suffering country for the hazards of war and the increased misery it will cause to his people. True, Spanish students not long ago demonstrated for the return of Gibraltar to Spain but Franco has hitherto kept his extremists in check.

In any event, the British authorities are taking all precautions at Gibraltar. That able and experienced military leader, Viscount Gort, has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar; the evacuation of civilians whose presence is not vitally necessary has begun; and the Rock itself is reported to be ready for any seige as was strikingly demonstarted in last week's manœuvres when a mock air attack was staged (and beaten off). A despatch from Algeciras states that troopships, escorted by destroyers, recently landed reinforcements at Gibraltar. And long-range firing-practice is being carried out on Gibraltar's northern front. The outgoing Governor, Sir Clive Liddell, in a broadcast speech from his tunnelled headquarters in the heart of the Rock, stressed its impregnability: "Let Hitler send his marauders and bandits to find out." Earlier, in his speech, he referred to Germany's attempts to entangle Spain in her adventures. "Hitler has tried repeatedly to drag Spain into the war," said Sir Clive, "with a view to attacking Gibraltar and closing the Straits. We know that ninety per cent of the Spaniards do not want war. But Hitler, according to his well-known methods, has managed to find a certain number of Quislings in that country; and that is the reason for the intensive work of preparation at Gibraltar to ensure that if the gangster's bands attack the Rock from air, land and sea, we shall destroy them. This is the first time that the Fortress Commander has occupied the fighting headquarters since the great siege of 1783."

Gibraltar was known to the Greek and Roman geographers as Calpe or Alybe, the two names being probably corruptions of a Phoenician word. The eminence of the African coast opposite—near Ceuta—which bears the modern English name of Apes' Hill was then designated Abyla; and Calpe and Abyla, according to an ancient and widely current interpretation, formed the renowned Pillars of Hercules, which (says *Encyclopædia Britannica*) for centuries were the limits of enterprise to the seafaring peoples of the Mediterranean world. Gibraltar is called after Tariq ben Zaid, its name being a corruption of Jebel Tariq (Mount Tariq). That chieftain invaded Andalusia (in Spain) in 711 A.D. with an army of Arabs and Berbers and destroyed the Gothic power in a three-day battle. In order to secure his communications with Africa, he ordered the building of a strong castle upon the Rock, known to the Romans as Mons Calpe. This work, begun in the year of the great battle, was completed only in 742. In 1309 it was taken by Spain, and in 1333 retaken by the Moors, from whom it passed in 1411 to the Moorish ruler of Granada. In 1462, it became Spanish once more, passing in 1469 into the family of the Duke of Medina Sidonia. In 1502, Gibraltar was formally incorporated with the domains of the Spanish Crown and the Spanish made great efforts to strengthen its defences.

WHEN BRITAIN FIRST TOOK THE ROCK

In the war of the Spanish Succession, Gibraltar was taken by the allied British and Dutch forces after a three-day siege, on 24th July 1704. Sir George Rooke, the British Admiral, caused the British flag to be hoisted on the Rock and took possession in the name of Queen Anne, whose Government ratified the occupation. The troops of Spain and France, under the Marquis of Villadarias, laid siege to Gibraltar in October of that year but they did not succeed in taking it. For twenty years there were endless negotiations for the peaceful transfer of the colony back to Spain, varied by an abortive attempt at its capture. It was again besieged (unsuccessfully) by the Spaniards in 1726.

Spain, however, did not try to take the Rock either in the War of the Austrian Succession or in that of 1762. But during the War of American Independence, she began a memorable siege in 1779 which she kept up till 1783.

The English Governor of Gibraltar, General Sir George Eliot (afterwards Lord Heathfield), whose military skill and moral courage places him among the best soldiers and noblest men of history, earned undying fame for his gallant and successful defence. Spain tried every device—open battle in the sea, battering ships to ram down the defences, incitement of mutiny—but all in vain. Admiral Sir George Rodney won a memorable naval victory for Britain in 1780 and entered the harbour right under the very noses of the besiegers, with provisions and supplies for the garrison. And the sortie made in November (26–27), 1781 was brilliantly successful, the Spanish siege works being mostly destroyed. The British engineers also perfected new devices—improved gun-carriages; the use of red-hot shot which annihilated the entire fleet of Spanish battering ships in the grand attack launched by the besiegers in July 1782; the construction of the still existing rock galleries which gave admirable cover to the besieged. Lord Howe, who won a great victory at sea over the Spaniards, relieved the fortress for a third time, following in the footsteps of Admirals Rodney and Darby. The long siege at last came to an end on 6th February 1783; and the Spanish Commander, Due de Crillon visited the fortress and many courtesies passed between him and Lord Heathfield.

"AS SAFE AS GIBRALTAR"

The history of Gibraltar has been comparatively uneventful since 1783. Rumours of an imminent Spanish and French attack in 1801 did not materialize—thanks to the defeat inflicted on the Spanish Navy off Algeciras in June of that year by Admiral Saumarez. Gibraltar was of great importance as a coaling station during the Great War and now it has sprung into prominence again as one of the bulwarks of British sea-power, commanding the western entrance to the Mediterranean Sea and guarding the vital sea-route to the Cape and India. An assault on Gibraltar will be attended with immense risks to the invaders. The Rock is well-nigh inaccessible from the sea on the south; the rugged and precipitous slope on the western side is also very difficult to negotiate; and the most powerful naval batteries in the world protect the Rock. Caverns and galleries, over two miles long, have been cut into it, with port-holes at intervals of twelve yards through which powerful guns face the invader. Large underground storage tanks—with specially prepared collecting areas high up the Rock—ensure a plentiful supply of rainwater. Above all, the British fleet in Western Mediterranean keeps unceasing vigil over the place. No wonder the very name Gibraltar has come to mean safety. "Safe as Gibraltar" is almost as common an expression as "Safe as the Bank of England."

Morley Richards, the *Daily Express* Military Correspondent writes: "If Hitler decides to throw his assault troops against Gibraltar, its defenders need be in little danger from bombs and shells. Britain has held Gibraltar for 236 years. Could the Germans beat down the defences of two centuries? It is as well not to be over-confident about it. Hitler's shock troops have proved themselves capable of remarkable feats at arms. The Rock has food, water and munitions safely stored below the ground for its big garrison to hold out for two years. The question is whether the defences could be rushed by parachute troops armed with demolition charges, tommy guns, flame-throwers and other short-range weapons. A year ago Hitler might have been able to rush the Rock across a narrow strip of no man's land which joins it up with Spain. A Spanish military authority said at the time that he thought it a perfectly feasible plan. Now Gibraltar's defences cover every aspect. It is just possible that the Germans could destroy the naval dockyard and the repair and supply bases. But their chances of capturing the Fortress itself appear small." Hitler has, indeed, little chance of taking it by direct assault; he may try to neutralize its effectiveness as a naval base by air action from Ceuta or any place on the Spanish mainland. But, as was pointed out a week or two ago in the article on Spain, he will lay himself open to exhausting and costly operations among an unfriendly people and probably meet his Waterloo in the Iberian Peninsula.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRAQ

THE TRUE POSITION

The trouble which Great Britain is facing in Iraq is particularly unfortunate because England was mainly responsible for the independence which that country enjoys today. Iraq is important because of its oil fields and pipe-lines to the Mediterranean, its production of oil three years ago having been as much as a little over 4 million tons. Its army is about 30,000 strong besides its police force. The present king is Feisal II, who is six years old. He succeeded his father, Ghazi who died in 1939. The uncle of King Feisal II, Emir Abdul Ilah was the Regent till a month ago when the Nationalist leader Sayid Rashid el Gailani, with a few friends in the Army forcibly assumed the powers of the Regent, Ilah having flown to Transjordania.

THE TREATY

Under a treaty which was ratified early in 1931, Iraq is bound to provide sites for air bases to Great Britain at or in the vicinity of Basra and for an air base west of the Euphrates. For this purpose, Great Britain, it was stated, according to the treaty, could maintain forces upon Iraq territory to maintain these bases, the only stipulation being that the presence of these forces should not constitute occupation of Iraq or prejudice the sovereign rights of the country. Iraq is also to provide facilities for the movement of British forces, of all arms, in transit across Iraq and for the transport and storage of all supplies and equipment that may be required by these forces during the passage across Iraq. These facilities cover the use of roads, railways, waterways, ports and aerodromes in that country. It will be seen that there is no condition attached to the movement of troops.

CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE

The present Regent and usurper publicly declared his intention to honour the Anglo-Iraq Treaty and permitted the landing of troops at Basra some time ago, but when some days later a further contingent was to arrive, he declared that he was unwilling to grant permission for further British troops to arrive in Iraq before those who were already there had passed through. Rashid el Gailani, it now appears, was acting under Nazi instructions and had appealed for German help to resist the British. When Great Britain refused to comply with his directions as regards the movement of troops he centred his troops around the aerodrome at Habbaniyah with the result that there was a clash and later developments followed. The present position is that half of the Iraqi Air Force has been put out of action, that important military places in Basra have been occupied by the British forces and that Baghdad and other places are receiving the attention of the Royal Air Force. The position of the oil fields, is, of course, dangerous and suggestions are being made in the British Press that care should be taken to see that these do not fall in the hands of Germans.

GREAT BRITAIN'S OBJECT

The position of Great Britain in relation to Iraq has been made absolutely clear. Nazi propaganda agencies are busy describing Britain's move as an attack on Muslim countries and pointing out that they are in danger from Great Britain. The indisputable fact, however, is that nobody deplores more than Great Britain the situation that has arisen in Iraq owing to the action of a few betrayers of Iraq's interests. Great Britain's desire is to see, as has been stated, that Iraq enjoys peace and is ruled by her own Government in accordance with her own constitution. She has no designs on Iraq; she is not attacking any Muslim power but she desires to secure the fulfilment of her treaty rights and protect her communications with her Muslim Allies, that is, Egypt and Turkey.

OFFER OF TURKISH MEDIATION

Mr. Eden, speaking in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, stated that Great Britain had a record of which it had nothing to be ashamed of in dealing with the Arab people and above all with Iraq. "It was we," he pointed out, "who assured independence to modern Iraq. It was we who have assisted them and in every respect kept our word." Great Britain built the Railways, roads, etc., and trained the Iraqi Army. In the meanwhile both Turkey and Egypt have offered their good offices to mediate between Great Britain and Iraq. Great Britain has stated definitely while thanking these countries for their offer, that Iraq should withdraw her troops from Habbaniyah and cease hostilities against the British forces before Great Britain can discuss the fulfilment of her treaty rights which they are, in all circumstances, determined to maintain. Though Egypt and Turkey offered to intervene it is absolutely clear that neither of these countries is in sympathy with the men who are responsible for this mis-adventure. The Egyptian Prime Minister ardently wishes that the causes of the trouble should be eliminated, while the Turkish Press deplores the incident.

MR. CHURCHILL'S REFERENCE TO IRAQ

In the course of his utterance in the Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Churchill said that

(*Continued on Page* 15)

THE BRITISHER CAN TAKE IT

HOW THE PEOPLE BEAT HITLER

Said a London woman (Margery Wace), boadcasting last September "We in Great Britain have been more fortunate than any of the other countries which have been attacked by Hitler, for the simple reason that we now see clearly what he is trying to do. He is trying to break down the morale of the civilian population and that is exactly what we are not going to let him do."

Here is the story of Hitler's defeat told in German terror-propaganda and British reactions.

GERMANY

August 6, 1940:

"Women will look in vain for their children, wives will see the charred bodies of their husbands, mothers will weep over the homesteads lost, and people will cry for food." (*German broadcast.*)

August 23, 1940:

"The noise produced by the propellers of the German dive-bombers is so hideous that it upsets the mental and moral equilibrium of Britons." (*German broadcast in Hindustani.*)

September 13, 1940:

"Thousands of people are streaming from the city, the horror of the past few days revealed in their faces.....A flight of this kind is always the beginning of the end." (*German broadcast.*)

Jan. 20, 1941:

"One reconnaissance map shows in red ink the latest effects of German raids day by day. It looks like a huge pool of blood, and we turn away in horror, so clearly can one see the districts, the streets, and even individual buildings which have been destroyed." (*Deutschlandsender.*)

Jan. 26, 1941:

"Britain is very soon to suffer the most terrible onslaught in her history." ('*Lord Haw-Haw.*')

Feb. 5, 1941:

"Britain is being prepared by Mr. Churchill not for war but for something indescribably horrible, a condition in which raw recruits pit their strength against the most perfectly trained and equipped forces in the world. There is no word in the dictionary for such a horror." ('*Lord Haw-Haw.*')

BRITAIN

August 1940:

"When I first came to London two months ago, an English victory was for me a matter of conviction. To-day it is a matter of certainty —to-day, that is the day after the fifth night of extremely violent bombardment.....It is precisely as a result of seeing the reactions of English opinion to these barbarous threats that I have arrived at this state of certainty." (*M. de Wauters*, Belgian newspaper director.)

August 23, 1940:

"As eye-witness I confirm that German attempts to undermine the morale and nerves of the British people were futile." (*Swiss* paper *Basler Nachrichten.*)

September 13, 1940:

"His bombings of London have not lessened our confidence in the slightest degree. We take them as the measure of his fury, and of his urgent need for success." (*Mr. Wickham Steed.*)

Sept. 16, 1940:

"I can assure you from personal knowledge that the recent raids have stiffened British morale." (*U.S. commentator Warran Irving.*)

Sept. 20, 1940:

"There is no risk of London giving way in the slightest manner under German attacks." (Swedish paper *Dayens Nyheter.*)

April 17, 1940:

"I think I know what 'London can take it' really means." (*U. S. Ambassador, Mr. Winant.*)

April 27, 1941:

"It is just in those very places where the malice of the savage enemy has done its worst and where the ordeal of the men, women and children has been most severe that I found their morale most high and splendid." (*Mr. Churchill.*)

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRAQ

(*Continued from Page* 14)

the Government had known of the situation in Iraq for some months, but no troops could be spared for being sent there. The garrison at Habbaniyah, he announced, had routed the besiegers and driven them out. Twenty-six officers and 408 men had been taken prisoners and the enemy had sustained 1,000 casualties. He also said that Germans might arrive in Iraq before the Empire forces had crushed the revolt, in which case the British task would become very difficult. "We intend to assist the Iraqis," the Prime Minister added, "to get rid of Rashid Ali and the military dictatorship at the earliest possible moment." Fort Rutbah on the pipe line from the Mosul oil fields to Haifa has fallen to the British.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Dr. Goebbels and the Brick Wall

Hopefully, persistently and quite vainly, Dr. Goebbels has tried throughout the week to make the world see a crack in the British Empire's solidarity. This particular rift, he would have us believe, exists between Australia and New Zealand on the one hand, and Great Britain on the other; and, to support his little theory, he has invented

(*a*) dissensions between British and Anzac troops actually in the Balkans,

(*b*) differences of opinion between the British and Anzac authorities at Headquarters in Cairo, and

(*c*) alarm and dissatisfaction among the Australian and New Zealand peoples themselves.

Nazi stories of quarrels between British and Anzac troops in Greece are put in their right perspective by the orderly, stubborn and highly successful rear-guard actions which the Empire forces there have been carrying out. Troops engaged in stemming, inch by inch, the advance of an overwhelmingly more numerous enemy have no time for quarrelling among themselves, even if they wanted to—and German war correspondents themselves are the best witnesses to the stubborn resistance put up by the Empire forces in Greece.

Strange Evidence of " Differences "

Obedient to its master's voice, the Rome radio chimed in on April 23 with an allegation that " serious differences of opinion had broken out between the commander of the British troops in the Middle East and the commander of the Australian troops in the same area.

Unfortunately for Rome, it was officially announced from Cairo the very same day that General Sir Thomas Blamey, the Australian Commander-in-Chief, had been appointed second-in-command to the British generalissimo, Sir Archibald Wavell—who would hardly have taken this step had there been any differences at all between himself and his Australian colleague.

What They Say " Down Under "

Meanwhile, here are some of the comments made by responsible Australian and New Zealand leaders on Axis attempts to represent the people " down under " as full of panic and resentment :—

Mr. Menzies, Australian Premier: " They were anxious, as brave men might afford to be anxious, but their anxiety would never affect their resolution to go through with this war and finish it as it should be finished."

Mr. Spender, Australian Army Minister, rebutting Nazi allegations that no more troops were to be sent overseas : " There is no foundation for such propaganda. The Germans have found that the Australians are no quitters, but people who, so far from walking out in times of adversity, become more determined to see the thing through."

Mr. Fraser, New Zealand Premier, warned the enemy not to mistake that freedom of discussion which is usual in democratic countries for evidence of " dissensions which might work out to his advantage."

Mr. Curtin, Australian Labour leader : " It would be wrong to construe liberty of speech as evidence of doubt.....Australian Labour is unyieldingly opposed to aggression."

Fighting Britain's Battles

A week ago Goebbels was screaming that the British were forcing the Greeks to fight Britain's battles; more recently, he has changed his tune to an accusation that General Wavell had sent only Anzac troops to Greece, while British troops were allowed to " shelter in Cairo."

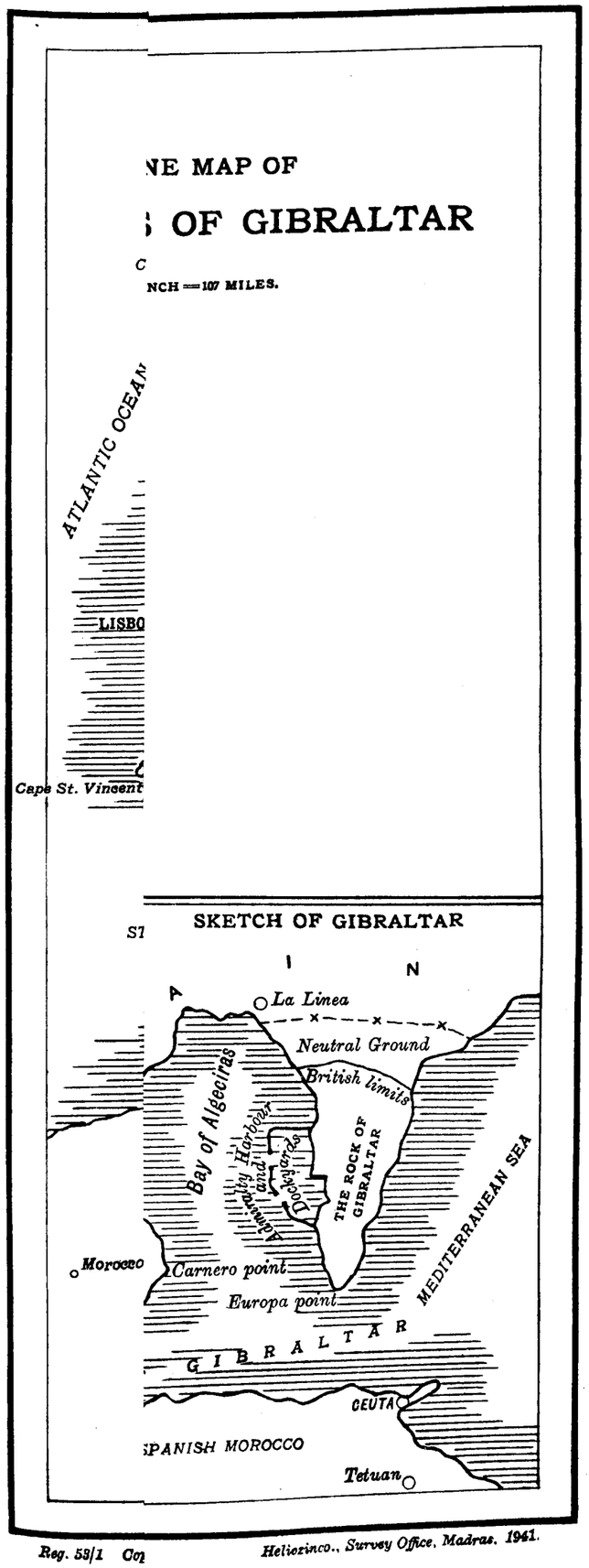
Mr. Churchill's periodical reviews of the war have a happy knack of disposing of some of the more blatant of Goebbels' lies, and this is what the Premier said on Sunday about the proportion of British and Anzac troops in Greece :

" An important part of the mobile portion of the Army of the Nile was sent to Greece in fulfilment of our pledge. It happened that the divisions available and best suited to the task were from New Zealand and Australia, and only about half the troops who took part in this dengerous episode came from the Mother Country."

The Kaiser Slipped Up, Too

Mr. Fadden, Acting Premier of Australia, was well advised when he suggested on April 26 that the Nazis should try " another line " instead of their intense propaganda drive to tell Germany and the neutrals that trouble had arisen between Britain and Australia.

But Hitler and Goebbels were not the first to imagine that the British Empire would disintegrate at the first shock of war. The Kaiser made the same mistake in 1914.



Said Mr. Churchill before leaving this subject: "I see that German propaganda is trying to make bad blood between us and Australia by making out that we have used them to do what we would not have asked of the British Army. I shall leave it to Australia to deal with that taunt."

The Lie-Factory Works Overtime

For over a week India has been bombarded with German and Italian wireless stories of terriffic Aix air attacks on "dense streams of transports" evacuating British forces from Greece, combined, of course, with extravagant claims of transport sinkings.

This line of propaganda seems to have been worldwide, for on April 25 the naval correspondent of the London *Times* had something to say about this lying campaign. On Monday, he says, one enemy communiqué claimed that six laden transports were sunk totalling 31,000 tons. The next day another communiqué claimed "seven ships sunk, totalling 27,000 tons, 12 more damaged, a large warship hit by a bomb in Suda Bay, etc." The climax of invention was reached on Wednesday, when the Nazis claimed to have killed 30,000 troops and thousands of bodies were stated to have been washed ashore.

As the *Times* expert comments, "this last story, thrown in no doubt as corroborative detail, betrays the falsity of the whole string of inventions. For even if it were true that British transports had been sunk laden with British troops leaving Greece—through there is no reason to suppose it is true—the enemy could not possibly have knowledge of bodies washed ashore", since at that time they did not occupy any shore on which such a thing could happen.

Only Another Kite

Once again, these wild Axis claims are seen to have had a double purpose—first, to spread confusion and dismay among the Allies and the neutrals, and second, to elicit British denials which might possibly give the enemy the information they wanted.

To quote the *Times* correspondent again: "The enemy has no doubt made air attacks on British shipping in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, and would very much like to know the results of those attacks..... The British Command is likely to refuse to be drawn."

Lies in Libya

Dr. Goebbels has been conducting so grandiloquent a campaign of lies and misrepresentations lately that only occasionally has he condescended to offer mere details. On April 21, however, one of his bulletins incautiously remarked that four British fighters had been destroyed in Libya, no Nazi aircraft being lost. The truth is that in operations over Libya, East Africa and Malta on that particular day, the sole British loss was one machine, a fighter.

But in Libya alone, on April 19, two German fighters were shot down over El Gazala aerodrome and one Italian bomber was destroyed on the ground there, while a German dive-bomber was destroyed by anti-aircraft gun-fire at Tobruk—which Goebbels claimed was on the point of being evacuated by the British nearly a fortnight ago!

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Basra—and Berlin Fantasies

Referring to the landing of British and Indian troops in Basra which was misrepresented as "the invasion of Iraq," Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani broadcast of April 22 went on to add that it was customary with the British to invade other countries. Actually these troops have been landed in Basra under the Anglo-Iraq treaty of 1930 which provides that should one of the parties be at war, the other party should come to her aid in the capacity of an ally and provide all facilities and assistance in her power including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and means of communication.

And as for the myth of Britain invading other countries, even Dr. Goebbels would be hard put to explain away the nature of the Nazi moves in Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Greece and Yugoslavia.

The Axis broadcasts continued to misrepresent the British move and stated, on April 23, that the Iraqi Government was protesting against what was quite erroneously characterised as an attack on the neutrality of Iraq. A communiqué issued by the Iraq Government, however, described these reports as quite unfounded. It was pointed out that the British Government had sought permission for certain of its troops to pass through Iraq in conformity with the provisions of the Anglo-Iraq treaty, to which the Iraq Government had readily agreed.

On April 25 again the Nazi broadcast in Persian described landing of the British and Indian troops in Basra as the strangulation of Iraq's freedom. The Baghdad paper *Al Ahwal*, however, has different views. It says: "The honouring of a pledged word does not in any circumstance conflict with the sovereign rights of independent Iraq. The fulfilment of her undertaking to a friendly State is striking evidence of Iraq's firm resolve to maintain her dignity and political honour."

Greeks and Dominion Solidarity

The German broadcasts in Hindustani and Persian quoted on April 25 an unnamed American correspondent as stating that Britain sent Australian and New Zealand troops to Greece to become a prey to German bombers. As Mr. Churchill has revealed in his speech of April 27, it so happened that the divisions available and best suited to the task were from New Zealand and Australia and only half the troops who took part in this dangerous episode came from Great Britain. But, quite apart from the British Premier's revelation that the British fought shoulder to shoulder with their Dominion and Greek comrades in the battle of the Balkans, this wilfully mischievous enemy propaganda is best countered by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, who says: "The despatch of British Imperial Troops to Greece was a matter of honour. The New Zealand Government was fully consulted on the question of sending of New Zealand troops to Greece and fully accepted responsibility in the matter". Mr. Spender, the Army Minister in Australia, has also declared that there was no foundation whatever for such German propaganda.

Another Nazi Lie

Berlin's Hindustani broadcast of April 24 quoted comments by "military and political circles of the German capital" on the surrender of the Greek Armies on two fronts. These comments allege that "the British forces deserted the Greeks at a critical juncture." As to the Greeks, isolated on the Thracian front, at no time did British forces occupy positions east of the Vardar valley, so there was no question of deserting their allies. Incidentally, this army did not surrender as a whole; part of it has been evacuated by sea, with the aid of British naval power.

The Greek soldiers in the Epirus sector of the Albanian front were reluctant to withdraw before Italians over whom they had demonstrated their superiority again and again in the previous six months. They were outflanked by fast-moving German motorised columns, which prevented their withdrawal according to plan and forced them to surrender.

Finally, British forces in Greece were under the supreme command of General Papagos, Greek Commander-in-Chief.

Bombardment of Tripoli

In keeping with the Nazi practice of talking only about their success and ignoring reverses altogether, the German broadcast of April 22, enlarged on "Britain's defeats on all fronts." Actually it was during the period covered by this communiqué that the British Navy bombarded the harbour of Tripoli which caused severe damage to six enemy supply ships and one destroyer and hit a naval headquarters power station and various military stores. Moreover, despite Nazi boasts, the German advance in Libya was slowed down, and heavy casualties were inflicted on the Nazi armies in Greece.

Czechs under the "Crooked Cross"

The Germans' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of April 20, would have us believe that the Czechs are proud to be working with the Axis in creating a new order for Europe.

The Czechs, however, have no reason to be grateful to their Nazi overlords. Every vestige of Czech cultural, political and economic life which they enjoyed under the old republic has vanished. The building of Czech elementary and secondary schools is forbidden. German schools are built instead and there is not a single Czech University open. Besides, all men between 16 and 70 must work where their master orders them. More than 2½ lakhs of these men have been deported over the frontier into Germany.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

9th May.—Nearly 400 planes took part in heavy Royal Air Force raids on Hamburg, Bremen, Berlin, Emden and the Poznan region of Poland. A German escort vessel was set on fire off the Norwegian Coast.

The German air force lost 24 planes in night raids on Britain.

10th May.—The Royal Air Force made concentrated and destructive raids on Mannheim and Ludwigshaven. Berlin, Calais, Ostend, Boulogne and other places were also bombed.

11th May.—In an indiscriminate enemy raid on London, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Hall, and the British Museum suffered damage, along with hospitals and churches. A record total of 33 Nazi planes was shot down.

The Royal Air Force retaliated with another heavy raid on Hamburg, Bremen, Emden, Berlin and Rotterdam were also bombed.

12th May.—The Germans lost nine planes in widespread raids on England.

A communiqué issued from 10, Downing Street, stated that on the night of May 10–11, Rudolf Hess (Hitler's Deputy and Nazi No. 3) had landed by parachute near Glasgow after the Messerschmitt war-plane which he was piloting had crashed; and that he had been taken to a Glasgow hospital with a broken ankle. The Nazi Party hinted that Hess was suffering from "mental disorder."

The Royal Air Force raided Hamburg and Bremen, in which heavy-weight high-explosives were used.

13th May.—Enemy air activity over England was on a slight scale.

The Royal Air Force renewed the attack on Rhineland, Mannheim being the principal target. Ports in Occupied France were also raided.

14th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Island of Heligoland while German night raids on Britain appeared to be waning with the moon.

15th May.—British bombers attacked and set on fire three enemy supply-ships in an escorted convoy off the Frisian Isles.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9th May.—Rome admitted that Benghazi had been bombed by British Naval and Air forces. Two enemy supply ships were destroyed.

Abyssinian Patriot forces took Morchow, 18 miles from Toselli Pass in the Amba Alagi sector, where the Indian forces advancing from the north were fighting the Italians.

A severe sandstorm held up operations in Tobruk but British mechanized forces continued vigorous raiding activity in Sollum area.

Three Nazi bombers were destroyed in an unsuccessful attack on shipping off Valetta harbour.

10th May.—Seven enemy dive-bombers were shot down when British Naval forces in Western Mediterranean were attacked by Axis aircraft. The ships sustained no damage.

11th May.—British patrols captured a number of prisoners in the Tobruk and Sollum sectors.

Indian troops advancing from the North captured two vital points in the Amba Alagi region, taking 150 prisoners.

The Royal Air Force made continual attacks on aerodromes in Cyrenaica and Abyssinia.

Benghazi was again bombarded by the British Navy.

Property was slightly damaged when enemy aircraft raided the Suez Canal for the third successive night.

12th May.—Indian troops captured Gumsa in their march on Amba Alagi.

British mechanised patrols surprised and captured an enemy detachment at Tobruk; they continued their raids in the Sollum area. The Royal Air Force raided Tripoli and Benghazi and aerodromes in Sicily.

13th May.—A five-column thrust by the Germans in the Sollum sector was beaten off by the British.

14th May.—The Germans were beaten back to their original positions south and west of Sollum and harried continuously by British mechanised patrols.

It was announced that 16 enemy aircraft were shot down by the British Fleet in the Mediterranean from May 6 to 12.

15th May.—The Royal Air Force carried out extensive raids in Libya and Abyssinia.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

9th May.—President Roosevelt asked Congress for an appropriation of 61,477,750 dollars in order, among other things, to construct 149 new airports and enlarge 20 now under construction.

The United States Maritime Commission announced the inauguration of a service to the Red Sea area with ships of United States registry and an additional service to China.

11th May.—It was revealed that a United States Naval Squadron was stationed in the Indian Ocean to guard the Red Sea route, to prevent German and Japanese shipping co-operating, and to relieve the British Navy of additional duties.

12th May.—It was learned in Washington that the Government planned to use the foreign ships taken over by United States to carry supplies to Britain through the combat areas.

Mr. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister, had an hour's talk with President Roosevelt at Washington.

13th May.—Col. Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said "America must choose now . . . to oppose the aggressor with enough force to scare him off or defeat him."

GREECE AND ITALY

9th May.—The puppet Government in Greece arrested General Papagos, former Greek Commander-in-Chief, and other members of the Greek administration "for having instigated war against Germany."

The University of Rome was closed as the result of anti-German demonstrations by the students.

10th May.—A Rome communique gave the following Italian casualty figures for April: Killed, 5,894; wounded, 17,976 and missing, 75,058.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

9th May.—British troops occupied the plateau overlooking the Habbaniyah aerodrome in Iraq and the Royal Air Force raided the rebels' principal air-base, starting a huge conflagration. The British occupied Rutbah aerodrome.

Sayid Shaukat, Minister of Defence in Rashid Ali's Cabinet, who had travelled to Ankara, had a talk with Turkish Ministers.

10th May.—Serbian guerilla fighters were reported to be waging relentless war on German troops in Yugoslavia.

The Iraqi rebels admitted withdrawal "to better positions owing to continuous and strong British air attacks".

It was announced that Lieut-Gen. Maitland Wilson had assumed command of the British forces in Palestine and Transjordan.

11th May.—King Ibn Saud of Arabia was stated to have informed the Iraqi usurper, Rashid Ali, that he was unable to offer any kind of assistance to the anti-British movement in Iraq, and also to have refused protection to Rashid.

The Royal Air Force bombed rebel barracks at Mosul and other places.

12th May.—The Tass Agency announced the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet and Iraq but the Moscow Wireless rebuked Rashid Ali and his followers for being "instruments of foreign powers".

The British occupied Fort Rutbah and generally conducted mopping-up operations.

13th May.—Ankara reports stated that Rashid Ali's terms for Turkish mediation between his followers and Britain were "contrary to the terms of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty" and not likely to be acceptable to Britain.

14th May.—Mr. Eden stated in the Commons that the Imperial Forces at Basra were being rapidly reinforced.

The German Ambassador to Turkey had an interview with President Inenu; the Turkish Foreign Minister was also present.

Ankara reports stated that Von Papen had conveyed an assurance to the Turkish President that Germany would not ask Turkey for the right to send troops across Turkish territory.

15th May.—Mr. Eden announced in the Commons that the French authorities were allowing the Germans to use Syrian aerodromes as "stepping-stones" for flights to Iraq and that Britain would take action against German aircraft in Syrian aerodromes.

It was officially announced in Cairo that a certain number of German planes arrived in Iraq, bringing Axis propagandists, agitators, etc., in response to an urgent appeal from Rashid Ali.

SHIPPING.

9th May.—An Order-in-Council said that Mr. F. G. Leathers, new British Minister of Shipping and Minister of Transport, would henceforth be known as Minister for War Transport.

A German armoured merchant cruiser was sunk in the Indian Ocean by H.M.S. "Cornwall." The British cruiser rescued 27 British seamen held aboard the raider; and 53 of the German crew who survived were taken prisoner.

British and Allied shipping losses during April were officially announced to be as follows:—British, 60 ships of 293,089 tons; Allied, 43 ships of 189,473 tons; neutral, three ships of 5,562 tons; a total of 106 ships of 488,124 tons.

The enemy lost 600,000 tons of shipping during the last six weeks; and 2,912,000 tons since the war began: Germany 17,56,000 tons; Italy, 1,090,000 tons; and tonnage useful to the enemy 66,000.

11th May.—A German merchant vessel, which had been acting as supply ship for a raider, and a Norwegian tanker, captured by that raider, were intercepted in the Indian Ocean and captured by the Australian cruiser Canberra and the New Zealand cruiser Leander. A number of Norwegians and Chinese were rescued and 17 German officers and 47 ratings were captured.

12th May.—The American Bureau of Shipping disclosed that 80 per cent of the total shipping tonnage so far lost by the Allies was at present under contract or construction in the United States.

13th May.—The German Radio warned ships against navigating in certain "dangerous" areas in the Red Sea.

THE FAR EAST

10th May.—A new Pan-American Airways Clipper Service was successfully inaugurated with the arrival of the first plane from San Francisco in Singapore.

Japanese aircraft raided Chungking for the second night in succession. The British Ambassador's house was damaged and he had a narrow escape.

11th May.—Japanese forces launched a drive against Chinese troops holding out in the Chung Tiao mountains. The Japanese claimed the capture of Shaoyuan.

The Chief of Staff of the Dutch East Indies announced an acceleration of defence precautions.

12th May.—Marshal Chiang Kai-shek declared "So long as friendly powers send arms and give economic support to China, they can safely leave Japan to China without sending their navy or troops to China."

The Japanese claimed to have cut another route for supplies to the Chinese Government by capturing the towns of Waichow and Poklo, south-east of Canton.

The Japanese Army's organ, the *Kokumin*, expressed Japan's concern in the event of Germany allowing a free hand to Russia in Asia in exchange for larger supplies.

The Dutch Foreign Minister, Dr. Van Kleffens, declared at Sydney that the Netherlands was determined to fight for the common cause in the Pacific.

The United States House of Representatives' Military Affairs Committee approved legislation designed to stop supplies to the Axis powers of war materials produced in the Philippines.

13th May.—The Japanese claimed to have occupied the Chinese stronghold of Tungfeng in South Shansi.

14th May.—Hundreds of thousands of Chinese and Japanese troops were locked in furious fighting in four Chinese Provinces.

Mr. Eden said in the House of Commons that he was taking a firm line with Japan with regard to the treatment of British interests in China.

Large numbers of troops arrived in Singapore from Britain, consisting of British Army, Navy and Air Force reinforcements.

15th May.—The Chinese forces in Southern China were reported to be holding key positions intact.

VICHY

13th May.—Hitler was reported to have granted an interview to Admiral Darlan in the presence of the German Foreign Minister.

14th May.—The Vichy Cabinet approved Hitler's terms to France.

It was revealed in the Commons that Germany was sending small torpedo-boats through France to the Mediterranean—*via* the Rhone to Marseilles and the sea.

15th May.—Marshal Petain, in a broadcast, said that he approved the understanding reached by Admiral Darlan with Hitler.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9th May.—The Soviet withdrew diplomatic recognition from the Norwegian, Belgian and Yugoslav Legations in Moscow as their countries "are no longer sovereign States."

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.).

9th May.—A Lisbon communiqué announced the reinforcement of three Portuguese islands in the Atlantic "as an affirmation of Portuguese sovereignty." The communiqué also stated that assurances had been received from United States that Portuguese sovereignty over these islands would be respected 'absolutely.'

10th May.—The appointment of Civil Governors for Madrid and other important centres was announced at the Spanish capital, indicating that General Franco was strengthening his position *vis-a-vis* his pro-Axis brother-in-law and Falangist leader, Serrano Suner.

12th May.—General Franco issued a number of decrees, making important changes in high posts in the Spanish Army.

13th May.—Swedish anti-aircraft guns drove back two German planes flying over Swedish territory.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 6th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over N.W. European waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 30, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on wireless station on Norwegian island; shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; objectives in Berlin; factories at Hamburg; docks at Emden.	1 day bomber.	..
May 1, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on **Den Helder** (submarine base, docks, power station, troops); troops on Texel Island; oil stores at Vlaardingen; shipping off Dutch coast (5,000-ton tanker damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raid on Brest (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*).	1 day bomber.	..
May 2, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Dutch coast (5,000-ton merchantmen left sinking). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Hamburg** (docks, factories); docks at Emden; oil stores at Rotterdam. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	4 bombers.	1 night bomber.
May 3, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping in North Sea and English Channel (500-ton, 2,000-ton and one unspecified merchantman sunk; 5,000-ton merchantman believed sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne** (factories, river docks, railways); industrial objectives at Essen and Dusseldorf; oil stores at Rotterdam; oil stores and an aerodrome in S. Norway; aerodrome at Le Touquet; invasion bases at Cherbourg and Boulogne; naval base at Brest (battleships, docks). R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	2 day bombers.	1 night bomber.
May 4, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping (1 patrol-boat sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at Egersund and Stavanger; naval bases at **Brest** (battleships, docks, warehouses) and St. Nazaire; invasion bases at Rotterdam, Antwerp, Cherbourg, Le Havre; aerodrome at Querqueville (France); convoy in Skaggerak (1 merchantman hit); shipping off Norwegian coast (3,000-ton merchantman hit) and French coast (1,500-ton merchantman hit). R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	2 day fighters (pilots safe).	--
May 5, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim**; Frankfort-on-Main; aerodromes near Stavanger; naval base at St. Nazaire; invasion bases at Cherbourg and Boulogne. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	..	1 night bomber.
May 6, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off German and Dutch coasts (1 patrol-boat sunk, 1 set on fire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Hamburg**; invasion base at Le Havre and other objectives on occupied coasts; shipping off Frisian Islands (5,000-ton merchantman sunk).	3 aircraft.	..

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The world has been taken aback by the report of the landing of Herr Hess, Hitler's deputy in Scotland, on Saturday night last. It is bound to have serious repercussions on world politics. It was a deliberately planned escape and, contrary to German broadcasts, Herr Hess is sane and healthy.

The Suez Canal has been attacked so far on two occasions and some damage has been done to telegraph and telephone lines and other targets, but there were no casualties.

The British shipping losses in April were 106 ships of 488,124 tons, but according to a New York radio, 80 per cent of the tonnage so far lost is being supplied by contract or construction in United States shipping yards. The figures are 800 ships of more than five million tons on May 1. It may well be remebered that the figures of losses are well below the 1917 level. The figures of losses include losses in the campaign of evacuation from Greece. The Battle of the Atlantic is receiving increased attention and the replacement of the patrol system by the convoy system, when it takes place, should mean a considerable improvement in the situation so far as the Battle of the Atlantic is concerned.

There are reports of an agreement between the Vichy and German Governments. Germany has reduced her daily demand for occupation expenses, has promised to liberalise the demarcation between occupied and unoccupied France and possibly also some French prisoners will be released; but what has Admiral Darlan who has seen Hitler a few days ago given in return? This is still a mystery. But it is believed that German torpedo boats are proceeding to the Mediterranean through the Rhone in France. Mr. Eden, speaking about France's collaboration with Germany, said in the House of Commons on Wednesday last that he found it difficult to believe that, helpless though they may be to prevent spoliation of their resources, the French will be "so false to their noble tradition as to work actively, of their own free will, for the German cause and thus prolong the period of their own suffering and postpone the day of their own liberation." It has now been definitely established that the Petain Government have allowed the use by Hitler of aerodromes in Syria. Movements of German planes are reported. Orders have been issued to the R.A.F. to take action against such aircraft which use these places as stepping stones for proceeding to Iraq.

So far as the Mediterranean is concerned, the British Navy is now engaged in preventing as far as possible supplies reaching Tripoli from Sicily and southern Italy. Heavy attacks were made on British naval units by enemy aircraft, but 16 enemy machines were brought down and 6 badly damaged.

It is now revealed that the total British troops sent to France up to June 1940 were 437,000 of which 384,000 were brought away and 40,000 were left as prisoners. The corresponding figures for Norway were 23,800, 22,600 and 95.

An announcement which is satisfactory is that a German merchant vessel, which has been acting as supply ship for a raider and a Norwegian tanker captured by the raider have been intercepted by the Australian cruiser Canberra and the New Zealand cruiser Leander.

In North Africa, in the Sollum area, the Imperial Forces hurled back enemy forces, advancing eastwards in five columns. It is stated that Germans are experiencing great difficulties in securing supplies of water, food and ammunition.

Large numbers of British troops of all arms, **army, navy and air, have arrived at Singapore** and American freighters are unloading war rial from America.

HERR HESS ARRIVES IN SCOTLAND.

Herr Hess, Hitler's deputy, has considered it the better part of valour to seek refuge in Great Britain. He boarded a Messerschmitt, equipped himself with petrol and a parachute and flew away in the direction of Scotland, apparently to land near the house of a friend whom he knew. This he did on the night of Saturday, the 10th May. He had never flown in a Messerschmitt before nor had he landed by a parachute. Well might Herr Hess desire to possess the parachute because it saved him his life! Herr Hess was the third in command in Germany, a devoted friend of Herr Hitler, one who took to dictation part of *Mein Kampf*

and reported faithfully to the Fuehrer the situation in countries which that dictator wanted to invade. He was high in favour, popular among Germans and a trusted leader. Why did he then escape from Germany?

German sources are, as usual, contradictory in assigning the reasons for this remarkable flight. That it was carefully done with the help of a map that he landed within a short distance of his destination are true. His destination was Dungavel, the estate of the Duke of Hamilton, whom he had seen once or twice before and with whom he wanted to correspond unsuccessfully. Within 48 hours of his landing he did see the Duke who flew to Glasgow. But the Nazis say that Herr Hess was insane, that he was not normal and that he had mental disorder. As a matter of fact, first reports emanating from Germany stated that he "either jumped out of the plane or met with an accident." The German radio in another broadcast said that he was subject to hallucination and that he had suffered increasingly in a physical sense and took refuge in various forms of hypnotism, astrology, etc. That is why, it is said, he was progressively relieved of responsibilities. The papers that he has left behind, it has again been said, indicated that he had a delusion that he could achieve through his English acquaintances an understanding between Germany and Britain. He wanted to save the British Commonwealth! Another radio broadcast stated that he had been deliberately tricked by the English. All these are flights of German imagination. A man who had so precisely and deliberately planned his escape and who has been certified to be absolutely sane by English doctors cannot have any crack in the brain. The only reasonable conclusion, therefore, is that the differences between him, an idealist who thought that peace with England and anti-Bolshevism were the corner-stones of Nazi policy, and the Fuehrer have been developing to a point when Herr Hess thought that his further stay would mean either his being sent to a concentration camp or to a blood-bath. It is thought by some that the whole episode is a Nazi trick, but this conjecture is considered to be quite wrong, though Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, does not believe that Hitler did not know that Hess was coming to England. Hess, he added, was not the man he would ever negotiate with. On the other hand, Dr. Benes believes that the moral effect on Germany's war position must be disastrous. Germans are naturally nervous about the disclosures which may be made by Herr Hess though they summon up sufficient courage to say that his action does not involve any change in Hitler's plans. There can be no doubt that considerable importance attaches to the fact that a man so high, so much in the confidence of the Fuehrer, should have preferred, as Mr. Duff Cooper said, "to leave that unhappy and miserable country and fly at tremendous risk to himself in order to land on what is still a country of the free." It is really significant that he did not land in a neutral country because he apprehended that a reward would be placed on his head and that he would be very unsafe. Herr Hess is now in hospital "somewhere" in England, near London, he is well cared for and the trouble in his ankle is being attended to. Meanwhile, those responsible for his flight are being arrested in Germany and the world may hear of executions as a result of this 'getaway.' That his plane did not crash as is reported in Germany and that it was deliberately sent down by Herr Hess to its fate is made clear by a statement which he has made "The real crash" as the *Baltimore Sun* says "was, when he crashed into headlines." Meanwhile, he is reading and—what should undoubtedly be embarrassing to Hitler—writing! And writing what? About the sufferings of Germany and the civilian population? About the doings of the Royal Air Force. Herr Hess appears to have hinted at some of these things to his saviour, Ploughman Maclean. What a revealing document would the effort of Herr Hess be! It would decidedly be a best seller. But all this is wishful thinking. And this *Review*, at any rate, should not indulge in speculation! We should await the promised statement of Mr. Churchill and it will assuredly be revealing!

SOME STATEMENTS OF HERR HESS

Now that Herr Hess has "crashed" into the headlines, the following extracts from his speeches will be read with some interest:—

"In the book of history of Adolf Hitler's movement(!) the names of these thirteen martyrs (the originally forsworn murderers of Dollfuss) will be recorded in the first rank of those who gave their lives. Our final success has sanctified the sacrifice of their lives. To-day the achievement of these heroes is celebrated by the whole of Germany."

(24th July 1938).

"We remember them in memory of the day on which these thirteen of our best comrades had to suffer ignominious death on the gallows. Wherever in all the world National Socialists march, these dead comrades march with us in our ranks."

(24th July 1938.).

"Can a Government be called Christian when it torments human beings in concentration camps?"

(7th April 1938).

"Europe and the whole world owe a debt of gratitude to the Fuehrer, for it was only due to his good nerves and boundless love of peace that a catastrophe was avoided. There are others, of course, whose nerves are not so good, because their consciences are not so clear. What, indeed, can a good conscience be based on, when you remember that multitude of broken pledges, of unfulfilled treaties, and unkept promises?"

(12th June 1938).

"We believe in eternal justice which cannot permit a new war to be brought upon the world, a horrible war with unthinkable consequences, that would turn prosperous countries into hopeless deserts and slaughter millions of men, a war that would know but one victor: Bolshevism."

(25th July 1938).

"A defenceless country means a danger to peace. Its defencelessness tempts only too easily to riskless 'rambles' of other armies. When a single nation is defenceless among heavily armed nations, this can tempt ambitious men to gather easy laurel, and unscrupulous Governments to divert their own people by involving it in war."

(9th July 1934).

"The German theatre and the German film have never been so excellent as they are now without the Jews."

(7th April 1938).

"Not the so-called democracies, not the countries with the solemn promises about self-determination, no, we the so-called dictatorship, the country with the authoritarian regime, we have made the will of a free nation law and thereby we have done the most democratic deed."

(29th August 1938).

"The nations are fortunate because the Fuehrer of Germany does not allow himself to be provoked. In supreme tranquillity the Fuehrer does what he must do for his nation, under the banner of peace. For he is working for the peace of Europe."

(25th July 1938).

"The last weeks again have shown how good the German leadership is! The quality of this leadership has stood the test as well in action as in inactivity! This inactivity, this passive resistance against provocation from outside, has saved the peace of Europe. In other capitals the mobilization orders were already lying on the desks."

(19th June 1938).

"Through his work this man (Hitler) has at last given a meaning to millions of German and Austrian dead. He has transformed the complete breakdown of a nation into victory."

(25th August 1938).

"The road (of criticism) leads over the nervous system of the party. Never must this criticism be allowed to be shouted into the ears of unauthorized people in fairs and squares."

(26th June 1934).

"The German people know that all that Fuehrer does is well done."

(6th September 1938).

"With all our power we will endeavour to be worthy of the Fuehrer you, O Lord, have sent us!"

(21st April 1938).

"Here with us no bayonets glitter when thousands stand together. We need no powder and shot for governing the nation. We stand around the Fuehrer, but only in order to protect him against being squeezed by the love of tens of thousands. Never before has a German been loved so fervently as this Fuehrer."

(12th June 1938).

"Ask yourself, in all your actions, how Adolf Hitler would act, and you will not go wrong."

(21st April 1938).

GERMANY WANTS TO SPREAD THE WAR.

Totalitarianism should be "total" in its application or perish and this result, it is desired by Hitler, should be achieved at lightning speed or there will be a catastrophe. At present Germany is next to the sea, to the north along the Norwegian Coast, to the west along the English Channel and the Bay of Biscay and to the south by the waters of the Aegean, and Hitler has very nearly conquered the Continent of Europe. But round these conquered countries lies a chain of islands and strategic points—Great Britain, Gibraltar, Malta, Crete, Cyprus, Alexandria and Suez—linked together by the naval supremacy of Great Britain and constituting the advance screen of a world-wide system of defence which extends in depth to the east through India to Singapore and the Antipodes, to the south of the Union of South Africa and to the west to North America. As Germany must succeed by her high speed or not at all, she is hard at work spreading the war to the whole world because, only by doing so can she hope to escape the nemesis which threatens her as a result of Anglo-American co-operation and blockade. The war of nerves is being extended daily to regions which have not yet witnessed actual operations. She is discovering "soft spots" in the world armour, a preliminary to the exhibition of armed strength. The technique is, of course, well-known. Germany wants every country to be uncertain regarding her own immediate objective in order to maintain the war of nerves. Most of these diplomatic moves are well-known. There are rumours that Sweden and Finland, Spain and Portugal are to be asked to join the Tripartite Pact, Turkey to be offered a pact of non-aggression, Russia asked to collaborate in far-reaching measures with Germany and so on and so forth. Egypt is being warned about the consequences of giving aid to Britain. There are German tourists in Iran and Syria and Rashid Ali of Iraq has been instigated to usurp control of the administration.

REPORTED THREAT TO RUSSIA

Let us this week consider the situation so far as Russia is concerned. There are various reports about Germany's demands on Russia. Germany has declared that Russia has failed to deliver goods in accordance with the terms of various commercial agreements. She is now proposing to fix the goods which the Soviet Union shall supply and demand guarantees that deliveries shall be made. The head of the German political trade department has arrived in Moscow and it is stated that he has plans ready for full Russian aid to Germany. What is required is a barter deed and he also wants credits. Further, to back these demands various military moves are reported. For instance, the German military preparations on the German side of the Soviet frontier are intended, it is stated, to frighten Russia. Plans are stated to be ready to set up anti-Soviet puppet Governments in the Baltic States and the Ukraine, if necessity should arise. In Germany Lithuanian and Latvian national committees have been formed and the Ukrainian anti-Soviet movement is receiving Nazi support, the object being to form a nuclei of Nazi and anti-Soviet Governments for the Ukraine and Baltic States. As many as 90 divisions have been stationed from the Baltic to the Black Sea and other divisions, it is alleged, are being moved from Norway to Finland, constituting an implied threat to Leningrad. Germany wants Ukranian wheat and her need for oil is great. What more then is natural for a Dictator than to make demands or invade the plains and force his way across the Caucasus? That is the question which is asked.

RUSSIAN REACTIONS

What are Russia's reactions? Repeated declarations are being made about the great increase in the military might of the Soviet Union and the newspapers point out that "certain imperial circles will be wanting to drag the Soviet Union into war." She is reinforcing her strong forces in the Ukraine, Poland and Estonia, according to a *New York* report and it is stated that there are 65 divisions along the rivers Dniester and Pruth at Lwow and Odessa. Further, there are 700 first-line bombers and a large number of pursuit planes. Russian explanation that these planes had been brought there "for spraying the wheat crops this spring" does not appear to have satisfied Germany. Military preparations in Estonia and the Gulf of Finland are proceeding, but this has been denied in Moscow. Further, Moscow has published a decree prohibiting the transit of war materials across Soviet territories.

DISMISSAL OF M. MOLOTOV

Meanwhile the world has been left wondering as to the object of M. Molotov's dismissal from the Chairmanship of the Council of the Peoples' Commissars, that is, the Premiership. In Moscow itself the change over has been stated to mean no alteration in Soviet foreign policy. But this is not believed, for, nothing that Russia embarks upon is without the object of promoting her own interests. People remember that M. Litvinoff was sent out because Russia wanted to cut away her contact with Western Powers and enter into a treaty of friendship with Germany. So, now it may be that as M. Molotov, as is stated, wanted closer collaboration with Germany, M. Stalin would prefer to wait and not take any steps which would involve Russia in any definite policy. German pressure which is increasing might compel Soviet Russia to take sharp and quick decisions and if Stalin becomes the leader of the people in name and in fact, he can take open and full responsibility.

Another report says that M. Stalin decided by this step to become his own Prime Minister because the differences between him and M. Molotov threatened to become acute and cause a political crisis which would bring about undesirable complications. Obviously he wanted to make his position fool-proof and remove the possibility of any Premier driving a wedge between his party and the army because that would mean a revolution. Molotov's "step down" means loss of prestige to him and apparently M. Stalin has full confidence that he himself will be able to steer the ship of state through the critical days ahead with Germany making extravagant demands. He may also be fortified by the thought that, as America has very nearly entered the war and therefore Germany's attention will be directed to combat this new menace, Russia will all the more be able to preserve its non-belligerent attitude.

But it has been obvious for quite a long time now that Russia is not willing to risk a war with Germany which she fears. We may illustrate this by reference to the announcement recently made in Moscow that the Soviet can no longer recognize the Belgian, Norwegian and Yugaslav Legations "owing to the loss of sovereignty by those countries." This is realistic and realistic Russia is in these days with a vengeance. It is also cynical in the extreme. But it is more. M. Stalin, who will hence forward conduct negotiations direct with Germany, has apparently "cleared away the debris," to enable him the more easily to put himself right with Hitler. Appeasement! There is, however, another feature of this opportunist policy, for, Britain has not yet recognized the absorption of the Baltic States in Soviet Union, an omission which Moscow thinks, stands in the way of Russo-British understanding—and Russia's action in regard to Belgium, Norway and Yugoslavia is an unmistakable hint to England! There are also reports that Germany and Russia will soon enter into an unrighteous pact, Iran going to Russia and Iraq, going to Germany.

THE PAUSE IN AMERICAN ACTION

What about America? There is now a significant pause before the United States of America takes the next step and this, it is stated, is characterstic of President Roosevelt, who would naturally like that, before he announces the next development, he is supported by American public opinion. Action and reaction in regard to Government's policy and public opinion are so inter-connected, at any rate, at present, that it is not right to deny that President Roosevelt is really leading that public opinion. There was a pause after the Neutrality Act was amended in 1939; another after the Presidential election, but underneath preparations continue, production increases and re-armament proceeds.

There have been pronouncements by many in the last few days urging the Government to take a forward move. The first among these was Mr. Wendell Wilkie who stated the other day that America should issue war material to Britain "by convoy, patrolling, airplanes accompanyment and what not." He called upon the United States to keep the sea lanes to Great Britain unbroken, for Hitler cannot win this war without conquering Britain and he cannot successfully invade the Island of Great Britain provided the sea-lanes are kept open. Give Great Britain, he said, all ships, new ships in American docks, ships engaged in American coastal trade, foreign ships in her harbours and ships which America is completing. Give her destroyers, he said, and see that the ships deliver the cargoes safely to the ports of Britain. He expected that in 1942 and 1943 the combined aeroplane and armament production of the English-speaking countries would end in an overwhelming superiority in the air.

Col. Knox, speaking on Monday night last, said that America had three courses: to face the aggressor with force, to become isolated from the rest of the world and to surrender. America's best choice is to face the aggressor with enough force to scare him off or defeat him. The National Policy Board of the Committee to defend America by aiding the Allies has sent an influential representation in which it urges that the country must face facts and make the defence of Great Britain overwhelming if civilization is to be saved, that American naval and air forces should be employed for convoy duty and that, if severence of diplomatic relations with Germany is necessary, it should be done.

FROM PATROL—TO CONVOY

Over and above the measures taken and reported already, the new steps of which mention should be made are the stationing of a naval squadron in the Indian Ocean to guard the Red Sea route and the requisition of 50 large coastal vessels for transport of materials to the Red Sea under the Lease and Lend Act The neutrality patrols, as is well known, now operate as far as 2,000 miles from American shores. That is only half way of the Atlantic and these patrols are acting as scouts, warning British shipping of enemy surface raiders, submarines or aircraft. This is a very valuable aid to British shipping. British ships are safe in the American neutrality zone. Near Britain they are protected by escort craft, but in mid-Atlantic many ships and convoys have to sail unprotected or only inadequately escorted. These ships will be assisted by the scouting activities of the American patrols which will make it more difficult for German surface raiders and submarines to find their quarry. Of course, the logical development from this patrol system is a full-fledged convoy system. Such a complete convoy system means that America should be prepared for incidents, for American warships are not likely to be looking on when British ships are attacked. This is a possibility. The pause in the next statement of policy is because President Roosevelt wishes to satisfy for himself whether American public opinion would be ready for the United States entering the war at sea. Colonel Knox has said that the United States Navy was "readier now than ever" to undertake the job of assuring the delivery of war supplies to Britain if and when such duty was assigned to it. The American executive has indicated clearly that the convoy system should be set up and the indications are that this will be done soon. President Roosevelt has postponed his speech which was intended to be delivered on Wednesday, the 14th. This is apparently because he thinks that the time for a pronouncement is not yet. Meanwhile, American production of aircraft is progressing very satisfactorily and a newspaper commentator the other day said that if the full facts of American production were known they would startle the world. The new aircraft "Vengeance" carries a bomb load of 1,700 pounds, has a range which is considerably increased and is armed with the most modern guns and devices. Australia has decided to send an air squadron to Great Britain and British bombers carry increased bomb-loads.

R.A.F.'s DAY-LIGHT OFFENSIVE

The day-light offensive on the part of the Royal Air Force is daily increasing, especially in the North Sea, and Occupied countries. Of course, the German pilots are daring and resourceful, but after the defeat suffered by the mass day-light raids last autumn, Germany is fighting shy of day-light raids. The Royal Air Force, on the other hand, is launching both bomber and fighter raids as well as single plane bomber attacks, in enemy occupied territory and in Germany. In the first week of January the day-light attacks were made at enemy shipping in the North Sea and in the Channel. This was followed in the middle of January by day-light attacks by British bombers and fighters on aerodromes, factories and other objectives behind the coastline of northern France. These day-light sweeps took the

enemy by surprise. Further these sweeps were extended to Belgium and Holland as well as France and February saw the intensification of definite day-light bombing raids on various coastal bases. There were interruptions because of bad weather and other causes, but from the middle of March the Royal Air Force has been steadily hitting the enemy during day-light, causing damage to supply ships and small naval craft. It would appear that more than 42,000 tons of enemy shipping were sunk or damaged in enemy waters in Norway and France in a single week in April. This was done by bombers. It may be safely stated, therefore, that so far as day-light raids are concerned, the Royal Air Force has definitely shown superiority in the air with very little losses.

What about night-raids? The Royal Air Force in its raids on Germany, as is well known, is using bigger and heavier bombers. Heligoland, St. Nazaire, Berlin, Emden, Kiel, Hamburg, Coblenz, Cologne, Mannheim and other places have been bombed and punished very severely indeed.

GERMAN NIGHT RAIDERS

So far as night raids are concerned, Germany enjoys considerable advantage in geographical conditions and very severe and indiscriminate raids have been made on a number of important British centres, Plymouth, Portsmouth, London, etc. The House of Commons has been destroyed as also the Westminster Hall, St. James' Palace, Queen's Hall and Lambeth Palace. Many land-marks in great towns have been destroyed and extensive damage has been inflicted. But these night raiders have by no means gone scot-free and night fighter technique is rapidly being improved. Since the first of May, as many as 140 night raiders have been brought down and many badly damaged. What is important is not the number destroyed, but the proportion of those brought down to those sent over night to Great Britain which have been destroyed or damaged. This proportion is satisfactorily increasing. German night raiders are still a problem, but figures of the Luftwaffe losses are very encouraging and show that British methods of dealing with them are being daily improved.

GREAT BRITAIN'S OBJECT

What does this review of the situation indicate? It is obvious that the spring and summer months of 1941 are the time of greatest danger for Britain and her Allies. As regards military equipment, numbers, economic resources and prestige, the Nazi system is at the height of its power, but it will be surpassed economically when American production has been fully organised. The realization of this is shown in Hitler's speech to the Reichstag on the 4th May, when he urged the already overworked armament workers to even greater efforts. Now or never this system must leap from the rung of European domination to world supremacy. At all costs the Germans must break out of the European prison camp which they have created for themselves and for the unfortunate nations whom they have enslaved. Because that is so, the peoples of the British Commonwealth know that they stand today in greater danger than at any previous time in their history. They know that their resources (not yet mobilised to the full height of production) will be strained to the utmost, that they may expect hard blows from every quarter and that they will be called upon to hold on against heavy odds. In the Battle of Britain in which they were victorious and in the Battle of Greece in which they were defeated with honour, they proved mastery. The situation is serious, but Britain and her Allies must and will hold fast until the danger has passed, that is, until ships, tanks, planes and guns come across the Atlantic in such numbers that overwhelming victory becomes assured.

THE WAR IN AFRICA

Steady advance by Indian and South African forces converging on the last Italian stronghold of Amba Alagi in Abyssinia and substantial improvement in the British position in Libya, particularly in the Sollum sector, marked this week's operations in the African theatre of war. General Blamey, deputy to General Wavell, in a report to the Australian Minister for the Army, attributed the improvement in the Libyan situation, firstly, to the greater freedom which the British Navy enjoyed in assisting land operations since the memorable evacuation from Greece, and, secondly, to the enemy's increasing difficulties in maintaining supplies, thanks to the severe sand-storms raging in the desert. British Naval forces bombarded Benghazi on two days in succession, obtaining direct hits on shipping in the harbour as well as installations on land. The Royal Air Force continually harassed enemy transport and supply bases and pounded away at Tripoli, Benghazi, Benina, Derna and other towns. British mechanised patrols surprised and captured enemy detachments at Tobruk while an enemy reconnaissance force at Sollum was beaten back easily and the Germans driven to their original positions, south and west of Sollum. The Germans were also finding the heat of the desert very trying. And their attempts to interfere with the free movement of the British Fleet in Western Mediterranean proved abortive, no fewer than seven enemy dive-bombers being shot down in one action without British ships sustaining any damage.

And, in Abyssinia, Indian troops continue to perform prodigies of valour. They are steadily advancing from the north on the mountain fastness of Amba Alagi, the Italians' last stronghold, which is also being neared by the South African forces marching from the south. Amba Alagi may confidently be expected to fall in a few days; and then Emperor Haile Selassie, who once more sits on the Abyssinian throne, can settle down to the task of peaceful administration. In a message to Mr. Winston Churchill, he expressed his gratitude for all the help rendered in the liberation of his country by British, Indian and other Dominion forces. He said: "I am proud that my people, in collaboration with the British, have been able to play their part in the defeat of the enemy. I am determined to see that Ethiopia contributes still further to the ultimate victory. I should be grateful if Your Excellency would express to the Generals, officers and men of the brave British troops from the Home Country and from the Dominions of South Africa, East Africa, West Africa, Sudan and India, who have contributed to the campaign's success, the admiration and gratitude of myself and my people." Mr. Churchill replied: "With deep and universal pleasure, the British Nation and the Empire have learned of Your Imperial Majesty's welcome to your capital. You were the first of the lawful sovereigns to be driven from throne and country by the Fascist and Nazi criminals and you are now the first to return in triumph. His Majesty's Government look forward to a long period of peace and progress in Ethiopia after the forces of evil have been finally overthrown."

The Emperor's tribute to the Indian forces is particularly justified. Their advance has been marked by many magnificent feats of valour. An Indian Captain of a Frontier Force, who has been throughout the heaviest fighting in Eritrea, gives an interesting account of his experiences. This Hindu officer graduated from the Dehra Dun Academy and entered the Regular Army. He says that the country generally resembled the Indian Frontier, although it was less cultivated; and the greatest affliction was flies, which caused dysentery, but there was fortunately little malaria. The Indians stood the conditions, including the February heat—it was 105 in the shade—very well and sickness was less than 5 per cent. The capture of Keren was a tough job, the place being heavily fortified. The Garhwalis, who attacked Sanchil fort, suffered 50 per cent casualties half-way and at hundred yards from the position had only 60 men left, most of the casualties happily being only wounded. An outstanding deed of individual heroism was performed by a sepoy of 18 years, who volunteered to clean out two machine-gun nests with hand-grenades, by which he disposed of all gunners, and when counter-attacked by twelve Italians, killed six and took the other six prisoner. At the beginning of the campaign, the officer continued, there was some concern about the reactions of many young soldiers to dive-bombing, but after the first alarm at this terrifying experience, even the youngest ceased to worry and latterly the Indians were reluctant to drop into trenches when enemy planes began bombing. The officer reports that feeding arrangements were always excellent and the medical services superb. "On the Frontier, we made it a point of honour never to leave a man in No Man's Land and we observed this code in Africa. We buried all our dead and brought in all our wounded." The same units are now engaged in mopping-up operations in Abyssinia.

KINGDOM OF IRAQ

INDIA'S WESTERN BASTION OF DEFENCE

Before the Great War (1914–18), Iraq had never enjoyed an independent existence as a State. Whether as part of the Roman, Persian, Arab or Turkish Empires, it was always subjected to the imperial sway of the country which ruled the Middle East. The modern Kingdom of Iraq was formed after the world war out of the Turkish provinces of Mosul, Baghdad and Basra. As a result of Great Britain's victory in 1918, aided in Mesopotamia largely by the efforts of Indian soldiers, Iraq for the first time in history became an independent State after remaining for a short period as a mandated State under the League of Nations with Great Britain as mandatory power and with King Feisal of the Hashimi family as its first sovereign. The British Government went to immense pains to safeguard the frontiers of the new State, and obtained the League of Nations decision, which was eventually accepted by Turkey, including Mosul in it.

Iraq includes an area of 116,000 square miles, with a population of 3,500,000. Its capital is Baghdad and its chief port is Basra. 70 miles up the Shatt el Arab (the Euphrates) from the Persian Gulf. Rich in oil and lying astride the road to the East, it has roused the greed of the Axis powers, who are now stirring up trouble there.

GREAT WAR CAMPAIGN

During the years from 1911 to the outbreak of the World War, the Ottoman regime in the distant provinces showed marked deterioration and Arab nationalism was making itself felt. The declaration of war was followed on October 31, 1914 by a proclamation by the British Political Resident in the Persian Gulf to the local Arab rulers, explaining that Turkey had entered the war only at the instigation of Germany and promising the chiefs who enjoyed the protection of Great Britain that no act of that country would threaten their liberty or religion. Sir Percy Cox joined the British Empire's Forces concentrated at Bahrein as Chief Political Officer and on 6th November, when the British took Fao Fort and made the first landing on Turkish soil, he issued a proclamation in similar terms to the Arabs of Turkish Arabia. The attempt made by the Ottoman Government to rouse the Muslims by preaching "a holy war" met with no response from the tribesmen and in November 1921, the Turks abandoned Basra.

On November 1922, the British troops entered Basra and Sir Percy Cox published a third proclamation, assuring the inhabitants that Turkish rule was dead and that Great Britain came in as a good friend and protector. The advance from Basra to Baghdad was effected after a series of reverses, which gave an anxious time to the Allies, but Sir Stanley Maude asserted himself and Baghdad was occupied on March 11, 1917. General Maude, on the eve of the occupation; issued yet another proclamation, in which a definite promise was given that alien institutions would not be imposed, that Arab aspirations would be realized and that on these grounds the collaboration of Arab nobles, elders and representatives with the British Political Officers was essential. Sir Percy Cox as Civil Commissioner took over the civil administration of the occupied territory and Lieut.-General Sir W. R. Marshall, who succeeded General Maude on the latter's death from cholera in November 1917, led the British troops from success to success. Late in November 1917, the Northern Euphrates was occupied up to Ramadi and in March 1914 up to Ana and during the final advance in October 1918 the occupation of the whole of the Mosul area was effected.

ANGLO-FRENCH DECLARATION

On 7th November 1918, ten days after the signature of the Turkish armistice at Mudros, the British and French Governments issued a joint declaration of vital importance to the occupied Arab territories, stating their aims in the East to be "to complete the final enfranchisement of the peoples so long oppressed by the Turks and the establishment of national governments and administrations drawing their authority from the initiative and free choice of native populations." The proclamation went on to promise encouragement and help in the establishment of native governments and administrations alike in Syria and Mesopotamia. Meanwhile, nationalist feeling was growing in Iraq and the wide promulgation of President Wilson's famous Fourteen Points only fanned the flame. This was further encouraged by the inquiries which the Civil Commissioner set on foot under instructions from His Majesty whether (1) the people of Iraq were in favour of a united Arab State from the Northern boundary of the Mosul vilayet to the Persian Gulf, (2) it should be under British tutelage, (3) it should be under an Arab Emir, (4) in the latter case, whom would they suggest. Sir Percy Cox, who was appointed High Commissioner, found it possible to establish, as a first step towards national government, a Council of State under the presidency of the venerable Naquib of Baghdad. This body represented all classes and sects of society.

In March 1921, Mr. Winston Churchill, who had become the Secretary of State for the Colonies, convened a conference at Cairo, to which all British representatives in the Middle East were summoned. Soon an attempt was made to ascertain the wishes

of the Kurdish provinces about their inclusion or non-inclusion in the Iraq State. The net result was that the Sulaimaniyah region elected to remain under the control of the High Commissioner, but the rest of the Kurdish population agreed to come into the Iraq State, with proper safeguards. It was not until June, however, that the British Government were in a position to make a clear announcement of policy.

FEISAL BECOMES KING.

Emir Feisal, son of King Hussein of Mecca, who had been asked to quit Syria by the French authorities, arrived in Iraq and offered himself to the inhabitants as a candidate for the throne. He was received with acclamation and on July 11, the Council of Ministers passed a resolution, declaring him King of Iraq on condition that his Government should be constitutional, representative and democratic. In a plebiscite that followed, Feisal secured 96 per cent of the votes cast, most of the townships and districts stipulating for the continuance of the British mandate. Feisal was crowned King on August 23, 1921, and entrusted the Naqib with the formation of his first Cabinet.

The terms of the mandate were never formally laid down by the League of Nations, but the relations between Great Britain and Iraq were defined in terms of a treaty concluded on October 10, 1922, originally for a period of 20 years. This, however, was modified by a protocol, dated April 30, 1923, in which it was agreed that the treaty should terminate upon Iraq being admitted to membership of the League of Nations and in any case not later than four years from the date of ratification of peace with Turkey, when it was contemplated that the parties would conclude a fresh treaty for the regulation of their future relations. On September 24, 1924, the League of Nations accepted this instrument as properly fulfilling the provisions of Article 22 of the Covenant. By a further treaty ratified on March 30, 1926, and resulting from the decision of the League on the Mosul question, the period was again altered to 25 years (from December 16, 1925) unless before the expiration of that period Iraq should be admitted to membership of the League of Nations.

Demonstrations against the continuance of the Mandate, trouble with the unruly tribesmen under the rule of Nejd and attempts made by Turkish nationalists to gain control of the Mosul oil-fields interfered with the peaceful progress of Iraq. Thanks to firm measures taken at the frontier, Turkish intrigues were nullified, and Sulaimaniyah, too, became included in Iraq (in March 1924). Arab raids were stopped with the drafting of a treaty between Iraq and the Kingdom of Nejd. The country was, in accordance with the terms of the mandate, developed to an increasing degree of independence. A Constituent Assembly adopted a Constitution in 1924, providing for a limited monarchy, responsible government and a two-chamber parliament with a nominated 20-member-senate and a Lower House of 150 elected deputies. King Feisal I died in 1930, and his son Ghazi succeeded him. On December 14, 1927, Great Britain recognized Iraq's full independence and in 1930 His Majesty's Government determined to support the candidature of Iraq for membership of the League, automatically terminating their mandatory responsibilities. A Treaty of Alliance was also signed between His Majesty's Government and His Majesty the King of Iraq, declaring perpetual peace and friendship between the two countries and establishing a close alliance. Article IV of the Treaty laid down that if either of the high contracting parties became engaged in war, the other high contracting party would always immediately come to his aid in the capacity of an ally and the Iraq Government would furnish on Iraqi territory all facilities and assistance in their power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and means of communication. The Annexure to the Treaty bound the King of Iraq to afford, when requested to do so, all possible facilities for the movement of the British forces of all arms across Iraq and for the transport and storage of all supplies and equipment. On October 4, 1932, Iraq became a member of the League, but there is a British military mission, the police force has British inspectors, and the Royal Air Force maintains squadrons at various stations in Iraq. The Kingdom has a conscript army (28,0000 in peace time) with modern equipment and a mobile police of 10,000. The Mosul oil-fields, run by a company under joint control of the Royal Dutch and Standard Oil groups and connected with Haifa by a pipeline, and the Khanaquin oilfields near the Iranian frontier, belonging to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, are important.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAQ

King Ghazi died in a car crash on April 4, 1939. He was succeeded by his infant son, King Feisal II, born May 2, 1935; the latter's uncle, Emir Abdul Ilah acted as the Rgent. *A coup d'etat* by Hikmet Sulaiman and Chief of Staff Bakir Sidki in 1936 removed the two parties of General Nuri es Said Pasha (progressive) and Yasin Pasha (nationalist). Bakir Sidki was assassinated by a soldier in August 1938 and Hikmet Sulaiman resigned. He was followed by the moderate Gamil el Madfai, and in December 1938 Nuri es Said Pasha came back from exile and was again Premier. On the outbreak of the present war the Government of Iraq agreed in pursuance of the Treaty to close the German Legation in Baghdad and to intern all German subjects. When, however, Italy entered the

war the Iraqi Government on one pretext or another put off compliance and Italian banks are still in being in Iraq, and Italian subjects have not been interned.

At the beginning of April 1941, power was unconstitutionally seized by Rashid Ali el Gailani, who had been Premier of an earlier Government, with the aid of four Commanders of the Iraq Army. General Taha al Hashimi, the Premier of the time, had not been dismissed and threats to the Regent's person compelled him to leave the capital and take refuge in Basra and thereafter in Transjordan. The seizure of power by Rashid Ali was in complete disregard of the constitution and was only made possible by the support of the four Generals of the Iraq Army. It is therefore a military *coup d'etat*. Nevertheless Rashid Ali, after assuming power, made a speech in which he stated that, among other things, he intended to observe the Anglo-Iraqi Alliance. Subsequent events have shown that this was a manoeuvre to gain time to enable his Axis friends to come to his aid.

In view of the development of the war in the Middle East and the Mediterranean, Britain decided that it was necessary to despatch troops to Iraq under the Treaty to open and hold the lines of communication through Basra and Baghdad, and Rashid Ali was notified that troops would shortly be arriving. Proof exists that he had been in communication with Germany and Italy and had at first intended to oppose the landing of troops. This he was unable to do, but he subsequently asked for armed assistance from the Axis. On being informed that the auxiliary units to complete the first contingent of British troops was about to arrive, he replied that these units could not land until the troops already in Basra first had passed through Iraq and gave signs in other ways that he was acting at the bidding of the Axis Powers. He was informed that the landing and passage of troops was entirely consistent with the Treaty and that a base had to be established and that no undertaking of the sort demanded could be given. It was made clear that His Majesty's Government did not wish to exceed their treaty rights but would submit to no diminution of them.

At this stage Iraqi troops and artillery were despatched to surround the air base at Habbaniyah and also to oppose the troops that had established the base in Basra. It is these movements that have led to a clash in both places. As stated above, it is known that Rashid Ali's action has been taken following an understanding with the enemy. It need not be emphasized that the entry of enemy influence or power into Iraq will not only facilitate the encirclement of Turkey but threaten the independent Arab countries and India as well. A threat to Iraq must become a threat to the Persion Gulf and India. Not only does the line of air communications between India and the West lie through Iraq but the new railway connecting Turkey, Syria and Iraq in connexion with the steamer service in the Persian Gulf, makes it one of the main corridors of political and commercial activity in the direction of India. India is vitally interested that Iraq should remain an independent country in alliance with Great Britain and the rest of the Empire and in no way subordinate to the enemy.

ROYAL AIR FORCE BASE AT HABBANIYAH

The problem of the military defence of Iraq under the treaties with Great Britain is of unique interest in that the defence has been entrusted mainly to British aircraft. Habbaniyah, which has now leapt into the news, was ten years ago nothing but an expanse of desert. It is now a flourishing airport. By the treaty of 1932, Iraq undertook to grant to Great Britain " for the duration of the alliance, sites for air bases to be selected by His Britannic Majesty to the west of the Euphrates." Further clauses arranged that the British forces at Hinaidi (a Royal Air Force base about seven miles from Baghdad) and Mosul were to be transferred in five years to Shaibah, near Basra, and to the new base on the Euphrates. The emphasis on the fact that it was to be " west of the Euphrates " was because nowhere does the Euphrates approach Baghdad nearer than 30 miles. Both countries agreed that the presence of British troops must not " constitute in any manner an occupation." Habbaniyah, well away in the desert, it has been truly said, could cause embarrassment to nobody. The site chosen was 56 miles west of Baghdad, and one mile north of the main Baghdad-Damscus desert route.

The action of Rashid Ali, in ordering Iraqi troops to fire upon Imperial forces at Habbaniyah, is one of the grossest acts of political ingratitude in modern times. British arms gave Iraq its first independence since the days of Nebuchadnezzar. British statesmanship then organized the new state, secured the recognition of its independence and its admission to the League of Nations. British officers trained its infant army and British diplomacy protected it while Iraq was too weak to defend itself. British enterprises developed its irrigation system and its oil resources, bringing trade, prosperity and wealth to the country. British troops now in the country are there to safeguard it from any possible Axis threat. In attacking the British in defiance of all treaty obligations and repeated assurances of friendship, Rashid Ali is biting the hand which has created his state and nurtured, nourished and protected it during its infancy.

INDIA'S BASTION

" A threat to Iraq is a threat to India " is the maxim on which military opinion in India bases its interpretation of the events in one of the western bastions of Indian defence, as Iraq is regarded by strategists. Once the enemy succeeded in utilizing an understanding with Rashid Ali to establish himself in Iraq, it is explained, it might not be very long before he pushed forward to Iran, which is well provided with aerodromes. From Iran to Baluchistan is not a difficult extension. Expert opinion considers that the recent *coup d' etat* in Iraq was part of a plan to get control of Basra and prevent the landing of Empire troops there. This dangerous development has probably been forestalled by the British action.

Military opinion in India emphasises that an expedition to conquer Iraq or hold down the people is the last thing that the British authorities either desire or, indeed ever contemplated in view of the close ties of friendship and mutual co-operation established by the Treaty. From the military point of view, it is eminently undesirable that a situation should arise where troops might have to be locked up in controlling an unwilling or hostile country, while the need for all available forces is urgent in other vital theatres. The intention, it is declared, is only to use the minimum possible force to secure facilities in accordance with treaty rights.

HITLER'S AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

There are many signs that Rashid Ali planned his revolt in the best back-stabbing traditions weeks ago in the closest co-operation with the Germans and Italians. The Germans and Italians, under cover of archæological expeditions, tourists and diplomats, arrived *via* Turkey. A close link was established with the Italian Armistice Commission in Syria, which for the last few weeks has grown markedly more truculent. The network has spread from Basra to Mosul. It is known that when Rashid Ali discovered that the number of British troops entering the country exceeded the estimates he had sent to Germany, he was urged to strike immediately under promise of Nazi help, which is reported to have arrived at last in the shape of agitators, propagandists and similar Axis specialists. These have arrived by air; and Mr. Eden revealed in the House of Commons that French authorities had allowed the Germans to use Syrian aerodromes as " stepping-stones " to Iraq. The Royal Air Force are taking appropriate action against German aircraft. The British sea routes are totally unaffected by the Iraqi revolt. The Persian Gulf is ours, together with access to Bahrein and the Arabian oil-fields. Only a section of the Iraqis, mostly the regular army, joined the revolt, which the British Imperial Forces have now almost quelled.

The *Manchester Guardian* in a leader on Iraq writes :—It is satisfactory that we have control of Basra, which is some 40 miles from Abadan, an Iranian port on the Persian Gulf. (Iran's production of oil in 1938 was 10,000,000 tons, most of which was refined at Abadan, and it was almost entirely consumed in the Empire. Iraq's production in the same year was 4,000,000 tons, three quarters of which went to France—one-half, however, *via* the port of Haifa in Palestine.) If we can act vigorously, which will not be easy with so much on our hands, Rashid Ali may find he has played traitor too soon. Germany is at the moment too far away to help him much, though if we imagine she will not try to leap the distance to this promising field, we will again proclaim ourselves to have learnt nothing in two years. The loss of Iraq oil supply alone would not affect us deeply, though gaining it would be much to Hitler's advantage. But to see the disturbance in Iraq as Hitler trying to get oil is too simple. It is just a small part of his great design, which is to conquer Egypt and Suez and drive us out of the Mediterranean. All the oil in Iraq would not avail Hitler if he still left us in that sea, for we should stop his getting it home. But the main purpose of Rashid Ali's hostility is to divert forces which we badly need in Egypt, for, because of its place in our Middle East position, the disorder in Iraq enforces some diversion on us. This, Hitler believes, will help him towards his main scheme, which we can be sure he will be backing further by transferring hundreds of aircraft released by the end of Balkan war to plague Egypt. Only if Alexandria fell would the Mosul oil-fields shine out as a great prize for Hitler; if the fleet were driven away, the Germans would be able, after overcoming difficulties like finding enough tankers, to carry the oil of Iraq back to Trieste and Germany. Then the blockade on which we rely for shortening the war would be broken and we should have to consider a future far different from that which faces us now. All hangs on the successful defence of Egypt, and those who declare that this has small importance beside the Battle of the Atlantic and the defence of Britain do the Commonwealth's cause poor service indeed. Hitler will, of course, want to give Rashid Ali all the aid in his power. It should, of course, be impossible for the Germans, in the face of our fleet and hold over Crete and Cyprus, to get many troops to Syria or fly many to Iraq. But knots of Germans would give the Iraqis a valuable stiffening and Hitler will try to get them there. We must check his design by acting vigorously with all the strength we can assemble. We must free ourselves for this fight for Egypt on which the whole issue of the war may hang.

TURKEY'S ATTITUDE

Sir Hughe Knatchbull Huggessen, the British Ambassador in Turkey, saw M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Foreign Minister, early this week, apparently to tell him of the latest developments in the Iraq situation. Rashid Ali's appeal for German help has annoyed Ankara, because if the Axis could give him

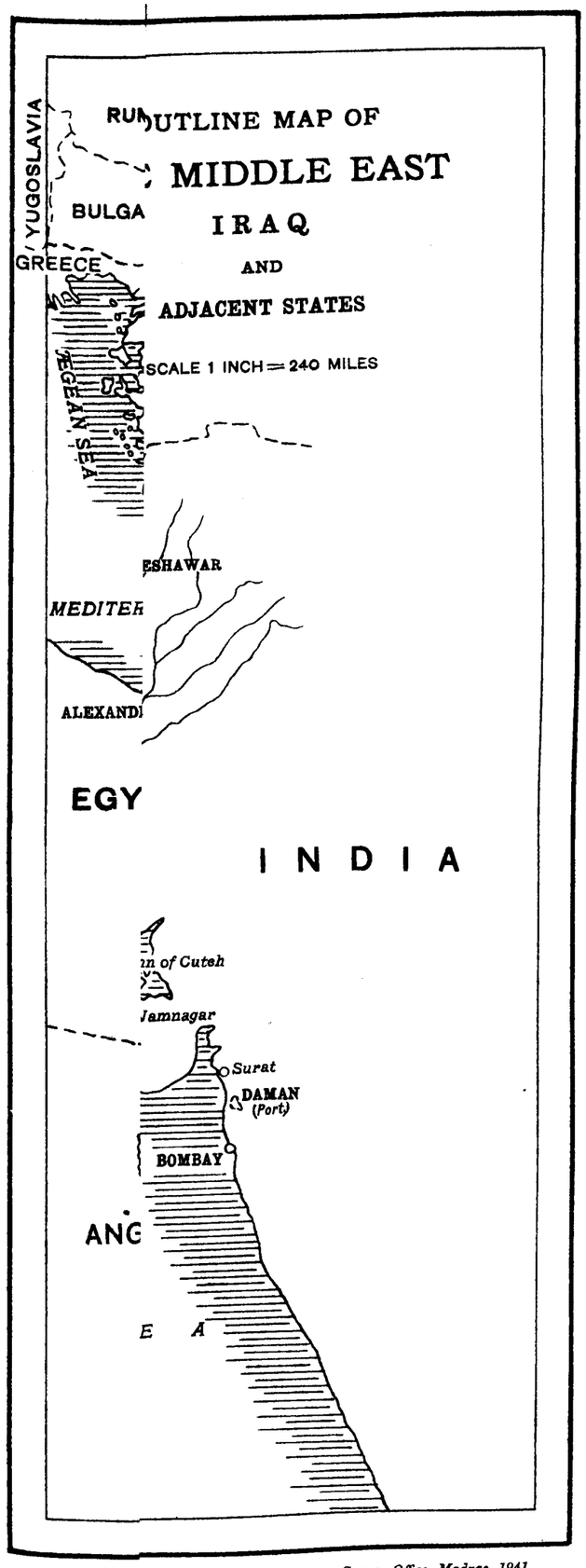
effective help, which is regarded as most unlikely, the result would be a further encirclement of Turkey by the Axis. The Germans declare that the Arabs are taking up a " holy war " to which the Turks point out that there cannot be such a war without the Turks and especially without any Caliphate directing and calling up the faithful. The Pact of Saadabad, concluded in 1934, established political collaboration between Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. Of these, Iran and Turkey have shown in unmistakable terms that they have little sympathy with the tactics of Rashid Ali. Turkey has also indicated that the terms proposed by Rashid Ali on which she could mediate between him and the British are clear violations of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty and will not be acceptable to Britain. Egypt, Britain's ally, also wants him first to suspend his hostile activities and then enter into negotiations with Britain. And now King Ibn Saud has informed the Iraqi usurper that he is unable to offer any kind of assistance to the anti-British movement initiated by him. There have been demonstratons against Rashid Ali at all important centres in Iraq; and he probably intends to flee the country, seeing that he can make little headway against the British Army and Air Force. But King Ibn Saud is reported to have refused to give protection to him. The lawful Regent meanwhile, who is now in Transjordan, with the entire sympathy and approval of its Emir Abdullah, is organizing an army to march back and drive the rebels from Iraq. That Rashid Ali cuts no ice with the followers of Islam is finally evident in the attitude of the Muslim leaders of India like the Nawab of Bhopal, the Hon'ble Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Sir Muhammad Usman, and others who have repudiated him. His defeat is inevitable; already the Royal Air Force has rendered his air force inactive and the British are slowly but steadily mopping up the country. The rebels are running short of ammunition, on their own admission; and Britain and India can well look forward to a successful outcome of the whole affair.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 4)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 6th May 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attack (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
April 30	Nil.	....
May 1	Nil.	1 night bomber.
May 2	Nil.	6 night bombers.
May 3	Nil.	1 day bomber ; 15 night bombers.
May 4	Nil.	9 night bombers.
May 5	Nil.	2 day raiders ; 7 night bombers.
May 6	5 day fighters (3 pilots safe).	4 day fighters ; 9 night bombers.



Reg. No. 56/1 *Heliozinco., Survey Office, Madras. 1941.*

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRAQ

A FEW QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Has Britain attacked Iraq?

No.

British and Indian troops entered Iraq in strict accordance with the Anglo-Iraqi treaty. They were welcomed by the population and officially, at first, by the illegal government of Rashid Ali Gailani. Subsequently Gailani wantonly ordered Iraqi forces to fire upon Imperial forces at Habbaniyah. In the ensuing operations the Imperial troops have defended themselves in the exercise of their lawful mission.

What does Iraq owe to Britain?

British arms gave Iraq its first independence from foreign rule since the days of Nebuchadnezzar. British statesmanship organized the new state, secured the recognition of its independence and its admission to the League of Nations. British officers trained its young army and British diplomacy protected it while Iraq was too weak to defend itself. British enterprise developed its irrigation system and its oil resources, bringing trade and prosperity to the country.

British and Indian troops now in Iraq are there to defend Iraq itself in a time of great danger, and to maintain communications with Britain's Egyptian and Turkish allies.

What does the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty provide?

" The aid of His Majesty the King of Iraq in the event of war or the imminent menace of war will consist in furnishing to His Britannic Majesty on Iraq territory all facilities and assistance in his power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and means of communication." (Article 4.)

" Great Britain shall have all possible facilities for the movement of British forces in transit across Iraq and for the storage and transport of all supplies and equipment required by them." (Annexure to articles 5 and 6.)

Who is Rashid Ali Gailani?

He is the leader of a gang of Quislings definitely known to be in Axis pay, and prepared to sell their country to the highest bidder. His cabinet held office in Iraq from Mar. 31, 1940 to Jan. 28, 1941, when it resigned *en bloc*. Three weeks later, taking advantage of the prorogation of Parliament, Rashid Ali seized power in Baghdad by force, and has since supported himself by an ambitious and unscrupulous military clique.

Who is the Regent Abdullah?

He is the second son of the late King Feisal of Iraq, whose memory is still revered throughout the country. He is thus the uncle of the present child-king Faisal II, for whom he acted as Regent until Rashid Ali's treachery forced him temporarily to leave the country. He has now proclaimed his return " to restore the tarnished honour of my native land and lead it back to peaceful prosperity under a lawfully constituted government."

What has Germany to do with it?

The Government of Iraq severed relations with Germany on Sep. 6, 1939, and Germans in Iraq were deported. But Germany continued her intrigue and bribery in Arab countries. In Saudi Arabia a plot was discovered (Dec. 29, 1940) against the King and his regime. The ringleader was Sherif Abdul Hamid Ibn Oan, who had been in Berlin in 1939.

In Iraq Rashid Ali is the German tool, paid to create a threat to the rear of Turkey and Syria.

What is the British Attitude?

Britain deplores the situation in Iraq, and her only desire is to see Iraq peaceful and ruled by her own government under her own constitution. If Rashid Ali withdraws his troops, cordial relations can be restored between the two countries. In the meantime Britain is determined to defend her rights under the Treaty.

What do others say?

" No Muslim country can have any sympathy with Germany and we should like to warn the people of Iraq against the grave consequences of Germans setting foot on her soil." *Ehsan, Lahore.*

" Even if enemy help should be forthcoming, for Iraq it would be a leap from the frying pan into the fire."— *Amrita Bazar Patrika, Calcutta.*

" The Iraqis should throw out their present leaders."—*Yeni Sabah, Ankara.*

" The men who today boast of being the leaders of Iraq are responsible for the present events. They have betrayed the cause of Iraq."—*Vatan, Ankara.*

" There can be no future for the Arab world under Hitler. . . . . We believe that it would be in the best interests of Iraq and all other Arab states to maintain traditional good relations with Great Britain."—*President of the Arab National League in the U.S.A.*

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

The Reichstag Listens

The members of the German Reichstag are doubtless well aware of Dr. Ley's celebrated declaration at a Nazi party conference : " We are not in a parliamentary talking-shop with its debatings and votings and rules of procedure. You can't make decisions here. You are here in order to hear the opinion of the Fuehrer."

The opinion of the Fuehrer, in his Reichstag speech on May 4 (repeated in English next day) was that Germany had never had any territorial ambitions in the Balkans (*cf. Mein Kampf* : " We ought to have an Eastern policy which will have in view the acquisition of such territory as is necessary for the German people "). We had become accustomed to Hitler's declarations of inoffensiveness before attacking his neighbours (*e.g.*, " We do not want any Czechs ", 26th Sep. 1938). He now carries it a step further to protest innocence after he has committed the crime.

Hitler in the Dock

Hitler's elaborate excuses for his Balkan aggressions suggests that awkward questions may have been asked even in Germany. If the Reichstag members are prepared to accept his claim that these aggressions were merely defensive measures against the British, then they are giving good evidence of their fear of the coming retribution. For the world knows that the decision to send an Imperial Expeditionary Force to aid Greece was taken after, and in consequence of, the German entry into Bulgaria.

The Pill beneath the Sugar

According to Hitler, the mighty struggle waged by the Greek nation first against Italy and then against Italy and Germany together, was merely the effort of a small political clique. Nevertheless, he now seeks to appease the Greeks by praising their valour. As for his own heavy losses in the campaign, his attempt to minimize them is belied by the peroration of his speech, which appealed to German workers, both men and women, to make a much greater effort to equip the Reich for a war which, he now admits, may not after all be won by Germany this year.

Preliminary Announcement

On April 22, more than 48 hours before the evacuation from Greece began, the Berlin radio was announcing :—

> " The British troops are in headlong flight out of Greece. On April 21, the *Luftwaffe* sank five fully-laden transports totalling 25,000 tons. . . . two further ships laden with troops were badly damaged."

Not a single British transport had left Greece when that announcement was made. Yet the same bulletin also pretended to quote Istanbul reports of the embarkation of British troops at the Piraeus two days before that.

Next day, April 23—still more than 24 hours before the embarkation began—the German wireless declared :—

> " In Berlin, the British losses of life by the sinking of over-crowded transports are estimated at 30,000. A total of 122,000 tons of the British transport fleet has been sunk, and many more vessels damaged. Since Sunday, thousands of bodies of British soldiers are being daily washed ashore on the coasts of the Aegean Sea."

At the time this fanciful picture was being broadcast, German troops had nowhere reached the shores of the Aegean, which may explain why they had to rely on the imagination of Josef Goebbels for information of what was happening there. Other items of that day's Nazi news included the sinking of a further six transport vessels totalling 20,000 tons.

A Dangerous Prophecy

Still on April 23, Berlin foretold triumphantly that " the Australian, New Zealand and Scottish troops will not have much chance to escape unless, by some means or other, the German advance is slowed down." As all the world knows, the German advance was slowed down, and 80 per cent of the Expeditionary Force got away.

At midday on April 24, with several hours still to go before the first British transport left Greece, Berlin was gaily announcing that " so far, roughly 152,000 tons of British transports have been sunk in Greek waters. Since many of these transports were filled with troops, the British losses must have been severe. On board the burning and sinking ships, scenes of extreme panic were observed." At the time this was being broadcast, the first British or Empire troops had not yet set foot on the transports.

What Really Happened

The British evacuation from Greece began on the night of April 24. Between then and April 30, when the evacuation ended, three empty transports were sunk and one fully-loaded transport set on fire. The 700 men aboard the burning vessels were taken off, but many of them perished when the two destroyers which had rescued them were subsequently sunk. Soon after midnight on April 30, the Commander-in-Chief of the British Mediterranean Fleet was able to announce that 45,000 troops and Royal Air Force personnel (out of a grand total of not more than 60,000 originally in Greece) had been safely evacuated, along with many refugees. Of the approximately 15,000 troops and Royal Air Force personnel not evacuated, several thousands were killed during the actual fighting in Greece, and the remainder taken prisoner during the final stage of the German advance.

Few lies in Goebbels' history, therefore, can hope to rank with his three-fold claim—

(*a*) to have sunk before the evacuation began many more laden transports than were in fact lost during the actual operation,

(*b*) to have littered the beaches of Greece with thousands of drowned British soldiers at least 24 hours before a single man had gone abroad a transport, and

(*c*) to have destroyed at sea twice as many British troops as were lost in the whole Greek Campaign, including the evacuation!

Another Lie Exposed

Meanwhile, another of Goebbels' oft-repeated Balkan lies has been decisively rebutted. This is his allegation—begun as long ago as the initial Italian invasion—that the British would betray the Greeks. As soon as the Nazi hordes went into Greece, the Berlin radio began to prophesy that the British would let their Greek allies down, and would refuse to fight for them —notwithstanding the fact that one of Germany's excuses for attacking Greece was that large bodies of British troops were alleged to be already established there. As soon as the Greek and British forces were compelled to give way, inch by inch, before the overwhelming might of the enemy's mechanized hordes, Goebbels sent up a shriek that the British were running away and leaving the Greeks to cover their retreat.

That the British decision to withdraw their Expeditionary Force was made at the suggestion of the Greek Government itself is proved, once and for all by this extract from a letter from the Greek Government to the British Government, read to the House of Commons by Mr. Eden on April 30 :

> " In these conditions, continuation of the struggle, while incapable of producing any useful effect, would have no other result than to bring about the collapse of the Greek Army and bloodshed useless to the Allied cause. Consequently the Greek Government are obliged to state that further sacrifice of the British Expeditionary Force will be in vain, and its withdrawal in time seems to be rendered necessary by the circumstances and by the Interests common to the struggle.

How to Describe a Raid

" Last night," said Berlin's English bulletin of May 4, " minor Royal Air Force forces dropped a few high-explosive and fire bombs at several points in Western Germany. No damage was caused to military or war-important objectives. . . . German night fighters and naval artillery shot down one British aircraft each."

This is, of course, the Nazis' tactful way of referring to the very heavy raids carried out during the night of May 3 on Cologne, Essen and Dusseldorf. Cologne received the brunt of the attack, and this important German city had its first taste of the Royal Air Force's newest and deadliest bombs—a single one of which, two nights previously, had turned the whole of one quarter of Bremen into a heap of ruins. Despite the Nazi claim to have destroyed two British raiders, the whole of the Royal Air Force's night operations on May 3 (when objectives in Norway, Holland and France were also bombed) were carried out without the loss of a single plane.

It is significant that the same German bulletin, in reporting the heavy Nazi raids on Merseyside that night, makes no mention of the destruction of a record number (16) of German bombers.

Tell-Tale Tail-Piece

On April 29, Berlin incautiously quoted a French Socialist newspaper for the assertion that German naval and aerial operations during March had destroyed " more than 750,000 tons of British shipping." Had Berlin forgotten that its own claim for that month was 718,000 tons, some 32,000 tons less than the figure to which it now gave its blessing? The truth is that British, Allied and neutral shipping losses for March totalled 394,000 tons.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Food and Fables

A typical example of the Nazi mendacity occurred on April 29, when Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani broadcast invented " a reliable source " as stating that (*a*) Australia had refused to supply foodstuffs to British troops in North Africa, and (*b*) that food would be sent from India and cost would be debitable to the Indian exchequer. The true position is that in Egypt only rations for troops from India are being provided from the resources of India. These indigenous items of foodstuffs are what the troops would normally consume in this country, and therefore their provision has no effect on the market rates in India. The cost of all rations despatched to theatres of war is debitable to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and is not paid for by the Indian public. And, finally, Australia continues to despatch rations for both the British and Imperial Troops in the Middle East. No question of refusal has ever arisen.

On May 1 the Nazi broadcast in Hindustani and Persian quoted the Tokyo paper *Nichi* as saying that Britain was experiencing increasing shortage of food. No one denies the fact that in war time a wise husbanding of the nation's resources is imperative. Apart from that, the food situation in Britain continues to be satisfactory. Energy-giving foods like milk, cheese, flour and other things made with flour are not rationed at all. An increased consumption of milk is advocated, and children up to five years of age are entitled to one pint of

milk a day at half price. Moreover, even cooked meats do not form part of the rations and can be bought and sold without coupons.

American Aid to Britain

The German broadcast in Persian quoted, on April 27, a Portuguese paper as stating that American aid to Britain will not able to reach its destination. It is noteworthy that Mr. Cordell Hull, the American Secretary of State, declared on April 25 : " Ways must be found to ensure that aid to Britain reaches its destination in the shortest possible time and at the maximum capacity." President Roosevelt also declared on April 26, that American " Neutrality patrols " would be extended further and further into the Atlantic. Finally, the United States Ambassador in Buenos Aires, addressing the local British Society, stated : " These supplies will reach their destination. You have our President's word and he speaks for a united and determined people." In spite of the Nazi bluster, the Germans themselves have betrayed their uneasiness over these utterances. The *Voelkischer Boebachter* says that they put " everything said previously by official war-mongers in the shade. Both speakers acted as though the two European dictators were in full march against the peaceful United States." This is exactly what President Roosevelt and his people do believe.

Hunt for Indian Reactions

The Nazis in their Hindustani broadcast of May 2 appear to be most anxious to invent Indian reactions to the military events in North Africa and the Balkans. They talk of communal riots which are described as a revolutionary movement and, in the same breath, they refer to industrial disputes which they themselves admit to have been caused by disagreement over the question of wages. How a dispute over wages and communal riots can be connected with events in North Africa and the Balkans, only the Nazis can explain.

Australia's Fight

The German broadcasts in Hindustani and Persian repeated, on April 29, the calumny that Britain was sacrificing Australian soldiers for her own selfish interests. The Australian reply to this taunt was given by Mr. Fadden, the acting Prime Minister, who, launching a win-the-war rally in Sydney Town Hall, declared : " This is an opportunity to give the lie to the German propagandists who are saying that there is disunity between Australia and Britain ". Speaking for Labour, the Deputy Federal Labour Leader, Mr. Forde, proclaimed the labour attitude as complete and indissoluble unity with the Allies.

Shipping Losses.

Taking advantage of the fact that the British Admiralty has decided to publish shipping losses once a month, instead of every week, the Nazis have started making most extravagant claims. In their Hindustani broadcast of May 4 they declared that in April alone one million tons of British shipping was destroyed in the Atlantic. The British decision, of course, was prompted by the consideration that it was becoming increasingly difficult to present accurate figures week by week and also that their more frequent publication would help the enemy. The Germans, on the other hand, have never published their own shipping losses, which have been lately very heavy. During the week ended April 23, more than 42,000 tons of German shipping was sunk or damaged in enemy waters from Norway to France, but the German Admiralty, as usual, said not a word about it.

Baulked in Iraq

Baulked of their designs in Iraq, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of May 4, claim that Britain violated the Anglo-Iraq treaty and also that all the Arab nations are opposed to Britain. Considering that the Nazi agent Rashid Ali Gailani could not but agree to the landing of the first contingent of British troops, his objection to the arrival of a second contingent was utterly specious and such action as the British had to take was in the most literal conformity with the terms of the Anglo-Iraq treaty of 1930. The attitude of the Arab nations has been expressed by the President of the Arab National League in the United States, who says " There can be no future for the Arab world under Hitler." He further appeals to all Iraq and all other Arab states to maintain traditional good relations with Great Britain and to take steps to adjust all differences by means of direct negotiations with British representatives and the Arab world.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

16th May.—The German Radio admitted damage of " certain importance " when the Royal Air Force made a heavy raid on Hanover, Berlin, Hamburg, Cuxhaven as well as Calais, Boulogne, Dieppe, St. Nazaire and L'Orient.

Seven enemy fighters were shot down over Britain when the Germans dropped bombs on coastal areas.

17th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked Cologne and started numerous fires.

The German air force concentrated its attack on West Midlands.

18th May.—British bombers again raided Cologne ; Calais, Boulogne, Dunkirk and Rotterdam were also subjected to fierce raids.

Enemy activity over Britain was on a small scale.

19th May.—The Royal Air Force raided Kiel and Emden; Cherbourg was attacked by Naval aircraft.

Five German fighters were shot down in an air battle over the English Channel.

20th May.—General Milch, Inspector-General of the German air force, asked the citizens of Berlin to continue air raid precautions in view of the growing Royal Air Force raids.

21st May.—London had its fourth night without any alert.

22nd May.—The Royal Air Force attacked Heligoland and also Bethune in occupied France.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

16th May.—British Imperial Forces recaptured Sollum on the Libyan frontier. The important town of Sciasciamanna was occupied in Abyssinia as well as Alghe, north of Yavello. The Royal Air Force raided towns and bases in Libya.

Eight enemy raiders were shot down over Crete which suffered no damage or casualties in enemy air attacks.

The British Government announced the mining of Eastern Mediterranean adjoining Turkish territorial waters.

17th May.—The Empire forces carried out a limited but very successful counter-attack on the enemy in the Tobruk area. Many German and Italian prisoners were taken. The British advanced their lines further.

The Royal Air Force was again very active over Libya and also raided the aerodromes of Menidi and Hassani in occupied Greece where 11 enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground.

18th May.—A number of strong points in the outer defences of Tobruk were recaptured by the British Imperial Forces. British forces occupied Adela in Abyssinia. British forces bombarded Benghazi and the Royal Air Force carried out widespread raids on the Mediterranean littoral.

19th May.—The Italian garrison, 7,000 strong, at Amba Alagi surrendered to the British, its Commander, the Duke of Aosta having agreed to the British terms. Dalle, an important road junction in Abyssinia, was also captured by the British. Enemy columns which crossed the frontier near Sollum were beaten back.

21st May.—The Duke of Aosta surrendered to the British with 19,000 Italian troops.

22nd May.—Two Italian divisions were trapped in Abyssinia between two columns of British Imperial Troops. British advanced patrols, destroyed a German post on the Sollum hill.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

16th May.—President Roosevelt in a forceful declaration condemned the Vichy Government's policy of collaborating with the Nazis especially in Syria. So also did Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy.

The United States Senate approved the Bill enabling the Government to seize foreign ships in American waters.

17th May.—Lord Halifax conferred with Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, on the developments in Syria.

It was disclosed that huge stocks of food were bought by the United States Government for shipment to Britain.

18th May.—Mr. Harold Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, said that America must give "everything" to Britain. Mr. Cordell Hull, in a broadcast, said that America would find the means to ensure that Britain received adequate supplies; he also said that the peace settlement at the end of the war should give short shrift to extreme nationalism and encourage free international friendship and trade.

Mr. Hull stated that he was able to confirm from diplomatic reports that the Franco-German agreement was a definitely military agreement and that it was dangerous to the Western Hemisphere.

It was revealed that American aircraft production was nearing 1,800 planes a month.

A big round-up of aliens took place all over the United States.

20th May.—The Polish Premier, Gen. Sikorski, said on his return to London from United States of America that President Roosevelt was about to take a decisive step—a historic decision.

It was announced that the Egyptian steamer, Zam Zam, carrying American missionaries and a British-American ambulance corps to the Near East, was sunk in the South Atlantic by a German raider after the passengers and crew had been taken aboard a German warship. The United States Government asked Germany for full details concerning the 138 Americans involved.

22nd May.—Col. Knox urged the repeal of what he called "the terrible blunder" of the United State Neutrality Act and said that America should preserve the freedom of the seas and allow her ships to serve in British shores and other war zones.

President Roosevelt predicted that "more and faster ships will be built" and that "they will carry through the open waters of the seven seas the implements of war which will help to destroy the menace to free people everywhere."

GREECE AND ITALY

16th May.—The Greek Premier declared that important units of the Greek Army were now somewhere in the Middle East and that Greece's gold reserves were safe.

17th May.—German was made a compulsory language in all schools in Greece.

18th May.—The Germans were reinforcing their garrisons in the Aegean islands of Mytilene and Chios.

The Greek Ministers of Justice and Finance had a narrow escape when their boat was machine-gunned by enemy aircraft on their way from Turkey to Palestine.

The survivors of the historic rear-guard of the Imperial Troops at Mount Olympus reached Cyprus after an astonishing series of escapes.

Princes Amedeo Roberts of Savoia, Duke of Spoleto and nephew of the King of Italy, was proclaimed King of the Axis-sponsored, puppet state of Croatia. Mussolini was present at the ceremony that took place in the Quirinal Palace in Rome, as also the Croat "Quisling" Pavelitch.

20th May.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that 1,500 enemy troops, wearing New Zealand battle-dress, landed by gliders, parachutes and troop-carriers in Crete. Their attempt to capture the Malani aerodrome was frustrated and British General Headquarters announced that a number of the invaders had been accounted for and that the situation was in hand.

21st May.—Another airborne invasion of Crete was successfully tackled by the British Empire forces.

22nd May.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that one German convoy making for Crete was intercepted and two transports sunk.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

16th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked German aircraft on three Syrian aerodromes—Palmyra, Damascus and Rayak. Reinforcements of British and Imperial Troops arrived both in Iraq and Palestine.

17th May.—Only slight damage was caused when enemy planes raided Habbaniyah.

King Ibn Saud reiterated his view that the only course open to Arab nations was to support Britain.

King Peter of Yugoslavia declared that the enemy would never succeed in breaking Serb-Croat-Slovene unity, adding "Let our present adversaries take good care not to break the rules of humanity in their behaviour towards my people."

18th May.—The Royal Air Force continued to attack enemy air bases and troop concentrations in Syria. It was revealed at Ankara that Syrian arms were being sent to Rashid Ali by the railway which runs through Turkish territory.

The British occupied advance positions, 25 miles south of Basra.

19th May.—The arrival of British reinforcements in air-transports had a satisfactory effect on the Iraq situation. While General Dentz, the Vichy Governor of Syria, said he would "meet force with force", Gen. de Gaulle, in a broadcast from Brazzaville, urged Frenchmen to rise in revolt against the Vichy Government's betrayal of their former Ally, Britain.

20th May.—British forces captured the town of Fallujah on the Euphrates, thus preventing the Royal Air Force at Habbaniyah from being cut off by British land-borne reinforcements in Iraq.

21st May.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Raschid aerodrome in Iraq while German planes raided Habbaniyah.

Free French Forces entered Syrian territory where many members of the Vichy armed forces were deserting to them.

22nd May.—It was understood that the British Government would reestablish Emir Abdul Ilah as Regent of Iraq.

SHIPPING

16th May.—The United States Maritime Commission announced that the construction of the first 200 merchant-ships under the ship-building programme had begun two weeks ahead of schedule.

20th May:—It was revealed that at least eight enemy supply ships, totalling 45,000 tons, were sunk during the week ending 19th May by the Royal Air Force and the British Navy. In addition an enemy supply ship of 8,000 tons was blown up in the Mediterranean by the Fleet Air Arm.

22nd May.—It was stated that Britain was negotiating with Latin American nations for the purchase of some foreign ships lying idle in their ports.

THE FAR EAST

16th May.—The Chinese repulsed, with 10,000 casualties, a Japanese offensive launched on the banks of the Han river. The Japanese claim to have "decimated" the Chinese Fifth Group Army elsewhere. Japanese planes raided Chungking.

17th May.—The Chinese stated that the Japanese offensive in Southern Shansi had collapsed but the Japanese claimed that an iron ring was closing round 100,000 Chinese troops. The Japanese took Tsaovang in Northern Hupeh.

18th May.—The Japanese reported a big victory in a battle on the Shansi-Honan border. There were air raids on Sian and Chungking.

It was announced that the Sino-Soviet barter agreement would be further extended.

19th May.—A Japanese Military Mission arrived in Rome.

20th May.—The Chinese Military Mission, on the conclusion of their tour of Malaya, said "we are happy in the knowledge that we have a strong friend."

21st May.—Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek appealed to the Communist 18th Group Army to move immediately to support the Chinese Central Government forces in "the most important battle" raging in North China.

22nd May.—The Japanese Foreign and War Ministers reported to the Emperor on their conference with the heads of the Defence Services.

VICHY

17th May.—The Vichy Government in a statement said that France, in collaborating with Germany "for mutual reorganization of continental Europe", did not intend to attack Great Britain, still less the United States. "The bombing of Syrian aerodromes," it was stated, "has just added to the list of what France still refuses to consider acts of aggression."

18th May.—Most savage penalties were imposed by the Vichy Government's War Tribunal on followers of Gen. de Gaulle.

19th May.—It was announced that over 100,000 French prisoners would be immediately released by the Germans and that Frenchmen in the unoccupied zone would have greater access to the occupied territory.

Gen. de Gaulle completely disavowed the agreements between Vichy and the German authorities in a declaration to the British and Allied Governments.

20th May.—The Vichy Ambassador protested to the United States of America against "an unfriendly gesture"—the placing of French vessels in American ports under protective surveillance.

21st May.—It was stated that French merchant ships had been instructed by the Vichy Government either to sabotage or immobilise their ships rather than let them fall into British hands.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

19th May.—The Polish Premier, Gen. Sikorski returned to London after his visit to the United States and Canada, where he helped to organize a Polish volunteer army.

21st May.—The Nazi Poice Chief, Himmler, was on his way to Oslo, where dock workers had come out on strike.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

19th May.—It was understood that Gen. Franco had refused to accept the resignation tendered by the Spanish Foreign Minister, Sr. Suner. Two important officials of the Falangist Party were, however, removed from their posts.

Lord Gort, the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar, called on Gen. Grandes, Spanish Military Governor of Algeciras (who is to return the visit on May 28).

20th May.—"The New York Times" Ankara correspondent reported indications that Russia and Germany "would appear to be arranging some sort of joint action in the Middle East."

22nd May.—General Franco directed that Sur. Suner should have the fullest powers over the Falange party affairs.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 13th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 7, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*); docks at Bremen; **Loire Estuary** (submarine base at St. Nazaire, oil stores and refineries at Donges); shipping off Dutch coast. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	1 day bomber. 2 night bombers.	3 night bombers.
May 8. Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Norwegian coast (1 escort-ship on fire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin: **Hamburg** (Blohm & Voss submarine and naval shipbuilding yards, factories, oil stores); **Bremen** (Deutscheschiff & Machinenbau and Atlas submarine and shipbuilding yards, factories, oil stores; docks at Emden; other objectives in N.-W. Germany; submarine base at St. Nazaire; shipping off German coast. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in Belgium and N. France.	1 day bomber. 10 night bombers.	2 night bombers.
May 9, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim** and **Ludwigshafen** (river docks, railways, chemical factory); factories in Berlin; invasion bases, including Ymuiden, Ostend, Calais, Boulogne. R.A.F. and Royal Dutch Naval Air Service night bomber raids on docks and aerodrome at Kristians and; aerodrome at Mandal (Norway). R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	2 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 3 night bombers.	2 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
May 10, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin; **Hamburg** (submarine and shipbuilding yards, railways, factories); Bremen; Emden; Rotterdam; **La Pallice** (shipping docks, oil refineries and stores); shipping off Danish and Dutch coast (1 naval craft hit, 2 merchantmen damaged).	7 night bombers.	4 night fighters.
May 11, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on shipyards and factories at **Hamburg** and **Bremen**; docks at Emden; other objectives in N.W. Germany; invasion bases at Rotterdam and Ymuiden; seaplane base on Texel Island.	4 night bombers.	..
May 12, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim** and **Ludwigshafen**; Cologne (railways, factories); Coblenz; submarine base at St. Nazaire; invasion bases at Ostend and Dunkirk.	1 night bomber.	..
May 13, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on Heligoland (naval base, jetties, barracks, gun positions); St. Nazaire (submarine base, docks, stores; 12,000-ton merchantman set on fire); shipping off Dutch and French coasts (2,000-ton merchantman left sinking). R.A.F. night fighter raid on aerodrome at Ostend (hangars, barracks, gun posts).	2 day bombers. ..	..

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The great event of the week is, of course, the fall of Amba Alagi, the Italian stronghold in Abyssinia. The Duke of Aosta has surrendered with his officers and the prisoners taken in this area amount to 19,000. The Abyssinian campaign has now practically ended except for the Italian resistance in the Jimma area and the Gondar region, where together there are four Italian divisions. Mr. Churchill, speaking in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, paid a remarkable tribute to South African and Indian troops. In Northern Africa, Sollum has been recaptured. The situation is still fluid. Hitler's time-table of invasion of Suez has been upset and Mr. Churchill said, summing up the situation: "We have retained strong offensive power and the fighting is being maintained, at any rate, on even terms in advanced areas of the approach to Egypt."

In Syria, almost all the French air bases have been occupied by Germany and many of them are being attacked by the Royal Air Force. The British Vice-Consul in Syria has been asked to quit Syria by the French authorities as a reprisal for the French Consul General in England being asked to leave England. A development pregnant with possibilities is that Free French forces have penetrated into Syria and that a French regiment in Syria has gone over to the Free French Forces. Several French pilots have flown their aeroplanes from Syria to neighbouring Allied aerodromes.

Reinforcements have arrived in Iraq and Falluiah has been captured by British troops. Considerable importance is attached to this capture. It has an important bridge-head across the Euphrates joining Habbaniyah with Baghdad. If this bridge across Euphrates had been demolished, communication between Habbaniyah and the British land-borne reinforcements would have become very difficult.

German parachutists, about 1,500 in number, invaded Crete, early this week by gliders, parachutes and troops-carriers. The Military hospital between Canea and Malemi which was captured by the enemy had been recaptured. Three thousand men were dropped again on Tuesday last, the majority of whom were mopped up. One air-borne division is said to be employed. Many of these parachutists have been accounted for and fighting is still proceeding. It was a daring performance, regard being had to the fact that these parachutists had little chance of escape. As Mr. Churchill said a strange and grim battle is proceeding and wave after wave of parachutists are being landed. German attempts at landing by sea have so far been foiled. But what is disgusting to read is, these fellows were dressed in the uniform of New Zealand soldiers, a kind of tactics opposed to honourable warfare.

A good deal of feeling has been aroused in America by the sinking of "Zam Zam", an Egyptian owned ship, flying the Egyptian flag in her voyage from Pernambuco to Capetown. There were 138 Americans, 24 of whom are members of the British-American Ambulance Corps on their way to join General de Gaulle with complete equipment. The excuse for sinking this ship put out by Berlin is that she had contraband on board. The passengers and crew, however, are safe and will be sent back to America.

Iceland, who till now was united with Denmark, has proclaimed herself an independent country and has severed her union with Denmark. Iceland will be a republic and a Regent will be appointed in the place of the Danish King.

VICHY'S COLLABORATION WITH GERMANY

Mr. Churchill, some time ago, described the negotiations between Germany and Vichy as "the sad, sorry, and squalid tale." These talks are still going on, but it has now been revealed how Marshal Petain has been absolutely unable to stem the tide of the influence of the Nazis and the Quislings. What France gets are the relaxation of restrictions in the demarcation line between Occupied France and Unoccupied France, a reduction in the payment for the upkeep of the German army of occupation from 400 million francs per year to 300 millions and the release of one hundred thousand French prisoners who fought in the Great War and who may now be employed in French industries, useful, of course, to Germany. But Hitler is not likely to give something for nothing. What has Admiral Darlan, who has now proved himself to be even superior

to Laval in the game of betraying French interests, given in return? The occupied zone has been extended from Bordeaux to the south-east, enabling Germans to control the railway line from Tan to Sargossa, facilitating the passage of troops to Spain without passing through Unoccupied France. French industrialists are co-operating with Germany and the products of French colonies are to go to Germany. A stern warning has been given to Vichy by Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary. Speaking in the Commons yesterday, he said: "If the Vichy Government, in pursuance of this declared policy of collaboration with the enemy, take action or permit action detrimental to our conduct of the war or designed to assist the enemy's war effort, we shall naturally hold ourselves free to attack the enemy wherever he may be found and we shall no longer feel bound to draw any distinction between occupied and unoccupied territories in execution of our military plan." It has now been established beyond a possibility of doubt that Syria has been handed over to Nazis, lock, stock and barrel, as a jumping off ground to Iraq and from there to Suez or further east. It is amazing that General Dentz, French Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Syria, should have explained that German planes flew over Syria in transit and that the British were not justified in bombing Syrian air bases. Facts are too stubborn to square with this explanation. It now appears that war material in Syria has been taken over the railways to Iraq and one may be pretty certain that other facilities will also be provided. It is disingenuous, in the circumstances, for General Dentz to argue as he does that he is keeping strictly within the Armistice terms! Mr. Cordell Hull's statement, based presumably on facts which had been brought to his notice, that the collaboration between Vichy and Berlin is military in character, is very significant. This may mean not only that bases in French Colonies in North Africa but also West Africa as well and possibly facilities for Germans to establish themselves in the Western Hemisphere are to be given. Americans do remember that in *Mein Kampf* Hitler has described how he proposed to take hold of Latin America without coming into a clash with the United States:—"Latin America—we shall create a New Germany there. We have a right to this continent . . . We require two movements abroad, a loyal and a revolutionary one. Do you think that's so difficult? I think we are capable of it. We should not be here otherwise. . . Our weapons are not visible ones. It will be a simple matter for me to produce unrests and revolts in the United States so that these gentry will have their hands full with their own affairs. We shall soon have Storm Troopers in America. We shall have men whom degenerate Yankeedom will not be able to challenge."

President Roosevelt is frankly distressed at Vichy's action. He is surprised that the people of France should willingly accept any agreement for a kind of collaboration which will, in reality, "imply their alliance with a military power whose central and fundamental policy calls for the utter destruction of liberty, freedom and popular institutions everywhere." He made a reference to Dakar on the West Coast of Africa which he apparently considers to be very important for United States interests; Dakar should not obviously be allowed to fall into German hands. Colonel Knox is no less strong. The Vichy Government, he pointed out, was in the clutches of the Germans and robbed of the direction of its own affairs. "It is in a bitter squeeze and is paying the penalty for being vanquished in War." It is obvious that any extension of German influence in West Africa and in the French colonies in the Western Hemisphere should be regarded by the United States as a menace to her own security. President Roosevelt has himself suggested that he would ask the State Department to investigate whether the United States may take action under its agreement with other Latin American nations towards taking over some French colonies in Western Hemisphere if they were threatened with change of sovereignty. It is further stated that the twenty-one American republics are ready to establish a provisional administration in the Americas if collaboration between Germany and France should be projected in the Western Hemisphere. Complete plans have been prepared for this purpose. It will be remembered that the French Colonies in American waters include Martinique, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, St. Pierre and Miqelon. Further developments in this direction would entirely depend upon the kind of collaboration which eventually results from the conversations that are now going on between Hitler's emissaries and Admiral Darlan. It is almost certain that the United States will prevent German infiltration into these Colonies.

French vessels in United States ports have been placed under police surveillance, a precaution which is justified by the order stated to have been given by the Vichy Minister of Marine to Captains of French ships to scuffle or immobilise them rather than let them fall into British hands. This means that the French Mercantile Fleet is on charter to Germany. Mr. Cordell Hull, in answer to a French protest, plainly told France that she had gone beyond the Armistice terms in permitting German planes to attack the British in Iraq and that it was up to Vichy to correct the impression if mistaken. Movements of French warships form Martinque are reported and United States is said to be considering what measures should be taken to prevent Martinique from falling into German hands.

AMERICAN HELP

Meanwhile, America is steadfast in its object of seeing to it that munitions and war materials which she produces reach Great Britain. "We are a practical people" said Mr. Cordell Hull, the other day, and continued "When we set ourselves a task we finish it. We have set ourselves the task of arming and supplying those whose successful defence is vital for our security. I have said before and I say again that we will not permit this purpose to be frustrated. We will find a way to ensure that weapons pouring in an ever greater volume from our factories reach the hands eagerly awaiting them." Colonel Knox has stated the view that the American Navy should ensure the delivery of materials to Britain. This will be done in spite of the submarines, surface raiders and aeroplanes belonging to Germany which infest the Atlantic. Colonel Knox has further urged the repeal of what he calls "the terrible blunder of the Neutrality Act," for the United States should preserve the freedom of the seas and allow her ships to serve in British parts and other war zones. "If America tries to interfere in the European conflict." Hitler declared at the end of January 1941, "then 'Europe' will resist . . . Who believes himself capable of helping England must know one thing in any case; every ship within the war zone which comes within range of German torpedoes will be sunk." A Democratic Senator answered this threat promptly by saying "I think we should start the torpedoing first."

America, of course, feels that her security will be endangered if anything should happen to Great Britain. That is true, but it is wrong to consider America merely as being prompted by commercial or selfish motives. In the last few years, America has come into prominence for her stand on fundamental principles affecting human liberty and conscience. No greater speeches have been delivered in condemnation of totalitarian methods than by the statesmen belonging to the New World. Some of them have been reaffirmed in the week that is passing. For instance, President Roosevelt, speaking a few days ago, pointed out that America should defend democratic principles and continue her leadership. Totalitarian aggression would disintegrate the free framework of the democratic way of life. "That is why the United States," pointed out President Roosevelt, "desires to fulfil its responsibilities in rebuilding world economy from the chaos into which it has been plunged by greed and unreasoned fear of ruthless aggression." Mr. Cordell Hull expanded this statement by defining the principles which should guide the Peace Conference after the war. "The spread of lawlessness in the world must", he said, "be brought to a halt or we shall soon find ourselves surrounded by aggressors". The principles of peace will include the following:—

(i) First, extreme nationalism must not again be permitted to express itself in excessive trade restrictions;

(ii) second non-discrimination in international commercial relations must be the rule so that international trade may grow and prosper;

(iii) third, supplies of raw materials must be available to all nations without discrimination;

(iv) fourth, international agreements regulating the supply of commodities must be so handled as to protect fully the consuming countries and their peoples; and

(v) fifth, institutions and arrangements of international finance must be so arranged that they aid essential enterprises and continuous development in all countries and permit payment by processes of trade, consonant with the welfare of all countries."

BRITISH TRIUMPH IN ABYSSINIA

The communiqué issued by the British General Headquarters at Cairo on May 19 contained most welcome news for the Empire and the Allied countries. It announced the surrender of the whole Italian force in the mountain fortress of Amba Alagi, where the Duke of Aosta, Italian Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief of Abyssinia, had been holding out against the British Imperial Forces after the fall of the capital Addis Ababa. The actual surrender of the Duke, his General and men took place on Tuesday last, and the total number of prisoners taken during and since this battle is about 19,000. It will be recalled that he recently assured his master, Mussolini, that he would fight to the end. And he would certainly have done so but for the pronounced superiority of the British forces in every respect. A ring of steel and fire was steadily closing round him and he sent an emissary to the British to arrange the terms of surrender. The British conditions were accepted and the official communiqué reported: "After allowing the Italian forces at Amba Alagi one full day in which to collect their wounded, the formal surrender of the whole force in the area is taking place to-day. It is estimated that the prisoners will number seven thousand, together with considerable quantities of guns and material. It has further been arranged, in compliance with his urgent request that he should be the last to leave, that the Duke of Aosta, accompanied by General Rezani and all the Duke's personal staff officers, will surrender at twelve noon to-morrow, May 20. Units of the Sudan Defence Force assisted by Patriots, have captured an important position in the Gondar sector inflicting serious casualties on the enemy. Operations are proceeding satisfactorily. In southern areas our troops captured Dalle, an important road junction thiry-five miles south of Sciasciamanna on May 16. As a result of this successful operation we captured 800 prisoners, including two colonels and a number of staff officers, two

guns and two armoured cars. In other sectors our general advance is continuing in spite of heavy rain. Italian troops in other regions are being trapped."

The British decided to accord battle-honours to the Duke who had proved himself the most courageous of Italian commanders on the field. In a message to Mussolini, the Duke said that the surrender could no longer be avoided and proceeded: "I am comforted in this tragic and sad moment with the certainty of having done all that was humanly possible." The Duce replied: "You and your soldiers have fought heroically. The Italian people have followed your stand with admiration."

Thus did the Duke of Asota surrender on the very day that his brother, the Duke of Spoleto, was chosen King of the so-called State of Croatia which the Axis Powers have set up. Thanks to the British capture of Dalle, it is considered, that the 21st and 24th Italian divisions can escape, if at all, only by taking to the bush. It may safely be taken for granted that mere mopping-up operations remain to be carried out in Abyssinia, and the British High Command will be in a position to release more troops for the fighting in Libya and the Near East.

In Libya, General Wavell has nipped in the bud the German advance into Egypt. British Imperial Forces have recaptured Sollum and other frontier positions. The Germans have been trying to regain lost ground; and as a result the advanced elements on both sides have been indulging in hide-and-seek tactics, testing each other's strength. The British, however, not only retain Sollum but have, in the Tobruk sector, won back some lost territory. They have definitely beaten back German attempts to penetrate the inner defences in Tobruk and have, in their turn, captured a number of strong points in the outer defences. And all the while the British Navy and the Royal and South African Air Forces have been busy. The Libyan stronghold of Bengazhi has been repeatedly subjected to aerial and naval bombardment and German supply ships and transport columns have suffered heavily. One recalls Mr. Churchill's words that he would not like to be in the shoes of the German Commander facing General Wavell across the Libyan desert!

HERR HESS

The Herr Hess mystery has not been unravelled. That gangster, as Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security, described him the other day, has seen the Duke of Hamilton for the second time and is furiously writing notes which are being forwarded to Mr. Churchill, the Prime Minister. Meanwhile, people are saying all sorts of things about the aims of Herr Hess and they will continue to do so. What do they say? These are the different explanations offered:—

(1) He has fled from another June "blood bath".

(2) He is convinced that Germany cannot win.

(3) The flight is the first symptom of cohesion sapped and confidence mortally shaken.

(4) The event has shown the fundamental unsoundness of dictatorship.

(5) It is the sharpest shock Hitler has received since the war began.

(6) The Nazi system has proved to be a structure of perilous flimsiness.

(7) It may be that he fled to England in case Hitler attempts to bring Russia into the Axis camp.

The world must wait for Mr. Churchill to make a statement in the House of Commons on the subject. So far he has refused to be drawn out, the only observation which he has allowed himself to make being that Herr Hess was being treated as a prisoner of war and will receive treatment appropriate for a prisoner. The mental derangement which has been attributed to Herr Hess is pure nonsense. The fact is, as a commentator has put it, "When Hess wills, Hitler desires." Hitler appointed him as his second heir only in 1939 and sent him to Spain to see General Franco only a month ago. There is, of course, no reason why there should be any wishful thinking about the impending collapse of the Nazi regime as a result of this flight. As a matter of fact, there is no disposition in Great Britain to pay any importance to this event or run into raptures about it. Mr. Morrison, in his statement already alluded to, said that Hess was a brutal thug whose hands, like his master's "were stained with some of the worst political crimes of modern times and the main thing was that, no matter what kind of animal he was, whether a Trojan horse or a rat No. 1—he was caged." Only on Tuesday last, Major Vyvyan Adams asked the Prime Minister whether the Government will discourage the Press from renewing "their nauseating rhapsodies on this blood-stained crook." The Prime Minister replied amidst laughter: "I certainly do not feel I ought to detract in any way from the vehemence of Mr. Adams' statement". Two men may be crooks, but may differ from each other. That is what the matter is, as regards Hitler and Hess. The matter, as the Prime Minister pointed out, is entertaining and important.

THE FAR EAST

Conflicting reports are appearing regarding the offensive on four different fronts begun by Japan some time ago, with the help of troops released from Manchuria as a result of the Pact with Russia. Chinese reports say that the Japanese offensive launched on the east and west banks of the Han river has been repulsed with 10,000 casualties and that the attack in Tahung mountains has been defeated. Though Japanese offensive is stated to have failed on three fronts, the drive in Southern Shensi Province appears to have been attended with some success. According to Chinese sources the Japanese drive in Northern Hupeh has been repulsed and the Japanese after reaching the Yellow River crossings have abandoned them again. Another account stated that a big Japanese victory has occurred on the Shensi-Honan border, 10,000 Chinese being taken prisoner, including a General. The Chinese admit that the battle in Southern Shensi has been particularly fierce and both sides have had heavy casualties. But the situation, according to Chinese accounts, is developing in Chinese favour. Meanwhile a barter agreement has been entered into between China and Russia and munitions continue to flow into China from America and Russia.

There are some indications that Japan is getting nervous about the relations between Germany and Russia. If Russia, according to a report, is to be granted freedom to do what it liked in the Far East, then, Japan will not feel very enthusiastic about her position among the Axis Powers. That is why some Japanese papers caution the Japanese Government against blindly seeking to second Hitler's efforts. If really Japan is anxious on this question, then it is somewhat surprising that the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact should be described as 'a monumental event' by the Soviet Ambassador in Tokyo. It is well to read these varied reports with caution.

So far as the outside world is concerned, Japan is still animated by a desire to drive south. Japanese newspapers warned the other day the Dutch East Indies that the Netherlands Government cannot play for time but should face realities and enter into commercial and other engagements with Japan. That Great Britain, the Dominions, and America are alert regarding the Japanese moves, is absolutely certain. Early this week, the Commonwealth Minister for External Affairs, speaking at Sydney, stated that Australia would not be overawed by any menace in the Pacific. He further pointed out: "We want peace, but if any nation thinks it can profit by our preoccupation elsewhere, I can say Australia is ready and able to defend herself. I cannot accept with equanimity Mr. Matsuoka's statement that he intends to work in closest union with Germany". It is heartening to find also that the Netherlands Ministers have publicly stated they would certainly fight and defend themselves.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 4)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 13th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attack (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 7	1 day fighter.	6 day fighters. 2 day bombers. 21 night bombers.
May 8	2 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	14 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 12 night bombers.
May 9	Nil.	1 day fighter. 3 night bombers.
May 10	Nil.	1 night fighter. 33 night bombers.
May 11	Nil.	6 day raiders. 12 night bombers.
May 12	Nil.	1 night bomber.
May 13	Nil.	1 day raider. 1 night bomber.

THE BATTLE OF SUEZ

CANAL'S VALUE TO THE COMMONWEALTH

Connecting the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, the Suez Canal, opened to traffic in 1869, is one of the chief links uniting the members of the British Commonwealth. We owe it to the genius of a French engineer, Ferdinand de Lesseps; but to the eminent Victorian statesman Disraeli goes the credit for British control of this water-way in everything but name.

Both de Lesseps and Disraeli were, however, but following in the footsteps of ancient administrators. Says that great authority on Egyptian affairs, Mr. Hugh Schonfield: "One of the oldest enterprises considered by civilized man was the linking up of the Mediterranean with the Red Sea by a water-way. Its advantages were recognized in the twentieth century B.C.; though of course to a less extent than they are in the twentieth century A.D. If an Egyptian merchant of the reign of Pharaoh Sesostris could converse with his modern brother of the reign of King Farouk, it could be found that they were in substantial agreement on the commercial importance of such a speedy, safe and economical means of transport." The Pharaohs Sesostris and Necho had taken a hand in constructing the first navigable canal linking the Nile with the Red Sea; and the Persian rulers Darius and Xerxes restored and enlarged it. It was under the Ptolemies that the canal of the Pharaohs was reconditioned. Philadelphius had proposed to cut a canal direct through the Isthmus of Suez, that narrow neck of land joining Africa to Asia, thus joining sea to sea. But owing to a belief persisting down to the nineteenth century that the Red Sea was considerably higher than the Mediterranean, he gave up the project for fear of flooding the country! The old canal of the Pharaohs was renovated and used again during the days of the Roman Empire and Arab rule in Egypt; but with the discovery of the northern overland route to India and China and the subsequent discovery of the Cape route to India by that intrepid sailor Vasco de Gama, the project for a sea to sea canal languished.

In France, however, there was considerable agitation for its revival; and it was one of the aims of Napoleon's expedition to Egypt in 1798. In the first half of the nineteenth century, the idea of a canal was fostered by the Societe d'Etudes du Canal de Suez, an international financial group organized in Paris. Mehemet Ali, the Turkish Viceroy of Egypt, opposed it altogether. So also did England; and the British Government under Palmerston were more keen on the construction of a railway from Alexandria to Suez. In the fear that such a railway would lead to British control of Egypt, France supported the canal project. While Mehemet Ali rejected both the rival schemes, his successor, Abbas Pasha, granted in July 1851 to the British a concession for a railway line from Alexandria to Cairo. This was completed in 1854 and extended to Suez in 1858.

DE LESSEPS WINS THROUGH

But the demand for a shorter route to the east became insistent with the growing volume of trade, and among the advocates of the canal project was de Lesseps, who visited Egypt and obtained on November 30, 1854, from Said Pasha, who had become Viceroy, a concession for a canal. A second concession was granted in January, 1856. But Said Pasha specified that de Lesseps must secure the sanction of the Sultan of Turkey. English statesmen, suspecting the canal to be a French move for supremacy, naturally exerted their influence in the Turkish Court to render the concession null and void. Ferdinand de Lesseps, a statue of whom now stands at Port Said, was a man of courage and will-power as well as genius. He would not give up; he even went to England to rouse public opinion to the value of such a canal. In 1858, he organized a company, marketed 400,000 shares, over half of which were sold in France, and on April 25, 1859 started work on the canal near Port Said without waiting for the Sultan's sanction. After many vicissitudes and much international fricton, the Sultan granted recognition to the concession on March 19, 1866. The Canal was rapidly completed and formally inaugurated on November 17, 1869. The Canal proceeded from the Mediterranean through a narrow region to Lake Menzaleh; traversed this shallow lake; continued its course through a stretch of land to Lake Ballah, five miles in length; again cut through flat country to Lake Timsah, four miles in length; and then crossed a plateau to the Bitter Lakes, which cover a distance of twenty miles. From these lakes there is a short stretch to Suez, the terminal on the Red Sea. Lakes accounted for more than one-third of the total distance. The total cost of construction was 432,807,882 francs.

The great maritime and commercial nation that she has always been, England at once became aware of the importance of the canal to her trade with India. When in 1875, Ismail Pasha, the Khedive of Egypt, finding himself in urgent need of funds, started negotiations with certain French banks for the sale or mortgage of his Canal shares, Disraeli seized the opportunity. On November 25 of that year he purchased for the British Government 176,602 shares for the sum of £3,976,580, which he borrowed from his friend Baron Rothschild. French interests still predominated in the executive of the company but when an internal uprising in Egypt threatened the security of the Canal, England intervened decisively; and while France kept aloof, quelled the rising with a big victory at Tel el Kebr. Egypt became to all intents and purposes a protectorate of Britain and French influence began to recede.

CONSTANTINOPLE CONVENTION

The events of 1882 had revealed the need and urgency of an international agreement to safeguard such a vital channel of commerce but England's efforts to secure one were unsuccessful for a long time, mainly owing to differences in the French and British view points. An international conference at Paris proved indecisive. But the representatives of the Great Powers were after all able to sign a convention at Constantinople on October 29, 1888. Article 1 of the convention read: "The Suez Maritime Canal shall always be free and open, in time of war as in time of peace to every vessel of commerce or of war, without distinction of flag. Consequently, the High Contracting Parties agree not in any way to interfere with the free use of the Canal, in time of war as in time of peace. The Canal never shall be subjected to the exercise of the right of blockade".

The total length of the Canal is 101 miles, with a minimum width of 60 metres (196 feet 10 inches); the maximum draught of water allowed for vessels using it is 10·36 metres (34 feet). The average time for the transit through the Canal is 11 hours 31 minutes. In shortening the voyage from Europe to India by about 5,000 miles, the Suez Canal opened a new era in world commerce. Indeed, with steam taking the place of sail, the Canal—widened and deepened—came to be employed more and more regularly. In 1938 (the latest year for which authentic figures are now available in India), 6,171 vessels passed through the Canal with a total tonnage of 34,418,187. Of these Britain accounted for over 3,000 ships and for 50·43 per cent of the tonnage. The total tonnage of merchandise carried in 1938 was 28,779,000.

The transit receipts collected from ships using the Canal rose from 5,718,756 francs in 1870 to 1,625,612,100 francs in 1938. It may also be noted that the opening of the Panama Canal did not seriously affect the amount of traffic passing through the Suez Canal. After all, from the point of view of distance, the only areas for whose trade competition between the two routes was possible were North-Eastern Asia, Eastern Australia, New Zealand and the West Coasts of North and South America.

LESSON OF THE GREAT WAR

No wonder that Britain has cherished the Canal and is determined to keep it open at all costs. Any threat to its safety, such as French designs in the Nile Basin, the Russian attempts to open the Straits (Dardanelles), and the German project during the last war of a railway from Berlin to Baghdad, have evoked safety measures in Britain. But experience, both during the Great War and in the present conflict has shown that the Canal, while very convenient, is not vital to the Commonwealth. The submarine campaign in the Mediterranean in 1914–18 and the threat from the air have forced the diversion of much of the Eastern traffic to the Cape route.

Egyptian independence has also raised new problems. In the declaration of February 28, 1922, abolishing the Protectorate set up in December, 1914, on the outbreak of the Great War—when Turkey joined Germany and Egypt remained with the Allies—England reserved to herself the right to protect the Canal. The name of Great Britain was substituted for that of the Ottoman Empire as guarantor of the terms of the Constantinople Convention. She naturally refused to entrust the security of the Canal zone to the infant State. Under Article 8 of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936, which virtually made Egypt an ally of Britain the defence of the Canal zone is maintained by British troops until such time as the High Contracting Parties agree that the Egyptian Army is in a position to secure, by its own resources, the liberty and entire security of navigation of the Canal.

AXIS DESIGNS

Italy has long cast covetous eyes on the fees that the controlling company—the compagnie Universelle du Canal Maritime de Suez—levies on all ships passing the Canal. The charter of the Company will expire on November 17, 1968, when the Canal will automatically become the property of the Egyptian State. Meanwhile, there are immediate international issues to be faced. There is Germany, whose present campaign in the Near and Middle East has as one of its objectives a flank attack on Suez; she hopes to increase the efficiency of her counter-blockade with assaults on Gibraltar, the Suez and (if she can manage it with the aid of her friends) Singapore. There is also Italy, who has seen her army and navy battered in the African and Mediterranean theatres of war but who has nevertheless not given up her dreams of an African Empire with control of the Suez waterway. Great Britain is fully awake to the significance of the battles for Egypt and the Near East which merge into the all-important Battle of Suez. Even more important than its commercial are its strategic aspects.

Germany hopes by a pincers-movement in Asia and Africa to close the Suez entrance to the Mediterranean and bottle up the Fleet at Alexandria. It is necessary at all costs to keep open this line of communication from Britain to India, Australia and the Far East. And General Wavell, who has now definitely halted the German advance in Libya and has taken prompt measures to counter the German threat to Iraq, may well be relied on to do so.

MARTINIQUE

FRENCH OUTPOST IN AMERICA

Martinique is in the news now. The German-controlled Paris Radio has stated that the seizure of Martinique by the United States would be strenuously opposed and that the citadel Port de France, containing gold of the Bank of France, would be blown up sooner than let it fall into the United States' hands. Martinique is one of the islands in the West Indies about which the whole of America is very anxious lest it should fall into German hands and a change of sovereignty would, of course, be prevented. The following account of Martinique where French warships and American warplanes lie immobilized is taken from *The War Illustrated*:

If France had not collapsed we should probably not be hearing very much about Martinique, for as one of the many islands in the West Indies it lies well away from the main scene of the war. But when the Nazis overran France and there was some question of the all-too-subservient men of Vichy granting them rights over the French Navy and colonies, Martinique came into prominence with a rush.

At once the Americans made it plain that there could be no question of the Nazis securing a territorial foothold on the American continent. The situation was made still more difficult when it became known that Admiral Robert, in command of the French warships at Martinique, had declared that he felt it his bounden duty to obey the orders received from Vichy and make for French ports, which he could not do without coming into conflict with the British warships which maintained a strict blockade of the island in anticipation of just such a dash. For obviously the British could not allow Admiral Robert's ships which included the aircraft carrier "Bearn", the cruiser "Emile Bertin", and the training cruiser "Jeanne d' Arc"—to go to France, where they would at once come under the control of the Nazis; still less could they run any risk of the 110 American dive-bombers and pursuit planes taken on board the "Bearn" before France collapsed, to be brought within reach of the Nazis.

As the United States of America wanted neither to see the Nazis in Martinique nor a repetition in American waters of the Oran episode, President Roosevelt sent Admiral Greenslade to Martinique last August, and after a few days it was understood that a reasonable compromise had been effected. The ships were to be virtually decommissioned and laid up in the harbours of the island, while their crews should be demobilized. The problem of the ownership of the American planes remained unsettled; the British claimed that they should be handed over to them since they had been ordered when France was fighting as Britain's ally and Britain had now assumed the liability for all orders delivered by the Anglo-French Purchasing Commission. An alternative suggestion was that they should be sent to French Indo-China.

But the planes are still there, although they have been unloaded on to the quayside; and there, too, are the ships and the men. So far from having been completely immobilized, there is at least a suspicion that the French Naval forces in Martinique are being used to reinforce the garrison. There have been reports that the French colonial troops were practising repelling landing parties, that ammunition was being transported from the ships to the land batteries and that pilots and crews for the warplanes were ready in the Colombian port of Barranquilla, waiting for an opportunity of slipping through the patrol maintained by the British squadron and the American Navy.

And what sort of a place is this Martinique? It is an island of tropical beauty and riches, lying between the British islands of Dominica and St. Lucia in the chain of the Lesser Antilles. Its area is about 380 square miles and it is about 40 miles long by 20 miles wide. It was first colonized by the French in 1635 and as the aborigines, the cannibal Caribs, were gradually disposed and finally exterminated, the French settlers, the "habitants," grew rich in producing cotton and tobacco, sugar and coffee. The labour for the plantations was supplied by thousands of black slaves imported from Africa; slavery, indeed, was not abolished until 1860. Several times the island has been British, but in 1814 it was finally returned to France. Since then the only events which have broken the monotony of everyday life have been hurricanes and earthquakes and in particular that vast eruption of Mt. Pelee in 1902 when 40,000 people were wiped out in a few hours.

Of Martinique's 250,000 people only a few thousand are whites—officials and their families for the most part. The rest are of every colour from dull copper to pure black, for in their veins is mingled the blood of Caribs and Negroes and Chinese (imported to add to the island's labour supply) with of course, a dash of pure French. For the most part they are an indolent crowd living on a low level of culture in a land where life on so low a level is easy and pleasant. They work on the plantations, producing sugar and cocoa, pineapples, bananas and coffee, or on their small holdings. Rum is one of the chief productions of the colony, and the islanders see that not all of it is exported. They display a pronounced aversion from hard work, and so the island is still largely undeveloped. Like so many of the French overseas possessions, in a word, Martinique has been for years in a neglected backwater.

IRAQ DIARY

FROM SEPTEMBER 1939 TO 20, MAY 1941

1939, SEP. 6.—Goverment severs relations with Germany—German Minister in Baghdad handed passport—All Germans departed.

1939, SEP. 8.—Prince Regent (Emir Abdul Ilah—or Elah) telegraphs King of England expressing "our unshakable attachment, Government and people alike, to the letter and the spirit of the Treaty of Alliance uniting us, and to assure you of our firm determination to do everything in our power in the same spirit to co-operate with our great ally until right and justice, of the lofty principles to defend which you have entered the war, shall prevail."

In his reply King George says: "If ever the horrors of war descend upon Iraq, my Government would carry out their obligations in the same spirit of loyalty and resolution."

1939, SEP. 26.—Iraqi Prime Minister, broadcasting on the war, says Iraq was bound only by the British alliance, the mutual assistance treaties with Saudi-Arabia and the Yemen, and the Saadabad non-aggression pact with Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey. Iraq's undertaking to fulfil her obligations to Britain was a tribute to the correctness of British policy in Iraq.

1939, NOV. 2.—In the speech from the throne, the Regent said the Government entirely approved of the Treaty (signed October 19) between Turkey, France and Great Britain, which enabled the Near East to regard the future with ease and confidence.

1939, DEC. 21.—Announced that contract has been signed for the sale to Great Britain of 200,000 tons of barley at 90s a ton f.o.b. Basra.

1940, JAN. 18.—Seyyid Rustam Haidar, Minister of Finance, shot and fatally wounded in his office by a dismissed police inspector.

1940, JAN. 25.—Reports current from Iraqi sources that Iran Government and Afghan Government had jointly suggested to the signatories that the Saadabad Pact should be converted into a military alliance, so as to form a united front of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan *against Russia.*

1940, FEB. 21.—Cabinet resigns. Premier, in letter to Regent, refers to attempts made by adventurers to secure positions of power in the country either by *coups d'etat* or other unlawful methods. He adds: "I myslef, as one of those who served the Arab cause from the beginning, cannot bear to see the passing, one after another, of men who have served this country faithfully and well, merely in order that other men may attain power."

1940, FEB. 22.—General Nuri Pasha forms a cabinet.

Official statement announces that three senior Army Officers have been removed from the Active List for carrying out "certain acts inconsistent with their duty as Army officers." These officers include the Chief of the General Staff and Officer Commanding, First Division.

1940, MAR. 30.—Cabinet resigns.

1940, MAR. 31.—Sayid Rashid Ali Gailani forms cabinet.

1940, JUNE 21.—Announces that Foreign Minister, General Nuri es Said, and the Minister of Justice are going to Ankara on official business.

1940, JULY 4.—Foreign Minister and Minister of Justice return to Baghdad and communique on their conversations with Turkish President and Prime Minister says: "It was a matter of great satisfaction to both parties, that, after reviewing the general situation, they were able to confirm their identity of views and to find once again that a sincere friendship had been firmly established. . . The visit of the Iraqi delegation to Turkey has been of the greatest benefit to two friendly neighbouring States . . ."

1940, JULY 5.—Foreign Minister, in statement on his visits to Ankara and Damascus, says Turkey, like Iraq, thinks Syria should be for the Syrians.

1940, JULY 17.—First train leaves Baghdad for Mosul, on completion of final section of the line (198 miles long) from Telkuchuk (near Nisibin on the Syrian frontier) to Paiji, south of Mosul.

1940, NOV. 6.—Parliament opens, and in speech from the throne Regent expresses gratification at very cordial relations with Saudi Arabia, the Yemen, Turkey and Iran, "while friendly relations with our ally, Great Britain, and with other friendly States continue to develop on a basis of mutual co-operation."

1940, DEC. 19.—(Saudi Arabia—Officially announces that plot has been discovered against the King and his regime. Two persons have been sentenced to death and others to imprisonment. Leader of plot was Sherif Abdul Hamid Ibn Oan, who

had been in Berlin in 1939. It is understood that he would have been executed had he not been a descendant of the prophet Mohamed through the Husseini family.)

1941, JAN. 7.—Prime Minister, speaking in the Senate, denies that Great Britain has approached Iraq and asked her to do more than is provided in the Treaty of Alliance.

1941, JAN. 28.—Rashid Ali's cabinet resigns *en bloc*.

Former Defence Minister in Rashid Ali's government, General Sayid Taha el Hasmi Pasha, forms new cabinet.

1941, FEB. 8.—General Pasha tells Iraqi Parliament: "Our ally, Britain, has not submitted any demands which would involve us in war. The Government intends to strengthen its friendship with its British ally. That friendship is based on mutual interest."

1941, FEB. 13.—Colonel Donovan, Roosevelt's special envoy, arrives in Baghdad on short visit.

1941, MAR. 20.—Foreign Minister, Sayid Tawfiq as Suwaidi, reports to Finance Committee of Iraqi Government on conversations he had with Mr. Anthony Eden in Cairo the previous week.

1941, APR. 4.—News reaches London of *coup d'etat* by Rashid Ali. Seizure of Government offices in Baghdad occurs at time when Parliament stands prorogued. Regent is obliged to leave the capital when Rashid Ali's troops surround his residence.

1941, APR. 7.—Regent broadcasts appeal to Iraqi people to reject Rashid Ali. Rashid Ali declares that his government will adhere to international obligations, particularly Anglo-Iraq Treaty. New cabinet comprises six high officers and two civilians.

Principal members are—

General Armine Zeki, Chief of the General Staff.

General Fahmi Said, Commander of Motorised Units.

General Mahsud Simana, Commander of Air Force.

Ismail Namek Pasha, Director of National Defence.

Announcement of constitution of new cabinet says:

"As the Regent has failed in all his duties and the constitution has been suspended, the Army under the aegis of His Majesty King Feisal has taken power into its hands". (King Feisal was born May 2, 1935.)

1941, APR. 9.—Mr. Attlee, in House of Commons, says on every occasion the Iraqi Army has interfered in the country's life unfortunate results have been produced. The British Government regards the present situation as entirely unconstitutional.

Nuri Pasha el Said, prominent Irani elder statesman, declares in a statement that coup has been carried out by group of irresponsible persons serving their personal interests. The majority of the Iraqi people have no grievances against the British and deplore this unconstitutional action which is serving *German* purposes.

1941, APR. 19.—Officially announced that British and Indian troops landed in Iraq on April 17 and 18. Commander of Imperial forces welcomed by a high officer of the Iraqi Government. People of Basra accord soldiers a warm welcome.

1941, APR. 23.—Communiqué issued by Iraqi Government denies Axis radio reports that Iraqi people are dissatisfied with the arrival of British forces. It points out that facilities for the passage of troops had been prepared ten months before and all measures had been carried out with due regularity.

1941, MAY 1.—Reported from London that further contingents of British troops have arrived at Basra without incident.

Differences of opinion between British and Iraqi Governments on interpretation of Anglo-Iraqi Treaty remain unresolved.

Certain movements have taken place on the part of the Iraqi Army which might be regarded as a threat to the security of the British air base at Habbaniyah. His Majesty's Government are pressing Iraqi Government to remove these troops so as to avoid risk of incidents.

1941, MAY 2.—Iraqi artillery opens fire on Habbaniyah air base at dawn. British troops take necessary counter action.

B.B.C. Arabic broadcast exhorts the Iraqi people to "overthrow the mercenary intriguers and let law and order reign once more".

1941, MAY 3.—Shelling of Habbaniyah cantonment continues. Royal Air Force bombs gun emplacements and troops concentrations at Rashid camp, near Baghdad, according to Baghdad communiqué.

Ankara radio quotes reports that Mosul oilfields are being flooded by Iraqi forces who are now in control of the oil wells and their installations.

Swiss radio says a new Iraqi Army "which is to march forthwith against the revolutionary elements in Iraq" is being formed in Transjordania by the Regent of Iraq, who fled the country following Rashid Ali's coup.

Haifa message reports arrival of British women and children evacuated by air from Iraq.

British Ambassador in Baghdad, Sir Kinham Cornwallis, reports the situation in the capital as tense, but no incident has yet been reported in Baghdad.

1941, MAY 4.—Royal Air Force Middle East Communiqué issued in Cairo says British bombers heavily attacked petrol dumps and magazines at Moreat and Rafhid, Iraqi aerodrome outside Baghdad, obtaining many direct hits and demolishing military buildings. Bombs were seen to over turn and damage aircraft on the ground. During this operation British bombers shot down Iraqi aircraft and severely damaged others. Shelling of Habbaniyah aerodrome by Iraqi artillery continues, causing some casualties to non-combatants. In reply British aircraft bombed and machine-gunned hostile mechanized troops and transport.

War Office communiqué says: "On May 2 hostilities had broken out at Habbaniyah. Our forces occupied the dock area, air port and power station at Basra. Withdrawal of Iraqi troops from these areas within a certain time was demanded and a senior Iraqi officer had agreed. Despite extension of the time limit given, they took no action and our forces then drove them out by bombing and artillery fire". Both landing grounds at Habbaniyah are still in use.

In proclamation issued in Palestine Regent of Iraq says: ". . . My duty is plain. I am returning to restore the tarnished honour of my native land and lead it back to peaceful prosperity under a lawfully constituted government. I call upon all true sons of Iraq to drive out this band of traitors and restore to our beloved country true liberty and independence. . ."

1941, MAY 5.—G.H.Q. Cairo communiqué says: "Iraqi artillery posted in the vicinity of Habbaniyah was rendered comparatively inactive yesterday by our aircraft. The garrison of Habbaniyah is intact and has suffered very few casualties from the unprovoked Iraqi attack. The greater part of the Iraqi air force has already been destroyed by our air action either while attempting to attack British camps or as a result of attack by our air forces on Iraqi air bases. After attacking an armed construction party which was in the vicinity Iraqi forces on May 2 occupied Rutbah. In Basra our troops remain in occupation without interference."

Reported from London that on Sunday (May 4) 24,000 leaflets in Arabic language were dropped by Royal Air Force planes over Baghdad. The planes were on the return journey after heavily attacking Moascar al Rashid, a large Iraqi military station east of Baghdad. Many tons of bombs were dropped on hangars, workshops and offices and aircraft dispersed on the ground, says British Air Ministry. At least one enemy aircraft was destroyed and many damaged by splinters and bullets. Two enemy fighters believed shot down, and one Royal Air Force plane failed to return. Both Moascar al Rashid and Baghdad airport machine-gunned by Royal Air Force later in the day-one plane set on fire and at least three hit at each aerodrome.

Turkish press comment: *Yeni Sabah* says: "The Iraqis should throw out their present leaders." *Vatan* says: "The men who to-day boast of being the leaders of Iraq are responsible for the present events. They have betrayed the cause of Iraq."

Iraq Petroleum Company in London pointed out that as half the Iraqi Army were habitually quartered in barracks adjoining the company's offices it seems more than probable that press reports that work in the oil fields has been stopped and the flow of oil interrupted are correct.

Reported from Cairo that special Royal Air Force communiqué issued Sunday night (May 4) says at least 22 Iraqi aircraft have been put out of action. Several aircraft have been bombed and an armoured train turned back. One aircraft was destroyed in a later raid on Moascaral Rashid and two fighters which attempted to intercept our bombers were shot down. This brings total destroyed to 25 machines. At outbreak of war Iraqi Air Force numbered 50, of which 36 were first line.

London News Chronicle and *Daily Mail* demand that, if necessary Iraqi oil wells must be utterly destroyed rather than allow them to fall into German hands. *Daily Herald* takes similar line and says question is not whether suspension of Mosul supply would hamper British Fleet and forces in Mediterranean but whether control of supply is to pass from Britain.

1941, MAY 5.—The Egyptian Government, in an appeal to the Iraq authorities, urged a speedy settlement of the dispute with Britain. It was announced that the British Government had rejected the Turkish Government's offer to mediate, pointing out that Iraqi troops must be withdrawn from Habbaniyah before any negotiations could be undertaken.

1941, MAY 6.—Turkey took measures to fortify and secure the Turko-Iranian frontier.

1941, MAY 7.—British Forces in Iraq captured Fort Rutbah. It was revealed that the Iraqi rebel troops were running short of ammunition.

1941, MAY 8.—The Royal Air Force bombed Baghdad airport. Rashid Ali hurriedly left Baghdad after a public demonstration against his movement.

1941, MAY 9.—British troops occupied the plateau overlooking the Habbaniyah aerodrome in Iraq and the Royal Air Force raided the rebels' principal air-base, starting a huge conflagration. The British occupied Rutbath aerodrome.

Sayid Shaukat, Minister of Defence in Rashid Ali's Cabinet, who had travelled to Ankara, had a talk with Turkish Ministers.

1941, MAY 10.—The Iraqi rebels admitted withdrawal " to better positions owing to continuous and strong British air attacks ".

It was announced that Lieut.-Genl. Maitland Wilson had assumed command of the British forces in Palestine and Transjordon.

1941, MAY 11.—King Ibn Saud of Arabia was stated to have informed the Iraqi usurper, Rashid Ali, that he was unable to offer any kind of assistance to the anti-British movement in Iraq, and also to have refused protection to Rashid.

The Royal Air Force bombed rebel barracks at Mosul and other places.

1941, MAY 12.—The Tass Agency announced the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet and Iraq but the Moscow Wireless rebuked Rashid Ali and his followers for being " instruments of foreign powers ".

1941, MAY 13.—Ankara reports stated that Rashid Ali's terms for Turkish mediation between his followers and Britain were " contrary to the terms of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty " and not likely to be acceptable to Britain.

1941, MAY 14.—Mr. Eden stated in the Commons that the Imperial Forces at Basara were being rapidly reinforced.

1941, MAY 15.—Mr. Eden announced in the Commons that the French authorities were allowing the Germans to use Syrian aerodromes as " stepping-stones " for flights to Iraq and that Britain would take action against German aircraft in Syrian aerodromes.

A certain number of German planes arrived in Iraq, bringing Axis propagandists, agitators, etc., in response to an urgent appeal from Rashid Ali.

1941, MAY 16.—The Royal Air Force attacked German aircraft on three Syrian aerodromes—Palmyra, Damascus and Rayak. Reinforcements of British and Imperial Troops arrived both in Iraq and Palestine.

1941, MAY 17.—King Ibn Saud reiterated his view that the only course open to Arab nations was to support Britain.

1941, MAY 19.—The arrival of British reinforcements in air-transports had a satisfactory effect on the Iraq situation. While General Dentz, the Vichy Governor of Syria, said he would " meet force with force ", General De Gaulle, in a broadcast from Brazzaville, urged Frenchmen to rise in revolt against the Vichy Government's betrayal of their former Ally, Britain.

1941, MAY 20.—British forces captured the town of Fallujah on the Euphrates, thus preventing the Royal Air Force at Habbaniyah from being cut off from British land-borne reinforcements in Iraq.

BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ

RELEVANT TREATY PROVISIONS

Here are the relevant extracts from the text of the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty of Alliance of June 30, 1930, ratifications of which were exchanged at Baghdad on January 26, 1931.

Article Four: " Should either of the High Contracting Parties become engaged in war, the other High Contracting Party will immediately come to his aid in the capacity of an ally. In the event of the imminent menace of war the High Contracting Parties will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defence. The aid of His Majesty the King of Iraq in the event of war, or the imminent menace of war, will consist of furnishing to His Britannic Majesty in Iraq territory all the facilities and assistance

(*Continued on Page* 17)

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Berlin gives the game away

Berlin on May 6 accused the B.B.C. of " insolence " in asserting that the Royal Air Force does more damage to Germany than the *Luftwaffe* does to Britain. This is a highly significant remark, not because it is untrue—there is nothing new or significant in Goebbels misquoting other people to suit his own ends—but because it betrays the Nazis' growing uneasiness over the increasing scale of British air attacks.

Needless to say, neither the B. B. C. nor any other authoritative British source has ever claimed that the Royal Air Force has so far done " more damage " to Germany than Britain herself has endured; on the contrary, these sources have always stressed the fact that *the Luftwaffe's* numerical superiority and the bases it possesses in occupied territory give it an enormous advantage over the Royal Air Force. At the same time, this latest assertion by Berlin is a tacit admission that the more scientific methods employed throughout the war by the British airmen, as contrasted with the indiscriminate attacks launched by the Nazis, may have resulted in greater damage to Germany's war-machine than the Germans have inflicted on Britain's.

Bigger and better bombs.

What seems certain, though it has never been definitely claimed, is that the Royal Air Force's newest bombs are very much deadlier than anything the enemy has so far been able to use. The German radio's fury at the terrific damage caused in Berlin last month, Admiral Darlan's bonus-bribes to married dockyard workers at much-bombed Brest, the Nazis' inability to conceal recent devastation at places like Hamburg, Kiel, Bremen and Emden, and (most significant of all) the Fuehrer's own declaration last week that the entire German nation must throw itself into " this tremendous armament process, " are all of them proofs that this year's British blows at Hitler's war-machine are even heavier than those delivered in 1940.

Meanwhile, it is to be hoped that Berlin will note that it was United States press and radio commentators, and not their British colleagues, who on May 10 expressed the

IRAQ DIARY—(*Continued from Page* 16)

in his power including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and means of communication."

Article Five: " It is understood between the High Contracting Parties that responsibility for the maintenance of internal order in Iraq and the defence of Iraq from external aggression rests with the King of Iraq. Nevertheless the King of Iraq recognizes that the permament maintenance and protection in all circumstances of essential communications by His Britannic Majesty is in the common interests of the High Contracting Parties. For this purpose and in order to facilitate the discharge of obligations to His Britannic Majesty under Article Four, the King of Iraq undertakes to grant His Britannic Majesty for the duration of the alliance sites for air bases to be selected by His Britannic Majesty at or in the vicinity of Basra and for an air base to be selected by His Britannic Majesty to the west of the Euphrates. The King of Iraq further authorizes His Britannic Majesty to maintain forces upon Iraq territory in the above localities in accordance with the provisions of the Annexure to this Treaty on the understanding that the presence of these forces shall not constitute any manner of occupation and will in no way prejudice the sovereign rights of Iraq."

ANNEXURE

Article One states that after a period of five years from the entry into force of the Treaty " it shall be open to His Britannic Majesty to station his forces in the localities mentioned in Article Five of this Treaty and the King of Iraq will grant His Britannic Majesty for the duration of the alliance the leases of the necessary sites for the accommodation of the forces of His Britannic Majesty in those localities."

Article Three: The King of Iraq " agrees to afford when requested to do so by His Majesty's Government all possible facilities for the movement of the forces of His Britannic Majesty of all arms in transit across Iraq and for the transport and storage of all supplies and equipment that may be required by these forces during the passage across Iraq. These facilities shall cover the use of roads, railways, waterways, ports and aerodromes in Iraq and His Britannic Majesty's ships shall have general permission to visit Shattel Arab on the understanding that His Majesty the King of Iraq is given prior notification of visits to Iraq ports."

This Treaty was to remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of coming into force.

opinion that the " quantitative extent " of the Royal Air Force's raids on Germany the previous night may indicate that Britain's strength in bombers is nearing parity with Germany's.

Misleading silence—

Silence, no less than statements, can be misleading, as anyone knows who has studied German broadcasts consistently. Not since the beginning of the month, when the Royal Air Force's night-fighters began to take a steadily-mounting toll of Nazi bombers, has Goebbels' radio said a word concerning the loss of German planes over Britain.

Day after day, Berlin has pumped out hair-raising stories of the damage caused in Liverpool, Glasgow, Belfast and elsewhere in the British Isles. But of the loss over Britain of at least 15 German bombers on May 3, of 9 on May 4, of 7 on May 5, 9 on May 6, 21 on May 7, 12 on May 8, and 33 on May 10, there has been—not one word.

—and Misleading Statements

So far as day-light activities are concerned, however, Goebbels has not yet been able to rid himself of the habit of juggling with figures. For instance, on the evening of May 7, his radio claimed that six British Spitfires were shot down that day over the English Channel, while the Germans suffered no losses. This assertion did not quite succeed in reversing the exact truth—which was that six German fighters were destroyed for the loss of one British fighter, while two German bombers were also shot down during day-light that day.

Bigger and better lies

Two days later, Berlin improved on its own lie by announcing that " Britain's losses for Wednesday and Wednesday night amount to 15 aircraft ". Britain's air losses on Wednesday, May 7, were as follows :—

1 day fighter

1 day bomber

2 night bombers

—a total of four aircraft.

Germany's air losses in North-Western Europe on the same day and night were as follows :—

6 day fighters over the English Channel

2 day bombers over the British coast

21 night bombers over Britain

3 night bombers over Northern France

—a total of 32 aircraft, not one of which was admitted by Goebbels as lost.

A famous victory (Axis style)

On May 10 the German wireless was incautious enough to quote a long and circumstantial extract from an Italian war communique describing the Axis air attack on a British convoy in the Western Mediterranean on May 8. According to this latest mirror of truth, the convoy was escorted by " two battleships, an aircraft-carrier, as well as cruisers and destroyers the number of which could not be precisely ascertained."

First of all, according to Rome *via* Berlin, Italian torpedo-carrying aircraft escorted by fighters attacked the British ships, with the result that two cruisers, one destroyer and a large steamer received torpedo-hits. Later, Italian bombers scored direct hits on one battleship, the aircraft-carrier and two large steamers. Still later, the Italian torpedo-aircraft returned to the fray, when the other British battleship was hit and the aircraft-carrier received further damage. In combats between Italian and British fighters, goes on the communique, " 14 British aircraft of the Defiant and Hurricane types were shot down, five Italian planes failed to return to their bases and three returned damaged, while another three British aircraft were shot down by German fighters".

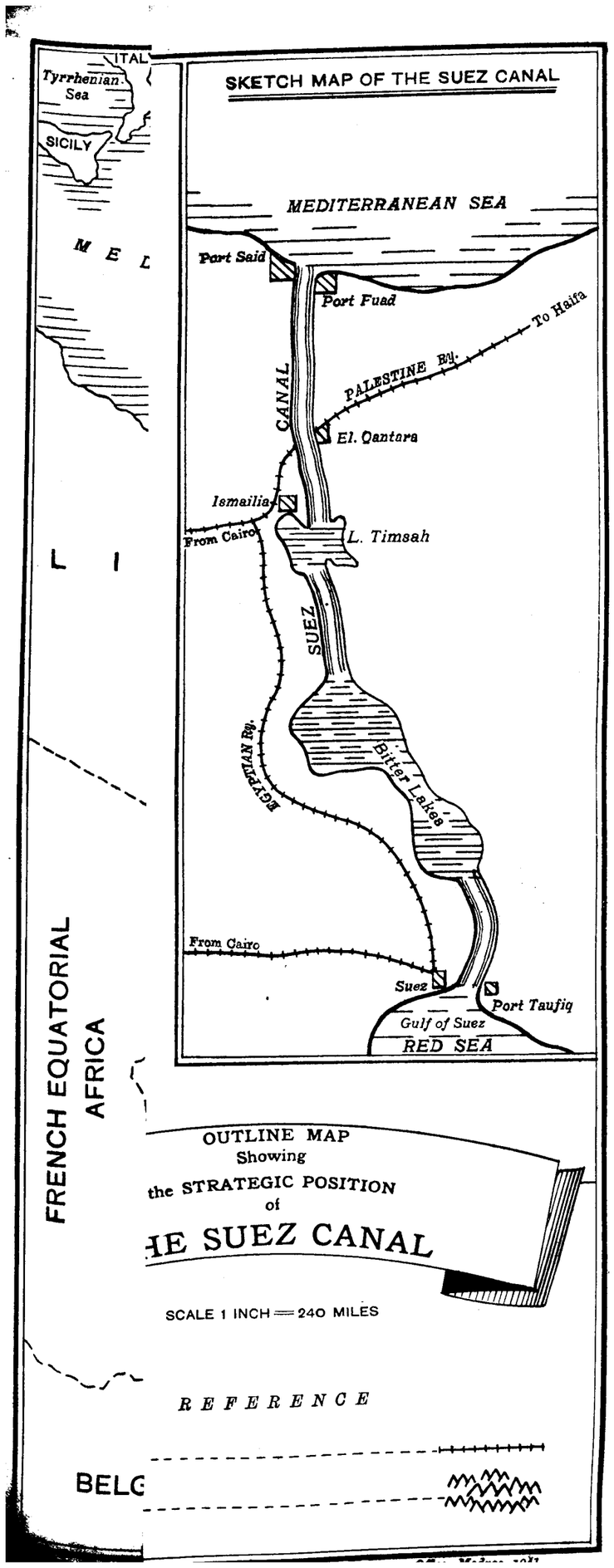
This finely imaginative piece of writing, it will be observed, gives the respective losses in this engagement as follows :—

BRITISH : Two battleships, one aircraft carrier, two cruisers, one destroyer and three merchantmen damaged by bomb and/or torpedo.

17 aircraft destroyed.

ITALIAN : Five aircraft destroyed, three damaged.

Berlin doubtless broadcast these grandiloquent claims by its junior partner in the hope that the British Admiralty communique (as has often happened in the past) would not be issued for some days. Unfortunately, however, that very same night the Admiralty announced that, as a result of repeated German and Italian aircraft attacks on British naval forces in the Western Mediterranean on May 8, seven of the attackers were destroyed without any damage being sustained by any of the British ships. Two British fighters were lost, but the pilot of one of them was saved. Something more than Axis broadcasts will be needed to stop British convoys getting through the Mediterranean.



NAZI POISON FOR INDIA. ....

Not content with fabricating stories of unrest among Indian soldiers serving overseas, which they claim as a direct result of the present trouble in Iraq, the Germans in all their broadcasts to India on May 9 reported " severe riots " among Indian troops in Lahore. Several hundred soldiers were alleged to have been arrested, others being killed or wounded.

This report is entirely without foundation. The five lakhs of people living in Lahore will be interested in this outrageous German claim, which is a typical example of German propaganda methods.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Muslim Disapproval of Rashid Ali

The Nazis, in their Hindustani and Persian Broadcasts of May 7 and their Arabic broadcast of May 6, appeared to be anxious to prove that Muslim opinion was universally opposed to the measures which the British had to take in Iraq in sheer self-defence, and also that the Indian ulemas had issued *fatwas* urging every able-bodied Muslim to fight against the British. In actual fact, however, Muslim opinion, abroad as well as in India, has unequivocally condemned Rashid Ali's treacherous action in Iraq as being opposed to the best interests of Islam.

The Turkish paper *Yeni Sabah*, for instance, says : " The Iraqis should throw out their present leaders ", while *Vatan* declares : " The men who to-day boast of being the leaders of Iraq are responsible for the present events. They have betrayed the cause of Iraq ".

The Egyptian Press is equally hostile to Rashid Ali and his *junta*. *Al Mokattam* points out that King Ibn Saud and other Arab leaders have already expressed their disapproval of Rashid Ali's action and that his sacrifice of Iraq's interests in exchange for Axis gold has caused consternation throughout the Arab world. Writing in the same strain, another Egyptian paper, *Al Ahram*, points out that the despicable policy followed by Rashid Ali and the four generals bought by the Axis has caused grief to the entire Iraq nation. The paper emphasises that Iraq had realized complete independence and that Britain had not interfered in her domestic affairs, even on such occasions as the illegal overthrow of the Government.

Indian Opinion

The stand taken by the Indian Muslims in this matter is equally unambiguous. Far from there being any *fatwas*, against the British (as the Nazis hopefully claim), a well-known religious leader of the Muslims has from the North-West Frontier Province sent a telegram to Rashid Ali condemning the latter's action. Typical also is the Lahore Muslim paper, *Ehasan*, which declares : " No Muslim country can have any sympathy with Germany, and we should like to warn the people of Iraq against the grave consequences of Germans setting foot on their soil ". Speaking in Madras on May 8, Sir Muhammad Usman, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, declared : " It is quite clear to my mind that this outbreak in Iraq is the culmination of a long period of intrigue by Nazi-paid Quislings—renegades in the pay of Nazi Germany ..... There is no doubt that the creation of an Iraq state was due to the sympathy and protection of Great Britain."

Reaction in Islamic countries has thus clearly put in the right perspective what the Nazis style as " Britain's most ruthless invasion of Iraq." Equally baseless is the Germans' claim that they are the champions of Islam. The Muslims know that the Germans are, if anything, more ruthless than their comrades in crime, the Italians, who decimated the Muslims of Libya, drove out the Senussi and seized the Muslim Kingdom of Albania. As the *New York Times* rightly puts it : " There is no stranger paradox in this war than the spectacle of the greatest infidel of modern times summoning Islam to a holy war with the blood of 14 nations on his hands."

Britain and Egypt

According to the Nazis' misleading statement, broadcast in Hindustani and Persian on May 4, Britain has made Egypt a theatre of war and even forced that country to meet British expenses. Actually, the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty provides that in the event of war the British Government will be obliged to defend Egypt as a whole and the Egyptian Government will also accord to His Majesty's Government all the facilities and assistance in its power.

The Nazi statement about the Egyptians being made to meet British expenses is baseless. Egypt, on the contrary, is prosperous.

When it is remembered that Great Britain needed for her own use only about one-third of Egypt's entire cotton crop which she purchased last year, and must have had the greatest difficulty in storing or selling the rest, no one can suggest that Great Britain is acting from any other motive than to help her ally.

Britain's shipping losses

The Nazis, in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of May 11, claimed to have sunk at least one million tons of shipping. Britain has of course published her losses for the month of April and these amount to 488,000 tons. Germany, on the other hand, makes fantastic claims but does not say a word about the Axis shipping losses which, during the six weeks ended May 10, amounted to 600,000 tons.

Incidentally, the latest monthly losses prove that Britain's decision to publish her losses monthly instead of weekly, was not due to her desire to conceal what the Nazis made out to be, her mounting shipping losses. The loss of 488,000 tons during the month of April is undoubtedly heavy, but this also includes 187,000 tons lost during the evacuation from Greece. When it is recalled, therefore, that Britain's shipping losses during the month of March, amounted to 392,000 tons, it may be said that though the Battle of the Atlantic is still to be won, it is clear that the situation is at least not deteriorating.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

23rd May.—For the second night in succession there was no enemy raid on Britain.

24th May.—The Royal Air Force bombed Cologne. " Invasion ports " were also attacked and a merchant vessel and a tanker hit.

25th May.—While on patrol over the North Sea the Royal Air Force attacked two enemy vessels ; one is believed to have been sunk and the other damaged.

26th May.—The Royal Air Force concentrated its attacks on convoys off the Dutch, German and Danish coasts and a number of enemy ships were severely damaged.

28th May.—The Royal Air Force raided Cologne, aerodromes in France and enemy naval bases. Direct hits were scored on an enemy vessel of 5,000 tons in a convoy off Brest.

Enemy activity over Britain was on a small scale and no bombs fell on London for the 17th night in succession.

29th May.—Only one was killed and a few injured when bombs were dropped on a densely populated district of Liverpool. British bombers were active over a north German coastal area and made a daylight sweep along the French coast.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

23rd May.—British Imperial troops captured Gelub, 25 miles north-west of Sciasciamanna, taking over 800 prisoners. Further west they established a bridge-head over the river at Billate and entered Warage, 30 miles south of Dalle, and Hula, 22 miles south-east of Dalle.

British submarines sank an enemy troopship (9,000 tons), a tanker (7,000 tons) and probably also a destroyer ; they also accounted for an enemy schooner used for carrying ammunition and hit a smaller one.

24th May.—The Lake District in Abyssinia was being gradually cleared of the enemy. Two German columns that tried to advance through the " Hell-Fire " Pass on the Egyptian frontier were knocked out, 11 tanks being captured by the British in 48 hours. The Royal Air Force made a heavy attack on Benghazi.

25th May.—Free French and South African bombers harried Italian troop concentrations in Abyssinia. The Italians admitted the loss of a destroyer and a torpedo boat in Eastern Mediterranean.

26th May.—As a result of British operations round Soddu in Abyssinia, four Italian divisions ceased to exist. General Liberatti and General Baccari were taken prisoner along with thousands of Italians. Abyssinian Patriot troops captured 800 prisoners in the Magdala area.

28th May.—British troops withdrew temporarily from " Hell-Fire " Pass in the face of pressure by numerically superior forces. Thousands of prisoners were taken by the British Imperial troops in the Lake District in Abyssinia. The Royal Air Force heavily raided Benghazi. British submarines sank four big enemy ships, including an 18,000-ton liner carrying 3,000 enemy troops to Libya.

29th May.—Abyssinian Patriot forces surrounded Baco in Libya. The British made a successful sortie from Tobruk. The Royal Air Force bombed the harbour of Sfax in Tunisia. Britain rejected the French Government's protest on this question and warned Vichy against allowing enemy ships to use Tunisian waters.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC.

24th May.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, said the war " is a fight for the control of the high seas and God help us if we do not bear our share in that fight for the control of the seas and against human slavery." *The New York Times* also wrote in the same strain.

25th May.—Admiral Raeder, Chief of the German Navy, took exception to the help rendered by American North Atlantic Patrols to the British Navy.

27th May.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State said that Reader's threat was true to the Nazi pattern—an integral part of the programme of world conquest by force.

Mr. Knudsen, Chairman of the United States War Production Board, said the United States must match the aggressor nations with tank for tank and plane for plane.

28th May.—President Roosevelt proclaimed a state of unlimited national emergency. In a broadcast to the nation he promised to take all possible measures to ensure delivery of supplies to Britain.

Mr. Roosevelt asked Congress for appropriations totalling 3,319 million dollars for new aircraft for the Army and the Navy. The House of Representatives passed legislation continuing Mr. Roosevelt's emergency monetary powers.

29th May.—Mr. Roosevelt conferred with Lord Halifax and the British economic expert, Mr. J. M. Keynes. At a Press Conference Mr. Roosevelt said that measures to enforce freedom of the seas were quite compatible with the Neutrality Act.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture said that America would supply butter to Britain.

The United States Secretary for War announced that America would train 8,000 Royal Air Force airmen from June.

The Senate approved legislation permitting Government to take over 80 foreign ships lying idle in United States harbours and sent it to White House for signature.

GREECE AND ITALY.

23rd May.—German airborne troops landed at Heraklion and Retimo were accounted for by the Allied troops in Crete; the enemy continued to exercise control over Malemi aerodrome.

24th May.—The Allies cleaned up Heraklion and Retimo; and a fierce battle for Malemi was in progress. British fighter-planes reappeared over Crete and accounted for many German troop-carrying planes.

25th May.—The King of Greece and his Government moved from Crete to Egypt in order not to hamper military operations. The Germans indulged in indiscriminate bombing of Canea, Heraklion and Retimo.

26th May.—The British took several hundred German prisoners and the Royal Air Force inflicted heavy losses on German aircraft. New Zealand troops hit back hard when the Germans moved forward in the Malemi area under cover of darkness. It was announced that Royal Marines were with the British forces in Greece.

27th May.—German troops, reinforced by airborne detachments, launched an attack in the area west of Canea in Crete. Four British destroyers and two cruisers were sunk but the enemy's attempts to prevent seaborne reinforcements reaching the British troops in Crete were frustrated. The Germans also lost two caiques and two E-boats.

28th May.—Reinforced by further airborne troops the Germans made some progress in the Canea sector. The Royal Air Force made heavy attacks on the aerodrome at Maleme.

29th May.—Fierce hand-to-hand fighting was reported from Crete. While the German claim to have captured Canea was not confirmed in London, it was announced that the British had taken up positions east of Suda Bay.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

23rd May.—The lawful Regent Abdul Ilah returned to Iraq with a view to forming a new Government. Meanwhile the British forces beat off an enemy counter-attack on Falluja and were themselves within 20 miles from Baghdad.

Col. Collet, the brilliant French Commander and creator of the Circassian Legion, left Syria for Palestine in order to join the Free French Forces.

24th May.—The Royal Air Force machine-gunned the aerodrome at Mosul.

The Ankara Radio announced that the frontier between Syria and Palestine had been closed.

25th May.—Rashid Ali, the Iraqi usurper, fled from Baghdad; other rebel Ministers made for Iran. The Regent Abdul Ilah, in a proclamation to the people of Iraq, asked for assistance in overthrowing the rebels. The British gained control of all the dykes of the Upper Euphrates. Some hundreds of French troops crossed from Syria to Palestine to join the Free French Forces.

26th May.—Successful British sorties against Military objectives in Ramadi and bombing and machine-gunning by the Royal Air Force of enemy aircraft in Mosul aerodrome and at Baguba were reported. The Royal Air Force also raided the Syrian air base of Palamyra.

27th May.—It was revealed that British motorized troops were operating east of the Euphrates in the rear of Baghdad. German help to the Iraqi rebels was now a mere trickle.

28th May.—Syria and Lebanon were declared enemy-occupied territories in an announcement by the British Ministry of Economic Warfare.

29th May.—It was officially announced that the Imperial troops were closing in on Baghdad.

SHIPPING.

24th May.—The battle cruiser *H.M.S. Hood* was blown up due to an unlucky hit in the magazine when British naval forces attacked German naval forces off Greenland. The German battleship *Bismarck* received damage.

26th May.—The pursuit of the *Bismarck* and other German warships in North Atlantic continued and British torpedo bombers scored a hit on the *Bismarck*.

27th May.—The *Bismarck*, Germany's latest battleship, was sunk after a grand chase by British naval forces, torpedoes from aircraft on the *Ark Royal* finding their mark. The British battleship *Prince of Wales* received slight damage in the operations and a destroyer sunk.

The United States Maritime Commission placed a contract for the building of 123 merchant ships at a cost of £60,000,000.

President Roosevelt signed the Auxiliary Naval Ships Bill, authorizing the construction of about 58 naval auxiliary vessels, totalling 550,000 tons at an estimated cost of 350 million dollars.

THE FAR EAST.

23rd May.—The Chinese recaptured Chuki in Eastern Chekiang while Chinese columns reached the outskirts of Foochow. Japanese airmen bombed Chengtu and a few other cities.

24th May.—The Chinese Communist leader announced that Communist troops were moving to the support of the Central Government's forces fighting the Japanese in North China. Chinese forces registered important successes in counter-attacks on a wide front; they took Waiyang and Poklo in Kwangtung Province.

26th May.—Major-General A. C. Percival, General Officer Commanding, Malaya, said that the claim of British Imperial garrisons in the Far East stretched from Malaya to Borneo.

29th May.—The Japanese War Minister conferred with Army Generals on "the grave situation in Japan."

VICHY.

23rd May.—Admiral Darlan, in a broadcast said: "The German Chancellor has not asked me to deliver the Fleet. He did not ask for colonial territory, nor did he ask me to declare war on Britain."

The United States received specific assurances (it was learned in Washington) that French co-operation with Germany would not extend into the Western Hemisphere.

24th May.—General de Gaulle's headquarters in London denounced the Vichy Government as Hitler's puppets and said "The French nation would welcome any such action as the British Government deem necessary to defend our common interests."

26th May.—Laval had a ten-hour interview with Hitler and then broadcast an appeal to America not to withhold help from the Vichy Government.

28th May.—The French Government reassured the United States Government in writing that the French Fleet and Colonies would not be surrendered to Germany or any other power.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

24th May.—Himmler, the German police chief, returned to Germany after establishing the familiar terror apparatus of the Nazi machine in Norway.

28th May.—An Anglo-Norwegian agreement concerning the employment of Norwegian armed forces in the United Kingdom was signed in London.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

23rd May.—Members of the Eire Government conferred with the Opposition parties on the situation arising from the probable introduction of conscription in Northern Ireland.

26th May.—Premier de Valera, Mr. Cosgrave (Opposition Leader) and Mr. Norton (Labour Leader), speaking in the Irish Dail, appealed to Britain not to introduce conscription in Northern Ireland.

27th May.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that the proposal of conscription for Northern Ireland had been dropped, Mr. de Valera, Mr. Cosgrave and Mr. Norton welcomed the British decision.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 20th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European Coastal Waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 14, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day torpedo-plane attacks on convoy off Dutch coast (5,000-ton merchantman hit).	Nil.	..
May 15, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France (1 merchantman on fire). R.A.F. day bomber raid on convoy off Frisian Islands (3 merchantmen, totalling 11,000 tons, on fire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin; industrial objectives at **Hanover**; docks at Hamburg and Cuxhaven; submarine bases at L'Orient and St. Nazaire; invasion bases at Ymuiden, Calais, Boulogne and Dieppe.	1 day bomber. 4 night bombers.	2 day fighters. 1 troop-carrier.
May 16, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Norwegian coast (2,500-ton merchantman sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives at **Cologne**; invasion bases at Boulogne and elsewhere along French and Dutch coasts. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	2 night bombers.	..
May 17, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; invasion bases at Rotterdam, **Boulogne**, **Calais**, Dunkirk; gun emplacements at Cap Gris-Nez.	Nil.	..
May 18, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel** (submarine and shipbuilding yards); docks at Emden. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on invasion base at **Cherbourg**.	Nil.	..
May 19, Monday.	(No reports.)	..	..
May 20, Tuesday.	(No reports.)	..	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 20th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attack (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European Waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 14	Nil.	1 night bomber. 1 night raider.
May 15	Nil.	1 day bomber.
May 16	1 day fighter (pilot safe).	7 day fighters. 2 night bombers.
May 17	Nil.	1 day fighter.
May 18	Nil.	1 day fighter. 2 night bombers.
May 19	4 day fighters (3 pilots safe).	5 day fighters. 1 day bomber.
May 20	Nil.	1 day bomber.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The news of the week is of course the great battle of the North Atlantic involving the loss to Great Britain of the battleship *H.M.S. Hood* and loss of *Bismarck* to Germany. It was a great battle. While the loss of *H.M.S. Hood* is serious, the loss to Germany of *Bismarck* (with 2,000 men on board) is more serious still because England possesses many more battleships than Germany and the presence of *Bismark* in the Atlantic would have been a danger to British convoys from America. It is also reported that four supply ships proceeding to Libya have been torpedoed and three of them sunk for certain.

The Greek Government have moved from Crete to Egypt. There have been severe bombings of three of the principal towns in Crete by the Germans though this has not been attended with great loss of life. The battle is still raging between the troops landed in Crete by air and the Imperial forces assisted by Greek soldiers. The issue is still in the balance and the situation serious, but sea landings of German troops have been entirely interrupted though this has cost England four destroyers and two cruisers.

So far as Iraq is concerned, Rashid Ali's influence is now definitely waning. He is himself not in the scene of operations, while the former regent H.R.H. Emir Abdul Ilah has returned to Iraq and is expected to form a Government of his own.

A striking message has been issued by Mr. Churchill to the people of England, asking them to stand firm and carry on in the event of invasion. This message is the introduction to a leaflet entitled "Beating the Invader," millions of copies of which are being distributed.

Since the beginning of the war up to the middle of May, 561 German and Italian ships of a total tonnage of 2,783,000 have been sunk, captured or scuttled, it was learned in official circles in London this week. The German ships number 346 of a tonnage of 1,773,000, of which 61 of 274,000 tons were captured or seized and 285 ships of 1,499,000 tons were sunk or scuttled. A further 38 ships 67,000 tons of other countries which had been sailing on behalf of Germany have been disposed of by one means or other. The enemy is still trying to run the British blockade by sea. Between April 23 and 30, 14 German ships and 19 Italian ships were accounted for. Between March 13 and May 14, bombers of the Coastal Command had sunk or directly hit 61 vessels off the enemy coast or enemy occupied coast.

The early part of this week was full of speculations regarding the contents of President Roosevelt's fire-side talk on Tuesday. Demands were made that a state of national emergency should be declared, the safety of supplies to England should be assured by convoys, and that larger and more rapid deliveries of ships and planes should be made to Great Britain. In the meanwhile, Admiral Raeder, Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy, warned America that any interference by the United States in the North Atlantic would be viewed in an extremely grave fashion by Germany and he said that that would be a plain act of war and unprovoked aggression against Germany. The Patrol System has already resulted in serious losses to Germany and it is no wonder that Admiral Raeder is apprehensive of further American aid in this direction. The reply of Mr. Cordell Hull to this threat was characteristic. This, he said, was true to the Nazi pattern and the warning, he pointed out, was an integral part of the Nazi programme of world conquest by force.

The decision not to introduce conscription in Northern Ireland has been welcomed as a wise move calculated to ensure good relations between Eire and Great Britain.

VICHY'S BETRAYAL

There is consistency in the attitude of Germany towards France. Imperial Germany tried to establish German influence in Morocco to the detriment of France in the belief that after the military defeat of France, the occupation of that country would be maintained and hardships of the population progressively increased as a means of forcing Britain in turn to abandon the struggle against Germany. Nazi Germany now thinks along the same lines. In the circumstances, France could either decide to endure captivity, privation and oppression in the hope of eventual triumph of

her abandoned ally and her return to glory, or she could place herself entirely at the disposal of Nazis on the ground that sufferings had become intolerable and resistance would postpone national recovery. Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan have chosen the path of collaboration and agreed to participate in the new Golden Age promised by Hitler in which France would be a handmaid of Germany, supplying her with raw materials and ceasing industrial development altogether. The outlines of the dishonourable bargain are being revealed to the public gradually. Of course, the German press says that the French Government had agreed to the passage of German troops through unoccupied France, French colonies and mandated territories, but the Syrian development is only one part of a vast military design and by agreeing to it, the dishonoured Government is licking the hand that smote it. Of course, Admiral Darlan has broadcast to his people that the French fleet will not be surrendered, that no part of colonial territory will be handed over, that French sovereignty will be maintained and Germany has not asked France to declare war on Britain, but everybody knows that if the screw is tightened up, the Petain Government would be obliged to give way in these respects also because Germany, so far as France is concerned, has full military co-operation as part of a plan to defeat Britain. If France has not declared war against England, it is because England has scrupulously avoided taking offensive action against any part of the French Colonial Empire. The aim of the Germans is, therefore, to create a situation in some parts of the French Empire by calumny and misrepresentation.

Admiral Darlan is grateful that the victor who could have deleted France from the map of Europe has not done so. France presumably is grateful to Germany and so she will collaborate with her in all Nazi designs! M. Laval has spoken at last in downright fashion and has not tried to cover up the real intentions of the Petain Government. 'France wants peace' he says, 'to overcome unemployment, poverty and disorders, to construct socialism.' Appealing to America, he asks whether that country is going to paralyse France which is on the way to national resurrection. Resurrection, indeed! It is misuse of a great word. Total collaboration of which M. Laval spoke means perpetual bondage to Germany. What this full collaboration means has been made public by a message received in India, according to which Admiral Darlan has decided to reconquer the territories of Chad, of Gabon and the whole of French Equatorial Africa, held at present by the Free French. These French territories are strategically very important as they are on the route taken to transport American war material to the Eastern Mediterranean. And Gen. de Gaulle is equally determined that this reconquest by the French Quislings shall not happen.

The Free French will not be shaken by all these acts of betrayal. General de Gaulle has stated that the Vichy Government are Hitler's puppets and that the Free-French forces would approve any action taken by the British Government which would frustrate the plans of the French Quislings. It is a matter of great significance that Colonel Collett, a brilliant French Commander in Syria, has crossed into Transjordan from Syria *en route* for Palestine accompanied by a number of other Frenchmen and this secession is likely to increase with every surrender on the part of the Petain Government. Reports of the defection of French troops are also reported from Syria. There is abundant evidence that the French nation is not with the Petain Government. French workers hate the policy of rapproachment with Germany. In almost every street corner, it is said, the De Gaulle sign, that is the Cross of Lorraine, is chalked on houses. Petain is worked out and is in the main not more than a figure, a man physically and mentally incapable of resisting the constantly increasing German pressure.

RUSSIA

Reports have been received in the last few days about a fresh understanding between Germany and Russia. It is said that Russo-German negotiations may be expected soon and the belief is based partly on the fact that the massing of troops was the Hitler prelude to "talks". Hitler, as is well known, wants wheat and oil and therefore, it is said, he will demand economic concessions from Russia, perhaps also full Soviet military co-operation in the Middle East in return for a promise to recognise the Persian Gulf as a Soviet sphere of influence. In this sphere perhaps India and Japan may be included. An outlet to the Persian Gulf *via* Iran may also be given to Russia in return for a guarantee of the present Russian frontiers in Europe. Ukranian wheat and Caucasian oil, it is believed, would be given to Germany in return for German machinery and heavy industrial products. Hitler is concerned about American participation in the war and therefore he would like to confront Britain and the United States with a Europe completely under his domination and with full access to Russian raw materials. Of course, Turkey would be completely surrounded, bringing her within Hitler's grasp without a struggle. It is clear, therefore, that all is not well with Russo-German relations, especially because deliveries of oil in 1940 fell short of the promised supply. How does Stalin look at the whole matter? He fears Germany's mechanised power. Significant preparations are being made for a German invasion of Ukraine, which would offer an excellent terrain for Hitler. Therefore Stalin is interested in playing for time, at any rate during the summer. It will be his object to make a bargain which would leave his future powers of resistance intact. So far as Germany is concerned, she is perhaps a little

nervous that she has alarmed Russia unduly or too soon. German propaganda has, of late, been less severe on Russia because she would like to try Turkey and Spain first and then Russia. Both sides are, therefore, preparing and both desire to avoid hostilities and therefore, are ready for a deal. It is possible that Germany would desire Stalin to assist her by withdrawing his diplomatic support from Turkey and acquiescing in German control of the Straits and the Black Sea, by acquiescing in a rebel regime in Iraq under German control and by assisting in the dispersal of Imperial troops by moves in the direction of Iran and Afghanistan. Has such an agreement been already made? Has Turkey been the object of diplomatic negotiations between Russia and Germany? The large scale spring manœuvres at Tashkent near the Iranian frontier suggests that something may have been done in this direction. Iran will be at the mercy of Russia by this means. If this is so, Stalin has given away little and has placed himself in a position from which he can make even more concessions should circumstances force him to do so and also forestall the Germans in Iran. By moving into Iran Stalin would oblige Hitler by containing British troops in India and safeguard himself against complete German control of the Persian Gulf. So, what is the position? It is difficult to be precise in a matter of this kind but it may be said that Stalin's attitude, motivated by selfishness, is inspired by the ultimate hope of aggrandisement at the expense of both the sides in the present conflict. Germany will use all means short of war to intimidate Russia to give her supplies which are so necessary for her. Stalin on his part will realize his own weakness and will be prepared to give to the fullest extent possible major concessions so long as he can avoid hostilities with Germany. There is of course nothing to indicate that Russia has any designs on Iran, Afghanistan or India. Such concessions as he would make to Germany in respect of these countries would be to contain the Indian and British troops in Iraq and the Middle East.

RASHID ALI'S REVOLT CRUMBLING

Welcome news comes from Iraq where Rashid Ali's revolt is crumbling. He is reported to have fled Baghdad and is credited with the intention of either going to Turkey where his Minister of Defence, Shaukat, has already fled or of trying to make a last stand at Mosul. Other confederates are said to be seeking asylum in Iran.

German help to Rashid is also dwindling and the flow of Nazi aeroplanes across Syria is now a mere trickle compared to earlier deliveries. The Germans in Ankara openly admit that Rashid's coup was bound to fail because it was premature; trouble in Iraq, according to them, was not to develop until the Germans had taken Crete and Cyprus. And they have not done so.

Meanwhile the British, Indian and other Imperial Forces in Iraq continue to advance on Baghdad. They have beaten off an enemy counter-attack on Falluja; they control all the dykes of the Upper Euphrates and can flood the country if they will, thus making things difficult for the enemy; and British motorized units are reported to be operating east of the Euphrates, in the rear of Baghdad. The Royal Air Force has not been idle and the base at Mosul especially has received attention at its hands.

With the return of the lawful Regent, H.R.H. Emir Abdul Ilah, attempts are being made to form a new Government, drive out Rashid and his band of usurpers and restore friendly relations with the British. The Regent has issued a proclamation, calling upon the people of Iraq to rise and throw out the rebels. There is no doubt that they will do so.

THE FINAL STAGE IN ABYSSINIA.

British Imperial troops are rapidly mopping up the last remnants of Italian resistance in Abyssinia. The Lake districts are being cleared of the enemy and prisoners are pouring in in hundreds and thousands. General Cafarati, commanding the 25th Italian division, surrendered with all his men. The British captured Gelub, 25 miles north-west of Sciasciamanna, the former Italian air base, taking over 800 prisoners. Further west they established a bridgehead over the river at Billate and entered Warage and Hula, south of the important road junction of Dalle. As a result of British operations near Soddu, four Italian divisions ceased to exist, thousands of prisoners being captured. These included General Liberatti, commanding the 25th Division, and General Baccari, commander of the 101st Regiment. Not to be outdone, the Abyssinian Patriot Forces, led by British officers, captured a force of 800 Italians in the Magdala area between Dessie and Gondar. And finally a large Italian column in the north, which had escaped into the mountains from Debra Markos at the beginning of April, fell to a joint force of Sudanese and Abyssinian Patriots. Among the prisoners captured were 570 Italians, 5,000 colonial troops and 300 Banda; and seven guns and 170 machine-guns were among the booty. Evidently the surrender of the Duke of Aosta, the Commander-in-Chief, is having its effect on Italian morale and Abyssinia will soon be rid of the last Italian soldier.

Early this week, in Libya, the Germans made an effort to advance through "Hell-Fire" Pass on the Egyptian frontier in two columns. But they were knocked out, the British capturing 11 tanks in two days. Later, however, in the face of pressure by

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THE BATTLE FOR CRETE

STRATEGIC CENTRE OF EAST MEDITERRANEAN

A fierce battle is now raging in Crete, "the Great Greek Island", as it is known. The Germans are attempting a conquest by air-borne troops as the British Navy has effectively prevented the landing of enemy forces from the sea. The British Imperial and Greek troops are defending the Island, led by that great New Zealand Commander, Major-General Freyberg. And Mr. Churchill has promised that Crete will be defended to the last.

The Germans as well as the Allies realize the importance of this home of one of the most ancient civilizations. After Sicily, Sardinia and Cyprus, Crete is the largest island in the Mediterranean. Its north-eastern extremity, Cape Sidero, is about 110 miles distant from Cape Krio in Asia Minor, the islands of Carpathos and Rhodes lying in between; its north-western, Cape Grabusa, is within 60 miles of Cape Malea in the Morea. Crete thus forms the natural limit between the Mediterranean and the Archipelago. It controls all egress from the Aegean Sea and neutralises the Fascist forces in the Dodecanese Islands. It is also an important advance base for the protection of that other strategic island, Cyprus, "the key to Western Asia", and of the Levant. Finally, it is only 300 miles from the Great British Naval Base of Alexandria. As *The Times* writes, "Crete is a prize worth sacrifices. Its importance in the defence of Egypt and of our naval liberty of action in the Eastern Mediterranean needs little emphasis at this stage. Alike for the defence of his gains in the Archipelago and—what is far more important—for the offensive against Egypt, it would prove invaluable to the enemy. Its loss would not have a decisive effect upon the maintenance of the Mediterranean Fleet at Alexandria, but it would seriously hamper every naval operation and increase the manifold perils which Admiral Cunningham has continually to face."

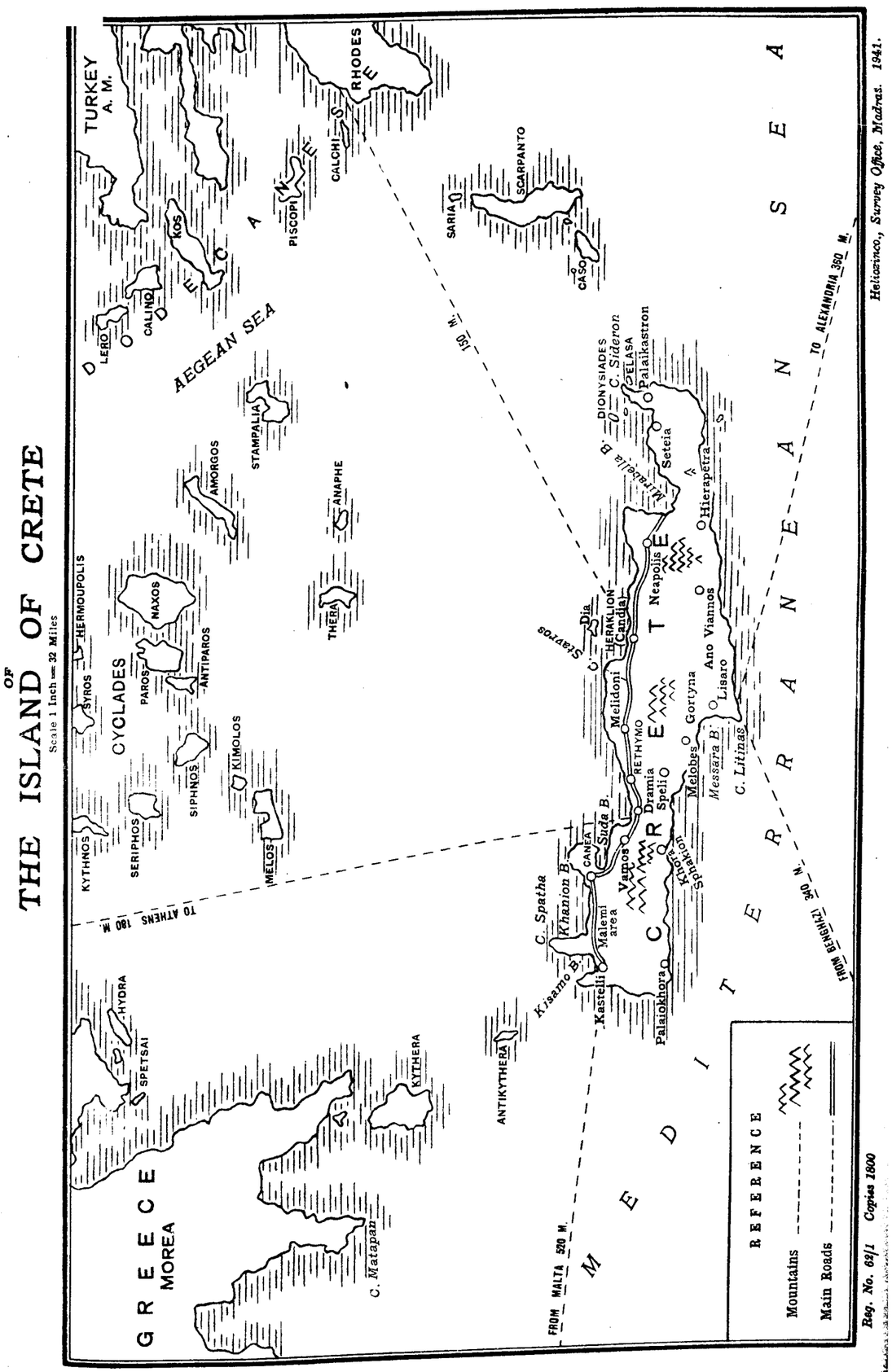
IMPORTANCE OF SUDA HARBOUR

The area of Crete is 3,320 square miles. The island is of elongated form; its length from east to west is 160 miles, its breadth from north to south varies from 35 to 7½ miles. The northern coast-line is much indented. On the west two narrow rocky promontories—the western terminating in Cape Grabusa or Busa (the ancient Coryens), the eastern in Cape Spada—shut in the Bay of Kisamos; beyond the Bay of Canea, to the east, the rocky peninsula of Akrotiri shelters the magnificent natural harbour of Suda (8½ square miles), the only completely protected anchorage for large vessels which the island affords. Farther east are the Bays of Candia and Mallia, the deep Bay of Mirabello and the Bay of Sitia. The south coast is less broken and there are no natural harbours, the mountains in many parts rising almost like a wall from the sea; in the centre is Cape Lithinos, the southernmost point, partly sheltering the Bay of Mesara in the west. Immediately to the east of this Cape is the small Bay of Kali Limenes, also known as Fair Havens. There are a few small islands just off the northern and southern coasts, the most important being Suda, at the entrance to the Suda harbour; and Grabusa at the north-west extremity.

The greater part of the island is occupied by mountain-ranges, the peaks frequently rising to 7,000 feet. A peculiar feature is presented by the level upland basins furnishing pasturage during the summer. And another remarkable characteristic is found in the deep narrow ravines, bordered by precipitous cliffs where daylight never penetrates. Large caves abound in the mountains, where troops can hide themselves for days. Among the most famous of these is the Dictaean Cave in Lassithi, which is reputedly the birth place of Zeus, the Chief of Gods. The three principal towns are on the northern coast and possess small harbours. Candia, the former capital and the See of the Archbishop of Crete, is officially styled Heraklion. Canea has been the seat of Government since 1840; Retimo, like Canea, is the See of a Bishop. Other important towns are Hierapetra, Sitia, Kisamos, Selino and Sphakia.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

The history of Crete goes back to nearly 3500 B.C. The pre-historic remains in the island attest the development during the Aegean Bronze age of a culture which was says Encyclopædia Britannica) at least equal in aesthetic and material achievement to the contemporary civilization of Mesopotamia and Egypt. Crete has known successive civilizations—of the Minoans, Dorians, Hellenes, Romans, Byzantines, Venetians, Turks and Romaic Greeks. Knossos was the ancient capital and archæologists have laid bare the great palace of King Minos, renowned in Greek legend. It has been well said that "because of its geographical situation, placed nearly midway between Europe, Asia and Africa, it was the meeting place of civilizations, and inevitably became the scene of much fighting. Egyptians, Romans, Saracens, Venetians, Turks—each in their turn tried to conquer the island, but this proved impossible without the lavish expenditure of men and money." For Crete, ever a noted recruiting ground for armies, produced fearless warriors and they proved tireless in revolting against foreign masters. "When the Romans rose to power," says Mr. John England, "they had great difficulty in subduing it (Crete). Later the Saracens were over-lords, when it became a formidable nest of pirates and a huge slave-mart. Seven hundred years back its chief sold the island to the Venetians, who con-



trolled it for 400 years. They made the island prosperous, although revolts were many. The Cretans thought the Turks would help them to gain liberty and the island finally fell to them, some of the people becoming Mahomedans. Candia, the former capital, withstood one of the most astonishing sieges in history, lasting 20 years. Last century was marked by much unrest." In the early years of the present century the Cretan Assembly voluntarily voted for union with Greece, hoisted the Greek flag and set up a committee to govern the island in the name of the King of Greece. But it was not till 14th October, 1912, the eve of the first Balkan War, that Venizelos, then Greek Premier, admitted the Cretan deputies to the Greek Chamber. At last, Article 4 of the Treaty of London (1913) ceded Crete to Greece, to which it belonged by race, language and spirit. Since that time the history of Crete has been merged in that of Greece. And when last month the British Imperial and Greek Armies carried out their magnificent evacuation of Greece under a barrage from German dive-bombers, the Greek Government moved to Crete and decided with their Ally, Great Britain, to defend the last free Greek territory from the Nazi hordes. Major-General Freyberg, V.C., the Commander of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, who did splendid service in the last war, especially in the Gallipoli campaign, was placed in charge of the Allied troops who kept vigil against any surprise invasion.

BATTLE BEGINS

And on Monday, the 19th May, the Germans launched an airborne invasion and the Battle for Crete began in grim earnest. The first detachments of airborne troops landed on Monday night near British airfields, which had been evacuated the previous day. Fighting round Suda Bay developed into a battle on Canea road. Then further landings were made near Candia and Retimo by troops, armed with machine-guns, in gliders. After landing, the Germans kept contact with their air force by wireless. On Tuesday, further troops arrived in seaplane gliders. Some of these were sunk by fire from guns on the beach near Retimo but German soldiers, who made a landing, scattered into forests where they lay low and later re-formed into units. Taken together, it is estimated that Crete has witnessed the biggest airborne invasion the Germans have ever attempted. The primary German objective is to capture Suda Bay and drive the defenders into the interior. The defenders have had three weeks to establish themselves, but that is a short time to equip an army and fortify the island. Allied forces proceeded to clear the enemy out of Heraklion; they also cleaned up the Germans who dropped at Retimo, but the Germans, reinforced by further airborne troops, claimed to have recaptured both. And they are also in control of the Malemi aerodrome where they are under withering fire from the Allies holding positions to the east. And New Zealand troops hit back hard when the Germans moved forward in the Malemi area under cover of darkness. British troops have withdrawn to positions east of Suda Bay. Hitler is mercilessly throwing men and material into the battle; and as fast as his parachutists are cleaned up, he sends more of them to death. The British Navy, of course, sees to it that no German vessels approach the coast. The Navy has performed prodigies of heroism but not without sacrifice. Four destroyers and three cruisers have been lost in the relentless duel with the enemy air force; two battleships and several cruisers have also been damaged, though not seriously. But the Navy has the consolation of knowing that not only have enemy attempts to make seaborne landings on Crete frustrated but British reinforcements are reaching the island all right. And the Germans, besides losing numerous aircraft, have also lost E-boats and caiques (small boats used by Greek sailors). A large enemy convoy, comprising several caiques and small merchantmen, escorted by a destroyer, was completely broken up or sunk by British light forces during the pitch-dark night of May 21–22. "We sank them", said the Captain of a British cruiser afterwards, "with four-inch guns and pompoms. Cruisers and destroyers rammed them. The sea was full of thousands of Germans clinging to the wreckage and shouting for help. The havoc we wrought was so great that no German managed to land in Crete that night."

"WE CAN HOLD CRETE"

And British long-range fighters, operating from bases outside the island, have now made a welcome reappearance over Crete after being temporarily withdrawn and have accounted for a large number of German troop-carrying Junkers planes. The Germans have taken to terroristic tactics; Canea, Retimo and Heraklion have been subjected to mass bombing attacks by waves of aircraft. The ferocious display of indiscriminate bombing has been compared to the destruction of Rotterdam earlier in the war. But the population of Crete has remained admirably calm, with a bravery worthy of the citizens of London. The King of Greece and the Greek Government, whose headquarters received special attention from German dive-bombers, have temporarily left Greece for Egypt this week in order not to handicap military operations. Everything points to the grim battle continuing with even greater intensity. "I think we can hold Crete," said Major-General Heywood, Chief of the British Military Mission to Greece, on his return from Crete; but Hitler is staking his all on this adventure. He has used a thousand troop-carrying planes and has landed 30,000 troops. The British Imperial Troops are giving a magnificent account of themselves in fierce hand-to-hand fighting. And whatever happens to Crete, they have already written a most glorious page in military history.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S PROCLAMATION

AMERICA ACTS

The eagerly expected " Talk " of President Roosevelt has been made. He has declared the existence of an unlimited national emergency in a proclamation which reads as follows :—

" Whereas the succession of events makes plain that the objectives of the Axis belligerents in such a (present European) war are not confined to those avowed at its commencement but include the overthrow throughout the world of the existing democratic order and world-wide domination of peoples and economies through the destruction of all resistance on land, sea and in the air, and whereas indifference on the part of the United States to the increasing menace would be perilous, and common prudence requires that for the security of this nation and of this hemisphere we should pass from peacetime authorisations of military strength to such basis as will enable us to cope instantly and decisively with any attempt at a hostile encirclement of this hemisphere or the establishment of any base for aggression against it, as well as to repel the threat of predatory incursion by foreign agents into our territory or society, now, therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do proclaim that an unlimited national emergency confronts this country which requires that its military, naval, air and civilian defences be put on a basis of readiness to repel any and all acts or threats of aggression directed towards any part of the Western Hemisphere.

" I call upon all loyal citizens engaged in production for defence to give precedence to the needs of the nation to the end that a system of Government that makes private enterprise possible may survive. I call upon all loyal workmen as well as employers to merge their lesser differences in the larger effort to ensure the survival of the only kind of Government which recognizes the rights of labour or capital. I call upon the loyal State and local leaders and officials to co-operate with the civilian defence agencies in the United States to assure our integral security against foreign directed subversion and to put every community in order for the maximum productive effort with the minimum of waste and unnecessary friction.

" I call upon all loyal citizens to place the nation's needs first in mind and in action to the end that we may mobilize and have ready for instant defensive use all the physical powers, all the moral strength and all the material resources of this nation."

Under the new national emergency powers, President Roosevelt may commandeer radio stations, power houses and conduits, demand preference for troops on any transportation system and suspend trading on securities' exchanges. These are only a few of the broad powers which the President can exercise by individual proclamation. Only Congress has authority to declare war.

HITLER'S OBJECT

About Hitler's ultimate object of world domination, Mr. Roosevelt said :—

" Our Government knows what terms Hitler, if victorious, would impose. They are indeed the only terms on which he would accept a so-called ' negotiated ' peace. Under those terms Germany would literally parcel out the world hoisting the Swastika itself over vast territories and populations and setting up puppet governments of its own choosing, wholly subject to the will and policy of a conqueror."

" To the people of the Americas, triumphant Hitler would say, as he said after the seizure of Austria and after Munich and after the seizure of Czechoslovakia, ' I am now completely satisfied. This is the last territorial readjustment I seek.' And he, of course, would add, ' All we want is peace, friendship and profitable trade relations with you of the New World."

" They would have fastened an economic stranglehold upon our several nations. Quislings would have been found to subvert the Governments of the Republics and the Nazis would back their fifth column with invasion if necessary. I am not speculating on all this. I merely repeat what is already in the Nazi book of conquest. They have planned to treat the Latin American nations as they are now treating the Balkans. They have planned then to strangle the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada."

" Under the Nazis even our right of worship would be threatened. The Nazi world does not recognise any God except Hitler, for the Nazis are as ruthless as the Communists in the denial of God. What place has religion which preaches the dignity of the human being and the majesty of human souls in a world where moral standards are measured by treachery, bribery and fifth columnists? Will our children too wander off goose-stepping in search of the new God?"

" We do not accept and will not permit this Nazi ' shape of things to come.' It will never be enforced upon us if we act in the present crisis with the wisdom and courage which have distinguished our country in all crises of the past."

" The Nazis have taken military possession of the greater part of Europe. In Africa they have occupied Tripoli and they are threatening Egypt, the Suez Canal and the Near East. But their plans do not stop there. For the Indian Ocean is the gateway into the East."

" They also have armed power at any moment to occupy Spain and Portugal and that (Nazi) threat extends not only to French North Africa and the western end of the Mediterranean but also to the Atlantic fortress of Dakar and to island outposts in the New World—the Azores to Cape Verde."

As regards the immediate danger to America, Mr. Roosevelt said :—

" The war is approaching the Western Hemisphere itself. It is coming very close home. Control or occupation by Nazi forces of any island in the Atlantic would jeopardise the immediate safety of portions of North and South America and of the island possessions of the United States and ultimately of continental United States itself."

FREEDOM OF THE SEAS

Once the Dictators took command of the seas they will have the power to dictate to the Western Hemisphere. This ought to be prevented; and if the Axis powers fail to gain control of the seas, " they are certainly defeated." Their dreams of world domination will then go by the board and the criminal leaders who started the war will suffer inevitable disaster. The Battle of the Atlantic must therefore be won if the freedom of the seas is to be retained and the serious shipping losses of Great Britain prevented. Of this the President said :—

" The blunt truth is this—and I reveal this with the full knowledge of the British Government—the present rate of Nazi sinkings of merchant ships is more than three times as high as the capacity of British shipyards to replace them. It is more than twice the combined British and American output of merchant ships to-day."

ACTION BY UNITED STATES

This can be combated by speeding up and increasing the U.S. ship-building programme which is being done. The menace is also being met by the patrol system about which Mr. Roosevelt said :—

" We have accordingly extended our patrol in the North and South Atlantic waters. We are steadily adding more ships and planes to that patrol. It is well-known that the strength of the Atlantic Fleet has been greatly increased during the past year and is constantly being built up. These ships and planes warn of the presence of attacking raiders on the seas—under and above. The danger from these raiders is greatly lessened if their location is definitely known. We are thus being forewarned and we shall be on our guard against efforts to establish Nazi bases closer to our hemisphere."

As regards supplies to Britain, the President said :—

" Our patrols are helping now to ensure delivery of immediate supplies to Britain. All additional measures necessary for delivery of goods will be taken. Any and all further methods or combination of methods which can and should be utilized are being devised by our military and naval technicians who are working out and will put into effect such new additional safeguards as may be needed. *The delivery of supplies to Britain is imperative. This can be done, it must be done and it will be done.*"

PEACE AIMS

President Roosevelt made the following declaration about peace aims :—

" To-day the whole world is divided between human slavery and human freedom, between pagan brutality and Christian ideals. We choose human freedom which is the Christian ideal. None of us can waver a moment in this courage or faith. We will not accept a Hitler-dominated world. And we will not accept anything like the post-war world of 1920 in which Hitlerism can be planted and allowed to foster. We will accept only a world consecrated to freedom of thought and expression, freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, freedom from want and freedom from war. Is such a world impossible of attainment? The Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and every other milestone of human progress —were ideals which seemed impossible of attainment—but they were attained. Are we with all we know and with all our potential strength to hesitate to take every single measure necessary to maintain our American liberties? Our people and our Government will not hesitate to meet that challenge."

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, speaking two days later also spoke of reconstruction after the war and the sentiments which he expressed have a great significance. He said :—

" No one should suppose that we intended to return to the chaos of the old world. When peace came, we should make such relaxations of war-time financial arrangements as would

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TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page* 7)

numerically superior forces, British troops temporarily withdrew from the Pass. Enemy columns advanced eastwards in the Sollum area but British forward troops continually harassed the enemy. And the British will doubtless stem and then turn back the tide of German advance whenever General Wavell decides to do so. And the British garrison at Tobruk has again made a successful sortie, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. The Royal Air Force continues to hammer away at Benghazi, preventing large-scale reinforcements reaching the enemy by sea. And British submarines have accounted for four big enemy ships, including one of 18,000 tons which was carrying 3,000 enemy troops to Libya.

TIME MARCHES ON

In April 1940 just before the Nazis launched their treacherous attack on Scandinavia, Britain and France presented what the world believed to be a very formidable front to a single-handed Germany. Belief in the power and qualities of the French army, and in the defensive strength of the Maginot Line, was so general that long-planned Nazi intrigue found in many places a fertile ground in apathy.

Britain had defeated the first phase of the submarine menace. Though German air-power was suspected, none of the combatants had yet indulged in large-scale operations which would test front-line qualities and the reservoir of industrial production. In the United States of America many talked of a " phoney war " and possible stalemate.

In May 1940 Germany had already seized coveted Scandinavian bases, and the Allied forces withdrawn from Norway to reinforce the western danger-zone faced an attack not only unprecedented in its weight, but one which used new tactics in mechanized assault and in fifth-column disruption. New forms of tank-warfare had in some quarters been foreseen, even if they had not been adequately prepared for. What shocked the whole world was the extent and thoroughness of organized treachery among the victims marked out by the Nazis. In one country after another brave fighting men were stabbed in the back. The white ants of defeatism and corruption gave the Germans a swift series of victories, and only the immortal exploit of Dunkirk relieved the picture of catastrophe.

In July 1940 Britain stood alone, her sea routes and approaches laid open by the defection of France, her armies without equipment, her position in the Mediterranean gravely threatened by the Italian jackal who had already scented the German tiger's kill. No text-book of history or strategy could have predicted survival in an hour so dark.

In May 1941, the transformation which appears is little short of miraculous. Fresh territories have been mercilessly overrun by the enemy, and with the aid of treachery the German bid to retrieve Italian disasters has opened new danger-zones. But the island which should have been battered into defeat last September still stands and gives back blow for blow, and the American giant has been roused from his slumbers.

Nothing could be more eloquent of the change that a year's prodigious labour and sacrifice has wrought for the British cause than the steady permeation of defeatism into the speeches of the now friendless German Fuehrer who so recently was promising his driven people complete and speedy victory.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S PROCLAMATION—(*Continued from Page* 11)

permit the revival of international trade on the widest possible basis. We should hope to see the development of a system of international exchange in which the trading of goods and services would be the central feature, The liberated countries and, may be, others would require an initial pool of resources to carry them through the transitional period. Social security must be the first object of our domestic and foreign policy after the war. It would be our wish to work with others to prevent starvation in post-armistice period, currency disorders and wide fluctuations of employment, markets and prices.

" Germany," said Mr. Eden, " must play her part, but we must never forget that Germany is the worst master Europe has yet known. Our political and military terms of peace will be designed to prevent the repetition of Germany's misdeeds." No one could foresee when the end would come, but it was in the nature of a machine so rigid as the German to break suddenly and with little warning. In speaking of the reconstruction of Europe he did not overlook the fact that the settlement might affect and be affected by developments elsewhere such as for example the Far East. A lasting settlement and internal peace of the continent as a whole was our only aim.

REACTIONS

In Great Britain and the Dominions the " talk " has had a very good reception. Mr. Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia, has called it great, noble and momentous, while the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, said that the lifeline now stretched from America to Great Britain. In England the comment is that President Roosevelt has cleared the deck for action. But in Washington itself some disappointment has been expressed that the steps intended to be taken by the United States to ensure deliveries to Great Britain have not been clearly defined. The statement that goods for Great Britain can be delivered, must be delivered and will be delivered is very heartening, because it means and implies that active measures will be taken against U-boats and bombing planes. He said later that he had no intention of asking for the repeal of the Neutrality Act as freedom of the seas could be secured in compatibility with that Act. But there is yet no clear indication what these measures are, though the President has very wide powers, including those of carrying on an undeclared war. He is a great tactician and wishes naturally to take American public opinion with him.

THREE BETRAYALS

VICHY

The French people themsleves have not yet been told the full story of the crooked proceedings by which Admiral Darlan, who recently visited Hitler in Germany, has signed away most of the remaining shreds of his country's honour to satisfy his own ambitions. The heart of France is not in this business.

The agreement with Berlin which the Vichy Government approved on May 14 includes a few meagre German concessions. The levy for the German occupation is reduced from the fantastic sum of 400 million francs a day to the scarcely less preposterous figure of 300 millions—which is still twice as much as the occupation actually costs, and more than twice as much as Germany was ever asked to pay under the Dawes Plan after the last war. A trickle of returning French prisoners shows the callous manner in which Hitler uses as bargaining counters the human beings that total war has placed in his power.

But what of the price? One day the French people will find out that despite all the endeavours and assurances of the tired old Marshal Petain, Darlan and his confederates have lined France up with the Axis. They are deliberately affording military assistance to their inveterate enemy against an ally whose conduct towards France during all these difficult and dangerous months has been, in the circumstances, remarkably forbearing.

The first results of the Vichy betrayal have appeared in Syria, over which France legally forfeited her mandate when she recently resigned, again under Nazi pressure, from the League of Nations. Speciously excused by General Dentz, German aircraft have landed at French aerodromes in Syria, where they have been promptly attacked by the Royal Air Force, while the ever-watchful Royal Navy has mined Syrian waters.

If the French heavy equipment now in Syria should become available to the enemy, the gravity of the situation would be increased. But there is no question of the British Command being unprepared, and reinforcements are constantly arriving in Iraq and Palestine.

America has not been deceived by the Vichy treachery and its consequences. President Roosevelt has condemned the dishonourable and suicidal collaboration policy, and has taken measures which show his recognition of the increased danger to the United States of America.

" Marshal Petain's action means that a decisive phase of the war has begun for the United States " writes Walter Lippman in the New York *Herald Tribune*. " France is misled," declares the *New York Times* " but the spirit of France lives and will rise again."

The spirit of Free France has been heard in General Catroux's broadcast to Frenchmen in Syria. " There is a name for this," he said. " It is called assistance to the enemy. It is called treason."

RASHID ALI

The final proof of Rashid Ali's guilt is provided by the German move to bring him belated assistance through Syria.

While others fought bravely and successfully outside the citadel, the Iraqi usurper has opened the gates to the enemy. His treachery is blacker than that of certain hard-pressed Balkan governments which merely betrayed their own people and, in consequence, endangered their neighbours. The rebel Junta in Baghdad, on the other hand, has for private gain not merely thrown Iraq in the path of the German war-chariot, but has also broken faith with Iraq's British ally and benefactor, and has made the first breach in Islam for the hated penetration of Nazism.

History will not easily forgive those who opened the gate, endangering their own people and other Asiatic nations who trusted in the Middle Eastern bulwark against aggression.

Since the lapse of the Caliphate under the late Kamal Ataturk, it is no longer strictly speaking possible to summon Islam authoritatively to a Jehad. That does not mean that the sentiments of the Muslim world cannot be expressed, or its sympathies rallied in a just cause.

British action in Iraq, which is being resolutely maintained, has been justified not only by events but by responsible Muslim opinion in adjacent countries. In all Arab lands the contrast has been noted between Britain's policy of protection and her patient labours towards constitutional advance on the one hand, and on the other the Axis record of ruthless ambition, stained with such crimes as have made the name of Graziani, " the scourge of Libya," hated throughout the Arab world.

Hired and irresponsible Quislings have brought it about that the struggle must now proceed within Islamic countries instead of at the outposts where British Indian and Dominion forces have faithfully kept guard.

From those outposts the news is good. The Duke of Aosta's surrender in Abyssinia leaves only scattered bodies of Italians to be disposed of in that vast area which until so recently was Mussolini's prized empire. The operations around Sollum clearly show that the offensive spirit is indomitably cherished by the British and Imperial troops protecting Egypt, and that General Wavell's reputation is well earned for striking at the right place and the right moment. Crete and Tobruk are being as stoutly held as Mr. Churchill has promised, and the latter is an exceedingly sharp thorn in Hitler's side.

THE NIZAM'S VERDICT

" The immediate cause of the present trouble is the treachery of Rashid Ali, who became a prey to German designs. I strongly appeal to Muslims in India to join with me in expressing our unqualified disapproval of the action of Rashid Ali and his clique, who have offended against one of the most solemn precepts of Islam which is to honour the pledged word."

H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad, in his manifesto of May 17.

RUDOLF HESS

Nazi Germany herself has a traitor in the headlines. Rudolf Hess is a deserter. Hitler's closest friend has sought saunctary with Hitler's deadliest enemies. " The first rate to leave the sinking ship " commented an Egyptian paper when the news of Hess's melodramatic flight became known. " And a big rat at that ", added a Swedish paper.

Whatever emerges in the future about this valuable British prisoner, this much is already clear. The ex-deputy-Feuhrer, despite frenzied and self-contradictory Nazi " explanations ", is sane—sane enough at all events to make a well-calculated escape from the madhouse.

Hess's desertion may or may not have provided the British Government already with highly important information. It has at any rate shown the world that one of the most responsible and popular party figures in Germany has no confidence in a Nazi victory. And it cannot have been without its effect inside Germany.

The strange episode reveals, in Churchill's words, " the maggot in the apple ", it is a portent of ultimate victory for Britain. But the German military machine is still not seriously impaired, and is about to put to the hazard all its past gains and all its future hopes of world domination.

The united efforts of the peoples of the British Commonwealth of Nations and of their Allies will be stretched to the limits to hold this effort until the vast resources of Britain and America are fully mobilized.

" IT IS NOT SO BAD IN BEXHILL"

The following are portions of a letter which has reached Madras from Bexhill. Though it is dated middle of March, its interest is quite fresh.

" You've all been splendid in Madras with your half-million for the Spitfires. If you *only knew* what spitfires mean to us! To see them streak across the sky after the alert has sounded and to see them fighting and then see the Heinkel or whatever it is crash down and then hear the glorious ' All Clear ' it's all too marvellous. Now it is almost routine; any day suddenly that awful shriek of the warning, then a pause, then the Spitfires racing towards Dover, then another pause, and then ' All Clear ' and the Spitfires racing back in perfect formation. It's wonderful."

" Before, it was ages before the ' All Clear ' went but now the sky is full of British planes. Last night for instance the alert was at 8 o'clock and the ' All Clear ' at 11. Of course we are lucky here; they don't deliberately bomb Bexhill, just unload when they are being chased but the result is the same to the ' bombee ."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

" My brave Hess..... " (Mein Kampf)

On the night of Saturday, May 10, Rudolf Hess, Deputy-Fuehrer of Germany and Leader of the Nazi Party, flew to Scotland in a Messerschmitt fighter which could not carry enough petrol to return to Germany. He baled out by parachute and the plane crashed with its gun unloaded. He brought photographs of himself at different ages to establish his identity. He is now a prisoner in the hands of the British whom he so often declared would be defeated by Germany.

As soon as Hess's flight was discovered, the Nazi radio began to declare in all languages that the Deputy-Fuehrer had been suffering from " an illness of many years' standing." Yet he had not been relieved from his posts. Less than a month before he made his getaway, he had broadcast fulsome birthday greetings to Hitler. " The blessings of the Almighty will be with Germany," he said on April 20, " blessings which up to now have been so obvious and plentiful, ever since you became our Fuehrer".

Hess's Hallucinations

" Hess has long been suffering from hallucinations." screamed Dr. Goebbels, as the world began to chuckle at the spectacle of Hitler's closest friend seeking sanctuary with Hitler's deadliest enemies.

Here are a few of the hallucinations of Hess :—

" Whatever Hitler does is right; whatever he does is necessary; and whatever he does is successful..... "

Sept. 7, 1938.

" Our Fuehrer and the unity of the German nation are the best guarantees for final victory ".

May 1, 1940

" Whether our soldiers happen to be separated from their foes by walls of concrete or merely by water, the German armed forces are absolutely sure of being victorious in this struggle."

Dec. 25, 1940.

" If anything should happen to Hess..... " (Hitler, 1939)

Before the British Ministry of Information told the world just what had happened to Hess, the Berlin radio was busy with surmises that he had " crashed or met with an accident in the course of his flight," undertaken against the strict orders of the Fuehrer himself. Once his fate had become known, the Nazis began throwing out a smoke-screen of conjecture designed first of all to hide their dismay and bewilderment, and secondly to discount in advance the value of anything the fugitive might say subsequently.

In a single brief communique on May 14, for instance, no less than three different theories were advanced by Goebbels' perspiring propagandists. " Hess was under the hallucination that, by undertaking a personal step in connection with Englishmen with whom he was formerly acquainted, it might be possible to bring about an understanding between Germany and Britain..... An attempt is being made to determine to what extent certain mesmerists and astrologers are responsible for his taking the step he did..... It is also conceivable that Hess was deliberately lured into a trap by Britain."

On May 17, only three days after declaring that Hess was suffering from hallucinations and was under the influence of mesmerists and astrologers, Berlin remarked naively : " Hess is not so demented as not to know how hopeless Britain's position is.... he went to Britain with an honest proposal of peace, a fact which has all along been known in Germany."

British and German air losses

As was pointed out in this report last week, Dr. Goebbels had recently been suspiciously silent regarding German air losses in Western Europe, including Britain. On May 12, however, Berlin came out with a statement that whereas the British lost 36 aircraft between May 9 and May 11, only 18 German machines were lost in that period. In actual fact, from dawn on May 9 to the small hours following midnight on May 11, Britain lost only 16 planes (20 less than the Germans claimed), while the Nazis lost 58, exactly 40 more than they admitted.

Inadvertently, however, Berlin let slip the real truth two days previously, when Walt Mittler, one of their aeronautical commentators, remarked : " The British claim to have inflicted very heavy losses on German bombers recently, and it would be very silly of me to quarrel over the numbers that have actually been shot down by the British."

British and Allied shipping

Side by side with grandiloquent claims to have sunk vast numbers of British ships all over the seven seas, Berlin coolly remarked

on May 12 that " Britain is always endeavouring to spare her own ships and is forcing non-British ships to sail to destruction under the British flag."

Britain's endeavours to " spare her own ships " are illustrated by Mr. Churchill's recent statement that, at the present time, Britain has always at least 2,000 ships sailing the high seas. As for these imaginary attempts " to force non-British ships to sail to destruction under the British flag, " all the world knows that the Norwegian, Dutch, Belgian, Polish, Greek and Yugoslav Governments have expressed their unshakeable determination to carry on the war in collaboration with Britain, and the freely-offered use of their merchant fleets forms one of their most important contributions to final victory.

Those territorial claims again

An article in the *Boersen Zeitung*, quoted by the German wireless on May 12, is at great pains to stress the fact that Germany has ' no territorial claims ' in the Balkans. This in itself is a most ominous statement, and the peoples of the Balkans may well feel perturbed, for it is part of Hitler's time-worn technique to disavow all intentions of annexation just before springing on his prey.

It will be remembered that, despite frequent declarations that he had no more territorial claims after the Austrian Anschluss, Hitler proceeded to annex parts of Czechoslovakia, half of Poland, the whole of Alsace and Lorraine and the districts of Eupen and Malmedy in Belgium. Bulgaria and Hungary, too, are to all intents and purposes parts of the Greater German Reich, while Rumania has been carved up without scruple to feed the greed of Hitler's flunkey-neighbours. The new "independent" state of Croatia, which has (for form's sake) been presented with a puppet king from the Italian Royal House, is obviously designed to become an economic adjunct not of Italy, but of Germany herself.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Raids over Britain

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani and Persian broadcasters of May 16 went out of their way to quote a vague Stockholm report which, according to the Nazis, stated that British statesmen were becoming " confused " over the immense destruction caused in Britain. Actually it was the Swedish paper *Svenska Dagbladet* which recently published a message from their London correspondent. This communication reads as follows :—" According to my observations the Germans need 100 years to reduce the industrial capacity of England even if they go on bombing at the same rate as now. The bombing of the business centres and industrial quarters only strengthens the British in their efforts to bear any sacrifice that the war may be won ".

Increasing American Aid

The Nazis in their Hindustani broadcast of May 16 endeavoured to make out that Great Britain's reduced shipping now enabled her to bring only very little armament stores to Britain. In the light of this false German statement, it is worth mentioning that during the month of March, when Britain's losses in the Atlantic were heavier than they have been in any single month so far, the arms shipments were of the total value of $49,196,000, which is 33 per cent higher than the February shipments, valued at $31,415,000. The materials that Britain received included war planes worth $21,715,000.

The Nazis' chagrin at America's aid to Britain was also clearly evident in their Hindustani broadcast of May 18 when we were told that England was falling into a trap laid by the U. S. A. The Germans may not be able to understand, much less appreciate, the fact of one democracy going to the aid of another; but the American attitude was defined by Mr. John G. Winant, the U. S. Ambassador in Britain, who, when addressing the English-speaking Union, declared : " The freedom-loving and peace-loving peoples of this earth are coming to realize that this is not Britain's fight alone. When the dictators conspire together, men and women of goodwill everywhere must act together."

Cold Steel

On May 16, Berlin's Hindustani broadcast painted a lurid picture of increasing strikes in the U. S. A. and, in particular, mentioned that 35,000 workers in the General Motors Company had gone on strike. Actually the difference between the management and the workers of the General Motors has been amicably settled. And as for the general industrial position in the U. S. A., despite Nazi activities, the country is producing steel faster than all the steel mills of Germany and the most powerful 35,000-ton battleship of the U. S. A. the *Washington*, has been commissioned six months ahead of the schedule.

Exports and U-boats

The Nazi bombast, broadcast in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic news of May 13, that British ships were not safe on any sea is categorically countered by the fact that despite the Nazi depredations on the high seas, and despite air attacks on ports and industrial districts, Britain's export figures for the first three months of this year substantially exceeded the figures for the last three months of 1940. The safe arrival in England of the first batch of Indian trainees under the " Bevin Scheme " is another indication of the British mastery of the seas.

Berlin's Hindustani broadcast of May 12 was anxious to make out that shipping losses for April 1941 had caused panic among the British. Considering that April's figure included 187,000 tons sunk in the Mediterranean and that in the Battle of the Atlantic Britain actually lost 90,000 tons *less* than she did in March, there is no reason for Britons to get panicky.

Moreover, as the Turkish paper *Vatan* points out : " The British shipping losses during the first eighteen months of the war amount only to 3 per cent of the total British mercantile marine. The shipping of Britain's allies is two to three times as great as the British losses in tonnage. Consequently, the British mercantile marine is stronger to-day than she was in 1939."

Nazis and Muslims

The Nazis are so hard pressed to invent stories of Arab discontent against the British in Palestine that their Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts of May 13 had to quote reports from Uruguay—in South America, 7,000 miles from Palestine—alleging intensification of Royal Air Force attacks on Palestine. Inasmuch as the Royal Air Force has not attacked Palestine at all, there can be no question of their intensifying these so-called raids.

Similarly, in their broadcasts of May 17, the Nazis talked of the British atrocities in Palestine, and also quoted the Muslim leader of Croatia as saying that a brilliant future awaited the Muslims under Hitler. It will be recalled that despite differences with the British the Palestinians decided to co-operate in defeating the common enemy. The *Palestine* declared : " The Arabs now set aside their local issues in order to play their role in this world conflict, cherishing the hope that when justice emerges victorious they will be adequately rewarded for their loyalty." And as for the Muslim future under the Axis, the Muslims have only to remember the Italian policy towards Libya, Albania and Abyssinia. As against this black record of the Axis is the British record. Egypt, Iraq, Transjordania, Saudi Arabia, which in 1914 were all subject countries, are now either independent States or far on the way to independence.

Britain and her Allies

The Nazis' Persian broadcast of May 14 ascribed to a Syrian newspaper the statement that the British had selfishly sacrificed their allies. That this German libel is grossly untrue is proved by these allies themselves, who, despite their present difficulties, are rendering Britain invaluable aid. Thus the fact that the Norwegian and the Greek navies and the Polish air force are co-operating with Britain is most significant. Besides, in every instance Britain responded immediately to her allies' appeals for help. She is still waging a relentless war against the common enemy and therefore upholding their interests.

A German Blunder

The Nazis' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of May 13 vaguely referred to a despatch from Ankara stating that Britain's so-called defeat in Greece had made a deep impression. Turkey's reaction to the German war on the Balkans was far from complimentary to the German leaders. The Turkish paper *Cumhuriyet* observed : " Germany has brought the war to the Balkans because she knows that she cannot defeat the British people. Every German who dies, every German aircraft which is shot down, every German bullet which is fired during German attacks against Yugoslavia and Greece will constitute a loss for Germany on the front of the British Isles, where the decisive issue of the war will be fought."

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

30th May.—Three German planes were shot down over Britain. The Chairman of the City of London Air Raids Precautions Committee announced a new Fire-Watch Scheme.

31st May.—New devices against night-raiders were in operation when a few Nazi bombers visited Liverpool and the Merseyside. Two raiders were shot down.

2nd June.—The Germans raided Manchester, where two hospitals and a nurses' home were bombed. Two German raiders were brought down.

3rd June.—Large fires were started in Berlin when Royal Air Force bombers attacked the German capital at night. Bombers also attacked Dusseldorf, the inland port of Duisburg and other objectives in the Ruhr. The docks at Ostend were raided and also the docks at Saint Nazaire. Daylight bombing raids were effected on shipping in the Kiel Canal, scoring a direct hit on one vessel in the Canal. Off the coast of Norway an enemy supply ship was sunk.

4th June.—Three German bombers were destroyed over Britain. London had its 24th quiet night in succession.

The Royal Air Force made daylight raids on Le Havre, Cherbourg, etc.

5th June.—The Royal Air Force made daylight raids on Zeebrugge and destroyed a number of enemy ships. Boulogne was also attacked.

Five German raiders were shot down when a *West Midlands area was attacked.*

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

30th May.—The Italians evacuated Debrach, 50 miles north of Gondar, to which they began to retreat. The South African Air Force in Abyssinia harried the Italians in the region of Jimma.

Four German bombers were shot down in Tobruk which was raided by large enemy formations.

Rome admitted the loss of the crack Italian liner Conte Rosso, in a convoy south of Syracuse.

31st May.—The Abyssinian Patriots, advancing from Debrach, took three forts east of it as well as Billio. The British and South African Air Forces and Free French air units were active over enemy concentrations.

Four more Axis aircraft were shot down in Tobruk.

The Royal Air Force visited Sfax harbour in Tunis and bombed the Italian merchantship Florida.

1st June.—Seven enemy planes were destroyed by the Royal Air Force during patrols over British ships.

Benghazi in Libya, aerodromes in Crete and Sfax in Tunisia were raided.

Air Vice-Marshal A. W. Tedder was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore, who was appointed Inspector-General of the Royal Air Force.

2nd June.—British forces cut the road from Debra Tabor to Gondar.

The British defences in the Island of Cyprus were stated to be ready to meet any invasion.

3rd June.—Another attack was made on military objectives at Bengazhi by bomber aircraft of the Royal Air Force and a number of explosions were caused in the harbour area.

4th June.—The British Imperial and Abyssinian Patriot forces had so far taken 5,772 Italian and 12,010 African troops as prisoners in the Battle of the Lakes in Abyssinia (it was revealed). Debrach, twice re-taken by Italians, was finally captured by the Allies.

The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean, blowing up one ship of 8,000 tons and setting on fire another of 5,000 tons.

5th June.—The Royal Air Force raided the enemy aerodrome at Maritza (in the island of Rhodes) and also Benghazi.

Alexandria was raided by the German air force; and also Malta.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

30th May.—" You may completely dismiss all rumours of British readiness to make peace. You cannot make peace with a mad dog " said Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States.

31st May.—The first shipload of food sent by the United States under the Lease and Lend Act reached Britain; it included 1,000 tons of flour, over four million eggs and 12,000 lb. of cheese.

Mr. Harold Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, was appointed " Petroleum Co-ordinator for National Defence " by President Roosevelt with instructions to keep oil flowing in an adequate supply for defence and civilian needs.

Police broke up a meeting of the German American Bund in New Jersey. The German Government disowned Dr. Kurt Reith, their former Minister in Austria, who was arrested by the United States authorities with a view to deportation.

1st June.—The President of Mexico pledged help to the United States of America in the event of the latter being involved in war.

Armed watch was enforced on ports, factories and docks along Hudson River following a huge fire in a railway yard near by.

2nd June.—"Hitler will not win," declared Mr. Harry Hopkins, United States Lease and Lend Administrator.

The House of Representatives approved legislation permitting Mr. Roosevelt to appoint an unlimited number of Vice-Admirals to have charge of " special and unusual missions " of the Naval forces.

The War Department requested Congress for legislation, authorizing the President during the national emergency to requisition property of any kind " necessary to national defence " —a power similar to that assumed by President Wilson during the Great War.

President Roosevelt signed a Bill, authorizing the grant of compulsory priorities for orders from foreign Governments under the Lease and Lend Act.

3rd June.—" Every available source that we have hitherto found accurate gives evidence that half the present output of American factories, combined with Great Britain's present production, exceeds the German output, " declared Colonel John Jouett, President of the United States Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce.

President Roosevelt conferred with Mr. John Winant, American Ambassador to Britain; Mr. Harry Hopkins was present.

It was reported that United States troops were already in Greenland.

4th June.—Mr. Roosevelt conferred with Admiral King, Commander of the United States Atlantic Fleet, who is chiefly responsible for ensuring the delivery of supplies to Britain.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, conferred with British representatives in Washington on the question of preventing supplies reaching the Axis powers directly or indirectly from North and South America.

5th June.—Provision for 40,000 planes was made in the Army Supply Bill recommended by the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

GREECE AND ITALY

30th May.—More German airborne reinforcements were reported to have reached Crete.

The Royal Air Force raided the German-occupied island of Scarpanto.

31st May.—The Allied position in Crete was reported to be desperate but the German claim that Major General Freyberg had been killed was proved to be false in a British War Office announcement.

1st June.—A War office communique announced that the British were withdrawing from Crete and that 15,000 troops had already reached Egypt.

2nd June.—The Australian Premier, Mr. Menzies, praised the work of the Australian troops in Crete " in a necessary and heroic enterprise, manfully pursued home ".

The King of the Hellenes appointed a smaller Cabinet, M. Tsouderos remaining Prime Minister.

Mussolini, Ciano and General Cavallero met Hitler, Ribbentrop and Marshal Keitel at Brenner on the Italo-Austrian frontier and had a long conversation.

3rd June.—The Greek Legation in Moscow was informed that Russia considered diplomatic relations between the two countries invalid in view of what was described as the loss of Greek sovereignty and the fact that the Soviet Government had ceased to have representatives in Greece.

The extent of German consternation at the internal situation in Greece where disorders have occurred was indicated by an order issued by the Nazis declaring as offences, to be punishable by shooting, any manifestations of pro-British sympathy.

5th June.—Germans established military courts in Crete in order to try *franctireurs*, alleged to have " maltreated " German parachutists.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

30th May.—Rashid Ali, the Iraqi usurper, was reported to have fled to Iran. The British forces occupied Ur.

The Royal Air Force attacked German air bases in Syria.

31st May.—The Iraqi rebels asked for an armistice, which was granted by Britain; the British forces had already been converging on Baghdad from three directions.

1st June.—Fighting ceased in Iraq at 8 a.m.: the lawful Regent H.R.H. Emir Abdul Ilah entered Baghdad following the signing of the armistice. The boy King Feisal was reported to be safe in Baghdad.

The Mosul oil-fields were stated to be intact.

2nd June.—Baghdad was reported to be rapidly returning to normal; all was quiet in Basra.

General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, proclaimed a state of siege in Eastern Syria; the French Government suspended telegraph and telephone communications with Cairo. The Royal Air Force bombed German air bases at Aleppo and other Syrian centres. The Ankara Radio reported the arrival of the first contingent of German troops in Syria.

3rd June.—Jemil Madfai, well-known and popular pro-British statesman, accepted the Iraqi Regent's invitation to form a new Government.

4th June.—The Turkish Foreign Minister made a statement on foreign affairs, including Syria, at a secret meeting of the People's Party.

British troops occupied Mosul. Law and Order were restored in Baghdad after serious rioting.

British forces were reported to have taken up positions in readiness against any possible move by the Germans now establishing themselves in Syria. The Royal Air Force raided Beirut.

General de Gaulle, the Free French Leader, was stated to have taken up his headquarters at Haifa in Palestine.

It was learned that Rumania would become a totalitarian state without a Parliament.

5th June.—The French air force bombed Amman, the Capital of Transjordan " as a reprisal for the Royal Air Force bombing of Beirut."

SHIPPING

30th May.—The United States Government took over 13 passenger liners as military auxiliaries.

4th June.—The U.S. Maritime Commission announced that American merchantmen would take over all British shipping services from Canada and the U.S. to Australia and New Zealand, thus releasing 12 British vessels for Britain's own war effort.

It was revealed that in the week ending 2nd June, 63,000 tons of enemy shipping were sunk or damaged, of which at least 55,000 tons were sunk in the Mediterranean.

THE FAR EAST

2nd June.—The United States gave an assurance to the Chinese Government that she would relinquish her extra-territorial rights as soon as peace and order were restored in China.

The British Embassy, the French Consulate and the American Methodist Hospital were severely damaged when Japanese aircraft raided Chungking.

Chinese successes were announced in the fierce fighting in Shansi Province and in South China. Chinese " guerillas " were also very active, blowing up a train on the Peking-Hankow Railway and tearing up the track of the Peking-Johol Railway.

4th June.—Mr. Wang Yueh-Sun, Propaganda Agent of the Japanese-sponsored Nanking regime, was shot dead in Shanghai.

Heavy fighting was reported in Central Shensi and North Honan, the Japanese suffering heavy losses.

An agreement for the supply of oil to Thailand was signed by her representatives with the British authorities in Singapore.

5th June.—The Japanese claimed striking victories in Southern Shensi and North Honan.

VICHY

30th May.—Admiral Platon, Vichy's Vice-Secretary for the Colonies, admitted considerable unrest in them.

31st May.—Admiral Darlan told pressmen that he was determined to make others respect France's right to use her ports and communications as she wished.

2nd June.—The French ship *Winnipeg*, (8,379 tons) was intercepted by the Royal Netherlands warship *Van Kinsbergen* in West Indies waters. The *Winnipeg* sailed from Marseilles and had called at Dakar. When intercepted, she had aboard over 200 Germans bound for Martinique.

3rd June.—The Vichy Cabinet met for 2¼ hours when General Weygand was present.

4th June.—The Vichy Cabinet was reported to have decided to defend Syria "single-handed" (under General Weygand's leadership) against any British attack; but Vichy denied foreign reports that French naval bases in Europe and Africa would be jointly occupied by French and Geramn forces.

The U.S. Ambassador, Admiral Leahy, had an interview with Marshal Petain.

5th June.—Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, warned Vichy that its policy of collaboration with the Nazis was inimical to the rights of the United States and that a basic policy of the U.S. was to aid Britain against Germany.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

31st May.—The German Naval Commander-in-Chief in Norway, Admiral Boeham, was reported to have committed suicide, following the recent visit of Himmler, Chief of the German Secret Police, to Norway. The Admiral was a friend of Herr Hess.

4th June.—The German-controlled Paris Wireless threatened the death penalty for night assaults on German soldiers which were admitted to have become frequent in Paris.

It was learned that Dr. Matchak, the Croat leader, was interned at Kupenich.

Eighty-two thousand officials had been dismissed by the German authorities in Moravia and Bohemia because of increasing sabotage.

General Sikorski, the Polish Premier, addressing the Polish National Council in London, envisaged offensive action by the growing free Polish forces next year on the continent.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

31st May.—The Moscow Radio reported military manœuvres in Ukraine.

Bombs dropped by foreign aircraft on Dublin caused many deaths and heavy damage to property. The house of Eire's President, Dr. Hyde, and the American Legation building suffered. Fierce anti-aircraft fire greeted the raiders.

1st June.—The bombs dropped on Dublin were found to be of German origin and the Eire Government protested to Germany and demanded compensation as also an assurance that German aircraft would not fly again over Irish territory or territorial waters.

4th June.—The Egyptian Premier reshuffled his Cabinet.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 27th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 21, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raid on naval base at Heligoland (quays, gun positions, troops). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on **Bethune** (power station, oil refinery).	2 day bombers. 6 day fighters.	6 day fighters. ..
May 22, Thursday.	(No reports.)	..	..
May 23, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off Dutch and French coasts (1 merchantman and 1 tanker damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; ports, (including Boulogne and St. Nazaire) and aerodromes in occupied territory.	Nil.	..
May 24, Saturday.	R.A.F. day raids on shipping in North Sea (2,500-ton merchantman sunk, another damaged).	1 day bomber.	..
May 25, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on two convoys off Danish, German and French coasts (6,000-ton merchantman damaged, 4,000-ton merchantman on fire, others hit).	4 day bombers.	..
May 26, Monday.	(No reports.)		
May 27, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on aerodrome at Lannion (planes, hangars, lorries); shipping off Dutch coast and in Bay of Biscay (two coastal vessels believed sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives at **Cologne**; invasion base at Boulogne; aerodrome near Caen.	1 raider.	7 fighters (destroyed on ground).

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 27th May 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attack (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 21	Nil.	..
May 22	Nil.	1 day fighter.
May 23	Nil.	..
May 24	Nil.	1 day raider.
May 25	Nil.	3 day fighters.
May 26	Nil.	1 day raider.
May 27	Nil.	1 day bomber.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The situation in Iraq is fast returning to normal. Rashid Ali has fled to Iran with his co-conspirators. An Armistice was signed on Saturday. The Regent, Abdul Ilah, has returned to Baghdad in triumph, and a new Government has been formed with Jemil Madfai, pro-British leader, as Prime Minister. He has been Prime Minister three times already. Mosul is in British hands.

Crete has had to be evacuated mainly owing to the impossibility of the Royal Air Force giving any help to the Empire land forces. The German attempt has been described to be a remarkable feat of organization and administration, its conspicuous feature being completeness of conception and execution. But Germany paid a heavy toll, both in men and machines. Fifteen thousand Empire troops had been evacuated and, it is stated, that 2,800 New Zealand and 3,600 Australian troops have been captured, killed or wounded. The British Navy, as usual, played a gallant part in this rescue work.

The results of the Vichy-Berlin negotiations are being published in spoonfuls and many reports are current as regards the scope of the understanding which, it is said, will eventually result in a treaty. Use of naval bases by Germany including Dakar on the West African coast is being mentioned. General Weygand has seen Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan. Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, United States, has again warned Vichy. Franco-German collaboration, he has pointed out, was inimical to American interests as well as to those of other nations, and would amount to co-operation for the purpose of aggression and oppression.

Meanwhile the situation in Syria is getting abnormal. General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, has denied that there is a single German soldier in that country, but it is suspicious that a state of siege has been proclaimed in Syria. There is no doubt that many German planes and airborne troops, according to one account, have flown over to Syria which is the chief centre of interest in international politics.

Hitler and Mussolini have again met at Brenner Pass and the usual communique that there was complete identity of views between the two leaders has been published. It is also stated that discussions centered around the final role of the Axis in the organization of a New Empire!

Whatever that conception may be, British Labour is determined not to have any peace, negotiated or otherwise, which is not built upon the complete annihilation of Nazidom. The Labour Party Annual Conference adopted a memorandum of "no compromise" with Hitler and Mussolini by 2,000,430 votes to 19,000 votes. That memorandum stressed the need for total victory and stated that it would be a folly and betrayal of those for whom the British Labour Party spoke to put any trust in a peace to which Hitler and Mussolini were parties.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, the Special Envoy of President Roosevelt, has now stated that Hitler will not win because he has no sea power, he is losing air superiority, he cannot equal the economic resources which America and Great Britain are bringing to bear against him and it is contrary to American interest—economic, political, and moral—that he should be allowed to consolidate his ill-gotten gains. Mr. Winant, American Ambassador in Great Britain, who is now in Washington, is having a series of important conferences with President Roosevelt and Government officials. These talks, it is presumed, relate to the defence of the United States, the Battle of the Atlantic and England's most urgent requirements. It is expected that valuable results will follow.

Whatever America may do, however, Eire seems determined to remain neutral. On Saturday, the 31st May, many bombs were dropped on Dublin and these bombs have now been identified to be German in origin. The death roll is now 34 and at least 500 people have been rendered homeless. The Eirean Government have lodged an emphatic protest in Berlin, have claimed compensation and reparation for loss of life, injuries and damage to property, and demanded definite assurances that German aircraft will not be allowed to fly over Irish territory and territorial waters.

Some striking figures of air losses by the enemy have been published. One hundred and forty-four German night bombers were brought down during the month of May, a record number. The Allies destroyed 1,696 enemy machines against a loss of 260 by themselves since the beginning of the war on all fronts in the Middle East, including Iraq. Altogether, by day and night, 205 enemy planes have been brought down over Britain during May and 32 over Europe and 23 more were brought down by the Navy, the total number being 260. British losses for May were 67 over Europe and 18 over Britain.

EVACUATION OF CRETE

The British Imperial Forces have evacuated Crete after twelve days of the most heroic defence against odds. A War Office communique stated on June 1: "After twelve days of what has undoubtedly been the fiercest fighting in this war it was decided to withdraw our forces from Crete. Although the losses we inflicted on the enemy's troops and aircraft have been enormous, it became clear that our naval and military forces could not be expected to operate indefinitely in and near Crete without more air support than could be provided from our bases in Africa. Some 15,000 of our troops have been withdrawn to Egypt but it must be admitted that our losses have been severe." It is believed that the number 15,000 given in the communique relates only to British Imperial troops and does not include Greek troops who may have been withdrawn. This conclusion of the Battle for Crete must be somewhat disappointing but the decision to evacuate was undoubtedly right. "We were prepared to pay a certain price to hold Crete but as soon as this price exceeded the value which we placed on holding the island, we decided to withdraw." These words rightly sum up informed military opinion on this subject.

The odds were in favour of the garrison in this extraordinary battle provided the British fleet was able to maintain the sea blockade without its forces being depleted. The losses it sustained in the first week of the struggle were disquieting and it was unable to prevent large numbers of airborne German troops continuing to land in Crete. This is no reflection on Admiral Cunningham's magnificent force; it merely means it faced an impossible task. British long-range bombers and fighters kept up raids on Crete but the close proximity of enemy air bases on the Greek mainland and the Aegean islands gave the Germans overwhelming air strength which even frequent long-range bombing could not shake. The defenders also suffered from two handicaps; it was difficult to reinforce them with men and supplies and constant enemy dive-bombing and land attacks gave them no rest, thereby imposing on them an intolerable strain. By using freshly landed troops to extend their hold on the Malemi aerodrome, the Nazis were able to bring in increasing reinforcements and they went on to capture Canea and dominate Suda Bay.

MADRAS AND THE R.A.F.

THREE FIGHTER SQUADRONS NAMED AFTER MADRAS

OVER one million pounds has been given to the British Air Ministry by four Indian funds, Madras Presidency subscribing £675,000, Punjab £120,000, United Provinces £160,000, and Bombay £100,000. Three squadrons—a Hurricane, a Spitfire and one of the Defiants—have been selected to perpetuate the fine contribution made by Madras to the Empire war effort. One is a Hurricane fighter squadron. It had a splendid record in the Great War of 1914-1918. Another is a Spitfire squadron. Both squadrons played a magnificent part in the Battle of Britain. The third is one of the new squadrons of Defiants. This squadron made history at Dunkirk when it shot down 35 enemy aircraft in one day without a single loss to itself.

The British Command, of course, flung into the fray long-range fighters from Egypt, but these machines worked under very severe disadvantages. The German machines operated from bases only 150 miles from the scene while Britain's long-range fighters had to fly some 300 or 400 miles from their Egyptian bases before coming to grips with the enemy. In Britain's long-range fighters, the pilots had to be very careful about the fuel-gauge because, when once their petrol is exhausted, it is their duty to turn to their base. The Bristol Blenheim long-range fighter which has been operating over Crete has rear defensive armament which enables a certain amount of fire to be turned to the rear. So long as the pilot has plenty of petrol in hand, he can engage in head-on encounters with his enemy, knowing that he can bring the full weight of his fire to bear on his objective; but once he has to turn and make for home, he can defend himself and hit back only with a seriously-reduced proportion of fighting power.

But, despite the withdrawl from Crete, the course of events in the Near East has not brought Hitler appreciably nearer his ultimate goal. Hitler has ferociously expended his men, petrol and machines. The Empire troops destroyed or wrecked six hundred of Hitler's best invasion planes. They killed 18,000 of his best shock troops. They fought day and night without rest on air fields, on beaches **and in the hills. The decision in Germany that henceforth special prayers for the Nazi armies in the field shall be offered in all churches until the end of the war may be** taken as evidence of the growing need to support German morale against the coming news of heavy losses. Moreover, as Mr. Churchill declared a few days ago, despite the successes of German dive-bombers in attacking British ships under ideal conditions in their point of view "there is no question whatever of the British naval position in the Mediterranean having been prejudicially affected." The loss of Crete has created a second channel through which Allied ships must pass, open to enemy air attacks on both sides. In this case, however, there is a difference. The Royal Air Force, based on Egypt, will be able to deal with enemy dive-bombers whereas in the case of the other channel, the narrow Sicilian channel, we have no bases near other than aircraft-carriers. The fact is that, thanks to the magnificent stand made by the British forces and the long time they managed to hold out in Crete, the situation in other centres in the Near East has considerably improved for Britain. While Crete has been held, forces and aeroplanes from East Africa have been made ready for action elsewhere. Tanks have been overhauled and serviced and the situation in Iraq has been cleared up. And after all, the withdrawal of 15,000 troops under heavy enemy pressure was a feat in itself and must be heartening to the Allied High Command in the Middle East, who so urgently need every available man and machine to deal with the rapidly developing situation in Libya and Syria. The loss of Crete is undoubtedly a serious set-back, but the Allies have learnt many lessons which will stand them in good stead.

HITLER'S NEXT MOVE

The defence of the naval bases in Alexandria and the Suez Canal is the next problem. In this defence, the Island of Cyprus will be of the utmost importance and adequate steps ensure our hold of it. The question of air power here again will be a decisive factor. The vandals will not be in so favourable a position to deploy their air forces against Cyprus as against Crete unless, indeed, they previously overrun Turkey and establish themselves in Syria. **Hitler is trying to do the latter now and it is urgent that the many** French soldiers in Syria, who hate the Nazis and are ready to throw in their lot with General de Gaulle, should receive every encouragement. This encouragement could be given if the Free French Forces now in Palestine and Egypt advanced on Beirut and Damascus, covered by our Air Force which would protect them from attacks by Nazi planes now in Syria. These are days which demand resolute political action and acceptance of risks even if the act is audacious. For the defence of Cyprus, Syria must be in friendly hands. Germany has already secured control of the French aerodromes in Syria and the Ankara Radio is responsible for the report that the first contingent of German troops has arrived in Syria—probably from one of the Dodecanese Islands. The French High Commissioner, General Dentz, has proclaimed a state of siege in Eastern Syria and telegraph and telephone communications between Syria and Cairo were cut by order of the French Government. Turkey naturally feels anxious about the possibility of being first isolated and then threatened by Germany; and the feeling is growing among her people that Britain must take quick and firm action in Syria, even occupying it and thus forestalling the Germans, if necessary. The Royal Air Force, it may be noted, has not at all been idle and has repeatedly bombed Aleppo and other German air bases in Syria.

IRAQ SITUATION CLEARED UP

It is satisfactory to note that the situation in Iraq is once more normal with the collapse of Rashid Ali's Nazi-inspired revolt and the flight of the usurper to Iran, accompanied by the puppet Regent he set up and the Axis Ministers in Baghdad who had encouraged him. An armistice has been signed; the lawful Regent, H.R.H. Emir Abdul Ilah, has returned to Baghdad and been welcomed by all sections of the population; and Jemil Madfai, the popular pro-British leader, has formed a new Cabinet. The boy King Feisal is reported to be safe in the capital, contrary to earlier reports that Rashid Ali had taken him away to Iran. The Mosul oilfields are also stated to be in tact and and are in British hands. It is of considerable strategical value to the Allied cause to have thus secured an alternative line of supply to India as well as a valuable source of oil supply; and the rallying of the Arab world to the British side and the security afforded to our Allies, the Turks, by thus guarding their back-door are valuable strategical assets.

The failure of the rebellion also clearly demonstrates the fact that the Arabs refuse to be dominated by Nazis. As Mr. Eden pointed out on the 27th May last, the pretensions of Rashid Ali to speak for Iraq have proved to be hollow. This self-constituted dictator, as the Foreign Secretary pointed out, has brought much unnecessary suffering to his fellow countrymen. The Arab world should be thankful that this traitor is out of the way.

LIQUIDATION OF ITALIAN RESISTANCE IN AFRICA

The course of the Abyssinian campaign should have great influence in the defence of Egypt, for it not only secures its backdoor but releases a considerable force of seasoned and gallant troops to move northward. It is possible that General Wavell may now find himself strong enough to assume the offensive in Libya before the enemy is allowed further time to reinforce his troops there. The Italian columns in the Lake Districts are being rapidly mopped up, a considerable number of prisoners being captured every day. The enemy has been driven from Debrach, 50 miles north of Gondar on the road to Adowa, and is retreating towards Gondar. There is every prospect of 17,000 Italians being hemmed in there as the British and Abyssinian Patriot forces hold Chelge on the West, Lake Tana on the south, Debra Tabor on the south-east and now Debrach on the north. It should be remembered that there are still over 35,000 enemy troops in various parts of Abyssinia. Allied pressure is continuous and small parties of enemy surrender almost daily, but obviously it must take some time to round up this number of men when spread over a large area. The Royal Air Force is continually harassing enemy concentrations: it has again and again raided Bengazhi, the principal enemy base in Libya. The enemy has so far failed to capture Tobruk; and Tobruk is a threat to the enemy's flank in any move towards Egypt. Of course, the Germans have recaptured Sollum, but many places in Northern Africa change hands so frequently and Sollum is an example of the fluidity of desert-warfare, whose results should be judged mainly from the numbers of casualties and prisoners and the vehicles and material captured or destroyed on either side. Applying this test, what do we find? Mussolini has lost the Roman Empire in East Africa. He has been punished very severely. Where he had a well-equipped army of 300,000 men, one-third of whom were white Italians, possessed a thousand guns, hundreds of tanks, a transport fleet of giant size and an air force, to-day there is none poorer than Mussolini. What are his losses? 120,000 men have been captured, **125,000 have deserted or are missing, 55,000** have been killed or are stragglers and his equipment and stores have been entirely lost. He has been deprived of 700,000 square miles of territory, representing all Asia Minor or seven times the size of Britain.

TURKEY

One unmistakable fact which emerges from the latest developments in the Eastern Mediterranean is that Turkey has been encircled by Germany. This has been methodically done. Where Turkey expected an attack from the west, it now appears that, if she is unwilling to satisfy Germany's demands, she might be threatened from the south-east; German troops are now stationed along Turkey's European frontier, German and Italian troops occupy the chain of Greek islands from the Dardanelles to Rhodes and Germany has the use of Bulgarian and Rumanian shipping to attack Turkey on her northern flank. If Syria comes increasingly under the influence of Germany—the process has already commenced—then, the circle would be complete. Combined naval and air manœuvres carried out under German control from the Rumanian Black Sea port of Constanza indicate that an attack upon Turkey's northern coast is not impossible in specific circumstances. Not content with this physical encirclement, Germany has started a whispering campaign about an impending Russo-German plan of collaboration on a comprehensive scale. Turkey is therefore being threatened by German power on three sides and has Russia at her back door. As a matter of fact, Turkish circles which are confident of British ability to prevent the German conquest of Iraq and Syria, appear to fear the intervention of "a third party" which is, of course, Soviet Russia. The handing over to Russia of the Persian Gulf as a price may induce, it is said, Soviet Russia to allow German troops a passage *via* Batoum to Iraq and so on. Whatever that may be, Germany does not scruple to circulate these rumours as an instrument of propaganda for bringing pressure to bear upon the Turks.

The thin end of the wedge is already there. Reports have been published of Turkish-German agreement in respect of exchange of goods. It is believed that 16 Axis merchant ships have passed through Bosphorus westwards with suspect cargoes and the Turks have been unable to stop or control these movements. The British Government have drawn the attention of Turkey through diplomatic circles to the passage of arms and munitions from French Syria to the Iraqi rebels by the Aleppo-Mosul railway, a section of which passes through Turkish territory. The Turks have

(Continued on Page 12)

INDIA'S DEFENCE OUTPOSTS

AXIS THREATS MUST BE MET RESOLUTELY

The news of the collapse of the revolt in Iraq and the flight of the usurper Rashid Ali from the country will be widely welcomed in India. There is ample proof that Rashid, who rebelled against the properly-constituted Iraqi Government, was helped by money from the Axis powers. If his revolt had been successful, Iraq would have been reduced to the state of Rumania, which is now German in everything but name. Rashid Ali had no qualms in opening the gate for a German invasion of Asia.

And the treachery of the Vichy Government supplemented that of Rashid Ali. It has been well said that while Iraqi Quislings opened the gate, the French Quislings have done their best to smooth the road. The Germans are now in control of the principal air bases in Syria, from which French arms and supplies also went to prop up Rashid Ali. The eastward extension of the war-zone has been of service, however, in bringing home a number of realities to India. Paper-strategy is given a more vivid meaning and throws into relief the system of outer defences whereby India's security is maintained. The enemy himself, in his ambitious attempts to rush the barricades, has made us understand just how those barricades are disposed.

India's position in relation to the British Commonwealth in the Eastern Hemisphere is illustrated in the map printed in this issue. True, India has a mighty natural barrier, the Himalaya Mountains, practically shutting off invasion from the North-east. And seasoned troops keep guard over North-West Frontier and Baluchistan, ready to tackle any enemy that dares to enter by the Khyber Pass, or any other approaches from the West. To the Royal Navy and the Royal Indian Navy is given the task of guarding the long coastline of our Peninsula. But with the development of modern weapons, especially in the air, India's defence can no longer be confined to her own boundaries. Her frontiers really lie in Singapore, in Egypt, in the Middle and Near East, and along the Suez Canal at the gateway of the East from the Mediterranean.

In the public mind the Axis threat to India from the West had so far been confined mainly to the direction of Egypt where there are large forces of Imperial Troops opposing the enemy advance from Libya. Germany's original plan was undoubtedly a simultaneous attack on Britain by herself and by Italian forces, moving from Libya, on Suez. But the Royal Air Force and the Imperial Troops under General Sir Archibald Wavell have beaten off both the attacks. In a succession of brilliant operations, the Italian troops were driven back to Benghazi and the conquest of Italian East Africa was undertaken. The Germans then took a hand in Libya where the position now is that British Imperial and German troops are facing each other on the Libyan-Egyptian border. And the harbour of Tobruk in the rear of the German forces in Libya is stoutly defended by British and Indian troops and is an ever-present threat to the German flank. The statement of Mr. Churchill that Great Britain is determined to defend her interests in the Middle East at all costs, and especially Tobruk, has restored public confidence in the defence of India by our troops in Egypt.

THREAT FROM THE WEST

It must, however, be borne in mind that the defence of India in the East is not to be found in Egypt alone. In present-day warfare the aeroplane and fast-moving armoured fighting vehicles have largely overcome the barriers of distances, the seas, deserts and other geographical features which impeded the advance of armies up to the days of the Great War. Egypt is well defended but there are other routes to India leading from the Balkans in Europe. With Germany on the shores of the Aegean Sea, and with Russia remaining neutral, these are generally —

(*a*) The Balkans—Turkey—Iraq—Iran—Afghanistan or Baluchistan.

(*b*) The Balkans—Syria—Iraq—Iran—Afghanistan or Baluchistan.

Of these the first (*a*) is improbable, although by no means out of the question. Turkey, is now isolated from British support, except from the south. Any advance through Turkey would, however, only be possible following a direct attack on the country, which could be strongly resisted. The second route (*b*) presents the more immediate danger. The Germans, by putting pressure on Vichy, are clearly attempting to use Syria as a stepping-stone in the drive to the East. The British Navy dominates the Mediterranean; but, because of the German occupation of the Greek Islands in the Aegean, the sea passage to Syria should not present insuperable difficulties to the Nazis. It may result in heavy losses to them, but a proportion of ships would be certain to get through. There is also the possibility of airborne transport *via* the Dodecanese Islands. And if Syria could be occupied by the Axis powers in strength—Vichy has shown that it has neither the power nor the desire to resist them; that it is, indeed, ready to co-operate with them—a land approach to the East would be available to Germany and Italy, which would be a threat not only to the oil supplies in Iran and Iraq but also to the security of India herself.

IMPORTANCE OF IRAQ

That this is fully realized by Hitler has been shown by the Axis intrigues in Iraq which started Rashid Ali's rebellion. The British, Indian and other Empire troops now there, guarding vital communications, have as great a responsibility for the defence of India as those stationed in Egypt. For, it is in Iraq that any German advance by this route must be brought to a standstill. With the capture of Basra, the Axis would have access to the Persian Gulf. Without naval supremacy, it is true, this might not be a definite threat to India by sea. But from Basra the land route to the East lies open through Iran and Afghanistan. No longer are the deserts and mountains of these two countries an effective barrier to a land advance.

The Anglo-Iraqi Treaty, so wantonly violated by Rashid Ali but nevertheless binding on both countries, provided for agreed measures for the protection of Iraq herself, of British interests in the Middle East, and of India in case of aggression. Any approach of danger can be stemmed by resolute action within Iraq. It can be confidently expected that the Imperial Troops will form an impregnable barrier to a German advance and that the lawful Regent of Iraq, H.R.H. Emir Abdul Ilah, will not only re-establish constitutional government in Iraq but adhere firmly to a treaty that has been such a great stabilising force all these years in the Middle and Near East. So far, at any rate, the peril that threatened the Middle East citadel has been resolutely met by our brave troops and their commanders and will not easily be increased. In Crete and Tobruk, the gallant Allied defenders have given as good as they got though they have had to evacuate Crete in view of the numerical superiority of the German air force; and Germany has been sorely taxed. And in Abyssinia, the fall of Amba Alagi and the surrender of the Duke of Aosta with thousands of troops marks the climax of an astonishing feat of arms in which soldiers of many countries in the British Commonwealth have shared the danger and the glory. Defending the approaches to Suez, General Wavell has shown that his reputation is well earned for striking at the right place and the right moment.

OUR EASTERN BASTION

In the meantime strong reinforcements have reached Malaya from India and other parts of the Empire. Our eastern bastion of Singapore will undoubtedly prove its mettle if and when it comes to be tested by any foe.

All honour to China who is so bravely resisting the aggressor and immobilizing a considerable body of his troops. A Chinese Military Mission has just toured India, Burma and Malaya and has expressed its satisfaction at the state of the defences in these countries. Any ambitious aggressor may be deterred by thoughts of the hot reception awaiting him at Singapore but Indo-China is weak and is a ready prey; it may not be difficult to pierce through to Burma by land. And with Hitler preparing to stake all his past successes and future hopes upon a supreme hazard in the Suez area, and to extort or buy assistance from Russia, Turkey, Iran or indeed, wherever he can, the danger to India of simultaneous assaults on her eastern and western ramparts is not to be denied. It is time for us to sink all our differences, and make our defences secure—by land, sea and air—so that the united efforts of the British Commonwealth of Nations and their Allies, already proved in war, will ensure that the Axis assault is held until the resources that will finally turn the scale are fully mobilised—in America and the Empire.

LOSS OF THE 'HOOD'

The British battlecruiser *Hood*, which blew up off Greenland in an engagement with enemy forces including the battleship *Bismarck*, cost about six million pounds to build.

London has just raised no less than £108,000,000 in a single week in voluntary subscriptions for war weapons—enough to build eighteen *Hoods*.

But Britain will not build eighteen *Hoods*, for the type of which she was the largest representative is no longer being built for the Royal Navy.

The battlecruiser type was developed in the years before the Great War. The object was to develop a vessel with the heavy armament of a battleship but the speed of a cruiser, which could then overtake and deal with commerce-destroying cruisers on the high seas. To achieve the necessary speed armour had to be sacrificed, with the result that battlecruisers may be described as fast-moving heavy gun-platforms which could give many blows but not receive them. The reality of the danger against which battlecruisers were built was proved in the Battle of Coronel in November 1914. The battlecruisers justified their existence in the Battle of the Falkland Isles in December 1914, when two of them disposed of Von Spee's heavy cruisers.

Their weakness in action against battleships was shown at the Battle of Jutland in 1916, when three battlecruisers were lost in quick succession. One of them, the *Queen Mary*, blew up in much the same way as the *Hood* has done. The disabling of the *Graf Spee* in December 1939 by three cruisers was another illustration of a battlecruiser's defensive weakness, for this pocket-battleship was really, on account of her high speed and lack of armour protection, a pocket-battlecruiser.

Modern improvements in machinery have made it possible to build battleships, which are as speedy as battlecruisers and yet are heavily armoured. Thus the *Hood's* speed was 31 knots while that of the *King George V* is over 30 knots.

The *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, sometimes referred to as battlecruisers, are really fast battleships though smaller than the *King George V*. Thus improved machinery, which has saved weight which can now be put into armour, has practically eliminated the thirty-year-old distinction between battleships and battlecruisers.

TALKING POINTS—(*Continued from Page 9*)

not apparently prevented this passage because they fear that such an intervention would not only prevent the despatch of arms and munitions to Turkey by the Basra-Mosul route, but that it would also complicate the situation so far as Turkish relations with Germany are concerned. If Turkey has a very clear understanding that it would be against her interests if Axis control in Syria and Iraq is established, then her hesitation can only be attributed to the fact that she is playing for time in which to secure her equipment from her friends of which she is badly in need. That is why perhaps she has always defined her defence policy much more narrowly than she would have done in other circumstances.

The most vulnerable point is, of course, Syria. Turkish circles are anxious that Great Britain should take the offensive by launching a vigorous land attack before Axis forces, which are already arriving in Syria, becomes stronger. Mere periodic bombing won't do, according to Turkish opinion and it is pointed out that the Imperial forces at present in Palestine are sufficient to capture Syria. The situation in Iraq has eased and the opportunity, it is pointed out by certain critics, should be availed of to see that Syria does not pass into the hands of the Axis, not only in order to save Turkey but also to strengthen the defences of Cyprus and the Suez Canal. There is a movement in Turkey that she should ask the French Government to make a full and frank statement in regard to her intentions about Syria. Turkey wants a very definite assurance that Syria will remain under French control. Otherwise, not only would the Turkish forces on the Syrian frontier be strengthened, but if British forces in Palestine are not utilized to prevent Syria being handed over to Germany, Turkey should at once invade Syria and set up an independent Republic allied to Turkey. There is, of course, a good deal of wishful thinking in all these speculations. Turkey is being surrounded by Germany; she does not of course like it and would, if her integrity is threatened, repel the aggressor with all the force that she could command. Meantime, she desires that somehow or other Nazis should not attack through Syria. Syria cannot be easily reached by land or by the 380-mile sea-route from the Dodecanese, but the example of Crete should be a warning—airborne troops might reach friendly Syria. If anything like that happens, there are British forces in Palestine which might be expected to act expeditiously and Turkey has repeatedly declared that she is not likely to see Syria taken over by the Nazis.

NEWS !

As usual, the B.B.C. was first with the news of the loss of the *Hood*. Berlin spoke of "heavy forces" engaging the *Bismarck*, but the British Admiralty's communiqué about the *Hood* made them launch out on an excited broadcast claiming previous successes against the other British battlecruisers *Repulse* and *Renown*.

Here are some previous Axis "victories" against British battlecruisers, including the *Hood* herself.

MUSSOLINI AND THE 'HOOD'

On July 12, 1940, the Italian radio claimed that the *Hood* had been "put out of action for a long time by the Italian air force".

On July 14 the *Hood* was reported from the same source to have reached Gibraltar.

On July 15 the *Hood* was "so badly damaged by three bombs that she could not be repaired in Gibraltar", and would have to go to England.

And on July 18 the Italians excelled themselves by declaring in their weekly broadcast in Bengali that "the *Hood* was destroyed near the Balearic Isles", although on the following day they said that the "badly damaged" *Ark Royal* and the *Hood* were lying in Gibraltar.

It seems that someone else was lying in Rome.

PRIEM AND THE 'REPULSE.'

The German U-boat ace Lieut. Priem, whose loss was admitted by Berlin three weeks late on May 23, was reported by the Nazis on October 16, 1939, to have "damaged and disabled" the *Repulse* in Scapa Flow.

On December 6, 1939, the *Repulse* was listed by the German radio as sunk, together with other "successes" by submarine warfare which "exceed all expectations".

On February 9, 1940, there was yet another German radio report, quoting "American sources of information". This time it was not only the *Repulse*, but the *Hood*, the *Nelson* and the *Warspite* as well. All were said to have suffered "heavy damage" and it was added that they were only saved by being fitted with "mine-catchers". The precise danger which the *Repulse* had avoided after being first "disabled" and subsequently "sunk" was not explained.

German anxiety to discover the whereabouts of these warships was probably the reason for this report. A few days later the British Admiralty announced the arrival of the *Repulse* in port.

The Nazis then dropped the story of the sinking of the *Repulse*, and claimed that she had put in for repairs on account of her "disabling" at Scapa Flow—just 120 days earlier.

Incidentally, they described the *Repulse* as "Britain's fastest battleship," a distinction which they have now transferred to the *Hood*.

GOEBBELS AND THE 'RENOWN.'

And now Dr. Goebbels repeats his legend of May 18 regarding the *Renown*, which he said "was damaged by artillery fire by German battleships in the course of the Norwegian campaign last year. She had to stay in dock for several months."

Actually it was the German battleship *Scharnhorst* which after the engagement of April 9, 1940, had to stay in dock, where she was visited by the Royal Air Force. The *Renown* had chased the *Scharnhorst* in fog and snow, silencing her forward gun turret before the German ship escaped under cover of a smoke-screen.

"During this period," said Mr. Churchill in his report, "a shell had passed through our vessel about the water-line without bursting.

. . A second shell went through the foremast, carrying away the aerial. There were no casualties aboard the *Renown*."

Since then the Italians have heard of the *Renown*, which took part in the celebrated bombardment of Genoa on February 10, along with the *Ark Royal* which the Nazis have "sunk" so often.

But Dr. Goebbels has not finished. The *Renown*, he said on May 18, had been "towed into Gibraltar in a damaged condition," following "the concentrated and successful attack" by Italian torpedo-carrying aircraft."

In this attack, as it happens, not a single British ship was hit, while 16 enemy aircraft were destroyed and 6 damaged for the loss of two British planes.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Hitler the King-Maker

Few recent spectacles have been more Gilbertian than that of Adolf Hitler, on whose orders small States have been overrun and their legitimate rulers (Sovereigns and Presidents alike) savagely and personally attacked, setting up in business as a king-maker. On May 19, Berlin's radio broadcast elaborate accounts of the previous day's ceremony at the Quirinal Palace in Rome, whereby the Duke of Spoleto became "King of Croatia"—a puppet-show in the best Italian manner, but this time under discreet German supervision.

A puppet-State ruled by a puppet-Premier (who is also a murderer) applied to the puppet-King of yet another puppet-State, and was graciously provided with—yet another puppet-King.

Croatian "King's" high mission

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, said the German wireless, declared that the good wishes of himself and his people accompanied the new King of Croatia in the carrying out of his high mission.

Part of the puppet ruler's "high mission," doubtless, will be to afford royal sanction to the continued ruthless spoliation of his new subjects by the Axis partners. According to the New York *Times* (May 19) food, cattle, timber and all kinds of raw materials are being shipped off daily from Croatia to Germany and Italy, while 40 Croat peasant Members of Parliament have already been arrested for daring to protest.

"Protector of Croatia"

"A frontier agreement between Italy and Croatia, and an additional agreement in which Italy guarantees the existence of the Kingdom of Croatia, have been signed at the Palazzo Venezia in Rome," added the Berlin radio. Croatia can assess the value of Mussolini's signature by glancing back at the fate of Austria, which from the beginning of 1934 enjoyed a similar Italian "guarantee." In March 1938, after Hitler had invaded and annexed Austria, he telegraphed to Mussolini that he would "never forget" the Duce's passive co-operation in the German absorption of the independent State of Austria.

Mussolini, who betrayed Austria, would not hesitate to betray Croatia in turn, should his Nazi overlord ever find it expedient to absorb this new "Sovereign independent State."

R.A.F. daylight raid on Bethune

More recently, Berlin said (*a*) that by daylight on May 21, British planes "tried to enter German-occupied territory on the Channel coast," (*b*) that seven British planes were destroyed, (*c*) that the British bombers were "dispersed by A-A fire" and the British fighters "scattered in all directions" by Nazi fighters, and (*d*) that no German planes were lost.

The facts were :—(*a*) British planes succeeded in entering enemy-occupied territory as far as their objective, Bethune, 50 miles inland; (*b*) seven British planes were lost, as stated, (*c*) the attackers were not dispersed, but owing to the tenacity of the British fighters in maintaining formation, the bombers were able to get through and score direct hits on their targets, a power station and a large oil refinery; and (*d*) six German fighters were shot down.

—and on Heligoland

Berlin also lied about the Royal Air Force's other daylight raid on May 21, that on the naval base at Heligoland. The Nazis said (*a*) that most of the British bombs fell in the water, (*b*) that no military objectives were hit, but that a school was damaged and several civilians injured, and (*c*) that two British bombers were destroyed. In actual fact, Heligoland (a highly militarised island occupied exclusively by naval and military personnel) was attacked from a very low level by British bombers, which scored direct hits on docks and gun-emplacements. Only one British bomber was lost.

"In daring daylight attacks on May 21," concluded the Nazi wireless, "German bombers penetrated into England, and attacked military objectives with good success." The very brevity of this communiqué was suspicious, since Berlin usually indulges in highly-coloured descriptions of the Luftwaffe's activities. In actual fact, no bombs fell anywhere in Britain, either by day or night, on May 21.

From Iceland to Iraq

"Acting under English pressure," said Berlin on May 21, "the Government of Iceland has seceded from Danish sovereignty."

Iceland's decision to cut its last remaining legal tie with Denmark has been made under no sort of pressure, English or otherwise. Since 1918 Iceland has been an independent State, bound to Denmark only by a personal union through the King, and this union was legally liable to dissolution any time after 1940.

Reg. No. 57, *Heliozinco., Survey Office, Madras. 1941.*

On the same day, Berlin accused the Royal Air Force of bombing " the open town of Mosul " and machine-gunning the civilian population. An Iraqi military aerodrome now in German hands was the Mosul objective of the Royal Air Force, which has no desire to infringe the German and Italian monopoly of machine-gunning civilians.

Axis " Air " Attacks on Malta

Declaring that since last June (when Italy entered the war) Malta has had no less than 600 air-raid alarms. Berlin asserted on May 22 that, owing to the success of recent German attacks, the harbour of La Valetta has practically lost its value as a naval base. " For several months past," goes on Berlin, " no enemy battleship or heavy cruiser has dared to anchor there. . . A base which is not safe against all possible attacks must be considered useless."

In some respects, Berlin's remarks are an understatement, for Malta to date has had more than 300 full air raids and more than 650 air raid " alerts ". Malta ceased to be a base for Britain's larger ships long before the war began, but capital ships have moved freely in and out of its waters even in recent months, and despite enemy air attacks, the 23,000-ton aircraft carrier *Illustrious* underwent repairs there last January before moving on to Alexandria.

Since the enemy now proclaims Malta to be " useless ", why does he continue his attacks, which have already cost him 132 German or Italian warplanes destroyed for certain, another 44 probably destroyed, and a further 50 damaged?

Vichy Action Against U. S. Ships

On May 22 the German wireless reported that the Vichy authorities, in retaliation for the confiscation of French ships in United States ports, had prevented two American ships from leaving Marseilles. Since, under ordinary circumstances, United States vessels are no longer to be found in combat zones (including France's coastal waters), it is obvious that any American ships at Marseilles must have gone there by special arrangement to carry foodstuffs destined for the relief of the alleged distress in France. If this Berlin report be true, therefore, Vichy's action against the ships is a characteristically Nazi-esque piece of treachery and ingratitude.

Incidentally, Vichy's ships in United States ports have not been " confiscated ", as the German wireless alleges, but merely placed under anti-sabotage guard.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Rashid Ali Ostracised

Regardless of mounting evidence to the contrary, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts of May 19 try to make out that Rashid Ali, the misleader of the Iraqis, enjoys the respect and sympathy of every Muslim in the world. That Rashid Ali has been condemned by the adjacent Muslim countries and the spokesman of Indian Muslims is obvious. King Ibn Saud refused to give asylum to Rashid, and recently told the latter's Finance Minister that if he had agreed with Rashid Ali's policy he would have supported him already, adding that the only course open to the Arab nations was to support Britain. The Iraqi community in Bahrein has sent a telegram to the Regent of Iraq, expressing loyalty and calling on him to release Iraq from Rashid Ali and his rebels. In Egypt and Turkey his policy has been characterised as " despicable " and " treacherous ".

In India, the Nizam of Hyderabad has issued a strong appeal to Muslims in India to join with him in expressing their unqualified disapproval of the action of Rashid Ali and his clique, who have offended against one of the most solemn precepts of Islam which is to honour the pledged word. Other Muslims in India, like Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, Sir Mohammed Usman and the Nawab of Chhatari have been equally downright in their condemnation of the Rashid Ali junta, who by their treacherous action have brought war to the Arab countries.

Nazi Hunt for Caliph

Anxious as ever to bolster the treacherous Rashid Ali, the Nazis in all their Asiatic broadcasts of May 21 described the Sultan of Morocco as " Caliph ", and represented him as exhorting all the Muslims to fight against the British. The Sultan of Morocco claims descent from Hazrat Ali, the son-in-law of the Prophet, but would not be recognized as Caliph anywhere in Islam, least of all by the Arabs of Morocco who may be presumed to know who can be a Caliph according to Muslim law and tradition. France's surrender has placed the Sultan in the power of the Nazis, whose attempt to pass him off as Caliph is as ludicrous as their talk of " Swiss Muslims " praying for Rashid Ali.

Russia on Britain's Oil Resources

According to the Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts from Berlin on May 20, the British fear that they may no longer be able to get oil from Iraq. This is represented as a great danger to the British war-effort. The Russian paper, *Red Star*, writing on this subject, remarks, " Under the control of Britain and

the U.S.A., there would still remain the most important oil regions of Iran, Bahrein and Saudi Arabia, with an annual production of 12½ million tons. Thus, though the loss of Iraq oil would be a heavy loss for Britain, it could not have a decisive significance ".

It is to be noted that, according to the League of Nations' Statistical Year Book, in 1939 Iraq produced 4 million odd tons, Iran over 10 millions, Netherland East Indies nearly 8 millions, Bahrein, British North Borneo and Burma one million each and Egypt and India together about one million. Thus the Iraq production represents about 15 per cent of the total oil production in the Far and Middle East.

R. A. F.'s Onslaught

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani broadcast of May 21 tripped up badly when it quoted the testimony of a " special reporter " to the effect that British propaganda about the havoc that the R.A.F. had wrought on Germany's war machine was absolutely false.

It was particularly unfortunate for Dr. Goebbels that his " special reporter " should have been contradicted immediately afterwards by no less a person than General Milch, Inspector-General of the German Air Force. Addressing a Berlin A.R.P. rally on May 20, the General remarked : " We cannot just look on when great damage is done by fire to our factories important for the war effort..... We are all exposed ".

Nazi Piracy

On May 21, in their Hindustani broadcast the Germans broadcast another lie stating that the *Zamzam*, the ship which they recently sank in the South Atlantic, was British. Actually this vessel was Egyptian, sailing under her own flag and carrying many American members of the British-American Ambulance Corps.

As the New York *Times* points out, " the *Zamzam* followed a course remote from the European war zones, but there is no sea where the Nazi pirates do not sail and no flag which they respect ".

British Secret Service Again !

The Nazis return to their pet theme when, referring to the missing ex-chief of the Egyptian General Staff, Aziz-el-Misri Pasha, and his companions, their Hindustani broadcast of May 22 suggested that the British Secret Service had got rid of them. Actually, by announcing a reward of £1,000 for the arrest of Misri Pasha, the Egyptian Government has shown that the activities of these men were prejudicial to the safety of the country.

Indicative of the ridiculous length to which the Nazi propaganda can go is the fact that the Nazis did not even hesitate to accuse the British of having murdered their own American Ambassador, the late Lord Lothian, and General Metaxas, the ex-Premier of Greece, who was the soul of Greek resistance in the early stages of the Axis attack.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

7th June.—Royal Air Force bombers attacked the French invasion coast. They also carried out a daylight attack on an enemy convoy off the coast of Holland and set on fire two ships of 5,000 tons each.

8th June.—Royal Air Force bombers attacked docks at Brest and Coastal Command aircraft attacked docks and shipping in Bergen. Aircraft of the Fighter Command carried out offensive patrols over the Straits of Dover and occupied country.

9th June.—Several formations of the latest type of Messerschmitt fighter planes that flew over the south-east coast of Britain met with rough handling by British fighters.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked Western Germany, their main targets being Essen and Dortmund where large fires were started.

10th June.—The Royal Air Force made widespread attacks on enemy shipping off the coasts of Norway, Holland, Belgium and France and had many engagements with enemy fighter-planes.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, British Air Minister, announced that over 450 enemy aircraft were destroyed in all theatres of war in May—240 in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, 63 over and round Britain during day and 144 by night.

11th June.—The Royal Air Force attacked invasion ports and the naval base of Brest. A 5,000-ton German tanker was set ablaze in the Straits of Dover.

12th June.—The Royal Air Force made a sharp raid on Calais. Targets in the industrial areas of the Ruhr were also heavily bombed.

The German Air Force made widespread raids on England ; and bombs were dropped on a West Midlands town.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

6th June.—South African forces arrived in Egypt in large numbers.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked aerodromes in Rhodes and also bombed Derna and Benghazi.

7th June.—Cyprus got ready to face any possible German assault. The Germans mined the waters round the island.

Thousands of prisoners and a considerable quantity of war materials were captured in Abyssinia when the Imperial troops crossed the Omo river during their advance on Jimma.

8th June.—Benghazi was turned into a blazing inferno by Royal Air Force bombers. Derna aerodrome and barracks were also attacked and there were bombing and machine-gun attacks in Jimma area.

The Germans launched their second savage air attack on Alexandria, subjecting the civilians in the city to yet another all-night blitz.

9th June.—Lieutenant-General Sir James Marshall Cornwall assumed command of the British Forces in Egypt.

10th June.—As a result of operations in the region round the Great Lakes and River Omo, 45,000 square miles of Italian territory were captured by the British Imperial Forces, who also accounted for four Italian divisions and took 3,900 prisoners.

The Royal Air Force continued to hammer away at the Axis bases of Benghazi and Derna in Libya.

11th June.—Air activity was reported from the Tobruk sector. The Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi, Derna, Benina, Gambut and Gazala.

12th June.—Indian troops acting in co-operation with the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force made a surprise landing and captured the port of Assab. Two Italian Generals and a Captain of the Italian Navy were taken prisoners. Abyssinian Patriot forces occupied the important town of Nekemti.

Units of the French Fleet left Toulon for Eastern Mediterranean.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

6th June.—President Roosevelt at a Press Conference stated that Mr. Winant, American Ambassador, had not brought from England "even the tenth cousin of a peace offer".

Mr. Roosevelt ordered the United States Maritime Commission to seize 80 foreign ships lying idle in American harbours.

Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, said at a Press Conference that America stood firm against any change in the Far Eastern *status quo*.

7th June.—The United States battleship, *South Dakota*, built at a cost of over 13 million pounds, was launched and immediately afterwards the keel was laid of a 10,000-ton cruiser.

The French Ambassador, Mr. Henry Haye, was twice refused an interview by Mr. Cordell Hull.

It was reported that President Roosevelt had ordered the seizure of the French liner *Normandie*.

8th June.—It was revealed that Martinique and Guadeloupe were patrolled daily by United States planes and boats, thanks to an arrangement with the French Government.

Air-mailing his Legion of Honour decoration to Marshal Petain, Mr. Samuel Hardenchurch, President of the Carnegie Institute, cabled: "I am relinquishing this once proud ribbon, because under your recreant Government, it has lost its value. The Legion of Honour is dead until General de Gaulle and all Free Frenchmen restore it."

9th June.—President Roosevelt broke the strike at the North American Aviation Factory by ordering the Army to take over.

It was stated that an American destroyer, picking up survivors in a British vessel sunk off Greenland, had to drop depth-charges when an enemy submarine tried to interfere.

10th June.—A report that the United States steamer *Robin Moor* had been torpedoed by a German submarine in South Atlantic was received by the Navy Department at Washington.

The United States House of Representatives passed the ten thousand million dollars Army Appropriation Bill.

11th June.—President Roosevelt reported on the operation of the Lease and Lend Act to Congress.

12th June.—Mr. Sumner Welles, U.S. Under-Secretary of State, announced that the Robin Moor was undoubtedly sunk by a German submarine.

GREECE AND ITALY

6th June.—Evidence came to light of the brutal terrorist methods employed by the Germans in dealing with Greek workers in the Athens district.

9th June.—It was officially announced that the British anti-aircraft cruiser *Calcutta* and the destroyers *Hereward* and *Imperial* were lost during the withdrawal from Crete.

10th June.—Mussolini declared that "the whole of Greece, including Athens, will be occupied by Italy."

Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that while British losses in the Battle of Crete were about 15,000 men killed, wounded or missing, the German losses were 5,000 drowned and 12,000 killed or wounded in addition to 180 fighters and bombers and 250 troop-carriers lost.

12th June.—His Majesty the King telegraphed to King George of Greece "We share your grief but we also share your hopes."

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

6th June.—General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, broadcasting from Beirut, justified Franco-German co-operation by saying "We must live."

A serious difference of opinion was reported between General Weygand and Admiral Darlan regarding Syrian policy.

8th June.—Free French and British Imperial Forces under the Command of Gen. Wilson entered Syria and the Lebanon.

Gen. Catroux issued a declaration on behalf of Gen. de Gaulle guaranteeing the liberty and independence of Syria and the Lebanon and undertaking to negotiate a treaty with these objects. The British Government associated themselves with this promise.

Gen. Wavell in a proclamation to the soldiers of France in Syria said that British action was necessary because Syria and the Lebanon were meant by the Germans to be a first stage in the conquest of French colonies. "We have come in considerable force and any resistance on your part would be useless" added the proclamation.

9th June.—In their penetration into Syria the Allied forces advanced beyond Tyre. Four thousand French troops with modern equipment joined the British in the Djebel Druse area. The Free French Forces captured 140 German parachutists.

The Iraqi Government broke off diplomatic relations with Italy.

All communications were cut off between Turkey and Syria.

When German aircraft flying towards Syria crossed Turkish territory, one was shot down and the other machines made forced landings. The pilots were interned.

10th June.—British forward troops had reached a position 15 miles from Damascus, crossing the Litani river. The R.A.F. gave magnificent support. A mechanized division from Iraq was marching on Aleppo.

11th June.—It was confirmed that British Naval landings had taken place on the Syrian coast. The Allies continued to progress into the interior of Syria.

In quick retaliation for a German air raid on Haifa, the Royal Air Force rushed to Aleppo and took a heavy toll of the German machines returning to that air base.

12th June.—The Allied troops advancing along the coast were within six miles of Sidon. They occupied the airport of Der-ez-Zor and Merd-Ayoum. The Royal Air Force raided Aleppo and Beirut.

SHIPPING

6th June.—British naval forces encountered and sank three enemy supply ships and an armed trawler.

8th June.—In the past three months, it was revealed, an average of one enemy ship a day had been sunk. The actual figures for the period were 83 sunk and 72 damaged, 18 of them very severely.

9th June.—Mr. Charles Kettering, the famous American engineering magnate, stated that the problem of night bombers "was licked now" in England by detection devices. He referred to the development of a device to catch the German submarines on the surface at night.

The British Admiralty announced the sinking of two more enemy supply ships.

12th June.—Many U.S. cargo ships were transferred to the Panamanian registry, enabling them to operate between New York and the United Kingdom without violating the U.S. Neutrality Law.

FAR EAST

6th June.—The Netherlands Indies representative in the economic negotiations with Japan at Batavia refused to take part in Japan's so-called "New Order in East Asia."

Seven hundred persons died of suffocation in a huge underground tunnel owing to poor ventilation in Chungking during a night air raid by Japanese planes.

7th June.—There was considerable diplomatic activity in Tokyo. Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, was visited in turn by the British, Vichy and German Ambassadors.

There was another Japanese air raid on Chungking.

9th June.—Japanese Naval bombers claimed to have destroyed the suspension bridge across the Pehpa river in Kwechow province, cutting the highway connecting Chungking and Kunming.

10th June.—"Very unsatisfactory" was the description given by a Japanese spokesman of the firm reply of the Netherland Indies to Japan's demands at the Batavia Conference.

Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Far East, inspected the defences of Burma.

11th June.—Chinese guerillas were reported to be active in Manchukuo.

12th June.—Japan asked her representatives to withdraw from the Batavia Conference.

Two trade agreements between the Soviet and Japan were reported.

VICHY

6th June.—Questions relating to Africa were considered at a Cabinet meeting at Vichy, at which General Weygand was present.

7th June.—A statement issued by the French Government said that their policy was aimed at no one and did not harm the interests of any power. They stated that they were anxious to preserve friendly relations with the U.S.A. General Weygand returned to North Africa by air.

12th June.—The Vichy Government sent a further note to Britain regarding developments in Syria.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

6th June.—Growing unrest among all sections of the Norwegian people particularly against the brutalities committed by hired Quislings and Black Guards was voiced by 43 of the most prominent national organizations in a joint open letter to the German Commissioner Terboven.

8th June.—The Germans were reported to be preparing to convert Trondheim into a naval base.

11th June.—The Polish Cabinet in London approved of a declaration by General Sikorski, giving equal rights in the future Poland to all citizens, irrespective of nationality, race or religion.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.).

6th June.—The British Ambassador in Moscow, Sir Stafford Cripps, arrived in Stockholm by air, *en route* to London.

9th June.—It was reported from Algeciras that bombs were dropped on a Spanish town north-east of Gibraltar.

10th June.—All the five occupants of a German plane were killed when it crashed in Eire territory.

Sir Stafford Cripps arrived in London. The Turkish Ambassador to Russia was also returning to Ankara to report.

12th June.—Snr. Suner, Spanish Foreign Minister, received the British, Portuguese, Italian, German and Chilean Ambassadors. He also saw the Papal Nuncio on the Turkish Charge d'Affairs.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 3rd June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 28, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over Straits of Dover and English Channel. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off Brest (5,000-ton merchantman hit). R.A.F. night bomber raids on N.W. Germany.	1 day bomber. 1 night bomber.	1 day fighter.
May 29, Thursday.	(No reports.)	..	..
May 30, Friday.	(No reports.)	..	..
May 31, Saturday.	(No reports.)	..	..
June 1, Sunday.	(No reports.)	1 day bombers.	..
June 2, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over Channel and N. France (shipping troops). R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping in **Kiel Canal** and land objectives in Schleswig-Holstein; shipping off Norwegian coast (1 merchantman sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on Berlin; **Dusseldorf**; inland port at **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other objectives in Ruhr; invasion base at Ostend; submarine base at St. Nazaire.	3 day bombers, 4 night bombers.	..
June 3, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on invasion base at Le Havre; aerodrome at Octeville, near Cherbourg.	1 day bomber.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 3rd June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
May 28	2 day bombers.	2 day bombers.
May 29	Nil.	1 night bomber.
May 30	Nil.	2 day bombers. 2 night bombers.
May 31	Nil.	3 night bombers.
June 1	Nil.	1 day fighter. 2 night bombers.
June 2	Nil.	1 day fighter. 2 day bombers.
June 3	Nil.	3 night bombers.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The chief developments of the week are those in Syria where the British, Indian and other Imperial Forces, supporting Free French troops, are rapidly forestalling any possible German move. Vichy solemnly announced that it would defend Syria to the utmost and Marshal Petain called on his followers in Syria to defend " the territory entrusted to France by history " conveniently forgetting that as his Government had resigned from the League of Nations they had neither the moral nor the legal right to Syria. How little their authority in that country is worth is evident in the coming-over of many French troops to the Free French and Allied ranks—this has been admitted by the enemy radio.

PREMIER'S STATEMENT

Mr. Churchill made another memorable speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday. He answered critics of the campaign in Crete and had heartening information to impart regarding the strength of the air and other forces in the Middle East. The Prime Minister said in the course of his speech, which was delivered in easy, and confident tones to a quiet and attentive House: " We have been sending armaments to the Middle East ceaselessly by every route and method. We are doing our best to build up the largest possible air force in the Middle East." Mr. Churchill regretted that the burden had fallen so heavily on the splendid Australian and New Zealand troops. The British had lost about fifteen thousand men, killed, wounded and missing, exclusive of Greeks and Cretans. The German losses were five thousand drowned, twelve thousand killed or wounded and 180 fighters and bombers and 250 troop-carriers. Mr. Churchill revealed that German parachute troops did not wear New Zealand uniforms. The mistake arose from German paratroops driving the British and New Zealand wounded before them. Mr. Churchill said that the withdrawal of the Royal Air Force from Crete was decided on by the Air Force Commander of the Middle East on the recommendation of General Freyberg, Commander-in-Chief, Crete, and concurred in by the Fleet Air Arm. Following Crete, many improvements in the defence of aerodromes and mobility of forces had been made. Mr. Churchill added " Nothing will be stinted and not a moment will be lost." The Premier said that the Syrian advance was progressing with very little opposition and favourably. " We have," he declared, " no territorial designs in Syria or anywhere else in French territory. We seek no colonies or advantages for ourselves in this war." " The Syrian campaign," he said " would have been useless until the defence of Egypt was sound. " I was very glad when General Wavell reported that he was in a position to begin the Syrian advance." Mr. Churchill declared that the productivity in British factories was not falling off at an 'alarming rate' as stated by Mr. Hore-Belisha in a speech in a country district. Production was not disorganized by the raids but was increasing. The monthly average of production of guns and heavy tanks for the first quarter of 1941 was fifty per cent greater than that of the last quarter of 1940. Mr. Churchill said " The Battle of the Atlantic is well-maintained by us and May was the best month in the Atlantic." During May the shipping losses inflicted on the Germans were three-quarters of that inflicted on us. Winding up with a reference to Britain's single-handed fight against Germany and Italy and the treachery of Vichy, Mr. Churchill said that if the next six months found them in no worse position than now, " a famous chapter will have been written in the martial history of Britain and the British Commonwealth of Nations."

ALLIES RE-STATE WAR AIMS

The Allied Governments have taken the opportunity to declare their resolve to continue the struggle against German aggression until victory and to state that there can be no peace so long as the German military threats to free peoples continue. Representatives of these Governments met in London on Thursday under the presidency of Mr. Churchill and adopted the following resolution: "The Government of Great Britain and the Governments in Ireland and Canada, the Government of Belgium, the Provisional Czecho-Slovak Government, the Governments of Greece, Luxemberg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia and representatives of General de Gaulle, Leader of the Free Frenchmen, engaged together in the fight against oppression, are resolved, firstly, that they will continue the struggle against German or Italian aggression until victory is won and they will mutually assist each other in their struggle to the utmost of their respective capacities. Secondly, that there can be no settlement, peace and prosperity so long as free peoples are coerced by violence into submission to domination by Germany or her associates, or live under the threat of such coercion. Thirdly, that the only true basis of enduring peace is the willing co-operation of free peoples in a world in which, relieved of the menace of aggression, all may enjoy economic and social security and that it is their intention to work together and with other free peoples both in war and peace to this end." In the course of yet another inspiring speech, the Premier said: " See how far we have travelled since those breathless days of June a year ago. Our solid, stubborn strength has stood the awful test. We are masters of our own air and now reach out in evergrowing retribution upon the enemy. The Royal Navy holds the seas. The Italian fleet cowers diminished in the harbour, the German navy is largely our ports, cities and factories have been powerless to quench the spirit of the British nation, to stop our national life or check the immense expansion of our war industry. Food and arms from across the oceans are coming safely in. Full provision to replace all sunken tonnage is being made here and still more by our friends in the United States. We are becoming an armed community. Our land forces are being perfected in equipment and training. Hitler may turn and trample this way and that through tortured Europe. He may spread his course far and wide and carry his curse with him; he may break into Africa or into Asia, but it is here, in this island fortress, that he will have to reckon in the end. We shall strive to resist by land and sea. We shall be on his track wherever he goes. Our air power will continue to teach the German homeland that war is not all loot and triumph. We shall aid and stir the people of every conquered country to resistance and revolt. We shall break up and derange every effort which Hitler makes to systematize and consolidate his subjugations. He will find no peace, no rest, no halting place, no parley. And if, driven to desperate hands, he attempts an invasion of the British Islands, as well he may, we shall not flinch from the supreme trial. With the help of God, of which we must all feel daily conscious, we shall continue steadfast in faith and duty till our task is done. This then, my Lords and gentlemen, is the message which we send forth to-day. To all States and nations, bound or free, to all men in all lands who care for freedom's cause, to our Allies and well-wishers in Europe, to our American friends and helpers drawing ever closer in their might across the ocean, this is the message—Lift up your hearts. All will come right. Out of the depths of sorrow and sacrifice will be borne again the glory of mankind."

PRESIDENT SPEAKS OUT

Earlier in the week, President Roosevelt had put the new German peace offensive in its rightful place. He stated at a Press Conference at Washington that Mr. John G. Winant, American Ambassador, had not brought from England " even the tenth cousin of a peace offer " and added that German propaganda was responsible for the peace talk. Asked if he cared to say that Mr. Winant had brought no peace terms, the President authorized the following direct quotation—a very rare event—" Not even the tenth cousin of a peace offer or anything like that or any discussion of peace. Absolutely nothing like it, provided you use this not as a denial by the President but as an accusation by the President." Asked whom he was accusing, President Roosevelt said " The persons who are being duped by Germany." President Roosevelt volunteered the information that he had on his desk copies of two orders which, he said, had been issued by the official German Propaganda Agency in Berlin to Nazis and Fascists in the United States. The President declared that the first order told them to stress the idea that Germany had no thought of ever doing anything against any country in the Western Hemisphere (evidently in a direct reply to the President's fireside chat). The second ordered Nazi and Fascist sympathizers, as soon as Mr. Winant arrived in the United States, to spread the story that he had brought a " scarehead story " that Britain was about all in and was talking of peace. Mr. Roosevelt told another questioner that Mr. Winant had returned firstly in order to report on 25, possibly 50, major items relating to Britain's conduct of war and secondly to get information on a similar number of topics relating to defence to take back to Britain. Mr. Roosevelt expressed the opinion that the amazing thing was that stories of the type recommended by Germany had appeared in a certain type of newspaper in the United States. One reporter said that the impression was being spread that Britain had said that she could not last more than a few months without increased American help. The President replied that this had never been said unless it was by Berlin—it did not come from a responsible source. Another reporter remarked that the people would be shocked to hear that Germany was sending orders to the United States and asked how the orders were sent out and how the system operated. President Roosevelt declined to enter into details because, he said, it might disclose how he got this information but repeated that the orders came from the German Propaganda Bureau in Berlin. Mr. Winant himself said " There is no wavering at all on the part of the British Government. There is no wavering at all on the part of the people. It is the people's fight and they know it." He added that he was glad to say that American aid was crossing the Atlantic in increasing quantities. And

Lord Beaverbrook, Minister of State in the British Cabinet, broadcasting to Canada, said that Britain was absolutely confident she could beat off a German invasion. It was in no spirit of reluctance she entered the struggle; she was glad and ready to come to grips with the German forces.

AMERICA'S EVER-GROWING HELP TO BRITAIN

President Roosevelt, presenting his report to Congress on the operation of the Lease and Lend Act, announced that "a little over 75 million dollars" worth of defence materials had been transferred under its terms. Mr. Roosevelt added that this aid "will help Britain to outstrip the Axis powers in the munitions war. We shall see to it that these munitions get to places where they can be effectively used to weaken and defeat the aggressors. We have started in motion a vast supply programme essential to defeat the Axis powers. To be effective, the aid rendered by us must be many-sided. Ships are necessary to carry munitions and food. We are immediately making available to Britain two million gross tons of cargo ships and oil tankers but this is not enough. Adequate shipping for every day to come must be reasonably assured. Since the Appropriation Act was passed $550 millions have been allocated for the construction of new ships and new ways required to build these ships are now nearing completion. Allied ships are being repaired by us and Allied ships equipped by us to protect them from mines and being armed by us to protect them as much as possible against raiders. The naval vessels of Britain are being repaired by us so that they can return quickly to their naval tasks." President Roosevelt said that millions of pounds of foodstuff and stocks of machine-guns, field artillery, ammunition and aircraft valued at over forty-three million dollars had been sent. "This equipment arrived in England after the retreat from Dunkirk. . . No one can appraise what effect the delivery of these supplies had upon the successful British resistance in the summer and aututmn," President Roosevelt stated. The President's report to Congress covers the first shipments under the Lease and Lend Act from March 11 to the end of May and shows that out of a total of 75 million dollars, the greatest part, totalling over 26 million dollars, was for "Westcraft, etc." While the total was relatively small President Roosevelt noted that exports of war goods to Britain had risen steadily since September, 1939. He said that "he will supply planes, guns, ammunition and other defence articles in ever-increasing quantities to Britain, China and other democracies resisting aggression." President Roosevelt said that facts and figures were being given to the extent advisable without disclosing military secrets to the benefit of the Axis powers. "These facts describe the past and portray the present status of our aid to those nations so gallantly fighting aggressors. They do not represent the most important fact of all—the strong will of our people to see to it that these forces of aggression shall not rule the world. We have before us the constant purpose not of present safety alone but equally of future survival." In the first five months of this year, Britain was sent twelve times as many planes and ten times as many aircraft engines as during the first five months of last year, said President Roosevelt. "Relatively more heavy bombers and medium bombers are being sent," the President added, "and seventeen times as much in dollar value of explosives and ninety times as much in dollar valuation of firearms and ammunition in the first quarter of this year as in the same period of last year." Mentioning that major allocations under the Lease and Lend Act on May 31 were over 880 million dollars for ordnance stores, 318 million dollars for tanks and other vehicles, and 551 million dollars for ships, President Roosevelt added: "Contracts have been let for long-range bombers, ships, tanks and other sinews of war that will be needed for the defence of the Democracies. The balance of less than $2\frac{3}{4}$ billion is being rapidly allocated."

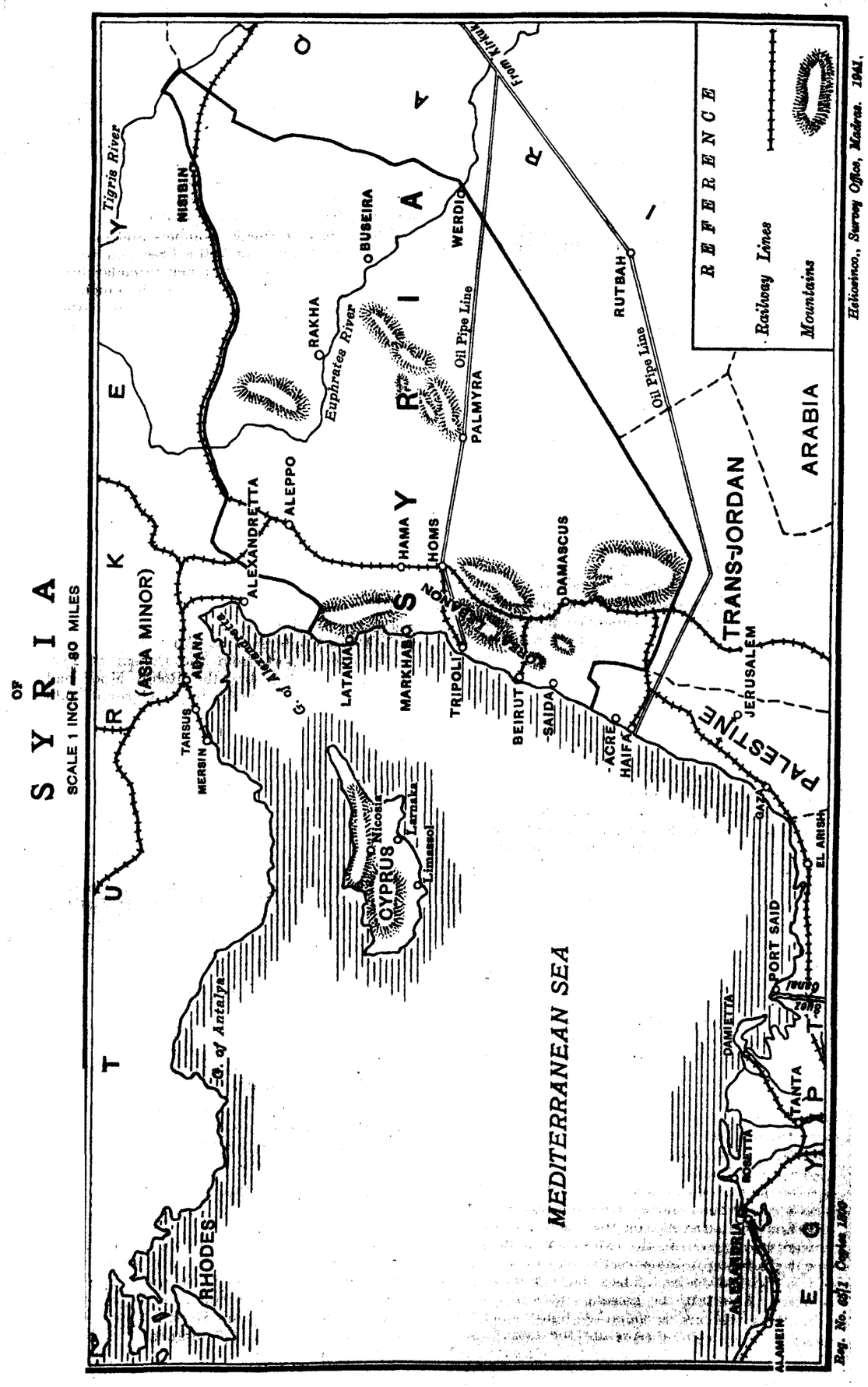
U.S. SHIP TORPEDOED

Mr. Sumner Wells, United States Under-Secretary of State, announced in grave tones to a Press Conference at Washington that a preliminary report from the Consul at Pernambuco revealed that the Robin Moor had undoubtedly been sunk by a German submarine. It is thought in America that this announcement marked the first step in preparing the stage for big devlopments. It is understood that the Robin Moor was carrying a general cargo of motor cars, steel and other mateials but no war munitions. The Brazilian steamer Osorio picked up some survivors but there is no trace of three life-boats loaded with passengers. Apart from confirming the barbarity of the U-boat campaign in leaving passengers and crew afloat in mid-ocean, the fact that the Robin Moor was an American steamer and that the passengers included women is likely to have world-wide repercussions.

And Mr. Alsop Kintner, writing in *The New York Herald Tribune*, says "While President Roosevelt is waiting for the Germans to shoot, there has already been shooting. He declared that an American destroyer, while picking up the survivors of a British vessel sunk not far from the coast of Greenland, heard through the detecting device the approach of a submarine and dropped three depth charges.

SWEEPING BRITISH SUCCESSES IN ABYSSINIA

The British Imperial Forces continue on their victorious march in Abyssinia. They have crossed the River Omo; they have mopped up the Lake Districts; and they have overwhelmed the main Italian opposition in the Jimma region. Thousands of prisoners,



Italian and Colonial, are being rounded up and there has been a particularly valuable haul of war material. A further 45,000 square miles of territory have been captured from the Italians. The Emperor Haile Selassie has graciously acknowledged the heroic role played by Indian troops in the re-conquest of his country. Meanwhile the Royal Air Force continues to blaze away at the enemy bases, Benghazi, Derna and other places in Cyrenaica. And the Royal Navy is taking heavy toll of Axis supply ships in the Mediterranean This is enough to make Mussolini think furiously in this week which marks the first anniversary of the vile stab in the back that he administered to the French people and their Allies.

Indian soldiers again distinguished themselves when they made a suprise landing at Assab, the second port of Eritrea. They acted in perfect co-ordination with the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. They quickly occupied the town and took a number of prisoners, including the Italian Generals Varda and Piacontini and Captain Colla of the Italian Navy. A number of German seamen in the port were also captured.

FIRST INDIAN V.C. OF THE WAR

All India rejoices to hear that His Majesty the King-Emperor has approved the award of the Victoria Cross to Second Lieutenant Premindra Singh Bhagat of the Corps of Indian Engineers. He is the first Indian to win this greatest of all military distinctions in the present war. A press note, issued in Simla, says: After the attack from Gallabat and the capture of the Italian frontier post of Metemma, Second Lieutenant Bhagat was ordered with the section of Sappers and Miners under his command to accompany our leading mobile forces, who were pursuing the enemy as they retreated towards Gondar. Going ahead of our advancing column, he and his men had the most dangerous and difficult task of the whole force. The road was thickly strewn with minefields, blocks and booby traps. In each minefield there were upto 300 mines, and each mine had to be delicately uncovered and rendered harmless. At the same time the utmost speed was essential if the enemy was not to be allowed time to reorganize and prepare fresh positions which it would cost many lives to take. In spite of every precaution, Lieut. Bhagat's carrier was twice blown up, and many of his men killed or wounded. Once his section was ambushed by enemy machine guns. When, after 48 hours of arduous and perilous work, he took a short rest, he was offered relief. But he would not consider it. He felt he had learnt the Italian system of laying mines on that section of the road. Any relieving officer would take valuable time to learn the job all over again; and begged to be allowed to remain. His Commander agreed and for another two days he continued his work. Finally he collapsed from exhaustion and shock and with both eardrums burst by explosions, but not before he had succeeded in clearing 15 minefields and 55 miles of road. This young officer, who will be 23 next November, was commissioned from the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, where he was one of the outstanding students of his term, only two months before the outbreak of the war. After further training he was posted in May 1940, to the Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners, in which unit his elder brother is also serving. His father, Mr. S. S. Bhagat, was formerly Executive Engineer, Civil Lines, Benares. Second Lieutenant P. S. Bhagat is the first Indian during the present war to receive the highest award for valour His Imperial Majesty can bestow. He earned it by what his Commanding Officer described as "one of the longest continued feats of sheer, cold courage I have ever met."

WHY WAS CRETE LOST?

There is naturally a good deal of outcry in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand over the loss of Crete. All these countries are Great Democracies and the points arising from this defeat are likely to be discussed in the full glare of publicity, which is all to the good. The loss of Crete has deprived the Allies of advanced bases, both naval and air, and it has also created, according to *The Times*, a second narrow defile between the West Mediterranean and Egypt where the British Navy will be liable to heavy air attack. Of course, the channel between Crete and Cyrenaica is 200 miles wide and British air forces can operate from Egypt. Both the Navy attempting to prevent German troops arriving in Crete and the defenders who had no thought of retreat lacked air strength, a grave defect which, of course, would receive a good deal of attention. Public opinion in Australia and New Zealand has naturally insisted that in future land forces should be made to operate only after support in the air is absolutely assured. After putting up a magnificent fight in appalling conditions which unimpeded dive-bombers can create, the Allied Forces were forced to withdraw and there was no other course except to withdraw, regard being had to the fact that the Germans advanced beyond Suda Bay and there was a threat of attack on the eastern end of the Island. Dive-bombers succeeded over ground troops unsupported over the air and the Germans, of course, have now a valuable stepping stone to Syria and made another advance towards the Suez Canal. Success has been achieved by no secret weapon, but by the use of familiar weapons used in overwhelming mass —parachutists, gliders, troops-carriers and dive-bombers. The Allies, too, had counter-weapons, but they could not employ to useful purpose British fighters and bombers, because of the geographical position of Crete, a weakness which does not apply to the Middle East or to Britain. The British fleet was without

sound air-craft protection. It has been unmistakably proved that under certain conditions the air arm can enable any army to pass by the obstacle of enemy superiority at sea. Germany did not heed losses and taking advantage of the Allied weakness in respect of fighter defences, she was enabled to land quite a large number of troops by leaping over the naval obstacle. Taking reinforcements by air is, of course, quicker and easier than taking reinforcements by sea.

THE PERSPECTIVE

But one has got to remember that the Middle Eastern campaign has not been decided. It has not even reached a decisive stage. The resistance put up at Crete has enabled Great Britain to strengthen her military dispositions in the Middle East and reports say that South African reinforcements have arrived in Egypt from other theatres. British policy has, therefore, been to delay the Germans as long as possible at each outlying point, while increasing their strength at the decisive point. Greece, Crete and Cyrenaica, therefore, have to be considered as outlying points of a fortress, each to be defended as long as possible in order to allow the defenders of the citadel as long a time as possible to mobilise their full strength. Heavy and disappointing as the losses have been, they have to be looked at as against the large reserves realized by the conquest of Abyssinia, the reopening of the Iraq supply line, by the liquidation of Rashid Ali and the elimination of the Italian Fleet as a fighting force at Matapan.

Two campaigns, the Middle East and the Battle of the Atlantic, are still being waged. Shipping losses have been heavy. *H.M.S. Hood* has been sunk; but, as against this, the *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* have been immobilized and the *Bismarck* has been sunk. American help is growing in volume and the patrol system is growing strong.

A COMPARISON

Perhaps the events of 1940 and 1941 may be compared and a balance-sheet arrived at. Germany by this time last year had overwhelmed Norway, Denmark, Holland and Belgium. Dunkirk had been evacuated and great losses had been sustained by Britain in arms and equipment. France was about to fall and Italy was on the point of declaring war. Great Britain had only destroyed four German cruisers and 12 destroyers in the Norwegian campaign. This year Yugoslavia, Greece and Cyrenaica have been taken by the Germans who have also occupied Crete. *H.M.S. Hood* has been lost and shipping losses have been heavy. But two Italian armies, totalling half a million men, have been destroyed in Abyssinia. Rashid Ali has fled from Iraq. What remains of the Italian Fleet is in hiding. Help from America is pouring into Britain and the Middle East in a steady stream and the *Bismarck* has been sunk. Again, Germany last year had immense superiority in both air and land forces. But this year Allied air strength is approaching parity and Allied armoured strength is growing rapidly. The secret weapons of Germany last year were the heavily armoured tank and the Stuka dive-bombers. There have been no surprises this year; and the Allies, with their new high-powered bombs and night-fighters, have surprised the Germans. The mischief which fifth columnists were doing last year has been greatly reduced; and Allied unity and determination is growing and is greater than ever before. Germany has passed its peak production, but the British war machine is being improved every day and is reaching its own peak production, while American output, already formidable, is growing in volume. Further, Britain has been and is unbeatable and it is obvious that if Germany is to be victorious, she must defeat Great Britain on her own soil. Delay in launching that attack indubitably decreases Germany's chances of success in a considerable measure. Last year America was sceptical, pessimistic and isolationist, but this year there has been a revolutionary change in American opinion and there is insistent demand for urgent aid to Great Britain to the point of becoming a belligerent, if necessary.

GERMAN NAVAL STRATEGY

There is a story behind the loss of *Bismarck* which is of some importance illustrating the differences between Admiral Raeder and Hitler in regard to Naval strategy. Admiral Raeder, Head of the German Naval Forces, believed in concentrating on submarines and fast commerce-destroying cruisers, but Hitler insisted on battleships being built because in his view, they should be regarded as 'projectiles' to be hurled at the enemy at the chosen moment. That is why the *Scharnhorst*, the *Gneisenau*, the *Bismarck* and the *Tirpitz* were built. Germany, at the outbreak of the war, had only nine cruisers, large and small. Perhaps four have been added to this list, but she has lost five. Hitler wanted these battleships for destroying the enemy's shipping and he deliberately did not intend the fleet for the purpose of destroying the enemy's fleet, or for coastal defence. Hitler has, however, been proved to be quite wrong. The *Scharnhorst* was severely damaged by the *Renown* near Norway and the *Blucher* was sunk by shore batteries in Oslo Fjord. The *Scharnhorst* and the *Gneisenau*, which ventured into the Atlantic, have been forced into Brest, evidently because they have been very severely damaged and the *Bismarck* has been sunk only after a week's run. The 'projectile' theory, therefore, has proved to be untenable because the destructive power of an isolated battleship, so far as enemy merchantmen are concerned, is no greater than that of a cruiser, and it affords an equal target for attack. Again, the loss of a battleship is far more serious than that of a cruiser and is more difficult to replace. Finally, using battleships as commerce-destroyers is like using a steam roller to level a garden walk. They are too vulnerable to attack to make the game worth the candle. In the loss of *Hood*, Britain has lost one-sixteenth of her battleship strength, but in the loss of *Bismarck* the Germans have lost one-sixth of theirs. Of the five remaining German battleships, two are pocket battleships, two are laid up at Brest and only one, *Tirpitz*, is left.

IN GERMANY NOW

Germans must work harder, eat less, wait longer for the promised victory that continually recedes. That is what Hitler tells them. Above all they must hear nothing of the truth from beyond their borders. Johann Wild, aged 49, listened to foreign broadcasts and was accused of passing on what he heard. He was executed at Nuremberg on May 18. We know what the Nazis do in the occupied countries, what they plan to do to yet other "inferior" peoples. A despatch published in the *New York Post* of May 1 now reveals what they are doing to Germans themselves—not this time to Jews or political opponents, but to the old and weak and helpless in their own country. The Nazis put to death during the months of September, October and November 1940, 85,000 blind, aged or "incurably ill" Germans. This horrible crime has been brought to light through religious organizations which vainly opposed the practice. A Catholic dignitary revealed that sick and aged persons were killed because they were no longer useful to the Nazi war-machine; they consumed supplies and occupied hospital space needed for wounded soldiers. The discovery by priests visiting a Wurtemberg hospital that elderly people were dying in large numbers on certain days led to the unmasking of the Gestapo methods of poison and the gas-chamber. The Catholics protested, both against this cold slaughter and against compulsory sterilization. As a result more than 300 priests were thrown into concentration-camps. One witness described it as "the ultimate logic of the Nazi doctrine."

MAGGOTS IN THE APPLE

"The maggot is in the apple", said Mr. Churchill when Hitler's closest friend Rudolf Hess fled from his country to become a British prisoner. Admiral Boehm, German Naval Commander-in-Chief in Norway, was also a friend of Rudolf Hess. He has committed suicide in an Oslo hotel. The loss of the *Bismarck*, which put out from the Norwegian port of Bergen on her fatal voyage, may have led Admiral Boehm to choose the same path as Capt. Langsdorff, who killed himself after scuttling the *Graf Spee*. It is also recalled that the Gestapo chief Himmler, in whose wake murder and suicide habitually follow, visited Norway recently. Italy has its maggots too. Latest of the brood are Achille Starace, one of the Duce's most trusted followers and once considered one of the seven pillars of Fascism, now out of his job as Chief of Staff of the Fascist Militia; and Dr. Sebastiani, for long Mussolini's confidential secretary, who has also disappeared from the political landscape.

WAR IN THE NEAR EAST

ALLIES MARCH INTO SYRIA

British Imperial and Free French Forces, ed by Lt.-General Sir Henry Wilson, have ntered Syria and the Lebanon in what may vell prove to be one of the decisive movements if the war. A glance at the map is enough o show that Syria lies on the right—or more precisely on the flank of the route—of Germany's march to the East (*Drang nach Osten*). Its possession by the Axis powers would constitute a threat to the whole of the Allied position, both in the Mediterranean and in the Middle East. Luckily, however, it is not Germany or Italy but Britain who rules the Mediterranean in spite of a temporary setback in Crete. Lacking command of the sea, Germany cannot work much mischief in Syria. On the other hand, if the Allies occupy Syria, they can reinforce their supremacy at sea with control of the vital centres of land communications in the Near East. And, as Mr. Charles Towers, the famous author and traveller, remarks, possession of Damascus, Syria's most important city and the stronghold of Arab nationalism, will be an immense gain in prestige and power. It will mean the defeat of German and Italian aspirations in the East and their intrigue and propaganda to set the Arabs up against the Allies.

Indeed, the war has seen a most striking demonstration of Arab sympathy for Britain. Barring the short-lived German subsidized revolt of Rashid Ali in Iraq, the whole Arab world desires the defeat of Germany and Italy. The Arabs well know that the consequences of an Axis victory will be the loss of political liberties already achieved under British aegis and under pre-Vichy France. They also remember, despite Mussolini's pretensions to be the "Protector of Islam," the cruelties and barbarities practised on the Orientals by his Commander, Marshal Graziani, who has earned the nickname of "the butcher." And they cannot hope for better treatment at the hands of the Nazis with their fantastic and fanatical theories of race superiority. It may well be that history is repeating itself; that like Allenby's historic Eastern victories in the Great War, the occupation of Syria may mark a real turn of the tide in this conflict.

RECENT HISTORY

Syria is one of the nine states that replaced the former Turkish Empire as a result of the peace treaties of 1920–21, the others being Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Iraq, Egypt, Transjordan, Palestine, and the Lebanon, which, nominally an independent republic was placed under the same League of Nations Mandate with Syria. Of these, we are here more immediately concerned with Syria and the Lebanon, Palestine and Transjordan. Syria, situated on the shores of the Eastern Mediterranean, north of Palestine, comprises an area of 58,000 square miles and has a population of 3,400,000, mostly Arabic-speaking. Formerly a part of the Ottoman Empire, Syria was placed under Mandatory Administration at the end of the Great War. A Congress of Syrian Arabs in 1920 had proclaimed Emir Feisal—son of King Hussein of the Hedjaz, supporter of the Allied cause in the war—as King of Syria; but the Allies did not sanction this move and Feisal left Syria (to become King of Iraq). Syria under the French Mandate, was divided into four states as follows:—

1. Syria proper (49,000 square miles; population 2,000,000; capital Damascus).
2. The Lebanon (3,800 square miles; population 700,000 Christians and Arabs; capital Beirut, also the seat of the French administration.)
3. Latakia (2,800 square miles; population 350,000, belonging to the Alaonite people).
4. Jebel Druse (2,400 square miles; population 50,000, mostly warlike Muslim sect).

There are also about 300,000 nomad Bedouins. The four Syrian States have now no political connection with each other, except they are all under the French Mandate; a former Syrian Confederation was dissolved in 1924. And France ceded the Sanjak of Alexandretta to Turkey in 1938.

Syria proper is about as large as England and Wales. An important part of it is a coastal plain which is as narrow as five miles in the north, widening to 20 in the south. Inland, there is a wide limestone plateau bisected by the upper part of the Jordan valley ("The Ghor") running north to south. In Lebanon, to the south, the scrap reaches 10,000 feet over sea-level falling by steps towards the east to the Euphrates valley. In its general relief, Syria presents four sections, each parallel with the coast—a coastal plain, a limestone ridge varying from 7,000 to 10,000 feet over sea-level, then an upland reaching 4,000 feet in the centre and, finally, another limestone ridge. Both rail and road communications are good. Syria has over 4,000 miles of railway along strategic routes and with important sections. In the north, Aleppo has lines going to the west coast of Turkish-controlled Alexandretta, Ankara and Istanbul; in the east to Mosul, Baghdad and Basara, in the south through Homs, Baalbeck and Damascus before it traverses Transjordan to end in Arabia at Medina, where there is a road to Mecca on the pilgrim route, but now of considerable military importance. Tripoli is the Syrian Mediterranean port and one of the termini of the oil pipe-line from Iraq, connected with Homs and Beirut, another gateway to the sea with Damascus. The Palestinian ports of Haifa (the other terminus of the oil pipe-line) and Jaffa have also lines going eastwards inland, north and south. Three French companies normally operate the motor routes along 1,500 miles from Beirut to Baghdad. The shortest, of excellent surface, is from Damascus eastwards across the desert to Ramadi and from here along the Euphrates to Feluga. Another is through Palmyra and Hit, while the third goes from Homs to Palmyra and Abu Kemal (Ana) connecting with Aleppo or Rutbah and joining Jerusalem. While the Syrian desert is used by the Imperial Airways and other companies, the desert routes are by no means ideal for air traffic as the intensity of the heat and the rapid changes in temperature experienced create dangerous atmospheric conditions, while there are sudden descents from the snow-covered mountains near the coast to a high plateau and low desert levels. The climate of Syria is of the Mediterranean type, with mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. But in the north, where the elevation is low, rain is carried far inland, facilitating good agriculture, even good cotton growing. In the south there is heavy rainfall in the western highlands; these act as a barrier making the interior very dry. Little snow falls along the coasts, but much on the higher Lebanon mountains and on the inlands steppes. In the favoured coastal districts winter and spring are the growing season for crops, which are harvested in June. Syria is mainly an agricultural country with large areas occupied by sheep and cattle reared on the steppe land. Ten per cent is under crops. Wheat, maize, wine and citrus fruits are cultivated. Inland cities have developed from their positions on the old caravan routes and as markets. Thus, Damascus was essentially a desert market. To-day it is surrounded by 60 miles of irrigated fruit gardens, and its people work in silk, gold and silver. Its trade now passes through the port of Beirut instead of through the desert. Aleppo in the north is the market for the steppes. Its craftsmen make cotton and silk textiles and the famous gold and silver "thread." Beirut is by far the most important port. The Mediterranean off the Syrian coast is not very stormy and the harbours usually have good roads.

France has never been able to curb the fiery independence of the Arab race who were spurred on by the freedom which Great Britain, another Mandatory power, granted to the neighbouring kingdom of Iraq. The Syrians rebelled in 1925–26 and have been more or less in a state of semi-rebellion until recently. In 1936, the Popular Front Government in France under M. Leon Blum signed treaties with Syria (on 9th September) and with the Lebanon (on 13th November), providing for complete independence in 1940—that is, three years after ratification by the French Parliament. The delay in ratification caused considerable unrest in Syria early in 1939, accompanied by anti-French demonstrations. The Syrian Legislative Chamber voted a resolution, proposing that the Syrian Government should immediately take over all public powers then in the hands of the French "as Syria is now perfectly independent". In February 1939, the decision of the French Government not to ratify the Franco-Syrian Treaty precipitated a Cabinet crisis in Damascus. The Syrian Nationalists, a majority in the Syrian Parliament, carried on such extremist agitation that violent disorders occurred and the French High Commissioner, Gabriel Puaux, took over control of the police and gendarmerie. In July 1939, M. Puaux suspended the Syrian constitution and announced the intervention of the Mandatory power.

AFTER FRANCE'S COLLAPSE

The outbreak of the war and then the collapse of France gave rise to much uncertainty and confusion in Syria. Major William Yale gives the following graphic report of the subsequent developments: The French High Commissioner declared on June 24, that General Eugene Mittelhauser, who had succeeded General Weygand in the command of the French forces in Syria, did not contemplate surrender and was determined to fight on. But four days later it was announced from Beirut that by agreement between M. Puaux and General Mittlehauser a cessation of hostilities had been decided upon. The French flag would be flown in Syria and the French forces there would defend the Syrian frontiers against any and all aggressors. The situation provoked division among the French as well as the Syrians. Some supported Marshal Petain's Government at Vichy and favoured the establishment of a French Fascist regime in Syria; others supported Gen. Charles de Gaulle and the British. French officers and troops deserted and fled to Palestine to volunteer for service with the British. So many Syrians left their towns and villages to join the British forces in Palestine that, by the end of 1940, the French High Commissioner decreed heavy penalties upon cities and villages from which Syrians volunteered for service with foreign arms. An Italian Military Commision arrived in Syria to supervise the demobilization of the French forces, which were reduced to an estimated number of 20,000, half of which are colonial Senegalese. Some of the Syrians looked to Italy for deliverance from the yoke of France, but the Italians' defeats at the hands of both the Greeks and the British soon made the Syrians realize that their future depended upon the British. Economic distress in Syria has become increasingly serious since the collapse of the French and since the British blockade has ended all trade with France. A cessation of commercial activities, a currency crisis, and a curtailment of transportation are all fostering unrest in Syria.

The Men of Vichy have thrown the honour of France to the four winds and have shown an ever-increasing disposition to collaborate

with the Germans against their former Allies. Under German pressure no doubt, they have announced their withdrawal from the League of Nations; and legally, as well as morally, they have no right to let the German hordes loose on the Syrians and to bind Syria to the chariot of the Nazi war-lord.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECLARATION

Countless reports have come from neutral sources of the influx of German soldiers and airmen in Syria and mere categorical denials by Vichy fail to convince. In sheer self-defence and as a measure of precaution, the Free French Troops, with the support of the British, Indian and other Imperial Forces, entered Syria and the Lebanon on the morning of 9th June. General Catroux, Free French Commander, issued a declaration on behalf of General de Gaulle, guaranteeing the liberty and independence of Syria and the Lebanon, and undertaking to negotiate a treaty with these objects. The British Government associated themselves with this promise. In their declaration the British Government said : " In their declaration of July 1st, 1940, His Majesty's Government had stated that they would not allow Syria and the Lebanon to be occupied by any hostile power or to be used as a base for attack upon those countries in the Middle East which they are pledged to defend. Despite this clear warning, the Vichy Government, in pursuance of their policy of collaboration with the Axis powers, have placed air bases in Syria, and the Lebanon at the disposal of Germany and Italy and have supplied war materials to rebel forces in Iraq. German infiltration into Syria has begun and the Vichy Government are continuing to take measures, the effect of which must be to bring Syria and the Lebanon under full German control. His Majesty's Government could not be expected to tolerate such actions, which go far beyond anything laid down in the terms of the French Armistice and are in flagrant conflict with the recent declaration of Marshal Petain that honour forbade France to undertake anything against her former Allies. The Free French Forces have therefore, with the support of the Imperial Forces, entered Syria and the Lebanon at an early hour on the morning of Sunday, the 8th June 1941. At the same time, a declaration has been issued by General Catroux on behalf of General de Gaulle, guaranteeing the liberty and independence of Syria and the Lebanon and undertaking to negotiate a treaty to ensure these objects. His Majesty's Government support and associate themselves with this promise of independence."

General Catroux, in an inspiring call to the Syrians and the Lebanese said :—" Inhabitants of Syria and the Lebanon! At a moment when the forces of Free France, united to the forces of the British Empire, her Ally, are entering your territory, I declare that I assume the powers, responsibilities and duties of the representatives of *La France au Levant*. I do this in the name of Free France, who identifies herself with the traditional and real France and in the name of her chief, General de Gaulle. In this capacity, I have come to put an end to the mandatory regime and to proclaim you free and independent. You will, therefore, be from henceforward sovereign and independent peoples and you will be able either to form yourselves into separate States or to unite into a single State. In either event, your sovereign status will be guaranteed by a treaty, in which our mutual relations will be defined. This treaty will be negotiated as soon as possible between your representatives and myself. Pending its conclusion our mutual position will be one of close unity in pursuit of the common idea and common aims. You will see from this declaration that if the Free French and British Forces cross your frontier, it is not to take away your liberty, but to ensure it. It is to drive out of Syria the forces of Hitler. It is to prevent the Levant from becoming an enemy base, directed against the British and against yourselves. We, who are fighting for the liberty of the people, cannot allow the enemy to submerge your country step by step and obtain control of your persons and your belongings and turn you into slaves. We cannot allow the population, which France has promised to defend, to be thrown into the hands of the most wanton and pitiless master that history has known. We cannot allow the age-long interests of France in the Levant to be handed over to the enemy. Inhabitants of Syria and the Lebanon! If, in answer to our appeal, you rally to us, you should know that the British Government, in the agreement with Free France, have promised to grant you all the advantages enjoyed by the free countries who are associated with them. Thus the blockade will be lifted and you will enter into immediate relations with the Sterling Bloc, which will open up the widest possibilities to your imports and exports. You will be able to buy and sell freely with all free countries. Inhabitants of Syria and the Lebanon! The great hour in your history has sounded for you. France declares you independent by the voice of her sons, who are fighting for your life and for the liberty of the world."

OTHER ARAB SUPPORTERS OF ALLIES

Transjordan is an important buffer state between Palestine, Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, with possession of the highly important port of Qaba, which is part of the alternative land and water route to the Suez Canal. It is ruled by Emir Abdullah, third son of the late King Hussein. Britain protects Transjordan from being over-run by tribesmen and the Emir has loyally declared his adherence to the Allied cause in this war. He recently gave asylum to the lawful Regent of Iraq when Rashid Ali staged his brief revolt.

(*Continued on Page* 16)

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

The immortal Ark Royal

The part played in the *Bismarck's* destruction by the *Ark Royal* and her aircraft should cause the loudest atmospherics in Dr. Goebbel's headphones. It was on September 7, 1939 that a broadcast from Zeesen first asked " Where is the *Ark Royal*? ", quickly supplying the answer : " She was bombed and sunk by the Germans."

The same question and the same answer were repeated intermittently, and in November, Corporal Frank of the German Air Force got the Iron Cross for sinking the aircraft-carrier. Shortly afterwards, however (December 18, 1939), Goebbels accused the *Ark Royal* of " lying in wait " for the *Graf Spee* off the River Plate. And on July 11 last he inflicted on this immortal vessel " two direct hits by bombs of heavy calibre."

Perhaps this was why Goebbels announced on May 28 that among the vessels which hunted the *Bismarck* to her doom was " an un-named air-craft carrier!"

Just being neighbourly

Berlin reported on May 27 the return to Spain of Senor Salvador Marino, a distinguished Spanish official, after a visit to Germany, during which (so Berlin says) he found the entire German nation united behind the Fuehrer and fully confident of victory.

The most recent of distinguished German visitors to Spain was Herr Rudolf Hess, and it seems a pity that he was not in a position to welcome Senor Marino to the Fatherland and further confirm his impressions of Nazi solidarity.

A sneer misdirected

Angered by Field-Marshal Smuts's affirmation of his faith in ultimate British victory, Berlin sneers that South Africa's veteran Premier enjoys " quite a singular reputation as a turn-coat."

Few statesmen in the world today can boast so straightforward a record of policy as can Jan Christian Smuts. As a citizen of the old Transvaal Republic, he fought well and cleanly against the British in the Boer War. At the conclusion of the struggle, he accepted the principle of Anglo-Dutch co-operation, and has stood firmly for that principle throughout the past 40 years. To-day, as always, Field-Marshal Smuts bases his faith and actions on his country's collaboration with Britain and the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Vichy's protest

Berlin announced with unction on May 31 that the Vichy Government had protested to Britain against the Royal Air Force's bombing of the harbour of Sfax, in Tunis. Vichy's inadmissible contention is that this was an infringement of international law.

Even according to the rules of international law, Britain was justified in raiding this port, *where an Italian supply ship was taking shelter*. But the men of Vichy, who have sold Syria to the Nazis and have permitted no less than 146,000 tons of war material to be imported into Germany through France, should be among the last to seek shelter behind the provisions of international law.

Iraqi Regent's " unknown destination."

Simultaneously with her now frustrated attempts to stir up trouble in Iraq. Germany has been trying to prove that grave unrest also exists in Transjordania. Perhaps with the idea of killing two birds with one stone, Berlin announced on May 31 : " According to reports from Beirut, the situation in Transjordania has become critical. Abdul Illah, the former Regent of Iraq, has left Amman, the Transjordanian capital, for an unknown destination."

The rightful (not former) Regent of Iraq's return to his own country had been reported three days before this would-be-mysterious announcement was broadcast from Berlin; and all the world knows that the Emir Abdul Illah's " unknown destination " was his own capital, Baghdad—which he entered in triumph on June 1, after the ignominious flight of Hitler's Quisling, Rashid Ali, and the members of his puppet " government."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

President Roosevelt's pledge

In their weekly review of news in Bengali, the Nazis wrongly stated on May 29 that President Roosevelt had disappointed Britain by saying that U.S.A. would not continue to supply war material to England to the extent she had been doing.

Mr. Roosevelt said nothing of the kind. On the contrary, he declared : " We have doubled and redoubled our vast production, increasing month by month our output of material and supply of tools of war for ourselves, Britain and China—and eventually for all democracies. The supply of these tools will not fail, it will increase."

As for the delivery of these supplies to Britain, Mr. Roosevelt continued : " All additional measures necessary for the delivery of goods will be taken. This can be done; it must be done, and it will be done."

Britain and Iraq

On May 26 Berlin's Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts repeated the baseless lie that Britain wanted to destroy Iraq. Anglo-Iraq history, however, is a refutation of this mendacious Nazi falsehood. At the beginning of the war of 1914–18, Iraq was a province of the Turkish empire.

Britain fought Iraq's battles, sent her best brains to guide Iraq and organize her administration, trained her army, developed her natural resources and finally had her recognized as an independent sovereign state.

Rashid Ali's exit

Hitler's subservient tool, Rashid Ali, according to the Nazis' Hindustani broadcasts of May 29, stated that the entire Iraqi nation was willing to fight the British. The news of Rashid Ali's flight to Iran, received in London on May 31, conclusively proves that Iraqi public opinion had made itself felt and got rid of the Iraqi Quisling, who preferred the perjured Nazis, with the blood of 14 nations on their hands, to a proved friend. Moreover, Iraq's legal Regent, Abdul Illah, has been enthusiastically received in Iraq, and the leading Kurdish chieftain in Northern Iraq, Daud Pasha Haidari, has pointed out that the Kurds had joined the Arabs in forming the kingdom of Iraq on condition that they would be permanent allies of the British. "The Kurds," he said, "will rise as one man against those who have so shamefully violated the constitution of the country."

Mr. Eden on Syrian aspirations

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani broadcast of May 30 ascribed to the English newspapers the suggestion that the British Government should capture Syria. Since the Vichy Government have, in violation of their armistice terms, placed the Syrian aerodromes at the disposal of their Nazi masters, the British Government is justified in taking action against its enemies wherever they are found.

As for Syria and her people, Mr. Eden in his speech on May 29 expressed the greatest sympathy for their aspirations towards independence, and declared that His Majesty's Government would give its full support to any scheme that commanded general approval.

Vichy's betrayal of Syrian Muslims

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of May 28, by declaring that Syrian Muslims had declared holy war against the British, suggested that Britain had let loose war on Syria. Actually, as the Egyptian paper *Al Mokattam* remarks, by allowing the Germans access to air bases in Syria, France is exposing the people of Syria to the horrors of war. The paper adds: "If public opinion in all Arab and Moslem countries had condemned the misguided policy of Rashid Ali, what will the Moslem world think of Vichy in breaking faith with the people of Syria? Britain has every justification for taking whatever measures she deems fit for safeguarding her interests and preventing German assistance from reaching Rashid Ali."

Nazi Tales about Palestine

On May 28 the Nazi radio (in Hindustani) reported clashes between the British troops and Arabs in Palestine and Transjordan. This Axis propaganda is utterly baseless. There have been no clashes, no rebellions and no disturbances. The normality of life in Palestine is illustrated by the visit of the British High Commissioner to Jaffa, where he stayed for a night like an ordinary visitor, touring the markets and the old city, and in the morning calling on the Mayor, Abdur Raouf Birar, at his home.

WAR IN THE NEAR EAST

(*Continued from Page* 14)

Palestine was conquered by General Allenby in 1917 and has since been under British Mandatory Administration. Continued differences between the Arabs and the Jews have marked the recent history of Palestine. Finally, a British White Paper, issued on 17th May 1939, and approved by Parliament, stated that the objective of His Majesty's Government was to establish an "independent Palestinean State, the two peoples sharing authority in government in such a way that the essential interests of each were secured." The Palestinean State is to be set up ten years hence and to be "on such treaty relations with the United Kingdom as will provide satisfactorily for the commercial and strategic requirements of both countries." The war has intervened; and the strife between Arabs and Jews has died down. Both loyally stand by Britain.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

13th June.—Royal Air Force bombers made the heaviest attack so far on the Ruhr. Docks at Brest and Antwerp were also attacked and set on fire.

Mr. Ernest Bevin said: "We have made night-fighting expensive to the enemy. Scientists, engineers and craftsmen are building up an armoury for defence."

14th June.—Seven enemy aircraft were destroyed during air raids over Britain.

The Royal Air Force attacked "invasion" ports. Brest was heavily raided, and German warships were bombed in their berths.

15th June.—There was very slight enemy activity over Britain.

Aircraft of the British Bomber Command attacked industrial targets in the Cologne area. British fighter planes swept over the Channel and Northern France, accompanied by a squadron of bombers which attacked airfields in St. Omer.

16th June.—The Royal Air Force attacked aerodromes in Occupied France and the Ruhr.

17th June.—The Royal Air Force raided the Ruhr for the sixth night in succession and also bombed enemy shipping off the Dutch and German coasts.

A German seaplane and ten fighters were shot down over Britain.

Mr. Attlee announced in the Commons developments of high promise in the detection and destruction of enemy planes.

18th June.—In Royal Air Force activities over Germany and northern France 13 enemy planes were destroyed and an enemy supply ship hit. There were only scattered raids on Britain. The British Government announced the existence of a secret weapon—which detects enemy aircraft by radio—to counteract night bombers.

19th June.—A small number of enemy aircraft dropped bombs on the East Midlands.

Bremen was heavily raided by the Royal Air Force.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

13th June.—The Italians in Jimma were encircled by British forces.

Enemy raiders were turned back from Malta and ten enemy aircraft were shot down.

14th June.—The Royal Air Force and the Australian Air Force gave full support to the Imperial forces in Syria and several German planes were shot down.

An air raid on Malta was beaten off by British fighters and five enemy bombers were shot down.

The first air raid on Gibraltar since September 1940 occurred to-day, but there was neither damage nor any casualty.

Benghazi and Rhodes were bombed by the Royal Air Force.

15th June.—Cyprus experienced its second air raid of the war when a few enemy bombers attacked two villages on the western side of the island.

16th June.—There was a strong British attack on the Sollum front.

The Italian General, Pralormo, surrendered with 2,000 troops in the Soddu area.

In the Assab area, the Allied forces captured the important aerodrome at Maccara.

The Royal Air Force activity over Cyrenaica was again on an extensive scale.

17th June.—British Imperial forces penetrated as far as Fort Capuzzo in Libya and captured an enemy rear-guard position west of Latemti in Abyssinia.

The Royal Air Force made a very heavy raid on Benghazi.

18th June.—A heavy battle was in progress on the Libyan frontier. An encircling movement by the enemy was foiled by the British forces withdrawing to forward positions. A number of enemy tanks and guns were destroyed as also 20 enemy aircraft.

The Italian garrison in a fort in the Wolchefit sector in Abyssinia was surprised and captured.

19th June.—British forces that launched a big attack in the western desert in the Sollum front are safely back in their original positions.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

13th June.—The United States Senate approved of legislation, authorizing the President to seize defence plants in case of existing or threatened failure of production.

Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, denied the German claim that the Robin Moor was carrying contraband and accused Germany of breaking the International Agreement regarding the safety of passengers of any merchantman attacked by a submarine.

Mr. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, declared that Canadian troops were ready to be used in any field decided on by the High Command.

14th June.—President Roosevelt renewed his pledge of full material assistance to Great Britain and her Allies, in a message of greetings to His Majesty King George on his birthday.

A sharp attack on the Darlan-Laval group in France was made by Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, who said that the Vichy Government were apparently fighting Germany's battle in Syria.

Mr. Roosevelt ordered the immediate freezing of all German and Italian assets in the United States of America. These assets, according to the latest available figures, amounted to 200 million dollars.

Preparations to sow mines in the lower bay of New York harbour were disclosed by the United States Navy department.

15th June.—Rear-Admiral Luctzow, broadcasting from Germany, complained bitterly of the United States Naval Patrol system.

16th June.—Broadcasting his thanks to Rochester University in America for conferring on him the honorary Doctorate of Civil Law. Mr. Churchill remarked: " United we stand, divided we fall."

It was reported that Danish ships seized in America would be placed on service with United States Merchant Fleet.

Mr. Sumner Welles handed to a representative of the German Embassy an order to close all German consulates in the United States and to remove all German nationals connected with them. He said that the step was taken because Nazi agencies were engaged in activities harmful to America.

It was reported from Washington that Mr. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, blocked a shipment of 252,000 gallons of oil to Japan. The reason given was the threatened shortage of oil in the Eastern United States.

The United States Senate passed the 250 million dollar bill for the construction of highways for defence purposes.

Secret Nazi radio stations were discovered and seized in Mexico and their staffs imprisoned.

17th June.—Mr. Roosevelt conferred with War and Navy Department officials on ensuring the delivery of American bombers for the British forces in Africa.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, emphatically declared that Britain could resist the Nazis.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, said that America must face the prospect of a long war.

18th June.—Mr. Sumner Welles indicated that the strong German protest against the expulsion of Nazi Consuls from the United States would be flatly rejected.

President Roosevelt ordered customs officers and border patrols to ensure that no German national left the country for the present.

Naval reserve in the United States were ordered to stand by.

19th June.—Germany has ordered the closing of all United States Consular offices in Germany and occupied countries.

Mr. Morgenthan, Secretary of the Treasury, announced at a Press Conference that proposals to exempt Portugal, Russia, Spain, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland from the United States " freezing order " are being considered. The Oxford University confered through Lord Halifax the degree of Doctor of Civil Law on President Roosevelt.

GREECE AND ITALY

15th June.—The Italian Government ordered an immediate census of all United States property in Italy, evidently in retaliation of Mr. Roosevelt's order to freeze all German and Italian assets in the United States. Germany followed suit.

16th June.—The sudden death of General Grossi, President of the Italian Armistice Commission in France, was announced.

17th June.—A cruiser, seven destroyers, two torpedo boats and five submarines of the Greek Navy reached Alexandria and joined the British Mediterranean Fleet.

18th June.—Sgr. Starace, former Secretary of the Fascist Party, has been removed from office and Lieut.-General Enzo Galbiati appointed in his place.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

13th June.—The Allied forces in Syria were marching on Damascus and the Free French were encircling Kiswe.

Beirut was attacked several times by the Royal Air Force, while Haifa and Tel Aviv were raided by the enemy.

General Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, had conversations with Hitler and Ribbentrop at Bucharest.

14th June.—Vichy troops evacuated Kiswe.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, assured Iraq that Britain would respect her independence and support her against any aggressors.

15th June.—The British captured the Syrian port of Sidon.

The Swiss Radio announced the adherence of the puppet State of Croatia to the Three-Power Pact; the ceremony took place at Venice in the presence of Ribbentrop and Ciano.

16th June.—It was confirmed in London that Kiswe, eleven miles from Damascus, was in Allied hands.

17th June.—A French destroyer was sunk in operations off Syria.

The Allies were closing in on Damascus and Allied reinforcements were sent to Merj Ayoum, which Vichy forces were trying to counterattack.

It was reported that the blackout had been re-introduced in Bucharest.

18th June.—A Turkish-German treaty of friendship was signed at Ankara. It is held to be only a non-committal undertaking as Turkey has refused to abrogate the Anglo-Turkish treaty or to open a way for German penetration.

The British Government assured the Royal Yugoslav Government in exile that they would not recognize " the brutal dismemberment of the Slovene people ".

Allied forces captured Queneilia and were within 12 miles of Beirut. They were also within three miles of Damascus.

19th June.—The Free French troops have now reached the western suburbs of Damascus. M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Foreign Minister, in a broadcast said that the recent treaty confirmed for the future that the two countries would not oppose one another. Normal communications have been restored between Iraq and Palestine via Transjordan.

SHIPPING

13th June.—A German pocket battleship was hit by a British aerial torpedo off the Norwegian coast.

Ten fast new vessels, totalling 80,000 gross tons, were completed in American ship-building yards in May when production reached the highest level.

14th June.—The Admiralty announced the successes of the British submarines in the Mediterranean where ten Italian ships were sunk or damaged in port or on the high seas.

In Central Mediterranean, Royal Air Force bombers attacked a convoy of enemy merchantships, escorted by destroyers and auxiliaries. An enemy merchantship of 7,000 tons was a total loss. Altogether 20,000 tons of enemy shipping were sunk by the Royal Air Force during the week.

A Hungarian 4,000-ton ship was intercepted by a warship of the Netherlands East Indies in the East Indies waters.

15th June.—Royal Air Force Beaufort torpedo-carrying aircraft attacked an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast. A supply ship of about 6,000 tons was hit by a torpedo and probably sunk.

With America's expanding ship-building facilities, it was revealed, there would be an increase to 3,500,000 tons in 1942 and 5 million tons in 1943.

According to the U.S. Maritime Commission, America would turn out 1,250,000 dead-weight tons of merchant shipping this year.

16th June.—The Ministry of Economic Warfare gave notice that any vessel carrying on transhipment of enemy goods arriving at South American ports from Europe would be placed on the black list and refused all navicert facilities.

18th June.—In view of the incursion of German troops in Finland the British Government stopped the issue of navicerts to Finnish ships bound for Petsamo, three of which were intercepted and detained.

19th June.—The House of Commons is shortly to debate the shipping position and the battle of the Atlantic in a secret session. Twenty-eight enemy vessels were damaged and 14 sunk during the week ending June 15. British ship " Empire Warrior " with coals from Portugal was sunk by aeroplanes near the Spanish border.

FAR EAST

13th June.—Chinese forces in Inner Mongolia were advancing eastward in three columns, converging on Paotow, a Japanese stronghold, on the north bank of the Yellow River.

14th June.—Japanese aircraft bomb Chungking.

15th June.—Over a hundred Japanese warships, including a cruiser and an aircraft carrier, were stated to be moving southwards and a major move by Japan in Southern Pacific was suggested.

16th June.—The United States Embassy and the American gunboat Tutila had a narrow escape when 27 Japanese aircraft dropped bombs south of Yangtse River opposite Chungking City.

The British Ambassador in Tokyo protested to the Japanese Government against the bombing of the British Embassy in Chungking.

The Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, in a speech, urged the stoppage of raw material exports to Japan.

17th June.—The United States Ambassador in Tokyo had a long discussion with the Japanese Foreign Minister.

A Japanese Naval spokesman said that the bombing of foreign property in Chungking by Japanese planes was purely accidental.

Mr. Wang Ching-Wei, Premier of the puppet government in Nanking, arrived in Tokyo.

The Japanese delegates decided to leave the Netherlands Indies following the break-down of the Batavia talks.

The Sino-Burman frontier was finally fixed by agreement.

The Japanese Ambassador Mr. Shigmitsu left London for Tokyo to report to his Government.

19th June.—A fleet of 53 Japanese warships was sighted off Amoy by the United States liner President Coolidge.

The Thailand Assembly unanimously ratified the Thailand-Indo-China peace treaty.

Wang-Ching-Wei, head of the puppet government at Nanking, declared joint Sino-Japanese defence against communism.

It is officially stated that American Catalina flying boats from the United States are arriving in Singapore via Manila.

VICHY

13th June.—The British Government informed Vichy that they had no territorial designs in Syria or elsewhere in French overseas possessions. The statement added that "the responsibility for the consequences of the assistance which the French authorities were ready to render to the enemies of His Majesty must rest with Marshal Petain's Government."

14th June.—The Swiss Radio stated that the Vichy despatch to the official German News Agency that the French Fleet had left Toulon was officially denied.

16th June.—General Delhomme, former Governor of Damascus, has been appointed War Minister in the Vichy Cabinet.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16th June.—Flemish workmen, it was reported, were sent to Northern France by the Germans and forced to work on the fortifications there.

17th June.—It was reported that King Leopold of the Belgians refused to treat with the Germans.

Januz Kuscocinski, the famous Polish long distance champion was tortured to death by the Gestapo.

19th June.—Remarkable passive resistance is being offered by the Netherlands to the Germans.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES (RUSSIA, SPAIN, EIRE, ETC.)

13th June.—The Tass News Agency stated that all rumours of Soviet preparations for war with Germany were devoid of foundation.

14th June.—It was reported from Ankara that Germany had 120 divisions on the Russian frontier, of which 20 to 30 were in Moldavia.

15th June.—The Swiss Radio announced that extensive military manœuvres were being carried on in various parts of the Soviet Union.

18th June.—The German Government in their reply to Eire's protest said that there was "no conclusive proof" that the planes that bombed Dublin were German.

19th June.—It is believed that Mexico may close down German Consulates and propaganda centres at any moment. Germany has expressed sincere regret to the Eire Government for the bomb-dropping on May 31, and has agreed to pay compensation.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 10th June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrol activity (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European enemy coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 4, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bombers raid on Zeebrugge (mole, shipping—1 merchantman sunk); shipping off Norwegian coast (5,000-ton merchantman on fire). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on docks and shipping at Boulogne. R.A.F. dusk fighter sweep over French coast.	2 day bombers, 2 day fighters.	1 day bomber. 3 day fighters.
June 5, Thursday.	(No reports.)	Nil.	1 seaplane.
June 6, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on French invasion bases ..	Nil.	..
June 7, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over Straits of Dover and French coast. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on convoys off Dutch coast (25,000-ton merchantman believed sunk, others damaged) and Norwegian coast; salvage ship off Terschelling Island (on fire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; docks and shipping at Bergen.	1 day fighter. 3 day bombers.	..
June 8, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on factories, canals, docks and railways in the Ruhr, particularly at Dortmund and Essan.	Nil.	..
June 9, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off coast of Norway, Holland, Belgium, France.	4 day bombers.	1 day fighter.
June 10, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*; submarine base at St. Narzaire; aerodromes at Mandal and Stavanger; shipping off Norwegian coast (2,000-ton merchantman torpedoed).	Nil.	1 day fighter.

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 10th June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European coastal waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 4	Nil.	5 night bombers.
June 5	Nil.	1 day bomber.
June 6	Nil.	..
June 7	Nil.	2 day bombers.
June 8	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 9	1 day fighter.	2 day fighters.
June 10	(1 day fighter down in Eire; pilot safe).	1 day bomber (= 1 day bomber crashed in Eire).

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The shipping losses inflicted on Axis Powers are very encouraging. Last week as many as 10 Italian ships, cruisers and trawlers, were either sunk or damaged by British action. During the week ending June 15, twenty-eight enemy ships were severely hit and fourteen of them are known definitely to have been sunk A German pocket-battleship has been severely damaged by a Beaufort torpedo. Only one of three pocket-battleships of Germany is now available. Now that the *Bismarck* is out of the way, the German Navy has only two capital ships in service, namely, the *Gneisenau and the Scharnhorst*. These and the 10,000-ton cruiser, *Prinz Eugen*, are at Brest unable to get out. The *Bismarck's* sister ship, the *Tripitz*, of 34,000 tons, has yet to make its appearance.

In Syria, Sidon and Kiswe are now in Allied hands, Damascus is being surrounded and Empire forces are within ten to fifteen miles of Beirut. In Abyssinia, the remnants of the Italian force are being rounded up and the surrender of many Italian officers and soldiers has been reported. In Cyrenaica, Fort Capuzzo is being successfully penetrated by British Forces and it is anticipated that, though the British offensive is not on a large scale operation, developments may be expected. Heavy losses have been incurred by the enemy in a big battle near Fort Capuzzo and the Empire Forces have withdrawn to forward positions after a three-day battle.

A striking attack on Vichy involving also a justification of the British action in Syria has been made by Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State of the United States of America. France, he pointed out, was not required to permit territory under French control to be used as bases for German military operations. Recent events, he said, pointed to the fact that Admiral Darlan wants that people of France should surrender, permanently and unconditionally, loyalty to all French traditions and actually to transfer all those loyal ties and all hopes of the future to Hitler. He wondered whether the French people would accept this "preposterous status." Vichy's action really amounted to permitting Germany to extend the theatre of war into the French Mandated territory. Mr. Hull further pointed out that an Armistice only signified the temporary cessation of hostilities and did not contemplate "that the successful belligerent shall make inhuman demands" on a conquered nation, nor that the latter "shall be bludgeoned into becoming allies of their enemy."

A striking gesture of President Roosevelt is mentioned. Having heard that there was discrimination against the Negroes, President Roosevelt has called on the Office of Production Management to remember that industry must open the doors of employment to all loyal and qualified workers regardless of race, national origin, religion or colour. Productive manpower of the United States, he added, should be fully utilized.

It is confidently expected that the Radio will destroy the German airplanes. A secret weapon for the detection of enemy aircraft by Radio, is being used to counteract night bombers. The release of this news has given great satisfaction.

Australia's war effort is being accelerated, according to a broadcast made by Mr. Menzies, the Australian Premier, who said: "The recent reverses in Greece, Crete and Libya had lessons. One of them was that victory was for the nation with a superior equipment. For winning the war the Government would disregard all sectional interests, business profits and private comforts." Members of Parliament will take an increased share in war time responsibility and administration by appointment to Parliamentary Committees. Privileges will be put into melting pot and common rights and equal opportunities will be striven for.

Two statements have been made warning the Democracies that the war may be a prolonged one. Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, told the Committees of the House of Representatives that the war may last more than four years and asked the people of the United States to prepare for a very long emergency. Field Marshal Smuts stated at Pretoria: "We are not at the end of the war. It almost looks like the beginning. It is a terrible thing to say, but probably the greatest ordeals are still before us." It is interesting to note in this connexion that the United States' opinion is emphasising the phrase "The Time is Short" in Mr. Churchill's broadcast to Rochester University. A Canadian General has warned that the time was drawing near when the Nazis must attack England, "the one decisive theatre of war." He said: "We cannot afford to waste a single day of the short period which remains for preparation."

Turkey and Germany have entered into a political treaty by which they bind themselves mutually to respect the integrity and inviolability of their national territory and not to resort to any measures direct or indirect against their treaty partner. They are also to have friendly contact with each other in order to reach an understanding in the treatment of all questions touching their common interests.

The treaty is to last for ten years in the first instance. There is no disposition to take a tragic view of this treaty in England which had been kept informed of the negotiations. In America, it is said that the treaty is further proof of Hitler's war of nerves against Russia. In Turkey it is pointed out that the treaty does not interfere with the existing obligations of that country to Great Britain. Trade relations between Germany and Turkey are to be improved.

It has been announced that 2,44,000 Italian prisoners are now in British hands of whom 1,77,937 come from Italy and 66,000 are African troops.

Reports of a German ultimatum to Russia, of clashes on the Russo-German frontier and of Germany launching attacks on the eastern frontier at fifteen points have been denied.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST

On the occasion of conferring the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the Rochester University, Mr. Churchill, in a broadcast speech, said that he would strive to deserve the American confidence to that sense of kinship and unity which existed between America and England. "It has given me comfort and inspiration," he said, "to feel that our hands are joined across the oceans and that our pulses throb and beat as one." Here is a great sentiment well expressed. "When great causes are on the move in the world stirring all men's souls, drawing them from the fire-sides, casting aside comfort, wealth and the pursuit of happiness in response to impulses, at once awe-striking and irresistible, we learn that we are spirits, not animals, and that something is going on in space and time and beyond space and time, which, whether we like it or not, spells duty. A wonderful story is unfolding before our eyes."

Of the shadow which has been cast upon the world, he said: "Wickedness, enormous, panoplied, embattled and seemingly triumphant, has cast its shadow over Europe and Asia. Laws and customs are broken up; justice is cast from her seat; rights of the weak are trampled down; grand freedoms of which President Roosevelt had spoken so movingly, are spurned and chained; the whole stature of man, his genius, his initiative and his nobility, is ground down under systems of mechanical barbarism and of organized scheduled terror." He concluded by declaring his own faith in ultimate victory. "And now," he said "the old lion with her lion cubs at her side stands alone against the hunters who are armed with deadly weapons and impelled by desperate and destructive rage. Is tragedy to repeat itself once more? Ah no! This is not the end of the tale. The stars in their courses proclaim deliverance of mankind. Not so easily shall the onward progress of the peoples be barred. Not so easily shall the lights of freedom die. But time is short. Every month that passes adds to the length and to the perils of the journey that will have to be made. United we stand. Divided we fall. Divided the dark age returns. United we can save and guide the world."

JAPAN AND THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES

It has been announced that the trade talks between Japan and Netherlands East Indies have broken down. But the failure of the economic negotiations, it is stated, does not mean that normal relations between the two countries have been disrupted. The Japanese Press has called upon the Government to take determined steps to make the Netherlands East Indies to realize Japan's ideal of Greater East India. Japan is doing all that it can to infuse terror into the Dutch East Indies by fleet movements and other manifestations, but the Governor-General of that country made it perfectly clear that it was his duty to see that the enemy is not supplied through exports, directly or indirectly, with the much-needed raw materials that he needs. As for any threats that may be held out, the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs said that the country was ready to join hands with the Allies in resisting aggression in the Pacific. The armed forces in that country are in a state of preparedness to resist unprovoked aggression. He quoted, with approval, the statement made by the British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, who said that from the political and military point of view, the line which ran from Singapore across the Indies into Australia must be considered as a unit and an attack from the outside on any point along this line must be regarded and treated as an attack on the whole. He placed full faith in America's lending assistance to those who show that they are capable of helping themselves in a struggle against unprovoked aggression.

AMERICA AND GERMANY

The loss of *Robin Moor* is having serious repercussions. America takes a very serious view of the incident. American action against Germany has been suspended pending the receipt of full details from the survivors of that ship. The Captain's story has been cabled to America and Mr. Sumner Wells stated that, contrary to all tenets of International Law, to principles of international morality and to humanity, American citizens, including women and children, were forced to take to small life boats, when their vessel, an American merchantman engaged in peaceful commerce was sunk in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. It was not carrying any prohibited cargo and one can understand the indignation that has been aroused throughout America. America has already taken four measures. She has frozen German assets in the United States, has closed the Nazi Consulates throughout the country because they were freely used for subversive activities, German nationals have been debarred from going out of the country, in order that the action of freezing German assets may not be defeated and the immigration of suspects is soon to be prevented. Germany has retaliated by freezing American assets in that country, but this is considered to be only an academic retort. Germany is also closing American consulates in that country. No one can say for certain what the result of the strained relations between the two countries might eventually result in, but there can be no doubt that American feelings have been roused by this wanton assault on the part of Germany on an American merchantman.

BRITISH THRUST IN LIBYA

That the British forces retain the initiative in Libya was strikingly demonstrated when they launched an offensive in the Sollum area this week. Authoritative quarters in London spoke of it as a local operation but it must be emphasized that this time the fighting took place definitely *west* of Halfya Pass and that British forces among whom Indians are prominent have penetrated into Fort Capuzzo where the Germans have launched many unsuccessful counter-attacks. The British, after a three-day battle have withdrawn to their original position. The Germans and Italians are still at Sollum. The Cairo correspondent of the Columbia Broadcasting System reported that "both sides are flinging tanks and armoured vehicles into the battle and both appear to be strongly supported by aircraft" thus vindicating Mr. Churchill's statement in the Commons last week that the Royal Air Force in the Middle East was being strongly reinforced. General Wavell is not in the habit of announcing successes till he has consolidated his line and decided on the course of future action, but the American press and the radio think that a major offensive is under way and compare the new drive with General Wavell's first Libyan campaign. The fluidity of desert warfare is well illustrated by the fact that a British striking force, operating to the West of Bardia, made mencemeat of an Italian motorized column, though Bardia itself is still held by the enemy.

In Abyssinia the Italian forces in the Jimma sector are being surrounded and Generals and high officers, with thousands of other ranks, continue to be captured by the British Imperial forces. The capture of Assab, Eritrea's second port, means that the enemy has no port outside the Mediterranean. And in the Mediterranean itself, the British Navy sails proudly on smashing its way through all opposition. This week, British submarines have sunk ten Italian vessels—in ports and on the high seas. And finally the Royal Air Force is doing its best to break up any big scale massing of German troops with systematic and heavy raids on Bengazhi and other Axis bases in Libya. Now that President Roosevelt is taking prompt measures to ensure that United States bombers reach the British forces in Africa straight from America, we are encouraged to hope that the *Luftwaffe* will more than meet its match.

ALLIES' ADVANCE IN SYRIA

The Allied forces are making steady progress in Syria. The advance has necessarily been slow because they do not want to wound French feeling unnecessarily and want, if possible, to force a surrender of the Vichy forces rather than to fight bloody actions with old-time comrades in arms. But as *News Chronicle* remarks, "the Vichy French in Syria under orders from the Quisling Government, are putting up stiff resistance." To smash that resistance, the paper urges, we must put forth all the strength at our command. Compared with the issues at stake, the casualties that the French must suffer through their shortsightedness are as nothing. "If we fail to take Syria swiftly, the cause of Free France will be put back; if we succeed, the cost in Vichy lives will be well worth while for the sake of France's future."

The Allies are closing in on Damascus, the Syrian capital; they are making their way towards the city from the hills overlooking it. Vichy troops attempted a counter-attack on Merj Ayoum, but the town is in Allied hands and reinforcements are being hurried there in order to beat off any possible move by Vichy. Meanwhile, along the coast, the Allies have captured the ancient port of Sidon and are pressing on towards Beirut. The British Navy is rendering admirable assistance to the Imperial Forces and the efforts of the German air force to interfere with the naval operations have been neutralized by Royal Air Force fighters which are dominating the Syrian air.

(Continued on Page 10)

SINGAPORE: KEY TO THE EAST

EMPIRE'S GREAT BASTION

Singapore, "City of the Lions," is now part of the British colony of the Straits Settlements. But as the very name indicates, it is really a part of Greater India and traces of Hindu culture and civilization still linger in this most modern and cosmopolitan of cities. It is at once an island, a city and a naval base. Lying at the southernmost tip of Asia, it is separated from the mainland (the Federated Malay States) by a channel that is at one point only a mile and a quarter in width. It is but 78 miles from the Equator and its land area is 18 miles long and 15 miles wide. Left to itself, it would probably have reverted to the malarial jungle and swamp on which Britain has constructed in the course of seventeen years the largest and most modern naval base in the world.

It is possible that Singapore was a trading centre in the 12th and 13th centuries, but says "Encyclopædia Britannica" neither Marco Polo nor Ibn Batuta, both of whom wintered in Sumatra on their way back to Europe from China, have left anything on record confirmatory of this. About the middle of the 14th century, it was destroyed by Majapahit. In 1552, St. Xavier despatched letters from the port to Goa. When it passed by treaty to the East India Company in 1819, Sir Stamford Raffles persuading the Sultan and Temenggong of Johore to cede it to him, it was uninhabited save by fisherfolk. It was first subordinate to Benkulen, the Company's principal station in Sumatra, but in 1923 it was placed under the administration of Bengal. It was incorporated in the colony of the Straits Settlements when that colony was established in 1826.

The city of Singapore, on the island's southern shore, has a population of about 700,000, more than two-thirds of whom are Chinese. There are about 95,000 Malays and 8,000 white civilians. The remainder, it has been well said, is an amazing hodgepodge of all the races not only of Asia but of the whole Orient. Even the street and traffic signs have to be in three languages, English, Chinese and Malay. And there is quite a sizable Indian colony which is perfectly at home in this great clearing-house of the world's trade, through whose port passes the bulk of the world's supply of rubber and tin.

NAVAL BASE

The naval base, which was finished in 1938, lies along the island's northern shore, facing the mainland. It includes 50 square miles of protected anchorage, sufficient to shelter the combined fleets of Great Britain and the United States. "Ashore and afloat," says a report in the *New York Times*, "are dry-docks big enough to take the largest warship afloat and trained personnel sufficient to serve an entire fleet. Surface and underground repair shops, cranes, docks and railways make this gigantic repair plant look like a thriving factory town. Both above ground and buried beneath its surface are acres of fuel tanks and arsenals to feed both sea and air fleets."

A broad causeway links the northern end of the island to the mainland of Asia. This causeway is mined and can be destroyed—if it is necessary to do so in order to thwart an enemy—by pressing any one of several buttons. The waters surrounding the naval base are also mined and there is a ring of anti-aircraft batteries. Coastal defence long range guns and air fleets, based in strategically placed fields, afford further protection. "Not a ship can approach the island without being surveyed far over at sea by British or Australian airmen who maintain such a wide dawn to dusk patrol that even an enemy steaming at top speed could not secretly approach within attacking distance overnight." The naval base is linked to the city proper by one railway line and two excellent concrete highways. And the city itself is protected by extensive mine-fields, coast defences and gun emplacements.

KEY TO THE EAST

The naval base has cost more than £20,000,000, not counting the land defences. For years, 20 per cent of the gross revenues of the Straits Settlements has gone into its construction. Little wonder it ranks with Malta, Gibraltar, Pearl Harbour and the Panama Canal Zone as one of the world's great fortified areas. Is Singapore worth all this trouble and effort, asks an American writer; and he himself proceeds to answer in the affirmative: Geography has made her the focal point of Empire in the East. She is the key to British Malaya and the whole East Indies—and that area alone commands some of the world's richest resources, tin and rubber perhaps chief among them. In that area are some 68,000,000 people, almost as many as in the whole Japanese Empire. Wipe out Singapore and Japan would sweep into the Netherlands Indies without hindrance; for even should Britain send a fleet to its defence, that fleet would have no accessible base for fuel, supplies or repairs. With control of Singapore lost, the road would be open to Australia.

And the American writer concludes that the fate of Singapore means to the United States the fate of the Philippines. Without the naval base at Singapore, the Philippines would be merely another group of islands in a Japanese sea. "Singapore is more than an island, more than a city, more even than a naval base. Singapore is the key to the East, and it is not saying too much to declare that every southward step Japan has taken pointed towards this island stronghold."

UNIFIED COMMAND

And Great Britain has every intention of maintaining this stronghold. The appointment of Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham as Commander-in-Chief, Far East, with his headquarters at Singapore, means that for the first time all British land and air forces in Malaya, Burma and Hong-Kong are under a unified command. Sir Robert works in close collaboration with the Naval Commander-in-Chief, China Station, Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton. Within a few weeks of the Air Chief Marshal's arrival it was announced that substantial reinforcements of all arms for the Army and Air Force had reached Malaya, permitting a strengthening of British defences in the Far East. The Governor of the Straits Settlements Sir Shenton Thomas, has publicly stated that he would not be surprised if additional reinforcements arrived soon. And the New Commander-in-Chief has mentioned that the Imperial Government intend to send men and munitions to the Far East in unceasing flow.

Sir Robert has wide powers to co-ordinate the forces under his command; he has direct access to all colonial Governors in his area; and he corresponds with and consults, the Australian and New Zealand High Commands as well as the Commander-in-Chief in India. He has just visited Burma, thus completing an extensive tour of the Far Eastern defences from Hong-Kong to Rangoon.

INDIAN TROOPS IN SINGAPORE

The troops defending Singapore continue to grow in strength and numbers. Reinforcements from India are particularly formidable. A Singapore correspondent of *Ceylon Daily News* gives the following report, which bears testimony to the smartness and equipment of the Indian forces. The Indian troops brought with them their own motor transport. They were completely mechanized, there being not a single mule or pack animal with any unit. This was the first time that such a considerable body of troops, with full war equipment, had been landed in Malaya within a few days. Officers who watched the disembarkation were impressed by the orderliness with which it was carried out and the speed with which heavy equipment was landed and moved off the docks and away by road to the various military camps throughout Malaya. The troops were soon busily engaged on training in jungle warfare tactics. Sir Robert Brooke-Popham has visited several of the Indian units in Malaya. When he called on one unit at a comparatively isolated town on the East Coast, there had been about seven inches of rain the previous day, but the men were in excellent spirits and were quickly adapting themselves to Malayan conditions. "I have perfect confidence in their ability to perform the duties allotted to them," the Commander-in-Chief remarked.

The air force reinforcements that recently arrived in Singapore include Australian and New Zealand squadrons, indicating the importance which Australia and New Zealand attach to the defence of this Far Eastern bastion. The development of the Singapore radio station—"the voice of Britain in the Far East"—with its short-wave transmitter designed to be heard over a wide area from Japan to New Zealand, is another powerful factor in cementing the unity and defence of the Eastern section of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page* 8)

One Vichy destroyer has been sunk but there is still no news of the French Fleet that was reported to have left Toulon towards Eastern Mediterranean. Further north, much is expected of the daring Allied thrust from Iraq. If it succeeds, Damascus will be cut off from northern Syria and will be forced to surrender.

The Free French have particularly distinguished themselves. They have forced the Vichy troops from Kiswe; and their intrepid leader, General Le Gentilhomme, who was wounded by bombs, is back again in the field and will doubtless be to the fore in the capture of Damascus.

FRANCE, THEN AND NOW

VICHY AT THE BAR

At the beginning of the war, the British Empire had in France a powerful ally and a trusted friend.

A year ago, France was a fallen comrade, blood-stained and battered, to whom Britain still offered the hand of friendship and aid.

Today France—official France, that is—stands forth as Britain's enemy, allied with the Nazi foes of all human freedom and progress.

But the soul of France lives on in General de Gaulle and the heroic warriors of Free France, who at this moment are moving into Syria to rid that land of the Axis interlopers who were admitted there by the men of Vichy.

In September, 1939, France had a Metropolitan army of over a million men and an air force of nearly 4,000 warplanes ranged between Hitler and the western world. Her navy—8 battleships, 18 cruisers, 63 destroyers, 80 submarines and an aircraft-carrier—stood guard in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, helping to enforce the blockade of Germany. Her overseas colonies and mandated territories, providing useful war bases, comprised more than 3,250,000 square miles in Africa, America, Asia and Oceania. In French North Africa was another army of nearly 300,000 men, with an unorganized reserve of twice that number. Add to this the vast industrial production of Metropolitan France, plus the raw materials available in her overseas Empire, and we have an idea of France's enormous contribution—actual and potential—to the Allied war effort.

On June 25, 1940, Marshal Petain declared in a broadcast immediately after signing the Armistice: "Honour, however, has been saved. No one will ever use our planes and our fleet. We shall retain the land and naval units essential to maintain order. . . . Our Government remains free; France will only be governed by Frenchmen."

That was France's pledge to the democracies. How has it been honoured?

HOW VICHY KEPT ITS WORD

Today, the greater part of France is a spring-board from which Hitler attacks Britain and the free world. Even apart from the Nazi air and naval bases in Occupied France, supplies for Germany (carried in French merchantmen, convoyed by French warships) steal into the ports of unoccupied France, Axis vessels shelter in France's African harbours, and at any moment the aged Marshal Petain—hoodwinked by Darlan and Laval—may hand over to Germany what remains of the French fleet, together with six vital bases on the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. Some 250,000 tons of British and Allied shipping have been illegally detained in French ports.

Blackest crime of all, the men of Vichy have handed over to the Gestapo many hundreds of German political refugees who had found in pre-war France a sanctuary from the horrors of Hitler's Reich.

VICHY IS NOT FRANCE

Who have done these things? Not the French people as a whole, the great, silent, patient masses, many of whom have experienced no fewer than three German invasions within their own lifetime. It is the men of Vichy who have sold France—shabby politicians, disappointed military leaders, recreants like Darlan, Dentz and Laval, who would sacrifice a nation's honour and a people's freedom to their own ambitions. The aged Marshal Petain, hoodwinked and bullied by his entourage, is nowadays no more than a figure-head.

As always when a nation falls to Hitler, it is the people who have been betrayed by their so-called "leaders." Hundreds of thousands of Frenchmen—groaning in occupied France, chaffing in unoccupied France, sullen yet desperate in Nazi prison-camps—look for liberation of their country not to Vichy, but to de Gaulle and the men who fight on. In Free France's victory lies the only hope of all France.

Today General de Galle's Free Frenchmen have thrown down the gauge of battle at the feet of the Vichy traitors. Side by side with British and Imperial troops, they are carrying the banners of freedom into Syria and Lebanon—territories held by France under mandate, but betrayed by Darlan and his brother Quisling, Dentz, into the hands of Germans. That betrayal is not yet complete, but in recent weeks planes, airmen, technicians and even ground troops have been flowing into Syria and Lebanon; even before that, French munitions and supplies were sent from Syria to Iraq, to be used against France's former ally by Rashid Ali. . . . . .

Here, then, is one result of Vichy's treacheries—Frenchmen may have to fight Frenchmen to uphold the honour of France and to ensure her place in the free world which will follow the downfall of Hitler. But, for India, this Syrian operation means even more than the uprising of Free Frenchmen against their betrayers. It means that Free France is helping to bar one of the western doors through which Hitler's hordes might have rushed to attack India.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

'All At Sea'

Shipping has always been a favourite Axis propaganda theme. There are two reasons for this. Britain is a maritime nation; shipping routes are a vital artery upon which her survival largely depends. Secondly, the combined German and Italian merchant fleets at the outbreak of war totalled less than a third of the British fleet. Therefore, Axis losses at sea were certain to be smaller than the British losses.

So it was natural that Lord Haw Haw should devote the major part of his weekly commentary (June 8) to painting a gloomy picture of the one-sided war at sea.

"Without reference to merely damaged vessels," said Haw Haw, "Britain has now lost more than 11,000,000 tons of the merchant shipping at her disposal since the beginning of the war. If sinkings continue at the present rate," he added, "Britain's loss for a year will exceed 9,000,000 tons. British and American shipyards together cannot produce under present conditions more than 2,250,000 tons per year."

Wishful thinking

By a combination of lies and wishful thinking, Haw Haw manages to produce a very alarming and very plausible picture. The British Admiralty has issued accurate figures for British, Allied and Neutral shipping losses up to April 30. These show that, in the first 20 months of the war, 923 British ships (total tonnage 3,896,242) have been sunk, as well as 585 Allied and Neutral vessels (total tonnage, 2,231,431). So much for Haw Haw's 11,000,000 tons.

In April, the German radio "sank" 1,144,995 tons. Actual losses, however, were :—

	Tons.
British	293,000
Allied	189,473
Neutral	5,562
	488,035

At this rate, British, Allied and Neutral losses for a year will be less than 6,000,000 tons. So much for Haw Haw's 9,000,000 tons.

Building programme

Haw Haw is a little nearer the truth when he says that, under present conditions, British and American shipyards can produce no more than 2,250,000 tons in a year.

But America plans to build 5,000,000 tons in 1943. It may seem fantastic to say that America can increase her shipbuilding capacity five times in two years. But she has done it before. In 1915 her total output was 157,200 tons, but four years later 3,580,000 tons of shipping left the slipways. In four years American shipyards increased their output more than 20 times.

But will these American ships be ready in time? Assuming that losses continue on their present scale, Britain will be stronger at sea at the end of this year than she was at the outbreak of war. Although she will have lost about 10,000,000 tons (including Allied and Neutral ships), she will have gained 12,700,000 tons. This total is made up as follows :—

	Tons.
Allied shipping acquired	8,300,000
Foreign shipping bought	500,000
Foreign shipping captured	400,300
Built since September 3, 1939 ..	1,200,000
British Building in 1941	1,300,000
American Building in 1941	1,000,000
	12,700,000

Added to this, shipping space is being saved by avoiding non-essential cargoes and President Roosevelt is creating a pool of 2,000,000 tons of shipping, bought, seized and built, to ease Britain's position.

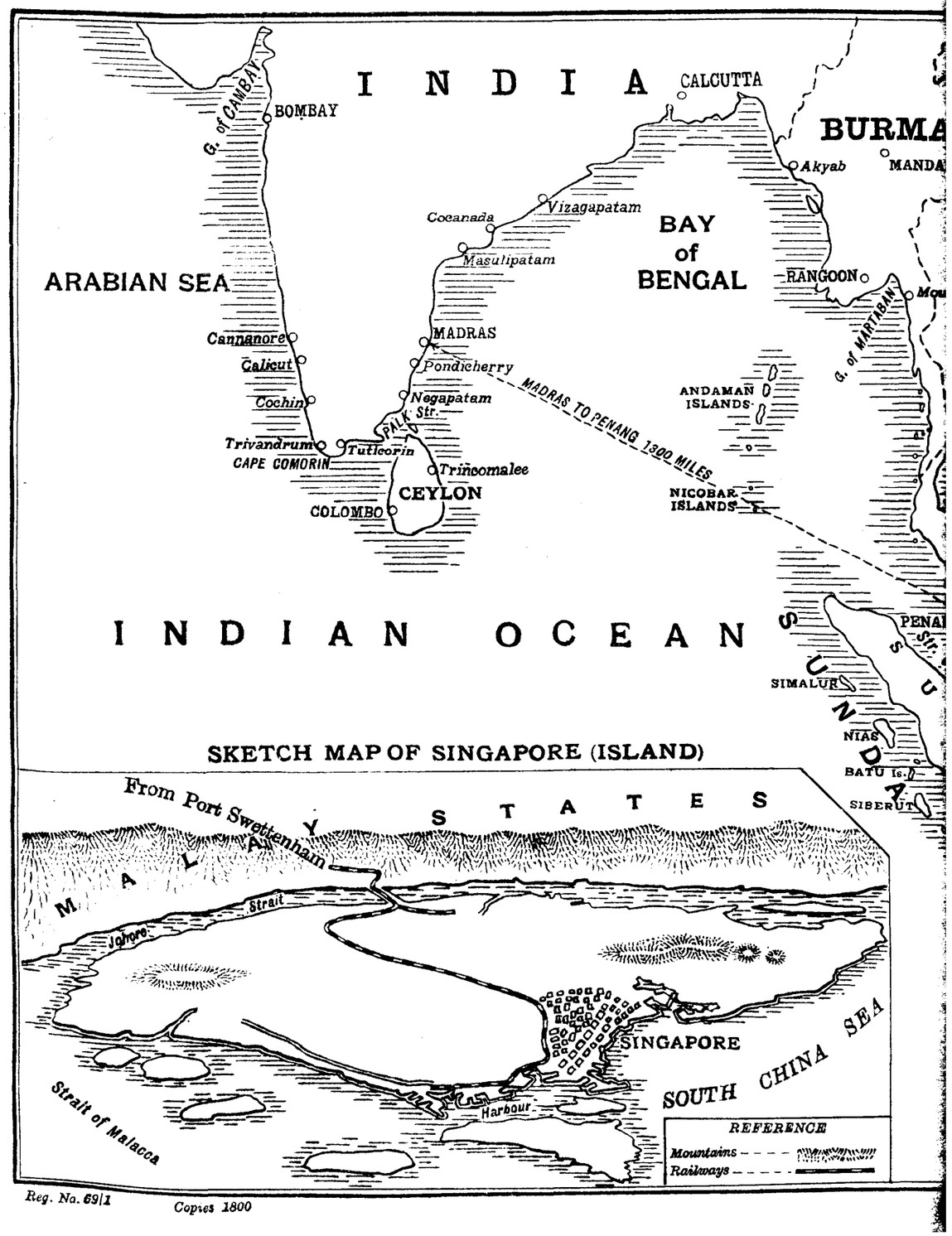
Baghdad and Belgrade

The Nazis on June 2 announced that Baghdad had surrendered "in order to avoid unnecessary casualties among the civil population." This, of course, is an attempt to suggest that the Royal Air Force contemplated emulating the *Luftwaffe's* feat at Belgrade, which—two days after it had been declared an open town—was subjected to devastating raids in the course of which 60,000 civilians were killed or maimed.

In point of fact, Baghdad did not surrender at all. After the ignominious flight of Rashid Ali, the city's proper authorities took control once more and invited the lawful Regent of Iraq to re-enter his capital.

MAP SHOWING

S I N G



British raid on Benghazi

"During Wednesday," said Berlin's bulletin on June 6, "some British bombers attempted an attack on a harbour in Cyrenaica. The well-aimed fire of German and Italian anti-aircraft batteries forced the enemy to drop his bombs at random. No damage was caused."

Perhaps the "harbour in Cyrenaica" referred to in this suspiciously vague report was Benghazi, which was successfully attacked by British heavy bombers on Wednesday morning. Direct hits were scored on the Central and Cathedral moles, and also on the aerodrome just outside the town. An Italian fighter which tried to intercept was shot down. Further heavy raids have been made on Bengazhi since then.

British naval losses

On June 5, Berlin claimed that, during May, the German and Italian forces between them had sunk :—

1 British battleship;
12 ,, cruisers;
12 ,, destroyers;
6 ,, submarines.

The Royal Navy's May losses, as already announced, were the battle-cruiser *Hood;* three cruises, *York, Gloucester* and *Fiji*; four destroyers, *Greyhound, Kelly, Kashmir* and *Mashona;* and the submarine *Usk.*

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

American Aid

Purporting to quote the remarks of an American Senator, the Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of June 2 tries to establish that during the last two months Britain received practically no war materials from the United States of America. In March Great Britain received 414 military planes. In April the total of military planes manufactured in the United States of America amounted to 1,414 and for May the total is estimated to be 1,600. Considering that England is to receive half of the planes manufactured in the United States of America it is obvious that Great Britain is receiving an increasing measure of aid from the United States of America.

Moreover, it is significant that the German battleship *Bismarck* was sighted by an American-built Catalina aircraft of the coastal command about 550 miles west of Land's End. United States-manufactured aircraft also have been used in North African campaign and in the Iraq operations.

Growing determination

According to the Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of June 8, the *New York Daily News* has stated that 95 per cent of the American people are against going to the aid of Britain. The Gallup polls in America, however, reveal a story which completely counters this Nazi claim.

In May 1940, only 36 per cent of those questioned wished to help Britain even at the risk of war, while 64 per cent wished America to keep out of the war at all costs. In August 47 per cent voted to help Britain at the risk of war and in December 60 per cent. The latest poll indicates that 62 per cent wish to go to war, if necessary, to aid Britain, while those who wished to remain neutral at all costs have dwindled to 26 per cent. It should be mentioned that the Gallup polls are reputed for their accuracy and are carefully studied by President Roosevelt.

This freedom

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani Persian broadcasts of June 5 brazenly asserted that the German soldier was fighting for the freedom of his country. In view of this empty boast, it may be pertinent to illustrate the nature of this "freedom" for whose perpetuation the German soldier is dying. Johann Wild, a German Aryan, listened to foreign broadcasts and was accused of passing on what he heard. He was executed at Nuremberg on May 18, 1941. Another example of this freedom is the fact that, in the months of September, October and November 1940, the Nazis put to death 85,000 blind, aged or "incurably ill" Germans. The 300 Catholic priests who had the nerve to protest, were thrown into concentration camps.

It is not at all surprising that one witness described this action as "the ultimate logic of the Nazi doctrine."

British shipping in the Panama Canal

In their anxiety to demonstrate the seriousness of the British shipping position, German broadcasts in Hindustani and Persian stated on June 4 that during the first four months of 1941 only 14 British ships passed through the Panama Canal, as against 101 in the 12 months of 1940. In the first place these figures referred to by the Nazis are their own, and as such highly suspect.

But even if these were correct, they would not prove the Nazi contention. What has happened is that, in order to release British shipping for the Atlantic, American ships have replaced British ones in other oceans. The latest example is the decision of the United States Maritime Commission to take over all British shipping services between Canada and United States to Australia and New Zealand, which will have the effect of releasing 12 British vessels for Britain's own war effort.

True to form

Running true to form, Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts of June 3 came out with a string of atrocities which the British were supposed to have committed on the citizens of Baghdad. That these Nazi tales are even more ludicrous than usual is shown by the fact that the British are in no sense the rulers of Iraq, and that they are definitely not responsible for the administration of law and order. With the return of the lawful Regent, Iraq reverts to the position she enjoyed before Rashid Ali's usurpation. In accordance with the terms of the Anglo-Iraq treaty, British troops will have free passage, but the Regent will govern the country.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

20th June.—British aircraft attacked docks at Le Havre and industrial targets in Cologne and Dusseldorf.

21st June.—The Royal Air Force battered Kiel and bombed docks at Dunkirk and Boulogne. Twenty-eight German aircraft were destroyed in combats over France.

British para-troops landed in Berek-sur-Mer, destroyed Nazi aerodromes and planes, took many prisoners and escaped by sea.

22nd June.—The Royal Air Force "invasion" of France on the second successive day cost Germany 30 fighters.

The Air Ministry announced that four bombers were shot down when there was a sharp Nazi attack on South-east and South England.

23rd June.—The port of Bremen, the naval base at Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Bremerhaven and Dusseldorf were raided by the Royal Air Force. Eighteen German planes were destroyed over France.

24th June.—The Royal Air Force made yet another sweep over France, destroying 20 German aircraft. Objectives in West and North-west Germany were also attacked, including the Naval Base of Kiel.

25th June.—The Official German News Agency admitted heavy damage when the Royal Air Force raided Germany and France. An enemy munition train was blown up and a number of German planes destroyed.

The Merseyside was attacked by the German Air Force. Four enemy bombers were shot down.

26th June.—The Royal Air Force again raided Kiel and Bremen as also Northern France.

Enemy raids on Britain were on a small scale.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22nd June.—The Rome Radio announced that Italy was at war with Russia.

The Ethiopian Patriot forces captured Jimma, taking 8,000 prisoners including many Italian Generals, and the Italians at Soddu surrendered.

24th June.—British forces captured the two towns of Agaro and Bedelle, 60 miles beyond Jimma.

British submarines sank an Italian supply ship (20,000 tons) in a convoy in the Mediterranean.

There was an enemy air raid on Alexandria while British aircraft attacked Benghazi and Syracuse (in the Island of Sicily).

25th June.—The Sudenese Government sent a cable to the Viceroy of India, thanking the Indian Army for its gallant defence of the Sudan and placing £100,000 at the Viceroy's disposal as a token of their gratitude.

The Royal Air Force raided Benghazi and Tripoli.

Three Italian fighters were shot down over Malta.

26th June.—British troops made substantial progress in the Tobruk area.

The Royal Air Force raided Gazala, damaging a number of enemy aircraft on the ground.

Sentences for listening into foreign radio stations were tripled in Italy.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

20th June.—President Roosevelt condemned the torpedoing of the American steamer *Robin Moor* by a German submarine as an infamous act and said that the United States would not yield to German threats.

21st June.—The United States Government ordered the closure of all Italian consulates in America.

22nd June.—Mr. Winant, American Ambassador, returned to Britain in a Boeing bomber.

23rd June.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, in a statement at a press conference, voiced his Government's condemnation of the German invasion of Russia.

Italian nationals were forbidden to leave the United States.

24th June.—President Roosevelt declared " all possible aid " to Russia.

The United States Treasury lifted the restrictions on Russian money assets in America.

Stricter control of immigration was announced by the U.S. State Department.

25th June.—It was officially stated at Washington that U.S. ships would be permitted to carry arms to Vladivstok as President Roosevelt did not intend to issue a " Neutrality " proclamation on the Russo-German war.

Mr. Roosevelt hinted that American volunteers could join the British fighting services.

The Federal Loan Administrator announced that he was considering a loan to the British Government.

26th June.—The President of the Mexican Government Party declared that Mexico was ready to fight if necessary for the defence of the Democracies.

RUSSIA

22nd June.—Hitler ordered his troops to march into Soviet Russia, accusing her of breaking the Non-Aggression Pact of 1939. The German Army marched from East Prussia to the Carpathians and Rumanian troops occupied Bolgrad.

M. Molotov announced that the Soviet would crush the Fascist bandits of Germany.

Mr. Churchill, broadcasting from London, promised all possible British aid to Russia.

23rd June.—The destruction of 76 German planes was claimed in the first war communiqué issued by the High Command of the Red Army. The Germans also claimed to have brought down several Soviet planes.

24th June.—Mr. Eden announced in the Commons that in response to a request from the Soviet Union a British Military mission would be sent to Russia.

The Germans occupied Brest-Litovsk, but Moscow claimed that elsewhere German attacks were repulsed, the Nazis losing 300 tanks and many planes.

It was announced that Hungary had decided to break off diplomatic relations with Russia.

25th June.—The Soviet Air Force made many retaliatory raids on German towns. The German advance was stiffly contested by the Red Army but the Germans managed to enter Vilna, the ancient Lithuanian capital. Leningrad and Helsinki were subjected to air raids.

26th June.—The Germans made only sporadic advances on the eastern front and admitted stiff resistance by the Russians, who recaptured the Polish town of Przemysl. The Soviet Air Force bombed Bucharest. Two German submarines were sunk.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

21st June.—It was officially announced that Damascus was in Allied hands.

The Turkish Foreign Minister assured the British Ambassador that no foreign troops would be allowed to cross Turkey. He also declared that the recent Turko-German Pact would not affect Turkey's Pacts with Britain and Russia.

23rd June.—The British forces in Syria reached Palmyra. The Allied forces captured Mezze air port near Damascus and Khiam fort in the Merj Ayoum sector.

24th June.—The Turkish Government informed the British Government that the Anglo-Turkish Treaty stood intact and remained first and foremost among Turkey's engagements.

The British Navy shelled Beirut, which was also bombed by the Royal Air Force.

Two Vichy destroyers attempting to interfere with Syrian operations were heavily damaged by British Naval forces and another was almost certainly sunk by torpedoes from Naval aircraft.

Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons that the High Command in the Middle East had been authorized to take all measures, however drastic, to occupy Syria.

25th June.—British and Imperial troops in Syria reoccupied Merj Ayoum. The Royal Navy bombarded the Damour area, south of Beirut. Nazi planes raided Damascus. The Royal Air Force attacked enemy destroyers in Beirut harbour.

The Turkish Government informed the Soviet Government that they would maintain neutrality. The Turkish Grand National Assembly ratified the Turkish-German Pact.

26th June.—Britain exposed the German-inspired canard that she was bringing pressure to bear on Turkey to cede certain Dardanelles bases to Russia.

The British Government gave an unequivocal reply to certain peace proposals submitted to them through the Turkish Government.

Iran informed Russia of her decision to remain neutral in the latest phase of the war.

Four Vichy Generals were superseded as a sequel to the Allied advance in Syria. The Syrian Premier condemned the Nazis' barbarous air raid on Damascus.

A Turkish ship on its way to Alexandria was torpedoed and sunk, 173 passengers being drowned. No Allied submarine was in the vicinity.

SHIPPING

20th June.—Allied and British shipping losses during May amounted to 98 vessels totalling 461,328 tons.

The German shipping losses in this war totalled 1,888,000 tons and the Italian 1,239,000 tons, while 84,000 tons useful to the enemy were also sunk.

23rd June.—An Admiralty Communique stated that the German supply ship Babitonga of 4,422 tons was intercepted in the Atlantic by British patrols.

25th June.—Mr. Churchill made a statement on the shipping position in a secret session of the House of Commons.

The German liner Elbe (9,000 tons) was sunk by aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm.

26th June.—The United States Navy ordered 2,831 vessels costing 7,234 million dollars, since the beginning of the year (stated Col. Knox, Secretary of the Navy).

FAR EAST

20th June.—President Quezon of Philippines pledged the whole-hearted support of his country should the United States enter the war.

21st June.—The Batavia Radio stated that the Netherlands East Indies Navy would be considerably re-inforced.

22nd June.—General Pai Chung-hsi, Chief of the Chinese General Staff, speaking before the National Finance Conference, said that the Chinese Army could hold out against Japan for at least 3 to 5 years.

23rd June.—Prince Konoye, the Japanese Premier, reported to the Emperor on the political situation and the Japanese Government conferred with the army leaders to consider the steps arising from the German-Soviet war.

24th June.—Over 100 Japanese soldiers were killed or wounded when a troop train hit a mine in Shansi Province.

Thirteen Japanese aircraft were destroyed by Chinese artillery in an airfield at Ichang.

Japanese women and children in Moscow were ordered to return home.

25th June.—The Japanese Cabinet held a meeting after representatives of the Government had conferred with the chiefs of the fighting services. Later the Premier had an interview with the Emperor.

26th June.—It was reported that a Chinese Air Mission had arrived in Singapore.

VICHY

22nd June.—Reuter was authoritatively informed that General Wavell had given a " warning " to the Governor of Djibouti in French Somaliland either to join the Free French forces or to cut adrift from the Axis camp.

23rd June.—Strained relations were again reported between Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan.

26th June.—Marshal Petain sent a message of friendship to the Turkish President through M. Benois Mechin.

Germany released 10,000 French seamen, who were prisoners of war, but insisted on the payment of occupation costs in gold.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

23rd June.—The Norwegian Telegraph Agency reported a sudden increase of German activity along the south and west coasts of Norway; large-scale evacuations of Norwegians were ordered immediately.

The Finnish Radio reported an announcement by the Lithuanian Radio in the German language that a free Lithuanian Government was set up at Kaunas and that the country had declared itself independent of the Soviet Union.

The Polish Cabinet met to consider the situation arising out of the Russo-German war.

24th June.—In the course of a Commons debate Mr. Eden renewed Britain's pledge that Poland would regain her freedom at the end of the war.

Both Queen Wilhelmina and Dr. Benes voiced support to Allied-Russian collaboration.

26th June.—A Dutch submarine sank an enemy supply ship of 5,000 tons and an enemy tanker of 7,500 tons.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

23rd June.—Sweden's frontier with Finland was closed and her ships were recalled to port. Her Cabinet met in secret.

A Spanish Foreign Office spokesman stated at a Press Conference that the Spanish Government had received the news of Hitler's attack on Russia with satisfaction and hinted that Spanish volunteers might fight the Soviet.

The Finnish Minister in Washington gave an assurance to the United States that Finland would not take part in the campaign against Russia.

25th June.—Sweden agreed to allow one German division to pass through from Norway to Finland.

A Red Army communique charged Finland with lending her territory to the German army and air force.

Rioting, inspired by Nazi agents, occurred outside the British Embassy in Madrid. The British Government took up the matter with the Spanish Government.

26th June.—The President of Finland in a broadcast declared that Finland had been forced to defend herself against Soviet " aggression ".

The Spanish Government undertook to give full satisfaction to Britain regarding the anti-British demonstration in Madrid and to guard against a repetition.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 17th June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over North-West European enemy coastal waters in Western Europe.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 11, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on mole and ships at Zeebrugge; Shipping in Str. of Dover (5,000-ton tanker sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on inland port and **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; industrial objectives at **Dusseldorf** and elsewhere in Ruhr; seaplane base at Norderney; invasion bases at Ymuiden, Rotterdam, Dunkirk, Boulogne and **Calais.**	8 night bombers.	..
June 12, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter attacks on shipping in English Channel (1,400-ton merchantman sinking). R.A.F. night bomber raids on the **Ruhr**; objectives near Rotterdam; docks at Antwerp; naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*); warships off Norwegian coast (pocket-battleship damaged).	8 night bombers.	1 day fighter. 1 flying boat.
June 13, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Ruhr, Chiefly **Schwerte**; naval base at **Brest**; aerodromes in Britanny; shipping in English Channel; invasion bases at Calais and Boulogne.	3 night bombers.	..
June 14, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raids on two aerodromes near St. Omer; aerodrome at Cherbourg; supply ships and naval craft in English Channel. R.A.F. night bomber raids on W. Germany, particularly **Boulogne.**	1 day bomber.	3 day fighters.
June 15, Sunday.	R.A.F. day attacks on convoys off Dutch coast (6,000-ton merchantman sunk, 4,000-ton merchantman on fire) German coast (1,000-ton merchantman sunk) and French coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on the **Ruhr**; **Cologne**; **Hanover**; invasion base at Dunkirk. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	1 day bomber. 2 night bombers.	1 night fighter.
June 16, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over Str. of Dover and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on **Boulogne** (railways, stores); shipping off German and Dutch coasts. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Dusseldorf**; Duisburg-Ruhrort; other objectives in Ruhr and Rhineland. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on Dunkrik.	2 day bombers. 4 day fighters. (2 pilots safe.) 5 night bombers.	10 day fighters. 1 flying boat.
June 17, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raids on **Bethune** (power station, oil refinery); shipping in English Channel. R.A.F. night raids on W. Germany, particularly **Cologne** and **Dusseldorf**; invasion bases at Rotterdam, Ostend, Boulogne, Cherbourg. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber attacks on shipping.	10 day fighters. 1 night bomber.	16 day fighters.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The event of the week is, of course, the commencement of hostilities between Germany and Russia. It came as a great surprise, especially to America and Japan, while England appeared to be well aware of the coming events. A great and grim struggle has commenced full of potentialities. Finland has declared war on Russia.

It is reported that Germany has sent some press feelers to Great Britain through Turkey. The anticipation of Hitler, however, that his revival of anti-Bolshevist cry would deceive the Democracy into relaxing their efforts to crush Nazism has been proved to be thoroughly misplaced by the declarations of Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden.

In Syria, Damascus has been captured. Palmyra has been surrounded and the recapture of Merj Ayoum has been confirmed. Mr. Churchill has definitely told the British High Command in the Middle East that, in their actions, they should be guided only by military considerations.

Jimma in Abyssinia has been captured with 8,000 prisoners. The French authorities in Djibuti have been informed that they should either join the Free French camp or cut adrift from Axis policy. The Abyssinian campaign is not over. There are about half a dozen Italian groups, three of them in western Abyssinia, two in the Gondar area and one in the south.

President Roosevelt, in a special message to Congress, described the sinking of the *Robin Moor* as ruthless and an act of an "international outlaw." It was an infamous act designed to drive American commerce from the high seas wherever such commerce was considered a disadvantage to German designs. "If we yielded to this," President Roosevelt said, "we would inevitably submit to world domination at the hands of the present leaders of the German Reich. We are not yielding and do not propose to yield." Full compensation and reparation are to be demanded from Germany.

The 9,000 ton German liner "Elbe", a supply ship to "Bismark" and which later was used as a commerce-raider, has been sunk. A Dutch submarine has sung an enemy tanker of 7,000 tons and an enemy supply ship of 5,000 tons. Great indignation has been caused in Turkey by the sinking of a Turkish ship going to Alexandria by a submarine. Out of 201 passengers, 173 have been lost. Many of them were Turkish Naval Officers. It is disclosed that no British submarine was near the place of occurrence.

WHY GERMANY INVADED RUSSIA

No one will believe seriously that the reasons given by Hitler for the invasion of Russia are those which have really influenced him in the biggest gamble he has so far made. He wants the wheat from the Ukraine and oil from Baku. He apprehended that Russia would become an ally of England sooner or later. He wants to finish her off so that he can throw the full might of his war machine on Great Britain. And, above all, he wants to dominate the world. It is a terrible ordeal for Russia because the German army is at the peak of its strength and the Russian plains offer an ideal terrain for mechanised warfare and modern conditions of war may not favour the mass armies of Russia which are relatively not so well-equipped as the German hordes. The real trouble, however, in regard to Germany is that she cannot hold, for instance, the Ukraine and the Caucasus for long. If Napoleon failed in his invasion of Russia in 1812 it was not merely because of the Russian winter, but principally because the hostile Russian peasants burnt their crops and withheld all supplies. Supply to a modern army, reaching it from the base, is the life line. Germany experienced the same difficulty in 1918 and she may do so again because there is considerable hostility among the peasant population of Russia against the Germans. Russian propaganda is not less virile than German and it may well be depended upon to refer to history as to the way in which the Germans treated Russia during the last hundred years. Germany is already experiencing considerable administrative difficulties in holding down the conquered countries; the strain of dealing with a vast additional Russian population, well versed in sabotage, may well develop into breaking point. Even

if Ukraine wheat and Baku oil are got at, there will be problems of transport, the danger of further lowering Russian standards of living and the difficulty of efficient exploitation.

" BULWARK AGAINST COMMUNISM "

Hitler has already started his game of representing Nazism as a ' Bulwark against Communism '. He did so in his ' Mein Kampf ' but that did not prevent him from entering into an " eternal " pact of friendship with Russia. This transformation is, of course, no more sincere than the other change of front, because the world knows that it is a mere cloak for his grand design of dominating first Europe, and then the world. Already American opinion has expressed itself very strongly against the invasion. President Roosevelt has declared all possible aid to Russia and the United States Treasury has removed the restrictions on her money assets in America. This unfreezing will make available to Russia a hundred million dollars in cash securities and property. Mr. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, stated that Germany's was a treacherous attack. He added that the United States could see " once more beyond doubt with what intentions the present Government in Germany negotiates non-agrression pacts." " The attack on Russia," he added, " constituted a dire warning by Germany of the hostile and murderous intents behind such assurances ". America is well aware that Hitler's armies, as declared by Mr. Sumner Welles, are to-day the chief danger to America. American arms may be taken to Vladivostok, a proceeding which cannot please Japan. The American Press and the American public are clamouring more than ever for more help to Great Britain, for sending to the Western front every bomber, every fighter, and every pursuit plane that can possibly be spared from the American Army and the Navy. ' Now is the time to act ', says a New York paper and other newspapers call upon the British to take the offensive and make redoubled efforts to regain the lost ground. Opinion in British Dominions and India takes the same line. Turkey remains neutral.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCASTS

In his broadcast speech of April 27, Mr. Churchill stated in a prophetic vein : " The war may spread eastwards to Turkey and Russia. The Germans may lay their hands for a time on the granaries of the Ukraine or the oil wells of the Caucasus. They may dominate the Caspian. Who can tell? We shall do our best to meet them and fight them wherever they go ". Mr. Churchill did not lose any time to define the British attitude towards the new development. Broadcasting on Sunday, the day on which Germany began the invasion of Russia, he promised Russia all the help that England could give. " We shall bomb Germany by day as well as by night in ever increasing measure," Mr. Churchill said, " making the German people gulp each month a sharper dose of the miseries they have showered upon mankind ". Mr. Churchill, after referring to Hitler's perfidy which was observed in this case with the usual scrupulous technique, recalled that he had given a clear warning to Russia as well as to other countries. Hitler, Mr. Churchill went on, " is a monster of wickedness, insatiable in his lust for blood and plunder." In a retrospective mood he dwelt upon the folly of having allowed the German war machine to be built up. He said : " The terrible military machine which we and the rest of the civilized world so foolishly, so supinely and so insensately allowed the Nazi gangster to build up year by year from almost nothing—this machine cannot stand idle. Unless it rust and fall in pieces it must be in continual motion grinding up human lives and trampling down the homes of hundreds of millions of men. Moreover, it must be fed not only with flesh but with oil. So, now this bloodthirsty guttersnipe must launch his mechanised army upon new fields of slaughter, pillage and devastation."

" If Germany won," Mr. Churchill pointed out " it will be only a stepping stone to an attempt to conquer China and India and throw them into the bottomless pit of human degradation over which the diabolic emblem of the Swastika flaunts itself." After referring to the fact that Nazism was devoid of all theme and principle, except appetite and racial domination, and that it excelled all forms of human wickedness in the efficiency of its cruelty and ferocious aggression, Mr. Churchill concluded : " My mind goes back across the years to the days when the Russian armies were our allies against the same deadly foe ". He defined the British policy by saying : " We have but one aim and one single irrevocable purpose. We are resolved to destroy Hitler and every vestige of the Nazi regime. From this nothing will turn us—nothing. We shall never parley, we shall never negotiate with Hitler or any of his gang. We shall fight him by land, we shall fight him by sea and we shall fight him in the air until with God's help, we will rid the earth of all those who have shadowed it, and liberate the peoples from his yoke."

MR. EDEN SUPPLEMENTS PREMIER'S STATEMENTS

Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons on June 24, announced that the Soviet Government have accepted the British offer to send a military and economic mission to Russia to co-ordinate the efforts of both countries in the common task of defeating Germany. No time will be lost in sending this mission. The Soviet Government have made it plain that in the period of military collaboration, help will be on mutual and reciprocal basis, a view, which the British

Government have endorsed. The Foreign Secretary made two matters quite clear. One was that at no time since the signing of the Pact between Russia and Germany in 1939, had Germany complained of Russia's lack of sincerity. The second point which Mr. Eden has made quite clear was that the allegation by the German Foreign Minister that the Soviet Union had tried in agreement with England to stab Germany in the back, was absolutely unfounded. As a matter of fact the British Government had desired to come to an understanding with the Soviet, but were always retarded in that desire by the Soviet Union's anxiety to observe the Pact with Germany. So long as the Soviet Socialist Republic acted in accordance with that Pact, no basis existed for British collaboration with Russia. Mr. Eden paid a high tribute to the Poles and spoke of the ordeal which Poland had to face again because it was the Polish soil on which the battle was now being waged. The British Government, he said, remained true to their pledge to redeem the freedom of the Poles. As for Germany, Mr. Eden said : " We keep our eye on the target. That target is Hitler's Germany. . . The invasion of Russia is not an end but a means. Through his attack upon Russia Hitler hopes to break the military power of that vast State and thus free himself from any contemporary or subsequent Eastern anxiety when he turns to the duel with our own land."

WAR IN THE AIR

A most satisfactory feature of recent developments in regard to the war is the growing ascendency of the Royal Air Force. There have been continuous night and daylight sweeps over the occupied countries and in western Germany, where heavy industries are established, railways and communications, aerodromes and naval and submarine bases being repeatedly and successfully attacked. The latest available figures show that the *Luftwaffe* lost 75 fighters in three days in battles over northern France, the total in eight successive days being 117 against 30 Royal Air Force planes, a proportion of four to one.

It should be remembered that Spitfires and Hurricanes are not the old machines. They have been considerably improved and fly faster, carrying more loads of bombs and they are able to cover longer distances. American-built aircraft, Hudsons of the Coastal Command, Catalinas, Glen-Martins, Tomahawks and the Curtis-Hawks are playing a wonderful part. Germany detests having to fight on two fronts. She has now no need for employing her land troops in the west and so she has concentrated them against Russia. So far as the air war is concerned, necessarily owing to the Royal Air Force's growing strength, Germany has to fight two battles. The Royal Air Force has increased its activity over German targets and this has coincided with the German invasion of Russia. According to German tactics the *Luftwaffe* should play a conspicuous part in enabling the land forces to advance and as the front is 1,500 miles long, a good part of the *Luftwaffe* would have to work in the east. But the Royal Air Force is becoming increasingly active to the extent to which its work of havoc necessitates the withdrawal of some part of the German aeroplanes from the east, and to that extent there will be relief to Russia.

TURKEY

Mr. Eden made a special reference in his speech to Turkey. That country is now as it has been a friend and ally of Great Britain. The British Government had been kept informed of the negotiations between Turkey and Germany before the Pact was concluded. He pointed out that the preamble of the treaty expressly safeguarded the existing contractual engagements of each party. The Turkish Government have made it plain that first and foremost amongst these engagements stood the Anglo-Turkish Treaty. It is therefore quite clear that the Turko-German Pact of friendship signed on June 18 is within the limits of the Anglo-Turkish Treaty. The treaty with Germany mutually guarantees to each party the integrity and inviolability of its territory and binds the two countries to consultation on all questions of mutual interest. An exchange of notes also provides for the promotion of economic relations. Turkey, therefore, remains loyal to her obligations to Great Britain. The Turkish Government have categorically stated that they will not allow German troops or war materials to go across Turkish territory.

So far as the trade of Turkey is concerned, the following points may be of interest. Hitler has systematically tried to use trade agreements as stepping stones to political domination. By 1938 Germany's trade with Turkey had increased to such an extent that 51·3 per cent of Turkey's imports came from Germany and 47·3 per cent of her exports went to Germany. After the Anglo-French-Turkish Pact, 1939, Turkey has tried to reduce her trade with Germany. In January 1940, an Anglo-French loan of £25,000,000 was granted to Turkey for the purchase of armaments in Britain and France. In addition, Britain and France undertook to buy £2,000,000 worth of Turkish dried fruits annually for the duration of the war.

The German occupation of the Aegean islands, the German infiltration into Syria, the German entry into the Dodecanese islands, the loss of the battles in Greece and Crete, all these contributed to make Turkey very nervous, having been practically encircled by Germany. She was, therefore, placed in a position of great difficulty. It is to her credit that she insisted on a clause recognizing her

existing commitments. But there is no reason to suppose that Turkey places implicit faith in the German promises to observe Turkish sovereignty and integrity. It is important to remember one thing. That is, Turkey will never become an Axis tool like Bulgaria and other countries. It may safely be stated that in signing the pact Turkey has prevented a German attack through her territory. It is also well to remember that she wants to avoid conflict with the heavily armed and aggressive State until her own war equipment becomes first rate. What she wants is arms and more arms.

" AS YOU WERE " IN LIBYA

Conditions in Libya are now for the most part again stabilized with the Germans not making any attempt to follow up the Allied withdrawal to the original positions near Sollum. The German Forces that were rushed from Tobruk to stem General Wavell's latest attack in the Western Desert are still concentrated on the Egyptian-Libyan frontier. Hitherto, they have shown no signs of moving back to Tobruk. Undoubtedly General Wavell's attack had the effect of relieving the German pressure on Tobruk, probably forestalling a new attempt to storm it. British and Indian troops, after taking some 560 prisoners, of whom 210 are Germans, and probing deep into the Axis lines, are now re-established in the positions they have been holding for the past three months. What General Wavell did was to assault General Rommel's spearhead—just as he blunted that of Marshal Graziani—to forestall an offensive which the Nazis were preparing against either Egypt or Tobruk. The important point to note is that General Rommel, in order to get rid of the British armoured columns hanging round his neck, had to summon strong reinforcements. He had to exert all his strength to save himself. This he did successfully, but the British got away and, it is significant, General Rommel did not follow up with a counter-offensive against the British position as he might have done in the case of a beaten enemy.

The work of clearing Abyssinia of the last remaining pockets of Italian resistance proceeds apace. Jimma has been occupied by the Abyssinian Patriot forces, led by British Officers. Eight thousand prisoners and a number of Generals have been captured.

Meanwhile, General Wavell has addressed a note to the Governor of Djibouti to the effect that French Somaliland should either join the Free French camp or cut adrift altogether from Axis policy. It is learned in London that in the event of the Governor of Djibouti refusing to negotiate on General Wavell's proposal, the latter has stated his willingness to evacuate women and children from Djibouti and, meanwhile, to supply them with milk and food, until evacuation is completed. Djibouti, the port and capital of Frances's 9,000 square mile colony at the entrance to the Red Sea, is linked by rail to Addis Ababa. Its pre-war population numbered nearly 15,000 of Somaliland's 70,000 people. An official announcement from Vichy stated that the Vichy Government had protested to Britain against an " ultimatum " from General Wavell and that the United States had been informed of the protest. It is learnt in London that Great Britain has, for some time, been blockading all areas in the occupation of the Vichy Government, which might be of any advantage to the Germans. Recently, there was a protest on the part of the Governor of Djibouti against the blockade of French Somaliland, on the ground that women and children were made to suffer unduly, particularly from shortage of milk. The Governor of Djibouti asked that the blockade should be relaxed. The British reply was that unless and until the Governor dissociated himself from the pro-Nazi policy in Syria, there could be no relaxation of the blockade, but that if it was a question of saving the women and children, the British authorities were willing to evacuate them to some place where they could obtain proper food. It is understood that no further steps have been taken by the Djibouti Governor. Hence General Wavell's final warning.

ALLIED PROGRESS IN SYRIA

The capture of Damascus, the most important city of Syria, by the Allied Forces is undoubtedly an event of capital importance and will have a striking effect on the morale of the Vichy troops hounded on to action by the French High Commissioner, General Dentz. It was an encircling movement rather than a direct move on the city that brought about its capture. This undoubtedly was the wisest policy, both for military and political reasons. It was, in fact, the manner in which the city was captured by Allenby in September 1918. In the capture of Damascus the Indian troops have played a very prominent part and the story is disclosed by Colonel Desmond Young in one of his despatches to Simla. The Indian battalions undertook the task of seizing Mezze by night, Mezze being on the road to Beirut. The battalions were surrounded and had to fight a stiff battle but their long and determined resistance, the Colonel says, had the effect of distracting attention from the right flank where the Free French were advancing from the direction of Kiswe, of drawing away enemy tanks and inducing Vichy troops to withdraw heavy guns from their forts. This courageous action, says the Colonel, undoubtedly contributed largely to the capture of Damascus. Everything possible was done to avoid any suggestion of a direct assault on the city, for the action of the French General Sarrail in bombarding Damascus for a period of 48 hours following the disturbances in 1925 has been neither forgotten nor forgiven by

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HITLER'S LATEST AGGRESSION

SOVIET ACCEPTS NAZI CHALLENGE

Twenty-two months ago, Hitler announced in the Reichstag : " I am particularly happy to be able to tell you of one event . . . Germany and Russia have resolved to conclude a pact which rules out *for ever* any use of violence between us. It imposes the obligation on us to consult together in certain European questions." Having safeguarded Germany from an attack on her Eastern frontier, Hitler launched his attack on Poland, and involved Britain and her Allies in the War. Early on Sunday of this week, however, Hitler revived his denunciations of Bolshevism, accused Soviet Russia of working systematically against Germany's interests, and ordered his forces—which he had massed on the Russian border—to march into the Soviet Union. This is, indeed, as Mr. Churchill says in his spirited broadcast promising all possible aid to the Soviet, a turning point of the war. This cynical repudiation of the Pact is as sensational as was its signature. The Soviet Union is determined " to crush the Fascist bandits of Germany "—to use its Foreign Minister's words—and to mete out to Hitler the doom that Napoleon met in his Russian expedition.

A study of the political and economic conditions in the Soviet Union and her industrial and military resources gives us an idea of the magnitude of the task which faces Hitler. The Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, to use its full title, covers an area of 8,144,000 square miles with a population of 180,000,000. It is the greatest continuous area under one government; the only larger political unit is the British Empire. But though its population is exceeded only by that of the British Empire and China, it averages only about 25 persons per square mile. Mr. Walter Theimer gives the following account of the constitutional developments in the Soviet after the Communist revolution in November 1917 had finally overthrown the rule of the Tsars and the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic was organized on the territory of Russia. In 1923 it was united with the Ukrainian and other national Soviet Republics which had been set up in the border territories of Russia into the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, and the R.S.F.S.R. or Soviet Russia proper has formed only a constituent republic of the Union since, though the largest and most important one. " The history of the Soviet Union is linked up with the history of Communism and the careers of Lenin and Stalin. The 1923 Constitution of the Union was based on the dictatorship of the proletariat. Basic organs of administration were the Soviets or Councils, exercising simultaneously the functions of municipalities and local State authorities. The lower Soviets chose the higher Soviets (district, regional and State Soviets) by means of indirect election. The supreme organ was the All-Russian Soviet Congress, elected by the lower Soviets on the basis of one member for each 25,000 workers and one for each 125,000 peasants. Thus the peasants' franchise was only one-fifth of the workers'. The Congress elected a Central Executive Committee which sat permanently and made laws during the interval between the sessions of the Congress. The C.E.C. chose the Government, styled the Council of the People's Commissars. There were then seven Federal Republics with autonomous administrations along similar lines.

NEW SOVIET CONSTITUTION

In 1936 the Constitution was amended. The Soviet system was abandoned though the name was retained; the method of indirect election was dropped and the Soviet Congress cancelled. All Soviets of whatever degree are now elected directly by the people and no longer do the lower Soviets control the higher ones. The supreme legislative organ is the Supreme Council of the Union, taking the place of Parliament in other countries. It is elected by all the " working people ", workers and peasants having equal voting-right now and only small remainders of the former possessing classes being excluded from the franchise. The Supreme Council consists of two Houses; the Council of the Union (one member for each 300,000 inhabitants) and the Council of Nationalities (25 members for each constituent republic and fixed quotas of members for autonomous national territories). The Supreme Council elects a Presidium with a chairman and 11 members, one for each republic, the chairman (M. I. Kalinin at present) occupying a position corresponding to that of President of the Republic. The Supreme Council also elects the Council of the People's Commissars, which is responsible to the Supreme Council."

The principal languages of more than a dozen Constituent Republics are equally official languages of the Union but in practice Russian occupies a dominant position and " the political hegemony of the Russians (who number 85 millions) is outspoken and the constitutional right of the constituent republics to secede from the Union is of a theoretical nature." It is interesting to note in this connection that among the sub-republics of the Russian constituent republic, there is a Volaga-German Republic of 600,000 inhabitants.

The Communist Party is the only political organisation and its are the only candidates in the elections. The General Secretary of the Party, M. Joseph Stalin, has been virtual dictator of the Soviet Union all these years though his position was officially recognised

only a few weeks ago when he became President of the Council of the People's Commissars—a position corresponding with that of the Prime Minister of Great Britain. The economic system of the Soviet is Socialistic, with State ownership of industries and means of communications. A Planning Commission, known as the Gosplan, runs industries and transport according to plans which are approved by the Supreme Soviet. Agriculture is carried on in the form of collective farms but the peasant may have a house, one or two acres of land and one or two cows of his own.

SOVIET'S VAST RESOURCES

The potential resources of the U.S.S.R. are almost unlimited. Before the revolution of 1917 they were a mere fraction of what they could have been. Since 1917 they have been steadily growing. In the ten years ending in 1938 the annual output of coal rose from 35 to 132 million tons, of pig iron from 3 to 15 million tons, of steel from 3 to 18 million tons, of oil from 11 to 28 million tons and of cement from 11 to 66 million tons. Many other commodities show similar increases. The severe climate of much of the country imposes a strict limit on the types of its crops; small amounts of cotton and tea are grown, but almost all tropical products have to be imported. Nevertheless, Russia claims to be the world's greatest producer of barley, rye, oats, potatoes, sugar, beet, flax and hemp. She is the second greatest producer of wheat, and yields large quantities of wool and of wood and wood-products. Her mineral wealth is vast. She is the greatest producer of manganese and phosphates, and the second greatest of petroleum and iron ore; she ranks third in steel and fourth in coal. Russia lacks many of the steel-hardening metals, and so far produces no tin. Her production of gold is very considerable, but reliable statistics are not available. Russia's greatest industrial region is the Donetz basin of the Ukraine, but recent policy has encouraged the growth of the centres farther east. Her exportable surplus is smaller than the greatness of her resources would suggest owing partly to the recent development of her own industries.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Soviet Russia's foreign relations provide an interesting study. From 1917 to 1922 she isolated herself from contact with other nations. Then followed a period of co-operation with Republican Germany, symbolised by the Treaty of Repallo (1922–23). The next phase was co-operation with the Democracies (1934–39). Hitler's rise to power in Germany and his denunciation of Bolshevism were no little factors in Russia's entry into the League of Nations and alliances with France and Czechoslovakia. Tension with her eastern neighbour, Japan, grew as the latter went marching into China and joined the Anti-Comintern Pact with Germany. Russia supported China against Japan; and, indeed, her brilliant Foreign Minister, M. Litvinov, worked hard for a united front against aggression; his words, "Peace is indivisible", have now gone into history. But in August, 1939, M. Stalin and M. Molotov (who had significantly succeeded M. Litvinov as Foreign Minister) abruptly put an end to negotiations for an alliance with Britain and France and startled the world by signing a Pact of non-aggression with Germany. And when the war followed in September and the German army conquered Poland, Russia also marched in and divided Polish territory with Germany. In return for diplomatic and economic support of Germany in the war, Russia gained a free hand in the Baltic countries and eventually absorbed Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Her influence in the Balkans also appeared to increase when Germany stood watching her march into the Rumanian areas of Bessarabia and Bukovina; but later Soviet Russia tried in vain to stem the German advance in the Balkans with quick non-aggression agreements with Yugoslavia and Turkey. And when Turkey, with whom she has long maintained friendly relations, signed a Pact with Germany last week, and when German troops began massing on the Russian border, a break between Germany and the Soviet appeared inevitable.

ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE

World speculation as to the strength and striking power of the Soviet Air Force will at last be brought to an end as her machines go into action against the Luftwaffe and Russia's real strength revealed in actual battle. But it has been universally agreed from the point of view of numbers that the Soviet Air Force is, if not the largest in the world, at least very close to that of Germany who is now fighting on a number of fronts. At the moment, Russia is fighting on one only. As to the efficiency of her air force, Russia has released very few details, but it is certain that a power which was the pioneer of parachute troops and glider trains and capable of producing planes that made the sensational transport flight to the American continent a few years ago is fully aviation—conscious. So are the Russian people. Parachute—jumping towers are as familiar sights in Russian parks as roundabouts and swings in Britain. Women pilots are as normally accepted as men, and children at early ages participate in flying courses.

The only unanimity achieved by military correspondents in writing of the size, organisation and efficiency of the Red Army is in stating that any estimate is "very largely based on conjecture". Compulsory military service has been continuously maintained since 1917 and Russia has always considered herself in a state of war and maintained a high pitch of defensive preparedness. As recently as a month ago Stalin declared: "The Red Army has been reorganised and re-equipped in the light of experience of the present war", and it is well known that the chiefs of the Soviet forces have been closely following the many new phases of modern warfare, especially of the Nazis, and always with the view in the back of their minds that one day they might well be up against these methods themselves.

There seem to be two schools of thought in foreign military circles, one is that Russia's machines are all right but her soldiers are no good, and the other that her men are fine fighters but her machines drop to pieces. Unfortunately much of the world critical opinion at the time of the Finnish war was obsessed with the fact that gallant little Finland was fighting the Russian colossus and it was only at the end of the war, when penetration of the Mannerheim Line brought the war to a rapid conclusion, was it realised that the Red Army had achieved what no other power had achieved, namely, smashing a way through a fortified line reckoned nearly as strong as the Siegfried and Maginot lines, which even Hitler decided to go round. Under the most adverse weather conditions, Russia, with an army trained solely for defensive purposes on very different terrain, achieved this, according to military correspondents, by accurate artillery fire which undermined the Mannerheim forts till they toppled over and their guns could not be operated and then at the right time and in the right place, by perfect co-operation between dive-bombers, tanks, armoured vehicles and infantry, broke through the line and the war was over. That her military chiefs are not lacking in enterprise or ingenuity is evidenced by that daring attack on the Finnish mainland by a light armoured column across sixty miles of the frozen Gulf of Finland.

Just about as much is known of the Soviet Navy as of her Army and Air Force, namely, practically nothing. What is known, however, is that she has a very considerable fleet of submarines of the very latest types, many of them believed to have been developed even beyond those of some of the major sea powers of the world. It must not be forgotten that in the Arctic the Russians are completely at home and have carried out a continuous unique exploration for a great many years so that they now know these waters like the palm of their hand.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page 4*)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 17th June 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in Western European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 11	....	....
June 12	....	1 night bomber.
June 13	....	2 day fighters. 7 night bombers.
June 14	....	1 night bomber.
June 15	....	1 night bomber (4 day bombers down in Portugal.)
June 16	....	4 night bombers.
June 17	....	1 night bomber.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ACTION IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

THE POSITION IN IRAQ

Though Iraq has returned to normal conditions the enemy is busy in disseminating poisonous propaganda. The return of His Royal Highness the Regent, Amir Abdul Illah to Baghdad and the formation of a strong National Government, with a popular Iraqi as Prime Minister, have helped in restoring order and tranquillity. Public departments and services are functioning both in the capital and in the provinces. Rail communications have been restored, while postal and telegraph facilities have been again made available. The Iraqi Government took strong action in suppressing rioting and looting in the capital. At the beginning of last month the area round Basra was the scene of considerable disorder and looting, but everything is now quiet. The strong military action taken by the British, together with Mr. Eden's declaration of British sympathy with the aspirations of the Arab world and his assurance that Britain will not curtail Iraq's independence are the causes which have brought about this striking change. The German report that England was about to occupy Iraq has been proved to be a lie. All Iraq now knows that Rashid Ali was promised a big bribe for his treacherous action. What faith can be placed on German promises has now been made perfectly clear to the Iraqis by the fact that the Germans refused to help Rashid Ali when he wanted it most, Germany's only objective being to cause trouble that would aid her designs at world conquest at Iraq's expense. While Britain fulfilled her pledges by making Iraq independent and doing all she can to improve her administration, the French failed to achieve the same result in Syria, though both were mandates. Military operations in Iraq were undertaken by Great Britain more in sorrow than in anger. The measures adopted by Britain in bringing the situation in Iraq under control are in striking contrast to the German bombing of Alexandria, Haifa and other places.

THE POSITION IN SYRIA

Great Britain considered deeply before taking strong action in regard to Syria. German infiltration in Syria had begun to assume serious proportions and it was definitely known that Germany intended to use Syria as a corridor into Iraq. It may be remembered that in July last year, Great Britain had stated that she would not allow Syria and Lebanon to be occupied by any hostile power or to be used for an attack upon those countries in the Middle East which she was pledged to defend. But sending armed forces into Syria involved, of course, war with the Vichy Government. The Germans, of course, wanted to foment war between England and the Vichy. But the German drive into Syria had to be postponed owing to the stubborn resistance of the British forces in Crete and Great Britain, therefore, chose the policy of giving active support to their ally, the Free French, in their enterprise to expel the Germans from Syria and guarantee freedom and independence to Syrians. Free French and Allied forces have been striving hard to win over the Vichy garrisons in Syria. Persuasion has been their chief weapon, but General Dentz has decided to retaliate and use all his forces. There is a parallel to the action in Syria to that in Oran. The battle of Oran did not involve Great Britain in a war with the French and it is to be hoped that action in Syria will not precipitate such a war. The situation is of course difficult. An hazardous course has been adopted, but independence has been promised to Syria by General de Gaulle. Much would depend upon the reactions of Syrians themselves. It is obvious that as between British, French or German occupation of their country, the Syrians will undoubtedly feel confident that British occupation would afford the best guarantee of their emergence into independence. To implement that promise it is necessary that the British and the Free French must be able to carry out rapid and effective occupation of that country, converting it into a strong bastion of the British defensive system in the Middle East before Germany intervenes in full force. So far the progress has been satisfactory.

What are the German reactions? The Nazis have removed the aircraft and disguised troops and technicians. Great Britain has been allowed to occupy air bases in Syria; an advantage which was lost when France collapsed last year. Of course, Germans have failed in their infiltration tactics which was so successful in Bulgaria. This has been forstalled by the Allies' initiative in entering the country before the Germans were assembled in sufficient strength to oppose them. It may be wishful thinking that Germany's preoccupation with Russia would prevent any attempted air invasion of Northern Syria from the island of Rhodes, or a drive to Egypt from Sollum by an army reinforced by air and by sea from Crete, combined with the mass bombing of Alexandria and the Suez Canal. But these enterprises cannot now be very easy. An attack on the back door of the Middle East by way of the Caucasus and Iran is possible only after Russia has been subjugated and that does not seem to be quite easy either.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

HISTORY OF RUSSO-GERMAN RELATIONS

Below is set down facts relating to the relations between Germany and Russia running over a long period and ending in the commencement of hostilities between the two countries on Sunday, June 22nd.

The collection has been compiled from various sources and would be read with interest by those who have always believed that friendship between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia could not last long.

AN AUTHOR'S IMPRESSIONS

A writer has summed up Russo-German relations for a period of 110 years till the time of the pact of 1939 as follows :—

"Summing up the history of Russo-German relations since 1831, we find that from this date until the middle of the nineteenth century an obsequious and comparatively weak Prussia was firmly treated by a powerful Russia, but tolerated for her help in holding down Poland : that, from then until the mid-seventies, a Russia which had quarrelled with her old allies, France and Austria, permitted Prussia to become the German Empire ; that, roughly from 1879 to 1890, Bismarck played a most extraordinarily fast and loose game with St. Petersburg, using Austria and France alternately as catpaws and bugbears, and ending with his own fall and a Franco-Russian alliance, the very thing he had sought all along to avoid ; that, from this period, till 1914, Germany hoodwinked and bullied and intrigued against the Russians till they took a decisive stand against her with Britain and France to back them : that Germany beat Russia in the ensuing war but, being beaten herself by Britain and France, got Russia to help her to her feet again by letting the Russians off their war-indemnity, and that finally, with the triumph of National Socialism, Germany professed herself the open enemy of Communist Russia, then, finding her ambitions once more in danger from Britain and France, seized the eternal bone of contention, Poland, and offered half its spoils to her old enemies as the price of support in the already declared war with the Western Powers.

"What of the Russian standpoint? With what feelings derived from history does a modern representative Russian sit down to discuss mutually profitable arrangements with a German? Looking back over the past hundred years the Russian will see the steady rise of an originally insignificant neighbour, first over the tortured body of Poland, then taking advantage of French and Austrian jealousy of Russia, cynically abusing, under Bismarck, Russian confidence, till, by 1890, German policy had grown more and more obviously hostile to Russian, to the point of involving her in a disastrous Far Eastern war and then hurling two ultimatums at her over Austria's shoulder.

"The story of the German campaign of 1914–18 against Russia does not improve matters. There was more than a hint of German influence in the scandalous breakdown behind the Russian front that began almost at once. The 1918 treaty of Brest-Litovsk fully maintained the German reputation for ruthless exploitation of an enemy vanquished by treachery in the rear. The treaty of Rapallo was at once recognised by Russia as no gesture of repentant friendship for the Communists whom the German Republic had so bloodily suppressed in Germany itself, but merely as a typically cynical and opportunist *demarche* which happened to suit well enough the newly revolutionised Moscow Government anxious for all the trade it could get on any terms.

"Finally, and most decisively of all, the dead set made by National Socialism against everything Russian from 1933 until Hitler began to remember Bismarck has made the average Russian extremely suspicious of the present sudden face to the right about by a neighbour with such a dark record of double-dealing and overreaching. Many a Russian must have asked himself, 'What's the game now?' as Hitler, on October 6, 1939, declared that "henceforth the future of Poland and Eastern Europe will be settled by Germany and Russia alone".

"We are now in a position to see that previous diplomatic meetings between Russian and German representatives have been the reverse of happy. The truth is that the two nations have never been able to see eye to eye politically. For Russia has always been jealous of the German ambitions for domination in south-east Europe and has never really been interested in her designs against France, while Germany has never been able to get Russia to see the advantage of an aggressive military alliance with her.

"Historically and traditionally, the new Russo-German treaty is as little likely to lead to a serious reinforcement of German strength as any of the very guarded, provisional and shifting agreements made ever since Russia, in 1875, realised that Bismarck had fooled her to the top of her bent. She liked Wilhelm II even less than Bismarck. And it is safe to say that of the three principal German leaders with whom she has had to deal for the past hundred years she dislikes Hitler most of all."

THE HELL-BORN MONSTER

The following quotations will show what attitude Hitler adopted towards Russia in the years preceding August 23, 1939, when he entered into a non-aggression pact with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.—

"Far from Bolshevism ever drawing Germany into its clutches, we are its deadliest and most fanatical enemies."

(Adolf Hitler)

" Moscow Bolshevism is the worshipped ally of the capitalistic Democracy."

(Adolf Hitler)

" One must never forget that the rulers of today's Russia are blood-stained criminals, the real scum of mankind."

(Adolf Hitler)

" It is complete nonsense to claim that National Socialism has anything in common with the Communist regime. We are enemies not only in a political struggle for power, but also because National Socialism stands spiritually and formally in unconditional opposition to Communism."

(Alfred Rosenberg)

" We are endeavouring to make the German people as immune as possible from this contagion (Bolshevism). For this it is necessary that we should avoid all close contact with the bearers of these poisonous bacilli."

(Adolf Hitler)

" Soviet Russia wants no peace. She is the power which is hostile to peace."

(Adolf Hitler)

" The common struggle against Bolshevik barbarism has given a common basis to Fascist and National Socialist journalism."

(Dr Dietrich, Reich Press Chief)

" With one single country alone we have abhorred entering into any relationship. That State is Soviet Russia. Even more than before we see in Russia the incarnation of every human destructive power."

(Adolf Hitler)

" I shall keep entering into a temporary alliance with Russia as a trump-card, but it will never stop me from as firmly retracing my steps and attacking Russia when my aims in the West have been achieved. We alone can conquer the great continental space and it will be done by us alone, not through a pact with Moscow. This struggle will open for us the door to permanent mastery of the world. That does not mean that I shall refuse to walk part of the road with Russia, if that will help us. But it will be only in order to return more swiftly to our true aims."

(Adolf Hitler to Dr. Ranching)

" An alliance which is not for the purpose of waging war has no meaning and no value . . . . . Therefore the fact of forming an alliance with Russia would be the signal for a new war. And the result of that would be the end of Germany."

(Mein Kampf.)

THE PACT OF 1939.

And yet, driven by political necessity, Hitler entered into a non-aggression pact with Russia on August 23, 1939, the terms of which are as follows :—

" The Government of the German Reich and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, guided by the desire to strengthen the cause of peace between Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and taking as a basis the fundamental regulations of the Neutrality Agreement concluded in April 1926 between Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, have reached the following agreement :—

ARTICLE 1.—The two Contracting Parties bind themselves to refrain from any act of force, any aggressive action and any attack on one another, both singly and also jointly with other powers.

ARTICLE 2.—In the event of one of the Contracting Parties becoming the object of warlike action on the part of a third Power, the other Contracting Party shall in no manner support this third Power.

ARTICLE 3.—The Government of the two Contracting Parties shall in future remain continuously in touch with one another, by way of consultation, in order to inform one another on questions touching their joint interests.

ARTICLE 4.—Neither of the two Contracting Parties shall participate in any grouping of Power which is directed directly or indirectly against the other Party.

ARTICLE 5.—In the event of dispute or disagreements arising between the Contracting Parties on questions of this or that kind, both Parties would clarify these disputes or disagreements exclusively by means of friendly exchange of opinion or, if necessary, by arbitration committees.

ARTICLE 6.—The Agreement should be concluded for a period of ten years on the understanding that, in so far as one of the Contracting Parties does not give notice of termination one year before the end of this period, the period of validity of this Agreement shall automatically be regarded as prolonged for a further period of five years.

ARTICLE 7.—The present Agreement shall be ratified within the shortest possible time. The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged in Berlin. The Agreement takes effect immediately after it has been signed.

Hitler declared about this Pact :

" I regard it as a triumph of commonsense that we have reached an agreement with Russia."

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP

On September 29, 1939, a German-Soviet treaty of friendship was signed in Moscow, whither the German Foreign Minister had proceeded by air. The treaty began with an Article declaring that the German and Soviet Governments, having " created a sure basis for a durable peace in Eastern Europe, declare that it is their unanimous opinion that it would be in the real interests of all nations to end the state of war that exists between Germany on the one hand and Britain and France on the other.

The two Governments will therefore make joint efforts—if necessary in agreement with other friendly Powers—in order to attain this aim as soon as possible. In the case of the efforts of these two Governments being without success, the fact will then be proved that Britain and France are responsible for the continuation of the war.

In the case of the war being continued, joint consultations will take place between the German and Soviet Governments on the subject of necessary measures."

MOLOTOV'S VISIT TO BERLIN

In November 1940, Molotov visited Berlin and on November 12, the following statement was issued :

" M. Molotov's visit to Berlin is the logical outcome of the evolution of the European situation and the signing of the Tripartite Pact.

" In view of the new situation created by the developments of the war and the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Alliance, it has become necessary to define positively and clearly the position of the Soviet. M. Molotov's visit has the following aims : Firstly, to fix a basis for political and economical collaboration of the Soviet with the Axis Powers and eventually with Japan ; and secondly, to reconsider, from the point of view of more extensive collaboration, the basis of the German-Soviet Agreement.

" In the present circumstances, M. Molotov's visit is particularly significant, because it proves that the developments in Europe, notably the signing of the Tripartite Pact, have in no way affected the perfect realization by both Moscow and Berlin of their respective and common interests. Their collaboration since the signing of the German-Soviet Agreement has only become closer and never suffered the slightest reverse, contrary to the allegations of foreign propaganda."

The statement concluded by emphasizing that M. Molotov's talks in Berlin " are not an aim in themselves, but an important phase in the relations of and perfect and permanent collaboration between the two countries."

—AND GERMAN HORDES MARCH INTO RUSSIA

Hitler announced, in a proclamation over the German radio at 3-30 a.m. on June 22nd, 1941, that the German army had begun to march against the U.S.S.R. assisted by the Rumanians.

The same man who had concluded an " eternal " pact of non-aggression before the outbreak of the present war stated on June 22, 1941 :

" Bolshevism is opposed to National Socialism in deadly enmity. Bolshevist Moscow desires to stab National Socialist Germany in the back, while she was engaged in a struggle for her existence."

He concluded by saying :

" The German people are fully aware that they are called upon not only to defend their native land, but to save the entire civilized world from the deadly dangers of Bolshevism and to clear the way for true social progress in Europe."

Hitler has himself foreseen the result of a pact with Russia on " the doom of Germany." The doom of Nazism, not of Germany!

TALKING POINTS

(Continued from Page 8)

Syrians. It is not the intention of the British or the Free French to make any similar mistake or in any way act against the interests of the inhabitants of Syria. To manœuvre the Vichy troops from their positions rather than bring them to battle has, therefore, been the task confronting the Allied Commanders. Every effort has been made to render it unnecessary for Frenchmen to fight Frenchmen, because the seeds of such conflict, once sown, would bear fruit most welcome to Germany. But General Dentz, under orders from Vichy or from a mistaken sense of duty, held on to Damascus till the last until it was entered—appropriately enough—by the Free French forces; and he will no doubt try to defend Beirut, Aleppo or Homs. Merj Ayoum has, however, been recaptured by the Allies. Beirut has just been bombed by the Royal Air Force and shelled by the British Navy; the Navy has also given short shrift to Vichy destroyers trying to interfere with the Allied operations; and in the north the British column from Iraq has made a rapid march to Palmyra. The Allies are now determined to finish the Syrian campaign as quickly as they can and the High Command have been directed by Mr. Churchill to be guided solely by military considerations. They will soon be called upon to arrange help to Russia.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

BALANCE SHEET

Despite the Allied move into Syria and the collapse of Rashid Ali's revolt in Iraq, many people are still inclined to regard the loss of Crete as an overriding disaster from which the Allies may take months, if not years, to recover.

Crete was a serious loss, but not a decisive one. It is essential to view Crete against the background of the entire Middle East campaign, and that in turn against the war as a whole.

THE MIDDLE EAST

The Germans are aiming at Suez; the Allies are barring their way. Up to now, the enemy has been reaping the advantage of years of preparation, but the Allies have immense reserves—some immediately available, some available only after months. The farther the Nazis move from their bases, and the longer they take to move, the greater the forces which the Allies shall be able to array against them at the decisive point—which has not yet been reached.

Britain's policy, therefore, is to delay the enemy as long as possible at each outlying point, while increasing her strength for the final showdown. From this angle, Greece and Crete were outlying points of a fortress—both points having been held as long as possible to give the defenders of the fortress the maximum time in which to mobilize their full strength. Tobruk is another outlying point, whose retention by the British is a serious annoyance to the Nazis in Cyrenaica.

From this point of view, the Middle East campaign has its bright as well as its dark features. Against the enemy's victory in Greece and Crete, and his recovery of Cyrenaica, must be set the collapse of his schemes in Iraq, the liquidation of his schemes in Syria, the release of large Allied reserves by the conquest of Abyssinia, and the elimination of the Italian Fleet as a fighting force at the Battle of Matapan.

THE WAR AS A WHOLE

This Middle East campaign is one half of Hitler's summer offensive against Britain, the other being the Battle of the Atlantic. Here, against heavy Allied shipping losses, must be reckoned the sinking of the *Bismarack* and the bottling up of the *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau*, *Prinz Eugen* and a pocket-battleship (five serious blows to Hitler's raiding fleet), as well as America's patrol system, her 2,000,000 ton shipping pool to aid Britain, and the increasing volume of shipbuilding on both sides of the Atlantic.

Hitler needs a decisive result in both theatres of war this summer, or he will lose local as well as general superiority in every part of the world.

Without belittling the weight or danger of the enemy's present offensive, let us look at the general position this year, as compared with last year's.

In June 1940

Germany had overwhelmed Norway, Denmark, Holland and Belgium; Dunkirk had been evacuated, and the British Army was seriously deficient in arms and equipment; France was falling and Italy had declared war.

Germany revealed immense superiority in both air and armoured strength.

Germany used secret weapons with great success, notably her heavily-armoured tanks and her Stuka dive-bombers.

Allied morale (save for Britain) was poor, and fifth columns won half Hitler's battles before a shot was fired.

Allied production was far below Germany's, while the British war machine was not yet complete.

America was aloof and pessimistic.

In June 1941

Germany has overwhelmed Greece and Crete and retaken Cyrenaica; she has sunk the *Hood* and taken heavy toll of Allied shipping, but—Italy has lost two complete armies and most of her Fleet, the enemy has been practically cleared out of East Africa and the Red Sea, and all but two of Hitler's capital ships are out of action.

Allied air strength is drawing equal to the enemy's and Allied armoured strength grows rapidly.

While Germany has sprung no surprises, she herself has been staggered by the Royal Air Force's new high-power bombs and night fighters.

Allied morale is higher than ever before. Iraq's Fifth Column has been routed, and Free France fights against Vichy's Quislings in Syria.

Germany's production has reached its peak, while Britain is just reaching hers and America's is already formidable.

America is committed to all aid for Britain—including war if necessary.

(*Continued on Page* 20)

MADRAS AIR SQUADRONS

FINE RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

The following cable has been received from London:

The following despatch, one of a series of despatches dealing with the work of the six fighter Squadrons of the Royal Air Force named after various parts of India, describes the work of the Madras Spitfire and Hurricane Squadrons.

Stationed for many months in 1940 in the English west country, the pilots of the Madras Squadron of Spitfires kept a constant watch on convoys passing along the Cornish, Devon, Dorset and Hampshire coasts. The Squadron has earned a high reputation for its patrols in protection of British and allied shipping.

In September 1940, it was ordered to the south-east to reinforce the defences of London. In their first flight in their new theatre of war the Spitfires shot down 13 enemy aircraft in four days and brought their "London Defence" total to 30.

The Squadron then went back to the west country, where on November 29, 1940, they carried out one of their outstanding exploits—protecting the destroyer Javelin from an air attack.

For several hours the Spitfires fought off a series of attacks by relays of German bombers on the partially disabled destroyer after she had been torpedoed in a naval action in the Channel. When the Javelin had been safely escorted to port, the fighters had accounted for three German bombers destroyed and one damaged. Their own casualties were nil.

On September 15, 1940, when a record number of 185 raiders were destroyed, this Squadron's 'bag' was four ME-110s. and one ME-'09 shot down in a battle off the south coast.

To-date the Squadron has won three D.F.Cs. and Bar, two D.F.Ms. and one B.E.M. One of the D.F.Ms. was awarded to a Sergeant, who has participated in nearly every operational patrol carried out by his Squadron. He has six enemy aircraft to his credit. One of the pilot officers of the Squadron, who has secured the D.F.C. and Bar, has personally destroyed a total of 14 hostile aircraft. On one occasion he dived vertically across a strong protective formation of fighters and attacked two four-engined enemy bombers.

Altogether the Madras Spitfire Squadron has already a fine record, well meriting its inclusion in the three squadrons selected to perpetuate the splendid contribution made by Madras to the Empire war effort.

On a clear morning in October 1939, a watcher on the Kent Coast saw a Dornier-17 hurtle out of the sky leaving a spiral trail of smoke as it cork-screwed into the sea. Three Hurricanes circled round the spot, then flew off to their base to report the first enemy aircraft shot down in the Straits of Dover.

The pilots were members of the Madras Hurricane Squadron. Flying high over the sea, they had sighted an enemy plane, which was apparently on a reconnaissance flight and, attacking it in turn, sent it crashing into the water.

Since this first victory, the Squadron has accounted for another 65 enemy machines over France in defence of Britain.

When Hitler invaded the Low countries, the Squadron was stationed in France—a unit of an air component. In ten days the pilots shot down at least 25 German aircraft and seriously damaged many more. Their last day before coming home got them ten.

Back in England, the Squadron defended part of the north-east coast. When the big blitz started in August, it was ordered south to reinforce the front-line defences. On August 15, it shot down five HE-111s. which were attacking a Kent aerodrome. The following day in five patrols it accounted for five ME-109s. and one ME-115 over Kent.

One of the Squadron's greatest achievements was in late September when nine Hurricanes saved Liverpool from a daylight bombing attack. They intercepted the bombers off St. David's Head and as soon as our fighters attacked, the enemy turned back minus one of their number.

The pilots have taken part in recent actions against German night raiders. One night in March, a Canadian Flight Lieutenant shot down a JU-88 over South Wales.

The members of the Squadron have already won four D.F.Cs. and ten D.F.Ms. One of the D.F.Cs. was awarded to a Flight Lieutenant, who showed great ability as the leader of his Squadron on many offensive patrols. On one occasion, while attacking an ME-109 he was himself attacked by six Heinkel-113s. He turned on the Heinkels, destroying one and severely damaging a second before being compelled to break off the engagement owing to a shortage of ammunition. The following day, while leading a section of his Squadron, he sighted and attacked a large formation of Heinkel-111s. and shot one down in flames.

Another member of the Squadron, a Pilot Officer, shot down five enemy aircraft during recent operations. During one of these, he was in the air for eight hours. He too was awarded a D.F.C.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Allies' pledge

At noon on Thursday, June 12, representatives of Britain, India, the Dominions and Colonies and of the Allied Governments, met in St. James' Palace, London, to express their unanimous determination to " continue together in the struggle against German and Italian aggression until victory is won."

It was the perfect retort to the whispering campaign Goebbels had started to the effect that the Allies were ready to sue for peace.

The notorious William Joyce, who infects the air with his sneering emissions from Berlin under the alias ' Lord Haw Haw," searched several dictionaries to find epithets with which to pour scorn on the historic meeting.

" Extinct volcanoes "

He referred to the " curious assembly of extinct volcanoes ", and added :—

" Present were Prime Ministers, whose Governments have ceased to exist, Generals who have lost their troops, or to be precise, deserted them, Ambassadors without Foreign Offices. . . . Every country to whom Britain had promised help and not given it was characterised by the presence of some orphan of the storm who had managed to get his hotel bills paid by the British tax-payers. These disembodied souls, these levitated spectres, these apostles of the pluperfect tense, had the gratification of hearing Churchill deliver one of his most violent harangues against Germany. . . . ".

Behind all this ranting lurks fear—fear of Churchill, the man who got the measure of Hitler and his gang from the moment the pathological ex-house painter became Fuehrer of 70,000,000 misguided souls; the man, who warned Britain again and again of the war Hitler was preparing; the man who roused Britain from her stupor and is now successfully holding the island fortress until the ever-expanding strength of the Allies will reach the point at which offensive operations can be undertaken.

The Germans know that they have reached the peak of their effort, while that of Britain and her Allies multiplies with each day that dawns.

Berlin v. Tokyo

Collaboration by the three Axis partners in the propaganda field is not always as effective as Goebbels would wish. On June 10, for instance, Berlin reported that the French Army in Syria was " offering stubborn resistance to the numerically superior forces of the enemy."

The previous day Tokyo had said, " The entire forces of the British and de Gaullists in Syria amount to about 20,000 men, while the French Army has approximately 40,000 or 50,000 men, including a great number of French officers. Consequently the French forces are far superior to those of the enemy."

Speeds compared

In a special review of the first four months of 1941, Berlin (June 12) gloats over the fact that, " in nearly two months, the German Africa Corps covered more than 1,100 miles, fighting against strong British forces."

The distance is apparently worked out from Tripoli to the Egyptian border, but British troops never penetrated further than El Agheila, so on the first half of the journey the Germans were absolutely unopposed. On the second half (El Agheila to Sollum) the opposition comprised one British armoured brigade and one infantry division—for four divisions of the Army of the Nile had been sent to Greece.

Compare the German boast with Wavell's achievement in advancing 800 miles from his base in two months and mopping up eight Italian divisions on the way.

Franco-German collaboration

The German radio (June 11) makes great play with the fact that Germany has " enabled France to defend her colonial possessions." But the Germans have an ulterior motive. They are using the misguided French soldiers to defend Syria as an Axis base and at the same time to inflict casualties on the Allies. Berlin has repeatedly accused Britain of getting other people to do her fighting for her. Now it is Germany's turn to " fight to the last Frenchman."

In a broadcast to the French people on October 21, 1940, Mr. Churchill said :—

" Do not imagine, as the German-controlled wireless tells you, that we English seek to take your ships and colonies. We seek to beat the life and soul out of Hitler and Hitlerism. That alone, that all the time and that to the end."

General Catroux, Commander of the Free French forces entering Syria, has declared in a proclamation to the garrison there :—

" It is not against you that they wage war; it is against the Germans."

Reuter slandered

" Only one day after hostilities started at the Syrian frontier," says Berlin (June 9), " *Reuter*, the British official news agency, openly admitted that no German troops had been stationed in Syria."

Reuter is an independent news service which reports everything from enemy and neutral as well as from British sources. It has every day for the past month reported the arrival of German aircraft and war materials in Syria. With notable impartiality, it has also reported persistent Berlin and Vichy denials of the presence of German forces there, leaving its readers to judge for themselves the true situation.

New Caledonia

Berlin (June 11) quotes the Japanese paper *Asahi Shimbun* as saying the British action in Syria is " attracting special attention in Japan because it is the continuation of the same policy of land robbing which began with the occupation of New Caledonia in the South Pacific."

British forces have not occupied the French island of New Caledonia. In September 1940, a public demonstration in the island forced the Governor-General to resign and M. Santot, leader of the de Gaulle movement in the Pacific, took over control with the popular approval of the inhabitants.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Barbarous raid on Alexandria

Referring to the Nazi raid on Alexandria on June 4 which resulted in the death of at least 150 people, the Germans in their Hindustani broadcast of June 8 ' proved ' that only military posts were bombed. This preposterous Nazi claim, however, was best contradicted by the Egyptian Government itself, which lodged a strong protest to Germany and Italy against the wanton bombing of innocent civilians in Alexandria. The Government also demanded compensation for life and material damage.

In their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of June 9, the Nazis gloated over the effects of their second murderous raid on Alexandria and claimed that this attack was concentrated on the arsenal and supply centre of the British naval base. Actually, even though this raid was most determined and ruthless, the enemy failed to hit any warship or other military objective. That the chief sufferers in this deliberately indiscriminate raid were mainly civilians is shown by the fact that considerable damage was done in European and Arab residential quarters and that hundreds have been killed and injured.

Britain's position in the Atlantic

The German High Command communique, broadcast in Hindustani and Persian on June 13, tried to make out that Britain's position in the Atlantic was going from bad to worse. Actually, however, Britain has done remarkably well in the Battle of the Atlantic. As Mr. Churchill told the Commons on June 10, although Axis shipping presents targets " perhaps one-tenth as great as we present to them." Britain sank, captured or caused to be scuttled no less than 257,000 tons of enemy shipping. This total, said Mr. Churchill, represented three-fourths of British shipping losses for May. It is significant, moreover that Germans' claims are also declining. In March they claimed to have sunk 950,000 tons against an actual 394,000; in April 1,218,000 tons against an actual 488,000 (including 187,000 in the Mediterranean); in May 746,000 tons.

More ships

In its weekly review of news in Bengali, Rome radio stated on June 12, that due to hostile public opinion, the United States of America Administration had turned down Britain's request for further aid.

The counter to this baseless propaganda comes from President Roosevelt himself who, in his report to Congress, declared : " We are immediately making available to Britain 2,000,000 gross tons of cargo ships and oil tankers." Furthermore, the President revealed that in the first five months of this year Britain was sent 12 times as many planes and 10 times as many aircraft engines as during the first five months of the last year.

" Relatively more heavy bombers and medium bombers are being sent," continued the President, " and 17 times as much in dollar value of explosives and 90 times as much in dollar valuation of fire-arms and ammunition in the first quarter of this year as in the same period of last year."

Battleships for Convoys

The Nazis' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 13, misrepresented the use of Britain's battleships for convoying purposes as a sign of Britain's heavy and increasing naval losses. That Britain can spare her battleships for convoying is a sign of her strength, and not of her weakness. It shows that Germany's battle fleet is such a diminishing force that England can even afford to use her big ships for convoy duty. Out of a total of seven capital ships possessed by Germany during this war, she has only one battleship *Tirpitz* and one pocket battleship left to her.

Palestine and Germany's Objective

In their Hindustani and Arabic broadcasts of June 10, the Nazis quoted a Palestine Arab named Allama Fauzi as stating that Britain was tired of oppressing the Arabs. In spite of Nazi professions, the Arabs realize what the Germans really stand for. The Palestine paper, the *Falastin* correctly sums up the Nazis when it says : " With the fall of al Gilani, Berlin has been thoroughly exposed because of its failure to render help to a friend. . . The Arabs now realize that Germany's only objective is to create trouble, to destroy the independence of nations and to impose on the world a " New Order " which stands for universal disaffection, slavery and poverty."

Arab Independence

The Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 11, stressed Germany's promise of independence to all Arab countries and accused Britain of breaking her promise. The Arabs, however, can see for themselves that in Germany herself, and the countries her Nazi oppressors have overrun, freedom has ceased to exist. They also see that it was largely due to Britain's stewardship that Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Iraq, which were provinces of the Turkish Empire in 1914, are now independent States.

That the Arabs' faith in Britain's word remains firm is revealed by their reaction to Mr. Eden's recent declaration. Referring to this declaration the Egyptian paper *Al Mokattam* declares: "What arrests attention most in this declaration is the expression of the British Government's readiness to respond to the appeal of Arabs for unity. The immediate recompense Britain will get for doing so will be practical co-operation from Arab peoples wherever they exist."

Out of their own mouth

Referring to the onward march of the Free French and British troops in Syria, the Nazi broadcast in Hindustani stated on June 10, that the French were as much justified in taking up arms against Britain as was Germany when war was forced on her. That Great Britian forced war on Germany has been Germany's theme-song ever since the hostilities broke out on September 3, 1939. But, unfortunately for the Nazi propaganda, Rosenberg—one of the pillars of Nazidom—himself recently gave the game away. On February 15, 1941, he made a speech remarkable for the fact that, instead of insisting that Britain declared war, he praised Germany for choosing the right moment. "Had Germany hesitated much longer," declared he, "the German national communities outside the Reich frontiers would have perished."

Faith in Churchill

The German radio (in Hindustani and Persian) pretended to quote on June 9 the London newspaper *Daily Telegraph* as stating that there was mounting indignation against the Churchill Government's conduct of the Cretan Campaign. The Nazis deliberately misrepresent the nature of the British public's criticism. As another English paper, the *Observer*, has put it: "There is no wavering in devotion to the Prime Minister's irreplaceable leadership. Our object is to strengthen his hands". Another unmistakable evidence of Mr. Churchill's strength was provided on June 10 when, after the Premier's masterly exposition of events concerning Crete, the House of Commons approved of his policy without division.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

(*Continued from Page* 16)

Britain is still the centre of the war. Britain must be beaten on her own soil if Germany is to be victorious. Every day's delay in launching the German attack on Britain decrease her chance of success.

AND HERE'S ANOTHER BATTLE

Since early spring, the Royal Air Force has been attacking enemy supply ships in European coastal waters, and sinking them at the rate of a ship a day. This is a battle which Hitler didn't expect or want, for he would never have sent his merchantmen round Europe's danger-coasts if his internal communications hadn't been badly smashed up by heavy Royal Air Force bombing during the last 12 months.

Moreover, every enemy ship sunk means one less transport or supply vessel for the invasion of Britain. A ship a day helps to keep Hitler away.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

27th June.—The Royal Air Force's latest type of bombers carried out a very heavy raid on Kiel, Cologne, and Dusseldorf. One enemy fighter was shot down.

A German supply ship was bombed by a Blenheim in the Channel.

28th June.—The Royal Air Force carried out successful raids on military objectives in occupied France. They launched a powerful attack on Bremen. German fighters were destroyed or damaged in the air and on the ground.

30th June.—The Royal Air Force carried out a daylight attack on Hamburg, Bremen, and Kiel. Heavy damage was inflicted on the enemy.

1st July.—Heavy daylight raids were made by the Royal Air Force on the Kiel naval base as well as night attacks on Duisberg, Dusseldorf and Cologne.

2nd July.—The Royal Air Force made extensive sweeps over Germany and German occupied territory. Bombs were seen to straddle a German battleship at Brest; the seaplane base of Borkum was also attacked.

3rd July.—Eighteen enemy planes were destroyed by the Royal Air Force for the loss of 10 of their own in offensive sweeps over France. Bremen and Cologne were bombed and an enemy supply ship torpedoed in the English channel.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

27th June.—Two 20,000-ton Italian merchantmen were hit by torpedoes when the Fleet Air Arm attacked an Italian convoy off the South Coast of Italy.

28th June.—The British continued to advance north-west of Jimma in Abyssinia.

Alexandria was raided by enemy aircraft.

29th June.—In Abyssinia, the Italians evacuated Ghimbi. General Bartello surrendered to the British.

It was revealed that the enemy had lost 1,434 planes in the Middle East since the beginning of the war. The British losses during the period amounted to only 250.

The Royal Air Force made heavy raids on Benghazi and Tripoli.

1st July.—In addition to a General and a Brigadier, 245 Italian officers, 1,941 Italian other ranks and 841 Askaris surrendered to the British following the occupation of Ghimbi.

The Royal Air Force bombed Tripoli harbour, severely damaging enemy ships and shooting down seven enemy planes.

It was announced that Captain Oliver Lyttleton, former President of the Board of Trade, had been appointed Minister of State to represent the War Cabinet in the Middle East.

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, was appointed to succeed General Sir Archibald Wavell as Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East. General Wavell took Sir Claude's place in India.

2nd July.—British troops captured 375 prisoners, including one General, in the Badella area in Tobruk.

3rd July.—The Italian Commander and his garrison at Debra Tabor were forced to surrender.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

27th June.—President Roosevelt said at a Press Conference that arms would be sent to Eire only on receiving an assurance that she would defend herself against the Germans, if attacked.

28th June.—The United States Administration was reported to have decided to ask Congress for a formal declaration of national emergency.

30th June.—It was announced that 900,000 men were to be drafted into the United States Army this year.

Nearly thirty persons were arrested by G-men in the biggest single round-up of spy suspects in the United States; 22 of them were born in Germany.

Mr. Herbert Hoover, ex-President of the United States, in a broadcast, advocated the fullest possible aid to Britain.

President Roosevelt signed the 70,000 million dollars Army Appropriation Bill.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, addressing a conference of State Governors, said "The time to use our Navy to clear the Atlantic of the German menace is at hand. Now is the time to strike."

2nd July.—Several German suspects were rounded up in Argentina.

3rd July.—The United States supported Uruguay's proposal to back up any American country involved in a state of war with nations of other continents in defence of its own rights.

The United States of America undertook to supply over 600,000 bales of cotton to Britain under the Lease and Lend Act.

RUSSIA

27th June.—German armoured forces started a drive towards Minsk, the capital of White Russia. Attacks from the Rumanian frontier were repulsed by the Soviet.

The Rumanian oil fields of Ploesti were set and Hungary declared war on Russia.

German troops were reported to have captured Riga.

The Rumanian oil fields of Ploesti were set ablaze by the Soviet Air Force.

The British military mission in Moscow were introduced by Sir Stafford Cripps, the British Ambassador, to M. Molotov, Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

28th June.—Fierce fighting was reported near Minsk, the Russians hitting back effectively.

The Germans were reported to have launched an attack on Russian territory in the Arctic, the port of Murmansk being their objective.

The Moscow Radio stated that 457 German planes had been destroyed.

29th June.—The struggle was swaying to and fro in the battle of the giants. The Russians inflicted heavy losses on German tanks. Not only did they stop the German tank attacks, but they also launched effective counter tank offensives. Fierce fighting still continued near Minsk.

A German communiqué claimed the loss so far of 4,000 Russian planes and 2,000 Russian tanks. It claimed also that German advance forces had gone beyond Minsk and were now on the road to Moscow.

30th June.—The Germans claimed the capture of Lwow and of Libau.

The German offensive from Finland was thrown back by the Russians.

1st July.—The Russians claimed to have stopped the German advance eastwards near Luck and Murmansk despite a withdrawal of Soviet troops to prepared positions.

Russian aircraft inflicted heavy losses on enemy tank and motorised units; Moscow had its first air raid warning.

The Germans claimed an advance in the Pripet marshes and said they had reached River Beresina. They also claimed the capture of Luck.

A Supreme Defence Council was formed in Russia with M. Stalin as President.

2nd July.—The Germans claimed the capture of 100,000 prisoners in the region east of Bialystok. They also claimed that they had taken Windan.

The Russians announced the sinking of seven German U-Boats in the Baltic and Black Seas in the first week of the war.

3rd July.—M. Stalin broadcast to the Russian people on the war situation, expressing confidence in victory.

The Germans claimed that they had crossed River Pruth, and also that advance units were near Smolensk.

The Soviet forces prevented the Germans from crossing River Beresina.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

27th June.—The British forces on Syria were closing in on Palmyra, and were also attacking Saidnaya, 15 miles from Damascus, on the main road to Homs, an important strategic centre.

The Soviet Government denied Nazi reports that they (the Russian) had demanded bases in Turkey.

28th June.—The Allied forces in Syria captured Nebrek.

29th June.—Allied forces occupied Saba Biyar, sixty miles south-west of Palmyra. Slow but steady progress was being made towards Beirut.

The Moscow Radio contradicted fantastic German reports of Soviet threats to Iran.

30th June.—The Allies completed the encirclement of Palmyra.

The Royal Air Force made three violent air raids on Beirut, which was holding out despite the Allied demand for peaceful surrender.

2nd July.—Gen. Catroux, the Free French leader in the Middle East, announced that Syria would be independent of France.

3rd July.—The Allies captured Palmyra.

The Turkish Government were reported to have rejected Vichy's request for permission to send arms to Syria *via* Turkey.

SHIPPING

28th June.—The British Navy intercepted the 3,000-ton German steamer *Alsterton*, which was acting as auxiliary to a German raider, and rescued British officers and sailors of the Mercantile Marine, who were being held prisoners therein.

1st July.—British warships captured the French liner Oregon in South Atlantic.

FAR EAST

27th June.—Japanese naval forces evacuated the South China port of Shingchuan.

28th June.—Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese Foreign Minister, arrived at Kunming *en route* to Chungking.

29th June.—Sixty-three Japanese planes raided Chungking.

30th June.—The British Embassy in Chungking received two direct hits during an air raid. Several persons received injuries.

1st July.—The Japanese claimed to have bombed and destroyed a vital bridge on the Yunnan-Kweichow highway.

Germany and Italy announced recognition of the Japanese—sponsored Nanking Government in China.

2nd July.—Premier Konoye, broadcasting to the Japanese people, said that "Japan should go her own way"; and Mr. Matsuoka, the Foreign Minister, urged vigilance.

The Emperor of Japan presided at an Imperial Conference to decide Japan's foreign policy.

3rd July.—It was rumoured that Japanese ships were being recalled from the Philippine waters.

VICHY

28th June.—General Gamelin's escape from custody was reported by the German Trans-Ocean News Agency but was denied by authoritative circles at Vichy.

30th June.—The Vichy Government broke off diplomatic relations with the Soviet. Russian credits in France were blocked by the Vichy Government and Soviet consulates ordered to be closed. The Russian Ambassador left Vichy on Monday with the whole of his staff.

A Soviet spokesman stated that Vichy was simply Berlin's "maid of all work."

1st July.—Thousands of communists were arrested in Paris.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

30th June.—The death occurred at New York of M. Paderewski, famous musician and Polish leader, who was President of the Polish National Council. The Polish Government, meeting in London, expressed the sorrow of the Polish nation at his passing.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

28th June.—Mr. Eden told the Swedish Minister in London that Britain took a very grave view of Sweden's action in allowing German troops to pass through her territory.

29th June.—General Franco expressed strong disapproval of the anti-British riots in Spain, in a long interview he granted to Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Ambassador.

Speaking at Ennis, County Clare, Mr. De Valera gave a warning of Eire's increasing danger. Eire would continue to remain neutral, he said, but would defend herself against any invader.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 24th June 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over enemy coastal waters in Western Europe.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 18, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on military camp near Boulogne. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping (1,500-ton merchantman damaged off Britanny). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen** and other ports in N. W. Germany; naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*).	4 day fighters. 4 night bombers.	9 day fighters.
June 19, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raids on invasion base at Le Havre (docks, oil stores). R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping in English Channel (1 merchantman sunk, 1 damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne** and **Dusseldorf**.	2 night bombers.	2 day fighters.
June 20, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping (1 patrol vessel sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel** and other objectives in N. W. Germany; invasion bases at Dunkirk and Boulogne.	1 bomber.	..
June 21, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on aerodromes at St. Omer and Boulogne. R.A.F. night bomber raids on W. Germany, particularly **Cologne** and **Dusseldorf**; invasion bases at Dunkirk and Boulogne. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	3 day fighters (1 pilot safe), 1 day bomber, 1 night bomber.	26 day fighters.
June 22, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on marshalling-yard at Hazebrouck. R.A.F. day bomber raids on shipping off French coast (1 merchantman damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Wilhelmshaven**; docks at **Bremen**, Emden, Bremerhaven; industrial objectives at Dusseldorf.	2 day fighters (1 pilot safe), 1 day bomber, 3 night bombers.	30 day fighters, 1 night fighter.
June 23, Monday.	R.A.F. bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Bethune (power station, oil refinery) and on railway targets in Pas-de-Calais. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel** and Wilhelmshaven; industrial objectives at **Cologne, Dusseldorf** and Hanover; docks at Emden; objectives in occupied territory.	2 day bombers, 3 day fighters (1 pilot safe), 1 night bomber.	20 day fighters.
June 24, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on power station at Comines. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; industrial objectives at **Cologne** and **Dusseldorf.**	2 day fighters, 2 night bombers.	9 day fighters.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The Russo-German war is proceeding with great intensity and ferocity. Large claims have been made by Germany, while Moscow has denied them. It is obvious that the original plan of the Nazis have had to be modified considerably owing to the stiff resistance of Russia. A Defence Council has been formed for the Soviet with M. Stalin as President and M. Molotov as Vice-President. It is stated that the entire power of the Government has been vested in this Council. M. Stalin broadcast a message to his countrymen of exceptional power which was as firm and frank as those of Mr. Churchill.

Important Cabinet changes have been made in Great Britain. Lord Beaverbrook has been made Minister of Supply for securing an increase of production in tanks, guns and ammunition. Captain Oliver Lyttleton who has been appointed Minister of State, will represent the War Cabinet in the Middle East and will be in charge of political, diplomatic and administrative work in this region. He will deal with publicity, administration of occupied territories and relations with the Free French and the Emperor of Abyssinia. General Auchenleck, Commander-in-Chief in India and General Sir Archibald Wavell will exchange places. The latter has had to face the brunt of the work in the Middle East and it is announced that these changes have been necessitated by the progress of the war.

In Abyssinia Ghimbi has been evacuated and a General and a Brigadier with 245 Italian officers, 1,941 Italian other ranks and 841 Askaris have been captured. Enemy troops at Debra Taber have also surrendered, only Gondar remaining in Italian hands.

Vichy has broken off its relations with Moscow, a proceeding which is bound to have repercussions in France which has a large party favourable to Russia. The news that General Gamelin, former Commander-in-Chief of French Forces, has escaped from prison has not been confirmed.

China has severed diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers, following the recognition of the Japanese-sponsored Government at Nanking by Germany and Italy. Hungary, Bulgaria and Spain has also recognized the Nanking Government. Palmyra in Syria has fallen to British hands. This place is important as being on the oil pipe-line in Central Syria.

It is stated that the United States would soon send army and navy forces to Iceland.

JAPAN

The official statement which has been made in Japan about that country's reactions to the Russo-German war is very vague. Prince Konoye, the Prime Minister, said on Wednesday that Japan should go her own way and she "should not assume such a base mental attitude as to do one thing because some other countries are doing another." But Japanese anxiety has been patent in numerous ministerial discussions, the visit of Prince Konoye to the Emperor and the press conferences at which evasive answers have been given. The tone of Japanese broadcasts, it would appear, has been far from pro-German. There has been a report in New York which has to some extent been confirmed by a prominent Japanese spokesman in London, that Japan is increasingly apprehensive about Hitler's latest motives and that there may be a rapprochement with the Allied *bloc*! This disillusionment with Hitler may or may not be a fact, but since the beginning of the war Japan has through her newspapers stated that she is "unswervingly devoted to the cause of establishing peace in the world and her determination to proceed with the construction of a New Order in East Asia." There is fear that the United States of America and Great Britain may use Russian possessions as military bases and therefore a crisis in Japan's defence may occur. Such an apprehension would rather place a check on Japan's predatory tendencies and compel her to go slow in her southern drive rather than try conclusions with Russia by joining with Germany.

In September last, Japan signed the Axis Pact which stated that all the three Powers would go to war if one of the three contracting parties should be attacked by a Power at present not involved in the European war or the Sino-Japanese conflict. On April 13, Japan signed her own pact with Russia: "In case either . . . becomes the object of

military action by one or more third parties, the other party shall observe neutrality throughout the entire period of such conflict." Which will Japan choose? It is safe to say that Japan will not be too eager to make a definite stand but would wait for further developments. That is what Mr. Matsuoka, Foreign Minister, stated on Wednesday last. "Japan intends to watch closely developments in the world situation," he said. "I feel that a really grave state of emergency is developing before our eyes throughout the world and particularly in East Asia with direct concern to our country." But what inference can be drawn from this statement about Japan's apprehensions as to Germany's intentions in Asia is set off by the action now taken by the Axis Powers in recognizing the puppet Government in Nanking, an action which, Japan might think, should be reciprocated by a pro-German gesture.

What is the position in regard to the Netherlands East Indies. The breaking off of the negotiations between the two countries has given rise to much speculation. Some people see the hand of the German Embassy in the abrupt conclusion of the talks. It may also be the case that the extremist elements in Japan have compelled the Japanese Government to put a stop to the discussions. The Russo-German war has introduced a complication and the stabler elements in Japan perhaps realize that Great Britain would ally with Holland if the Dutch East Indies becomes the object of attack. Japan wants all eastern countries to join the "-Co-prosperity sphere" because Japan arrogates to itself the position of leader, but this attitude ignores the fact that close economic relations will necessarily depend upon mutual interests being served and the absence of any element of domination. The Government of the Dutch East Indies have made it absolutely clear that they would enter into no pact which would increase the supplies to Germany. The position is by no means clear and Japan perhaps considers that wisdom lies in silence. It is, however, interesting to note that a rightist newspaper, commenting upon the ambitions of Germany, asks why Italy and Germany should not "recognise Japan's influence over India, Australia, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Soviet territory east of the Urals." That shows that Japan is alarmed at Germany's reported ambitions in Asiatic Russia.

DANGER TO THE EAST

There is a sense of reality in India in regard to the German invasion of Russia. People know what the ideologies of these two dictator-countries are and also realise that there is no regime in the world so notorious for crime, terror and complete disregard of all religious and human feelings as that of National Socialism. So far as the Middle East is concerned Russia has remained within her well-defined borders and these countries well know that German domination would necessarily lead to merciless and wholesale exploitation. The story goes round that the German army is invincible, but it should be remembered that the invasion of Russia has taken place only after Germany realised that the defeat of Great Britain is impossible and after serious checks in the Middle Eastern area. If Russia should unfortunately not be successful against Germany—and this is by no means sure—the Nazis would have sustained very heavy losses in men and material and at the end of it their resources would be gravely strained. There would be no immediate improvement in the oil or supply situation until repairs to installations had been made and a vast scheme of development put into practice. This halt for reorganization would give Great Britain valuable time to prepare herself for offensive and defensive by completion of her armament programme and that of the United States of America. After a time, if Russia succumbs, Germany would go further east or straight south. This would mean a considerable strain on her resources and weaken her organization and the overthrow of Britain, the Nazi dream, would still further recede.

AMERICA

Col. Knox, the Secretary of the Navy, United States of America, has made another striking speech. "The time to use our Navy to clear the Atlantic of the German menace is at hand; now is the time to strike." This was the burden of his song. He emphasised that the opportunity of the conflict between Germany and Russia was a God-given chance to determine the outcome of this struggle. "America must wake up, not alone to its dangers—and the dangers are real and fearsome—but to the realities of the sacrifice demanded. We must, if need be, match with American tears, American toil, American sweat, American blood, the toil, tears, sweat and blood which Britain has gallantly spent to hold in check the devastating spread of Nazi power throughout the civilized world." The facts which he gave about the British shipping losses should make Great Britain, the Dominions and the United States of America strain every nerve to satisfy the increasing demand for more ships, machines, guns, ammunition and planes. Commenting on these losses he said: "There is only one end," he said, "to this—victory for Hitler which will give him ultimate domination over the world. That is why it has become increasingly necessary to use the American Navy to clear the Atlantic of the German menace." This utterance is taken to be a prelude to certain definite forward steps contemplated by President Roosevelt.

ALLIES' PROGRESS IN SYRIA

The Allied High Command are evidently determined to implement Mr. Churchill's undertaking given in the House of Commons that they would go ahead with the occupation of Syria and that only military considerations would weigh with them. The occupation of Damascus saw the launching of a speedy drive towards Homs, the key-town in the north, and first Saidnaya and then Nebrek were occupied. Nebrek is 35 miles north-east of Damascus and is nearly half-way to Homs. Vichy forces continue to resist in the coastal sector bu the Allies are advancing surely though somewhat slowly. A foretaste of what is in store for Beirut, if it is resolved to force bloodshed, was given this week when the Royal Air Force made two extremely violent raids on the town. Meanwhile the British forces have encircled and captured Palmyra, an important town on the oil pipe-line.

That the inhabitants of Syria desire the withdrawal of Vichy forces is revealed by reports of frequent riots in Beirut. The British, for their part, have made known their desire to grant to Syria an independent status similar to that of Egypt.

The Syrian Government have published a letter from General Catroux, the leader of the Free French forces in Syria, addressed to the Syrian Prime Minister, which confirms the results reached during discussions on the different aspects of Syrian independence. According to a war correspondent in Syria at the Free French headquarters, the outstanding points in General Catroux's letter are that a treaty will be signed on the basis of equality, guaranteeing the sovereignty and independence of Syria and defining the basis and conditions of Franco-Syrian collaboration. General Catroux's letter undertakes that the Syrian people will have freedom to frame a constitution according to their own desires and to that end, call the men they think best to manage their national interests and meet the nation's desires. Free France is naturally anxious to hasten the attainment of this end as soon as the whole of the French territories actually in the Levant have been delivered from the Mandate regime by the Allied occupation of the whole of the country. General Catroux asks that he be permitted to govern, for the time being, with the same authority and rights which were possessed by "your Government on June 20, 1941". Such permission would end as soon as the whole of Syria has been occupied by the Allies. It will be recalled that in announcing the Allied enry ino Syria three weeks ago, the British Government said: "At the same time a declaration has been issued by General Catroux, on behalf of General de Gaulle, guaranteeing the liberty and independence of Syria and the Lebanon and undertaking to negotiate a treaty to ensure these objects. His Majesty's Government support and associate themselves with this promise of independence."

And the British Government have now announced that Captain Oliver Lyttelton, former President of the Board of Trade, will be Minister of State, representing the War Cabinet in the Middle East. It is stated that Captain Lyttleton, who is expected to take up his headquarters in Cairo, will relieve the Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East of political, diplomatic and administrative work. He will co-ordinate diplomatic and political activities and deal with such problems as publicity, the administration of occupied territories and relations with the Free French authorities and the Emperor of Abyssinia. Hitherto all these duties had fallen on the shoulders of General Sir Archibald Wavell and the strain has been so great that he has agreed to change places with General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, who will now go to the Middle East as Commander-in-Chief.

MORE ITALIANS SURRENDER

Apparently there are still a few Italian Generals in Abyssinia and they are following the fashion set by their late Commander-in-Chief of surrendering to the British and Empire forces. The latest is General Bartello, former leader of Italian troops in Somaliland, who has surrendered to the British forces that have captured Ghimbi. With him as prisoners are another Italian General, an Italian Brigadier, 245 Italian officers, 1,941 Italian other ranks and 841 Askaris. The Italian Commander at Debra Tabor has been forced to surrender with his troops. Debra Tabor lies among mountain-ranges about 40 miles east of Lake Tana and 70 miles south-eat of Gondar. Only Gondar and some of the surrounding territory remains in Italian hands. The British are now masters of Askaris. The British are now masters of practically the whole of Abyssinia and to General Wavell and General Cunningham goes the credit of wresting Mussolini's ill-gotten empire from him.

There have been no developments in Libya but the Royal Air Force continues to keep stern vigil. This week has seen terrific raids on Benghazi and Tripoli, where enemy ships have been blown up and enemy planes destroyed in combat. Reuter's military commentator says that there are indications that we should be in a position soon to take advantage of Germany's preoccupation with Russia and assume the offensive on our part in Cyrenaica.

THE WAR IN RUSSIA

PLANES AND TANKS IN FIERCE BATTLES

Two armies, trained in almost identical methods of modern warfare, are at grips in Russia in a confused melee of planes, tanks, guns and men. It was only to be expected that there would be wide divergencies in the official communiques published by both sides, describing operations on a front of over 1,500 miles. What is clear is that Soviet Russia is contesting every inch of the ground with the invader; and a Berlin message reports that German military circles view the situation "with calm and without exaggerated optimism."

The German armies in the Russian campaign have four objectives—Leningrad, with the naval base of Kronstadt in the north; Moscow, the capital and nerve-centre of Russia; Kiev, chief city of the Ukraine with its tempting wheat-fields; and Odessa on the Black Sea, whence it would be easy to take Batum, the terminal of the oil pipe-line from Baku. Though Rumanian and Hungarian armies have been forced to fight alongside the Germans in the south, the latter have met with stubborn resistance in their drive towards Kiev or Odessa. This is as it should be, considering that the tanks which the Germans are hurling into the battle with characterstic recklessness and disregard of human life cannot manoeuvre so freely across the Carpathian Mountains and their rugged spurs or cross large rivers like the Pruth, the southern Bug and the Dniester. It is likely also that the main weight of the Russian forces is in the south in order to bar the way to Hitler's main objectives—wheat and oil.

HITLER'S QUEST FOR OIL

The Nazi advance was held for a long time from Lwow (Lemberg) southwards for about 500 miles to the Black Sea, in spite of the early capture of Brest-Litovsk and the recent one of Grodny. But at last they crossed the Pruth from Northern Moldavia and are advancing towards the Dniester. And what is more the Soviet has struck its own blows in the oil war. Not only have Soviet planes bombed Bucharest, which the Rumanian Government have been forced to leave, they have set the oil refineries at Ploesti on fire and bombed the Rumanian port of Constanza on the Black Sea where the barges loaded with oil for Germany are said to be ablaze. The *Manchester Guardian* writes that after the conquest of the Balkans there is no longer any oil shortage sufficient to hamper the German campaign in Britain. With the opening of the easy route through the Black Sea to Trieste, the Germans could obtain three million tons and their stocks of synthetic output and supplies from other countries would have yielded a total of 11 million tons. No doubt, the Germans covet the Caucasus oilfields, which yield 30 millions a year, but they could not hope to capture the oilfields and refineries intact and would take a year to repair the destroyed refineries. However if the Caucasian oilfields are useless in the short run, the Rumanian oilfields, with their refineries intact, are vital to Germany. The Russians have been bombing Bucharest and Ploesti, where the refineries are. If these plants are destroyed, the Germans will have lost as much as they can possibly hope to gain from their campaign against Russia.

The weak spot in the Russian line is apparently in the north where the ground is more favourable to the Germans and freer of obstacles. Leningrad is threatened; for Kaunas, the Lithuanian capital, has been taken by the Germans, as also Riga. The German armies, moving north to the Arctic coast, are being supported by the Finnish troops who have taken up arms against Russia. And Sweden has agreed to the passage of German troops from Norway to Finland. Soviet planes have raided Helsinki, the Finnish capital, in retaliation for enemy raids on Leningrad. And Russia will sternly resist all attempts to capture Leningrad; for, with its fall, the Russian Baltic Fleet will have to capitulate.

GERMAN THRUST TO MINSK

The German armies which have captured the ancient Lithuanian capital of Vilna are striking forward towards Minsk, Smolensk and Moscow. They have advanced hundreds of miles; but the Nazi progress seems to have been merely a bold thrust forward of one of their armoured columns and it does not seem to have disorganized the Russian front. On the contrary, the Nazis seem to have been heavily counter-attacked and punished; and the Russian communique reports that fierce fighting is in progress with enemy infantry units attempting to link up with advanced tank columns and that the Russian forces have so far held up the enemy's basic forces inflicting heavy losses on them.

Another larger and heavier thrust towards Moscow, aiming at more decisive results, will almost certainly be made by the Germans—probably by powerful blows delivered by reserves with lightning rapidity against the Russian flanks. This is the real significance of the battle in the Minsk sector, where thousands of tanks are taking part, and of the intensive fighting in the Lwow district.

NAZIS' FANTASTIC CLAIMS

The Russian troops have so far fought well but their bombing of towns behind the German lines does not seem to have been on a scale heavy enough to produce big results. Bombing to be effective on land targets must be heavy and sustained. There is, however, no reason to take at its face value the official German communique which, after being put off repeatedly, was issued a week after the commencement of the operations. That communique claimed the destruction of over 4,000 Russian planes for the loss of 150 German; and of 2,233 Russian tanks. It also announced the capture of 40,000 prisoners. The communique added: "Surface and submarine forces of the German Navy carried out a number of operations against the Soviet Navy. In the East Baltic, a Soviet destroyer was sunk by a mine and the cruiser Maxim Gorky was severly damaged. A German submarine destroyed two Soviet submarines. German motor torpedo boats sank two destroyers, a torpedo boat and a submarine. The attempt of two Soviet destroyers to attack Constanza was frustrated by coastal batteries. After a short bombardment, one of them exploded and the other made off at top-speed. For a corrective, we must read the Soviet communiques which say that, in addition to naval losses in the Gulf of Riga and the Baltic and Black Seas, the Germans have lost hundreds of planes and thousands of tanks.

M. Stalin, Russian Prime Minister, who broadcast to his people, was in the circumstances justified in taking an optimistic view of the war situation. He admitted that despite the heroic resistance of the Russian Army and the destruction of the enemy's best forces, the latter continued to push forward, but he predicted that Hitler's Army would be beaten. M. Stalin stated that the enemy had occupied Lithuania, the greater part of Latvia, the western part of White Russia and part of Western Ukraine. M. Stalin declared that Hitler's army will be beaten like Napoleon's. He said that the question before the Soviet was whether it was to be enslaved by Fascists and everything must be subordinate to the interests of the front and the task of crushing the enemy. "We must produce more guns, rifles, machine-guns, shells and mobilise all means of transport. This is a Fatherland war, also a war for the liberation of all peoples enslaved by Germany." In this war of liberation, we shall not be alone," said M. Stalin. "In this great war, we shall have faithful allies in the peoples of Europe and America, including the German people themselves, oppressed by Hitler's satraps. Our war for the freedom of our Fatherland is merged into the struggle of the peoples of Europe and America for their independent freedom. It is a United Front of the peoples who stand for freedom against the threat of enslavement by Hitler's Fascist armies. This is the meaning of the historic *speech of* the British Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, about aid to the Soviet Union and of the declaration of the Government of the United States concerning their readiness to give assistance to our country." "Comrades, our forces are united. The arrogant enemy will soon have to realise this," declared M. Stalin. "The Red Army represents workers, collective farmers and the intelligentsia, rising to fight the invader. Let us rise in millions of our working people. The workers of Moscow and Leningrad have already begun energetically to create a national army to support the Red Army. Every nation which is threatened with invasion must create such a national army and must raise all workers in order that they should defend with their bodies their freedom, their honour and their country in the national war against German Fascism." Announcing the creation of the State Committee of Defence, M. Stalin said that the entire power of the State had been concentrated in its hands. "It has already begun to function," he concluded, "and appeals to the whole people to organise itself round the party of Lenin and Stalin and round the Soviet Government in order to support with self-denial the Red Army and Navy and in order to annihilate the enemy for our victory."

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 4)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 24th June 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in Western European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 18	Nil.	....
June 19	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 20	Nil.	....
June 21	(1 day bomber down in Spain).	2 day bombers. 4 night bombers.
June 22	Nil.	....
June 23	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 24	Nil.	1 day bomber. 4 night bombers.

OUTSTANDING SAYINGS OF 1940

THE NAVY IS HERE

You remember that? After many weeks' wanderings in the prison ship *Altmark* the merchant sailors, locked between decks, heard the British blujackets board the German ship in Josing Fjord on a day in February.

It had been a quiet winter on the Western Front on land: but not so quiet at sea. It was in April that Captain Warburton Lee off the Norwegian coast with his destroyer *Flotilla*, decided to attack an uncertain number of ships in Narvik Fjord. The decision had been left to him. "Going into action," he replied. And when he fell on the bridge of the *Hardy* mortally wounded, this was the order he gave his ships:

"CONTINUE TO ATTACK THE ENEMY"

You remember the story of that battle.

The land fighting in the West began on May 10 with savage violence. In five days Holland surrendered. The temper of the war had changed.

"*What bombs I've left I'am going to drop on the Germans at Waalhaven: Goodbye; boys, you won't see me again*'."

That was one of the Dutch pilots in those first few days; one individual saying to his friends what he thought about it.

And here is another voice speaking to all men and women of his race: '*I have nothing to offer but blodo toil, tears and sweat.*"

It was on May 13, that Mr. Churchill made his first speech to the House of Commons as Prime Minister.

The battle developed with appalling swiftness.

'INCREDIBLE MISTAKES'

That was M. Reynaud on May 21, telling the French Chamber the truth. Arras and Amiens had fallen; the army was falling back before a new concept of war; King Leopold capitulated on May 28.

In this terrible panorama of defeat, there flashed unendingly the aircraft of the Royal Air Force, before whom the exploits of the Crusaders and the Knights of the Round Table '*fell back into a past not only distant but prosaic*'—Mr. Churchill again.

One word ends this chapter. It is '*Dunkirk.*'

"*We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills, we shall never surrender and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this island, or a large part of it was subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the Seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle . . .*"

That is how the next chapter began.

'THIS WAS THEIR FINEST HOUR'

All the winter before, the Royal Air Force had been visiting Germany, but without bombs. Now bombing began. In March we had given Sylt a hard blow for the attack at Scapa. In July the air battle over these coasts began, slowly increasing in fury to the mass attacks of September, which our pilots and gunners destroyed with unequalled audacity.

'*Never, in the field of human conflict, was so much owed by so many to so few.*'

And the many acknowledged their debt; mostly silent, few in words as memorable as the Prime Minister's. But here and there the phrases were the mirror to his resolution. Not long ago, a bomb fell into a gas holder. It didn't explode. Two men went up to patch the hole, twenty-one inches across. The man who told the story finished it with these words:

'*I went off duty, But Dick went on top of the gas holder, like he always does, and stayed.*"

Or do you remember the little boy with his cousin in the West country shelter which was hit by a bomb in one of the first big raids:

"*I clung to him and the bombs were dropping, and I said to my cousin 'Be quiet and we'll be all right'", and we fell to the ground and kept there until it was silent.*"

Little said, much meant.

"*I intend to act offensively in the Ionian Sea, and to seek engagement with the enemy.*"

That was how Admiral Cunningham announced the brilliant attack at Taranto. Everyone has echoed in word or deed the phrase of Aeschylus which General Metaxas quoted:

". . . and now the battle is all."

And here are a few words in which that mood was described to the United States:

"*If you back us you will not be backing a quitter.*"

That was said by Lord Lothian shortly before his death.

And it recalls to us again May 13, 1940, and the voice in the House of Commons: "*You ask what is our aim. I can answer in one word—it is victory. Victory at all costs, victory in spite of terrors, victory however long and hard the road may be. For without victory there is no survival*—The Listener.

THE NAZIS AND RUSSIA

The following are additions to the anthology published in the previous issue:—

HITLERISM—PRE-WAR MODEL

"Germany is the bulwark of the West against Bolshevism."
Hitler's speech in Berlin, 29th November 1935.

"If I had the Urals, if we possessed Siberia, if we had the Ukraine, National Socialist Germany would be swimming in surplus prosperity."
Hitler's Speech in Nuremberg, 1936.

"Germany is a guarantor of peace because she warns all those who from Moscow endeavour to set the world in flames."
Hitler's Speech in Nuremberg, 10th September 1937.

THE MOSCOW PACT
23rd August 1939

"It had always gone badly with Germany and Russia as long as they were enemies. This is perhaps one of the most significant turning-points in the history of two peoples."
Ribbentrop on the Russo-German Non-Aggression Pact, 24th August 1939.

"The conclusion of the Russo-German non-aggression pact shows that all the assumptions as to German aims in the direction of the Urals, the Ukraine, Rumania and so on are only an abortion of the morbid imagination of the worried advocates of world freedom."
Hitler's Reichstag Speech, 6th October 1939.

"In the course of an examination of the real interests of both Empires it was seen that the differences which had separated Germany and Russia—for the first time in several hundred years—could be overcome with good will on both sides, and could in no way be the cause of a warlike development, out of which only a busybody third party—i.e., the Anglo-Saxon plutocracy—could win any advantage."
Voelkischer Beobachter, 4th October 1939.

"The Pact of Non-Aggression with Russia was one of the four major successes of 1939. The efforts of the plutocratic statesmen of the West to induce Germany and Russia to bleed each other for the benefit of third parties were thereby nipped in the bud. That this political development could be so successful is due exclusively to the internal reformation of Germany by National Socialism."
Hitler's New Year Message to the German people, 31st December 1939.

THREE LITTLE COMPLIMENTS

"I unite herewith by best wishes for your personal well-being and a happy future for the nations of our friends, the Soviet Union."
Hitler's birthday telegram to Stalin, 21st December 1939.

"The war must be carried on by absolutely Russian Bolshevist methods. . . The wartime economic reconstruction is really a Communist kind of organization, and the word chosen by Hitler to describe it—*Volksgemenschaft*—is the German translation of Communism. . . From the stand-point of Communist doctrine the war is really a revolutionary war."

Dr. Ley, Nazi Labour Front Leader, at a meeting of the Labour Front in Berlin, reported 7th November 1939.

"Never will Germany and Russia slaughter each other for the sake of Britain. . . This agreement, which settles for all time the relations between the two biggest European peoples, is of fundamental historical significance."

Voelkischer Beobachter, 25th September 1939.

RUSSIA IN THE BALTIC

"Germany has settled her own relations with Moscow with 100 per cent clarity, and it is now for the Baltic States to try to arrange their relations with Russia by themselves. Germany has no wish to be involved in their affairs."

"*Authoritative circles*" *in Berlin, 18th October* 1939.

"Understanding is shown for the Soviet need of a secure outlet to the Baltic. The Soviet is here pursuing a necessity which has determined her policy since Peter the Great."

German News Agency, 29th November 1939.

"It is only a small price to pay, in the struggle to break the hegemony of Britain, that the great Russian Empire shall receive access to the ice-free ports in such countries as belong to Russia's sphere of influence."

Danziger Vorposten, 23rd January 1940.

"Russia has never asked Germany for support of any kind against Finland, and Germany has never given any kind of military support to Russia in the Russo-Finnish conflict."

Official statement issued, 6th February 1940.

"Russia has taken the position in Europe which is to-day her due."

National Zeitung, on the Russo-Finnish Treaty, 13th March 1940.

BALKAN PURRINGS AND STIRRINGS

"The work of the mixed central commission (on new frontiers of Bessarabia and Bukovina) and its sub-commissions has been completed in ten months in a very friendly atmosphere."

German broadcast, 13th December 1940.

" Germany cannot share the Soviet view that the march into Bulgaria brings Bulgaria within the war zone."

Official at the Wilhelmstrasse, referring to the Moscow broadcast, 4th March 1941.

COLLABORATION MARCHES ON

" Germany and Russia have returned to their old, natural economic alliance."

Official communiqué on the signature of Russo-German economic agreement, 12th February 1940.

" We have known ever since August 1939 that the relationship between our two states is one of co-operation and friendship. To prove this fact it has not been necessary to conduct a vast propaganda campaign. . . The proofs of co-operation between Germany and Russia exist in a very tangible form."

Lord Haw-Haw, 13th November 1940.

" Both the German and Russian nations realize the importance and even the necessity of the very friendly relations between the two countries, and the Government of the Reich regards M. Molotov, who has just arrived in Berlin, as one of the statesmen who have been instrumental in achieving co-operation between the two countries, a co-operation which is in line with the experience acquired by both countries in the course of their history.

" Germany and Russia have embarked on a policy which takes into account the vital interests of the other party and eliminates every possibility of friction arising between them. Their policy is based on co-operation, and both countries are certain that it serves the interests of their prosperity and security. That attitude is fundamental and not merely a matter of temporary adaptation."

Deutsches Diplomatisches Politisches Correspondenz, 13th November 1940.

" The British propagandists, by inventing strange stories, try to prove that trade relations between Germany and Russia are strained. We want to inform you that the trade pact concluded in 1940 between the two countries entailed larger trade between them than in any year since the last war. Waggons loaded with cereals and raw materials come day and night from Russia to Germany where the goods are distributed among many different cities, while Germany is continually sending large quantities of finished goods to Russia. Nowadays trade talks are taking place between Germany and Russia at Moscow. 1941–42 will see greater expansion of trade between the two countries through this new pact."

German broadcast, 3rd January 1941.

NEW ECONOMIC AGREEMENT

" The negotiations were conducted in the spirit of the friendly relations existing between the two countries. All economic questions, including those arising out of Russia's acquisition of new territories, were solved in such a manner as to serve best the interests of both parties."

German broadcast, 11th January 1941.

THE SORROWS OF HITLER

" After grave sorrows and many months of silence, I am at last in a position to speak openly. . . . The consequences of the German-Russian treaty of friendship have been terribly harsh. . . .

" Russia's share in Poland bore no relation to the achievements of German arms. . . Having got part of Poland Russia demanded Lithuania, and I complied in the interests of peace. . . After the end of the Polish campaign I offered peace to the Western Powers but this was refused. . . . .

" Russian operations against Finland and the Baltic States could only have been aimed at Germany. In the Spring of 1940 Germany withdrew her forces more and more from the eastern frontier, but Russia continued concentrating troops, thus threatening Germany. . . . ."

" Germany again yielded when Russia demanded Bessarabia, and the Rumanian Government said it could bear the responsibility only if Germany and Italy would give a guarantee for the rest of the State. . . . After M. Molotov's visit to Berlin the Soviet began to undermine the Rumanian State, and was responsible with Britain for the *coup d'etat* which removed the pro-German Government set up in Yugoslavia. Germany has definite proof that the Soviet promised to send armies, aeroplanes and munitions to Yugoslavia for use against Germany. . . .

BACK TO 'MEIN KAMPF.'

" Bolshevism is opposed to National Socialism, in deadly enmity. Bolshevist Moscow desired to stab National Socialist Germany in the back while she was engaged in a struggle for existence. Germany has no intention of remaining inactive in the face of this grave threat to her eastern frontier. I have therefore ordered the German forces to oppose this menace with all the might at their disposal.

" In the coming struggle the German people are fully aware that they are called upon not only to defend their native land but also to save the entire civilized world from the deadly danger of Bolshevism and to clear the way for true social progress in Europe."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Supreme somersault

The reasons which Hitler gave to the world on Sunday for his unprovoked attack on Russia demolish at one stroke the whole of Nazi propaganda throughout the past 22 months. They also constitute the greatest confession of diplomatic defeat which any statesman has ever made publicly.

On August 24, 1939, Hitler's bagman, von Ribbentrop, described his new pact with the Soviet as " one of the most significant turning-points in the history of the two peoples," and immediately the whole force of Geobbels' propaganda-machine was diverted to the task of persuading the world (and particularly the German people) that the Russo-German pact was a triumph of astute and realistic diplomacy.

Now, 22 months later, Hitler tearfully admits that the consequences of this diplomatic triumph have been " terribly harsh " and have caused him months of " grave yet silent sorrow "!

Russia as friend and foe

Not even Hitler would dare to make such a confession in public, unless he cared nothing at all for public opinion and still less for truth—unless, in fact, his now dishonoured pact with Russia were simply a shoddy political device whereby he had hoped to keep Britain and France from going to war with him over his Polish aggression.

This is what Hitler said about Russia to Hermann Rauschnigg in the spring of 1934 (quoted from Rauschnigg's " Hitler Speaks "): " There is more that binds us to Bolshevism than separates us from it. . . Perhaps I shall not be able to avoid an alliance with Russia. I shall keep that as my trump card. Perhaps it will be the decisive gamble of my life. . . . But it will never stop me from as firmly retracing my steps and attacking Russia when my aims in the west have been achieved. . . ."

His trump card having failed, Hitler has indeed retraced his steps and attacked Russia —not, however, because his aim in the west (i.e., the defeat of Britain) has been achieved, but because it hasn't.

Britain's " illusory hopes "

Meanwhile, what did Hitler say about his Russian alliance while it was still in being? In his speech to the Reichstag on July 19, 1940, he told that sorry collection of hand-picked yesmen:

" Among the hopes of English statesmen is a belief in a possible new alienation between Germany and Russia. Germano-Russian relations have been finally settled and any hopes that a new Germano-Russian tension may intervene is infantile. British hopes of relieving pressure on herself by bringing about a new European crisis are illusory as far as Germany and Russia are concerned."

Seldom has any national leader had to eat his own words so soon after they were uttered. Even the slow-witted German people will realize that this new " European crisis ", this new " alienation between Germany and Russia," has been forced upon their Fuehrer by Britain's tremendous resistance, by her smashing defeat of the *Luftwaffe* last autumn, by her refusal to be cowed by indiscriminate bombing, by her ever-growing ability to meet and fight Hitler wherever he goes and whatever he does. Hitler has had to attack Russia in the hope of getting the wherewithal to carry on that long war which is now the hideous reality confronting this tyrant, who had pinned his hopes on an unbroken succession of *blitzkriegs*.

Hitler's " indictment " of Russia

No one will take very seriously the list of grievances which Hitler's proclamation trots out against the Soviet, but some of his remarks are so flagrant as to be self-contradictory. He asserts, for instance, that Russia's war against Finland was in reality directed against Germany—whereas, throughout that campaign, the Nazi press and radio were busily explaining that Russia was really attacking Britain through Finland, while Hitler himself went so far as to hold up in Germany a consignment of planes (30 in number) which the still neutral Italians tried to send to the help of Finland.

Hitler's allegation of a secret understanding between Britain and Russia has already (June 22) been rebutted by responsible circles in London, who point out that British relations with Russia have long been extremely difficult, owing to the Soviet Government's strict adherence to the letter and spirit of its 1939 pact with Germany.

Fair Words prelude to treachery

In view of what has now happened, the following remarks from German sources during the last few months are not without interest:

" We have known ever since August 1939 that our relationship with Russia is one of

co-operation and friendship. To prove this fact it has not been necessary to conduct a vast propaganda campaign."

Lord Haw-Haw, Nov. 13, 1940.

"Germany and Russia have embarked on a policy which takes into account the vital interests of the other party and eliminates every possibility of friction. . . That attitude is fundamental and not merely a matter of temporary adaptation."

Nazi radio, Nov. 13, 1940.

All economic questions, including those arising out of Russia's acquisition of new territories, have been solved in such a manner as to serve best the interests of both parties."

Nazi radio, Jan. 11, 1941.

Germans with retentive memories will not have forgotten those and similar declarations. Most clearly of all, however, will they remember these words of their own Fuehrer, written in *Mein Kampf* long before the war began: "The fact of (Germany's) forming an alliance with Russia would be the signal for a new war. And the result of that war would be the end of Germany." The first part of that forecast has already come true.

Neutral ships sunk by mine

On June 17, Berlin reported damage to a Swedish vessel which struck a mine off Singapore, and added self-righteously that this was the fourth case of ships having become victims of "callously-laid mines."

The British Admiralty always announces, immediately the mine-fields are laid, areas that are dangerous to shipping. Ships entering those waters without asking for British naval escort do so at their own risk. There is nothing callous about this procedure, particularly when it is contrasted with the German practice of sowing mines at random. Furthermore, the Royal Navy has a contraband control system for searching neutral ships; the Germans sink them on sight.

No better example of the indiscriminate action of U-boat Commanders could be found than the fact that, before Italy entered the war, 50,000 tons of Italian and Japanese shipping was sunk by German torpedoes!

A German admission

In their comments on the fighting in the Sollum Sector, the Germans, in the hope of snatching glory from a local operation, spoke on June 20, of "the vastly superior enemy."

No reliable information as to the relative size of the forces engaged has been published anywhere, but this German statement is an admission that British tenacity and British sea and air power have prevented their assembling at vital points in the Middle Eastern Theatre of the overwhelming numbers on which the German High Command has always relied for success.

Raid on Alexandria

In their English broadcast of June 19 the Nazis claim that during the night of June 17–18 the German bombers made a successful attack on military objectives in the harbour of Alexandria.

Actually, according to an Egyptian Ministry *communiqué*, the alert lasted about an hour and a half. One casualty occurred and the damage done was very slight. This result was achieved by what the Germans term their bombs of the heaviest calibre.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Shipping Losses for May

Though the Nazis never publish their own shipping losses, their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 18 ascribed the British delay in publishing losses for May to Britain's "steadily weakening" shipping position. Berlin also hinted that Britain wanted to conceal her true position and was taking all this time in order so to present the shipping figures as to cause the public least uneasiness. The real reason for delay, however, was that the list was not complete, and the actual publication on June 20 of shipping losses for May, which amount to 461,328 tons, proves that the British Government is not afraid of telling its people the truth.

It must also be remembered that Britain's method in making claims as well as admitting losses is entirely different from Germany's. Dr. Goebbels' radio had, for instance, claimed to have sunk the *Ark Royal* so long ago as September 7, 1939—whereas, despite the Nazi radio, the ship is afloat and took part in the destruction of the *Bismark*. Seen in this light it is not at all surprising that the Germans claimed to have sunk in March, 950,000 tons against an actual 505.750; in April, 1,218,000 tons against an actual 581,251; and in May, 805,460 tons against an actual 461,328 tons.

Turko-German Pact

On June 19 all the German broadcasts in Asiatic languages went out of their way to depict the signing of the Turko-German Pact as a defeat for Britain.

Actually, though for months past Germany had brought the maximum amount of pressure to bear on Turkey, the Turks have not only

preserved their present state of non-involvement in the war, but have shown their determination to remain faithful to the Anglo-Turkish treaty of alliance. It is characteristic, however, of Dr. Goebbels' propaganda methods that the various German broadcasts entirely ignore the significance of M. Sarajoglu's important statement that Turkey's actual and existing obligations remain unaffected.

Untruths about Iraq

The Nazis' Hindustani radio broadcast on June 16 an impressive but entirely untrue report of continued fighting between British and Iraqi forces, as well as vague allusions to " atrocities " committed in Baghdad by " the British and the Jews."

Under the armistice terms, Iraqi troops have returned to their peace-time stations and the disorders which resulted from Rashid Ali's withdrawal of the police have now ceased. Jamil Madfai's Ministry has succeeded in re-establishing peace and order throughout the country, and conditions are normal everywhere.

In order to establish the myth of British interference in Iraqi administration, the Nazis' Arabic broadcast of June 16 spread the baseless story that Jamil Madfai had been appointed the Iraqi Minister in Egypt and through him the British High Command sent orders to the Government in Baghdad. Jamil Madfai is the Prime Minister of Iraq.

Britain's brunt

On June 18 Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts circulated their favourite and baseless lie that the British always cast their Dominions into the fire of war and themselves stay out of it.

Nothing would answer this calumny better than the British Prime Minister's statement on June 10 that of the 90,000 lives hitherto lost in this war, at home and abroad, at least 85,000 come from Great Britain. Furthermore, there have been, in fact, in 1941 almost as many British as there are Australian and New Zealand troops engaged in all operations in the Western Desert, in Greece and Crete.

Their " brotherly " attitude

In their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 15 the Nazis state that, instead of avenging herself on France, Germany adopted a brotherly attitude towards her.

Germany's " brotherly attitude " towards France has so far meant that every 9½ weeks the Nazis are extorting from France (even after their recent " concessions ") as much as all the Allied armies of occupation cost the Rhineland in 12 years. Besides this, the German intention to incorporate the nine departments of North and North-Eastern France has been revealed by a document captured by the Free French Headquarters in London.

Freedom of the seas

Trying to contrast the Germans' ' brotherly ' attitude towards France with Britain's ' oppression ', the Nazi radio (in Hindustani and Persian) sanctimoniously announced on June 17 that Britain was talking of the " freedom of the seas " in order to be able to blockade France. Even though Britain is a staunch upholder of this doctrine, it was President Roosevelt who referred to it in his recent speech and remarked " All freedom—meaning freedom to live and not freedom to conquer and subjugate other peoples—depends on the freedom of the seas."

Of course the Nazis would not like any British or American reference to this doctrine because for them freedom of the seas means freedom to torpedo neutral vessels. This has been exemplified by their sinking of the Egyptian *Zam Zam* and the American *Robin Moor*.

Uniforms for troops

The Nazi radio, while chattering about the so-styled strikes in the Indian textile factories, stated on June 17 that the British Government have even to face difficulties in getting uniforms for their troops.

That these difficulties are a product of the Nazi imagination is proved by the fact that in Madras alone the production of army clothing exceeded the figure of one million garments last month.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

4th July.—The Royal Air Force bombed Bremen and raided Essen where the Krupps works were set on fire.

Sixteen Nazi fighters were destroyed in operations over Northern France.

5th July.—The enemy naval bases of Brest and L'Orient were heavily attacked by Royal Air Force bombers.

Three German planes were destroyed during small-scale raids over Britain.

6th July.—Three German bombers were shot down over England. Bombs were dropped in the Midlands and South Wales but there was no great damage.

The German industrial town of Magdeburg, only 80 miles from Berlin, was severely damaged in a Royal Air Force raid. Many enemy vessels were sunk in the North Sea.

7th July.—The Royal Air Force in their sweep over Northern France attacked aircraft works and shot down seven enemy fighters.

Six ships in an enemy convoy were bombed by British aircraft.

8th July.—The German News Agency admitted heavy damage by the Royal Air Force in Western Germany; Belgium, France and Holland were also raided.

Five Nazi planes were shot down when the German air force raided Southampton.

9th July.—The Royal Air Force in their offensive over Germany, attacked the town and railway yards of Hamm, dropped explosives and incendiary bombs over Munster, damaged communications in the industrial town of Bielfeld and raided an important synthetic oil plant at Leuna. The harbour at Haugesund was also bombed as also Bethune and the naval base at Wilhelmshaven.

Thirteen enemy planes were destroyed during these operations.

Five Nazi planes were shot down when they raided the Midlands.

10th July.—The Royal Air Force raided the German industrial towns of Aachen, Osnabruck, Bielfeld and Munster. Lille was bombed (twice) as also Ostend. Six enemy ships, totalling 20,000 tons, were bombed and sunk at Cherbourg and Le Havre.

Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4th July.—General Gazzera, Chief of the Italian forces in the province of Galla Sidamo, surrendered to the British forces in Abyssinia.

5th July.—General Wavell revealed to press correspondents that the defences of the Middle East were in " a pretty satisfatcory state ".

6th July.—It was announced that a British submarine sank an Italian cruiser (10,000 tons) in the Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force made heavy raids on the enemy's Libyan bases of Derna and Benghazi.

Nine more Italian Generals surrendered in Abyssinia, along with 5,000 soldiers.

7th July.—Only slight damage was caused when enemy planes raided Malta and Alexandria.

The Royal Air Force made a particularly successful attack on Palermo in the island of Sicily when a number of enemy ships were set on fire.

8th July.—Planes of the British Fleet Air Arm sank a German submarine off Gibraltar. The Royal Air Force bombed Tripoli.

A large contingent of South African troops reached North Africa for active service.

10th July.—The Italian High Command admitted raids by British aircraft on Syracuse and Naples. Italian float-planes were destroyed.

The Italian Government announced that the Italian casualties for the last 13 months were 235,360.

The Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi Derna and Gazzala.

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AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

4th July.—"I tell the American people solemnly that the United States will never survive as a happy and prosperous oasis of liberty in the midst of a desert of dictatorships" said President Roosevelt in his Independence Day broadcast to the nation.

All Canadian exports were ordered to be placed under control so as to send as much aid to Britain as possible.

5th July.—General Marshall, Chief of the United States Army Staff, announced that United States overseas garrisons had been more than doubled so as to keep American defences in readiness.

6th July.—Hostilities broke out between Ecuador and Peru owing to a frontier dispute.

7th July.—The United States Navy Department asked for a further appropriation of 585 million dollars to augment its ship-building programme.

President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, announced that American troops had taken over Iceland from the British forces. He said that the United States had no intention at all of interfering with the sovereignty of Iceland.

General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, stated that American man-power might be needed in bringing the war to a rapid and decisive conclusion.

8th July.—Mr. Roosevelt stated at a Press Conference there would be no hemispheric boundary on United States defence operations. All U.S. Air Corps reserve officers were ordered to active duty.

Chile offered to mediate in the Peru-Ecuador dispute.

9th July.—Mr. Winston Churchill declared in the House of Commons that the military occupation of Iceland by the United States was of first-rate political and strategic importance.

It was stated that President Roosevelt would shortly ask Congress for an additional appropriation for Defence and Lease and Lend operations.

Mr. Wendell Willkie urged the establishment of United States military bases in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The United States, Argentina and Brazil asked Peru and Ecuador to establish a "No Man's Land" between their armies in order to facilitate negotiations.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt received the Soviet Ambassador, M. Oumansky, who gave the President "Good news" about the Russo-German war.

The Premier of Northern Ireland expressed willingness to afford facilities for the construction of United States bases in Ireland.

Mr. Roosevelt asked Congress for a further appropriation of 4,770 million dollars for the War Department.

RUSSIA

4th July.—Stiff resistance was offered to Nazi advance in the Dvinsk, Bobruisk, Roono and Tornopol sectors. A Berlin communique stated that the Germans were driving towards Kiev and that the "Stalin Line" was being approached.

5th July.—A German High Command communique announced that Germans had reached the river Dnieper and that Kolomea and Stanisla were captured.

In the "Battle of the Rivers", the Russians claimed to hold the Beresina.

6th July.—According to a German communique, 5,000 Soviet lorries were destroyed and some islands on the outskirts of Russian defensive positions round Hangoe were occupied by Finnish troops.

Counter-attacks by the Red Army, with guerillas active in the rear, held up the main Nazi advance.

7th July.—Two German destroyers were sunk in the Gulf of Riga and a German submarine was destroyed in the Gulf of Finland.

Russian troops repelled German attacks with heavy losses in the Ostrov, Lepel, and Novograd-Volynsk sectors. German land attacks definitely slowed down and the Germans were hurled back across Dvina River.

8th July.—A Soviet Military Mission arrived in London.

M. Litvinov, former Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs, broadcasting to Britain, declared that Hitler should not have a moment's respite.

Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, said that plans for aid to the Soviet were proceeding rapidly and effectively.

While the German Radio claimed to have broken the Stalin Line at several points, the Russians reported the destruction of at least 7,000 German troops and the capture of 15,000 in one engagement when German tanks were allowed to advance seven miles and then isolated and destroyed.

The German paper *Angriff* reported that the Russians had destroyed Minsk before evacuating it, thus carrying out M. Stalin's directions to leave only "scorched earth" behind.

9th July.—The Red Army inflicted a big defeat on the German mechanised forces in the Lepel sector. It was reported that two German motorised regiments were destroyed, that 102 German planes were destroyed against the loss of 10 Soviet planes, and, that the Russians still held the German drive directed at Kiev. Soviet bombers raided Helsinki.

The Germans claimed the occupation of Besserabia.

M. Stalin received the British Ambassador, Sir Stafford Cripps. The Russian military mission in London was received by Mr. Eden and Captain Margesson.

10th July.—The Russians wiped out a German motorised division in the Lepel sector; the Soviet Air Force destroyed 100 German tanks; the Russians inflicted a serious defeat on the Germans in the Borisov sector; enemy attacks in the Novogrod-Volynsk sector were halted; the Russian Air Force bombed the Rumanian port of Constanza; and Russian parachutists were dropped in the outskirts of Helsinki.

The German High Command announced the capture of Salla on the Finnish front.

The Russian military mission in London was received by Mr. A. V. Alexander and Sir Archibald Sinclair.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

4th July.—In Syria Indian troops occupied Deir ez Zor.

5th July.—Aircraft of the Imperial Air Forces attacked Vichy aerodromes, shipping and other military targets and severely damaged them.

In Syria the Allies crossed Damour River and occupied Rhariff between Damascus and the coast.

6th July.—The Allies closed in on Beirut, Vichy's key-port on the Lebanese coast.

The British and Free French forces captured the strategic village of El Boum.

8th July.—While the vital battle for Beirut was about to commence, the British forces continued to advance from Deir ez Zor towards Homs.

The Turkish Government protested to Britain with regard to the Vichy vessel Saint Didier, which was attacked and sunk by British aircraft while abusing Turkish territorial waters and flying the Turkish flag. The vessel carried reinforcements and arms to Syria.

9th July.—General Dentz, French High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in Syria, sued for armistice.

The Imperial forces occupied Damour in Syria.

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that the defence of Iraq would be transferred to the Indian Command under General Wavell.

10th July.—British Imperial troops occupied Beirut after an ultimatum broadcast by General Wilson had expired. In the north-east Indian troops reached Kamechli adjoining the Istanbul-Bagdad railway.

The Italian News Agency reported that the Vichy Government had decided to reject the British terms for an armistice.

SHIPPING

7th July.—Britain recognized the transfer of Danish ships to a neutral flag, following conversations between British and American authorities in Washington. The British Government gratefully recognized that the use to which these ships were to be put would contribute directly to the war effort of the Democracies.

10th July.—It was announced that over 105,000 tons of enemy shipping were gravely damaged by British forces in the week ending July 7. At least 40,000 tons were sunk.

The Chief of the U.S. Naval Bureau of Ships said that America would be producing a hundred destroyers a year by 1943.

FAR EAST

4th July.—The Chinese Foreign Office notified the German News Agency in Chungking of the cancellation of their Press privileges; China had already broken off diplomatic relations with the Axis powers.

The western outskirts of Chungking were bombed by Japanese planes.

7th July.—Japanese naval planes raided Chungking and other points along the Yangtze.

8th July.—A scroll, carrying a message of appreciation of Mr. Churchill from 100,000 Chinese, was handed over in Shanghai for transmission to London.

The destruction of the British Embassy at Chungking was completed by raiding Japanese bombers.

10th July.—Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador in London, stated that China was determined to continue her struggle against Japan; her army was to-day larger, better equipped and more efficient in dealing with the Japanese.

VICHY

5th July.—The Vichy Cabinet met under the presidency of Marshal Petain to examine the report presented by M. Benoit Mechin, the Vichy envoy in Ankara.

Admiral Darlan announced measures to be taken to suppress communist activities.

9th July.—A message to the **Independent** French News Agency stated that the French Government were determined to carry out peace negotiations with Germany. Under the proposed Axis terms, added the message, Germany might get Alsace Lorraine, and certain Channel and North Sea ports, giving parts of Belgium to France.

10th July.—General de Gaulle, the Free French leader, arrived in Brazzaville, in French Congo.

General de Larminat, Commanding the Free French in Syria, was condemned to death (*in absentia*) at Vichy and all his property ordered to be confiscated.

The Vichy Government protested to the British Government against the sinking of the French ship Saint Didier off the Turkish coast.

A Vichy armed merchant ship of 6,000 tons and a trawler were interned in a Turkish port while fleeing from Beirut with troops and armaments.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

6th July.—On account of sustained opposition, the Nazis dissolved many Dutch organizations, including Roman Catholic and other religious parties.

A Bucharest despatch to the Vichy News Agency revealed Rumania's designs on areas in the Ukraine and her claim to *Lebensraum*.

8th July.—M. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador in London, and Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier, were engaged in conversations aimed at restoring friendly relations between Russia and Poland.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt in a message to the President of the Polish Government in London expressed confidence that the Poles would regain their liberty as a result of their heroic struggle and sacrifice.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

8th July.—It was revealed that the international wireless installation at Tangier had been taken over by the Spanish Government.

All military leave was cancelled in Mexico "in view of the present emergency in the world situation, particularly the Americas."

10th July.—The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in a reply to a question in the Commons stated that the Spanish Government had apologized for their recent attack on the British Embassy at Madrid and the persons responsible had been appropriately punished.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 1st July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 25, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on **Hazebrouck** (railway yards, ammunition train, bridges) and Longuenesse aerodrome, near St. Omer. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; docks at **Bremen**. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on invasion base at Boulogne.	5 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 1 night bomber.	13 day fighters.
June 26, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; industrial objectives at **Cologne**, **Dusseldorf** and elsewhere in the Rhineland; aerodromes in occupied territory.	3 day fighters. 2 night bombers.	9 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
June 27, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on **Lille** (steel and engineering works); aerodromes at Guines and elsewhere; troops and gunposts; shipping (3,000-ton merchantman sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen** (factories and docks); Vulcan submarine and shipbuilding yards at **Vegesack**; docks at Emden, Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven and Oldenburg; invasion bases at Den Helder and Dunkirk. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on invasion base at Calais.	9 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 12 night bombers.	8 day fighters (including 3 destroyed on ground).
June 28, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Comines power station, near Lille. R.A.F. night bomber attacks on naval and merchant shipping off Dutch coast (merchantman on fire).	3 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 1 day bomber.	5 day fighters.
June 29, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks, shipyards and factories at **Hamburg** and **Bremen**; docks at Bremerhaven and Emden; invasion base at Den Helder.	11 night bombers.	..
June 30, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on docks at Bremen; railway yards at Oldenburg; naval base at Kiel; seaplane base at Sylt; docks and radio station on Terschelling Island (patrol-ship sunk); convoy off Norderney Island (2 merchantmen, 6,000 and 3,000 tons, believed sunk). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Pont-a-Vendin power station, near Lens. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Duisburg-Ruhrort, Dusseldorf**, **Cologne** and elsewhere in the Ruhr and Rhineland.	3 day bombers 1 day fighter (losses, if any, in night raids have not been announced)	7 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
July 1, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps (no opposition). R.A.F. day bomber raid on Oldenburg (railway yards, canal, barges); seaplane base on Borkum Island. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*) and Cherbourg. R.A.F. night fighter attack on aerodrome in N. France.	3 day bombers. 2 night bombers.	3 day fighters.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The Russo-German war continues with unabated vigour and ferocity. After the initial gains the German advance appears to have been checked at various points. M. Stalin's instructions as to destruction of everything of value to the Germans before Russians retired is being scrupulously followed. Many big battles have been fougnt and many more are in prospect. Stubborn resistance and counter-attacks are being daily reported.

In Syria, Deir ez Zor and Damour have been captured by Indian troops. Deir ez Zor is on the Euphrates, 120 miles to the north-east of Palmyra. Beirut is being surrounded. An Allied column has also occupied without opposition post No. 4 on the Mosul oil pipeline which is one-third on the way to Homs. There is a report that Beirut has been captured.

Owing to the pressure of the local population and British successes and especially as Vichy is unable to send reinforcements, General Dentz has been compelled to ask for armistice. There is a prospect of the Syrian campaign ending soon, in which as Mr. Churchill said, 1,000 to 1,500 British, Australian and Indian soldiers have been killed or wounded by French bullets.

A feature of the Abyssinian campaign in the week is the surrender of General Gazzera in Galla Sidamo. Numerous prisoners and much booty have fallen into Allied hands. There is still an Italian garrison at Gondar which is being hemmed in and small batches of Italian soldiers have dispersed into the wild country south-west of Assab.

It is announced that Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador in Washington, will soon return to Britain to report to the British Government about his mission. There may be no special significance in this; it will be remembered that Ambassador Winant recently went to Washington to report to his Government.

Striking naval successes have been announced. Four enemy patrol vessels were destroyed and another probably sunk and three damaged by British bombers in the North Sea. An Italian cruiser was sunk by a British submarine in the Mediterranean. The cruiser had a displacement of 10,000 tons and a complement of 700. In addition, three supply ships were torpedoed and sunk while an armed merchant cruiser of 9,000 tons hit by a torpedo was left in a crippled condition. In the channel 20,000 tons of enemy shipping is reported to have been damaged by R.A.F. probably destroyed.

A remarkable event was the announcement made in Washington that United States naval forces have arrived in Iceland. President Roosevelt in a special message to the Congress said that these forces will supplement the British forces which will remain there. President Roosevelt told Congress that a German occupation of Iceland would constitute a serious threat in three ways: "A threat against Greenland and the northern portion of the American continent, including the island lying off it, a threat against all shipping in the Atlantic, and a threat against the steady flow of munitions to Britain which is a matter of broad policy clearly approved by Congress." The occupation has been received with great satisfaction and relief in America and in England.

Eight conditions were stipulated by the Iceland Prime Minister, M. Jonasson before this step was taken and the United States has accepted them. They involve the withdrawal of these forces after the war, the recognition by the United States of America of the absolute independence and sovereignty of Iceland and the ensuring of the absolute safety of the inhabitants by efficient organization and defence, etc. Some newspapers say that this occupation was an insurance against a sudden attack on the United States while others incline to the view that it was a long step towards 'shooting,' i.e., involvement of the United States in the war. There is demand that similar action should be taken by the occupation of certain strategic places on the Western coast of Africa which are likely to be used by Germany in the Battle of the Atlantic, e.g. The Azores, Dakar, etc. Germany is perturbed and angry; the American occupation is described as offering provocation to Nazis. Mr. Churchill has welcomed it as a forestalling action designed to secure the safe arrival of American help in Great Britain.

GENERAL WAVELL AND GENERAL AUCHINLECK

A remarkable statement has been made by General Sir Claude Auchinleck, the new Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East. He declared that there would be need for American man-power in this war in 12, 14 or 24 months. As regards the German aims, the General said that Germans would try to push through to the Caucasus from where they would make for Baku, the aim being to compel Britain to draft large forces from India and the Middle East. Perhaps Turkey also would be forced into doing what Germany wanted. He also said that an opportunity may recur for the Middle East being used as a jumping off place to obtain a foothold in the Balkans and he thought that the people of the Balkans would not think of sitting down for years under the present conditions of life, imposed by Germany. While on this subject, it may be useful to indicate the general considerations and background for the appointment of Sir Archibald Wavell as Commander-in-Chief in India and of Sir Claude Auchinleck to the Middle East. The defences of India require a good deal of co-ordination. It is very significant that the defence of Iraq will be transferred to the Indian Command and will be the responsibility of General Wavell. General Wavell has won the admiration and gratitude of the whole world. He has shouldered many heavy burdens and responsibilities. He led five different campaigns in widely-spread areas and under varying conditions. India will of course benefit by his vast experience and great qualities. He is known to have first-hand experience of Russia and a command of the Russian language, somewhat rare among the British Generals. He has also made an intense study of supply problems in the Middle East. As for General Auchinleck, his organizing capacity and sympathy with Indian views has won him great appreciation in India and it may well be expected that his presence in the immediate fighting front would be crowned with success.

TWO NOTABLE STATEMENTS

Two remarkable utterances were made in the week. The first was by President Roosevelt in which he said that there was not only need for unity but there was need for speed, efficiency, toil and an end to backbiting and sabotage. "The pledge to our country and our flag" he added, involved "our work, our will and if it be necessary, our lives." Turning to isolationists, he said, "It is indeed a fallacy based on no logic for any Americans to suggest that the rule of force can defeat human freedom in all other parts of the world and allow it to survive in the United States alone; but it has been that child-like fantasy, that misdirected faith, which has led nation after nation to go about its peaceful tasks relying on the thought, even the promise, that it and its life and its Government would be allowed to live when the Juggernaut of force rolls on." "We cannot in these days," he added "save freedom with pitchforks and muskets."

The other speech was by Mr. Eden. He declared, "We are not in any circumstances prepared to negotiate with Hitler at any time on any subject." He further pointed out: "We shall intensify our war effort until Hitler and all he stands for is utterly destroyed. There is no room on the earth's surface for Hitler's way of life and ours." Turning to the new order, Mr. Eden pointed out, "A dual task confronts us—to win the war and win the peace. We seek no material gain. We claim neither territory nor prize. We have but one aim—to break the power of the tyrant Hitler so that nations may be free to build a saner and happier world in security and peace. To this end we dedicate our work and our lives. If we have courage and faith we shall not fail."

INDIAN SOLDIERS GAIN FRESH LAURELS

The Allied troops continue to register satisfactory progress in Syria. Following the surrender of the Vichy garrison at Palmyra, Indian troops proceeded to occupy Deir ez Zor, on the Euphrates, 120 miles to the north-east of Palmyra. These Indian soldiers had entered Syria from the Iraqi frontier at Kemal. Both Palmyra and Deir ez Zor provide bases for operations directed towards the chief cities of North Syria, Homs, Ham and Aleppo. Indian troops have already captured Demir Kapous near the Istanbul-Baghdad railway and mechanized troops are advancing towards Homs. In the south, Australian troops crossed river Damour and entered Beirut, chief port of the Lebanon. They were helped a great deal by bombardment of coastal defences by the British Navy. That the Syrian population is wholly behind the Allied cause is evident in the reports of numerous risings in Beirut before it was occupied and of sabotage behind the enemy lines; for instance, a fully loaded ammunition train blew up when it struck a land-mine between Beirut and Rayak. And the Royal Air Force, besides concentrating its bombs on military targets in Beirut, sees to it that no reinforcements reach Syria from Vichy. A Vichy vessel, Saint Didier, carrying reinforcements and arms to Beirut, was abusing Turkish territorial waters and flying the Turkish flag when it was attacked and sunk by British aircraft.

GENERAL DENTZ SUES FOR ARMISTICE.

There was, therefore, little surprise when General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, sued for armistice. The British made known their terms. These have not been officially announced but it is understood they consist of ten points; the more important of them are: Britain has no territorial designs on Syria or Lebanon but merely wants to ensure that these will not be used

by the enemy as land or sea bases; the French interests will be safeguarded by the Free French within the framework of independence guaranteed to Syria by Britain; the Vichy forces to hand over intact all munitions, guns, planes, equipment and warships and to guarantee that there will be no further damage to the means of communications; all Vichy troops to be given the option of declaring for General De Gaulle or of being repatriated; Syria to be part of the sterling bloc; all German and Italian representatives to be handed over to the British (the Italian Armistice Commission left Syria on Thursday); warships to be left in harbours to be kept up by the British who will be responsible for them. An Italian report states that Vichy has rejected these terms but it is difficult to see how they can hope to carry on the fight against the Allies. In any case, the Allied operations are going on relentlessly. Beirut has been occupied after an ultimatum from General Sir Maitland Wilson, calling for peaceful surrender of the town in order to avoid needless bloodshed, had expired.

ABYSSINIA IS NO MORE ITALIAN

Italian resistance throughout Mussolini's East African Empire is virtually at an end with the surrender of the Italian forces in Galle Sidamo. A British communiqué, announcing this, said: "General Gazzera, the Supreme Commander of the remaining Italian forces in Abyssinia, has surrendered together with all the Italian forces operating in the province of Galla Sidamo. Except for the Italian garrison at Gondar, which is now hemmed in by Empire and Patriot forces and a small column which has dispersed into the wild country south-west of Assab, Italian resistance in Eritrea, Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland has now been brought to a successful close.

General Gazzera, whose act puts the seal on the top of the lightning British campaign, is a former Italian War Minister. He is 62. His surrender was followed by that of nine more Italian Generals; and 5,000 prisoners were captured. The Libyan front has been quiet but the Royal Air Force has continued its systematic raids on Derna, Benghazi and Tripoli and also bombed Palermo in Sicily. A British submarine has sunk an Italian cruiser (10,000 tons) in the Mediterranean. These British successes are especially noteworthy when seen against the little damage that enemy aircraft have been able to inflict on Malta, Alexandria or Cyprus and they are an insurance against large-scale enemy reinforcements and supplies reaching Africa. On the other hand a very large contingent of South African troops has now reached North Africa for active service and will fight side by side with the British Army of the Nile. The special War Cabinet delegate, Captain Oliver Lyttelton, has taken up his headquarters in Cairo and he has confirmed General Wavell's statement that the Allies' military position in the Middle East is satisfactory. One of the most encouraging features of the situation is the regular arrival of ships in the Red Sea, bringing American supplies.

THE OBJECTIVES OF GERMANY

If any one act of Germany has made the existing war into a world conflict, it is the attack on Russia. Hitler's ambition for world domination should be secured at lightning speed or he would suffer a catastrophe. His object in attacking Russia must have been conceived many months ago. For, he had been trying to isolate Russia by diplomatic action in the same way as he has done in respect of other countries. The conclusion of the German-Turkish Pact, following the subordination of Hungary and Rumania which secured him the right flank, was the culminating act of this plan. The conquest of the Balkan Peninsula, the seizure of the whole Aegean archipelago between Europe and Asia and then Crete, made Russia weak and enabled Germany to get a stranglehold over Turkey. Of course the Turks are British friends, but they are obviously no longer free agents. Not only has Russia been isolated but the Germans have been tightening their grip over Finland in the north and exploiting Ukrainian nationalism.

Many things have been said about the objectives of Germany in attacking Russia. The economic reasons are obvious. Hitler wants the Baku oil, the minerals and the wheat of Ukraine. The 29,000,000 tons of petroleum a year which Baku and Grozny can produce will greatly help the Nazis and the fertile fields of Kuban Ukraine will nearly make up for Germany's food deficit. Hitler is now pretty sure that the war is going to be one of long duration and the control of these resources will enable him to hold out very much longer than he would otherwise be able to do.

A manifesto has been issued by the Germans to the Russian people in which it is said that the object of the invasion of Russia is 'to restore religious freedom.' What significance can be attached to this statement cannot be in doubt after the way in which the Nazis have closed the Russian Theological Faculty in Paris and attacked religion in occupied countries by the arrests of the clergy, suppression of religious institutions and the imprisonment and even killing of those loyal to their faith. The cry of a crusade against Bolshevism has also no meaning, because Hitler did not scruple to embrace Bolshevism in 1939 when it suited his purpose. This argument has now been advanced in order to make Britain and America deceive themselves as to Germany's real objective, but this game has been seen through. It has also been said that another reason for the German attack on Russia is domestic. There is considerable discontent in Germany and there is evidence that Hitler has lost the confidence of many people.

But the real objective is political and military. He hopes to strike hard and strike quickly, thus paralysing the nerve centre of the Soviet Union and bringing about widespread disorganization. It should not have been difficult for Hitler to secure the economic gains by the familiar process of negotiation under extreme military pressure. Instead of following that procedure, Hitler has ulanned and launched a gigantic offensive without giving the victim the option of paying a fine. Why has he done so? This is because he has found that Great Britain could not be expelled from the Middle East and the Mediterranean as a preliminary to launching an attack on Britain itself and further he found that Anglo-American co-operation was taking a shape much to his dislike and that the Red Sea had been cleared for the flow of American supplies so that ultimately there was a prospect of Great Britain gaining superiority in equipment in the East as well as in the West. Therefore Hitler decided that he should attack Russia first and then the British Empire. He has, it is said, 225 complete divisions with 14 armoured divisions and with the aid of his air force he can strike west against Britain or south through Iran and Iraq to the Suez and India. Russia, defeated and humbled, could be broken up into several units with puppet governments and Hitler would gain slave labour and the products of the Russian wheat lands, forests, mines and oil-fields.

SNAGS IN THE WAY

Of course there are snags in the way. Germany is encountering numerous difficulties in occupied countries and the conquest of Russia would only add to such difficulties—such as maintenance of huge armies of occupation. It is obvious that there can be no lasting peace under such war-time conditions. Again Russia is not such a defenceless country as one may imagine. In trained and semi-trained man power Russia is superior. It does not lack in equipment, though arrangements in regard to maintenance and repair may not be up-to-date. The Russian soldier is not a defeatist, especially in the defence of his homeland. Russian tanks and aeroplanes may not come up to German standards but they are numerous. The mili- recently, "It was the Russian soldier that had efficient as the German is however vast and formidable, having its supply bases far away from the western front. Further, the broad gauge railways in Russia may not be of much use to the Germans unless they capture large quantities of Russian rolling stock. Of course, wishful thinking is harmful. If the Russian General Staff can produce inspired leadership and if the industries and communications are maintained in efficient condition, the Russian armies cannot be easily put out. The Five Year Plans have given Russia her own technicians and the gap between men and officers has been bridged and her distances, morasses and her climate might render Hitler's plans ineffective. As Sir Bernard Pares has stated recently "It was the Russian soldier that had more imagination, initiative and resource; he could fight in open order, he won all bayonet attacks hands down, he has all the tricks of partisan warfare and the German is an enemy whom he meets with the greatest resentment." The strength of the Soviet fleet is impressive, though its efficiency is not known. The submarine strength is not to be despised.

TASK OF THE NON-AXIS WORLD

Very much indeed depends upon the attitude of the non-Axis world towards this crisis. There is a real threat both to the cause of Democracies and civilization in general. The attitude of America apart from that of a few isolationists is entirely favourable to Russia. Neither the German cry against Bolshevism nor any feeling of complacency resulting from Germany having to meet enemies both in the east and in the west, has disturbed American determination to rush help to Great Britain. There is a widespread feeling that the war, as has been stated recently, is, was and has always been Hitler's war and that, as the real objective is the crushing of Hitlerism, help should be provided to all those who are up against Nazism. America has, of course, a great chance to strike a blow by rushing all available resources to Great Britain. It may be that such a grand plan as Hitler has placed before himself has never been successfully accomplished in the past. That is no guarantee that it cannot be attained to-day. What must be prevented at any cost and at any sacrifice is the establishment of Hitler in a position of dominant power. It would be difficult to challenge that domination once it is obtained. The non-Axis nations are alive to the danger and what is necessary is that they should galvanise themselves into a concerted and unprecedented effort in time.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

INVADERS SUSTAIN HUGE LOSSES

It is now becoming clear that Hitler is not having his own way in Russia. After a fortnight's operations on a vast front, the Russians are fighting as well as ever. True, they have lost territory—mostly not belonging to Russia proper, but annexed since the start of the present war in 1939—but the Germans, as they attack the ' Stalin Line ' of the main Russian defences, are running into more trouble. The Russians have launched successful counter-offensives in various sectors and American wireless commentators take an optimistic view of their prospects. Mr. Martin Agronsky of the (American) National Broadcasting Corporation says that the German High Command have given up hopes of the quick victory which they expected at the start of the campaign.

An indication of the slowing down of the Nazi advance is given by their latest communiques, which are not so free with claims and promises as those of last week. And many of the latter have now been proved to be false. For instance, the German claim to have captured the Arctic port of Murmansk and thus cut off a valuable supply-route has been contradicted by the Germans themselves who are now content to announce that they carried out a bombing attack on that port. Nor has the railway to the south been cut as they gleefully announced. And their claim that thousands of Russian soldiers have deserted after shooting their Political Commissars does not bear scrutiny in view of the fact that the Russian Government abolished the post of Political Commissars in the army some months ago.

GERMAN ADVANCE

This is not to minimize the gravity of the situation facing the Soviet High Command. But they have kept a cool head in face of the initial successes won by the Germans. And these successes are disquieting enough. Along with the Hungarians and the Rumanians, the Germans have made progress in the Galician and Bessarabian sectors and claim the occupation of the whole of Bessarabia, even if they and the Finns have gained no successes south of the Karelian Isthumus. In fact, on the northern front, the only success the Germans claim now is the capture of the fortified position of Salla. A Hungarian communique claims that the Dneister has been crossed at some points while Cernauti, the most important town in Bukovina, the former Rumanian province, has fallen to the invaders though only after the retreating Russians had set on fire and destroyed everything likely to be of use to the enemy. And the Nazi column east of Minsk is attempting a new pincer movement similar to that which sought to encircle the Soviet troops in the Bialystock area. The northern claw of the pincers is probing the Lepel area on the upper reaches of the Beresina and the southern claw is thursting through the Bobruisk region near Minsk. The point at which the pincers would close if the manoeuvre was successful is Smolensk. German pressure on both the points is extremely violent, but so far it appears that only light German elements have crossed the Beresina river. Smolensk has just been subjected to severe bombing from the air but the " Battle of the Rivers " is still being fought stubbornly and the Germans are as far from Moscow as ever, this lending point to the sly hit of M. Lozovsky, Chief of the Russian Information Board, that the difference between Hitler and Napoleon is that while the latter at least reached Moscow, Hitler must content himself with a photograph of the Russian capital.

It is beyond doubt that the German advance has slackened and there are three possible reasons—the successful Russian guerilla tactics in the ' occupied ' territory, the necessity to overhaul German tanks after the strenuous struggles of the last few days and the uselessness of German rolling stock on the wider Russian tracks. The Official German News Agency, announcing that the spearhead of the German advance has reached the Stalin Line on a wide front, admits that " operations are entering a new phase and violent fighting is to be expected." The ' Stalin Line ' says the Agency cannot be compared with the Maginot Line, but it seems to have been constructed so as to derive the utmost benefit from the terrain which is favourable for defence. There are also fresh field fortifications constructed since the beginning of the war and while Russian troops are retiring to these positions, reserves have been brought up from the hinterland.

RUSSIAN COUNTER-ATTACKS.

The fight for the Stalin Line will dominate the picture in next week's fighting.

Meanwhile, the Red Army has counter-attacked at many points. Thousands of German dead, with the wreckage of shattered Nazi tanks and crippled aircraft, litter the banks of Dvina River in White Russia after one of the fiercest battles yet fought on the Eastern Front. In a big Soviet counter-attack, the Germans were hurled back across the river which they had managed to force near Polotsk, some 120 miles north-east of Minsk. " The greater part of the attacking enemy troops found their grave at the bottom of the river " is the grim sentence with which the Soviet communiqué concludes its account of the battle. The counter-attack was one of the three smashing blows delivered by the Russians last week-end, one in the north against German forces aiming at Leningrad and two further south against the main prongs of the German pincer drive along Napoleon's road to Moscow. In the other two sectors Russians say heavy fighting is still going on. The Nazi High Command, reverting to the reticence that marked its communiques during the first week of Hitler's campaign against Russia, gives no details of the latest fighting. It merely claims that " operations against the so-called Stalin Line are being continued according to plan." The Germans, indeed, announced once that they had broken through the Stalin Line but the Russians immediately countered this claim with the statement that, after allowing German tanks to advance seven miles, they closed in on the latter and destroyed them. A Russian communiqué of July 9, states that Russian forces with " short sharp blows " inflicted heavy losses on the Germans in the Polodsk sector. In the Lepel region two German motorised regiments and four heavy artillery batteries were wiped out. A German retreat westwards of the Lepel region is announced in the Russian communiqué. The Russian communiqué continues that, having left hundreds of dead on battlefield, the enemy retreated in a westerly direction. The Russians fought non-stop German tank and motorised troops in the direction of Novograd Volynsk and checked the advance to the east. The Russian Air Force hammered German motorised and mechanised units and aerodromes day and night. One hundred and two German aircraft were destroyed in combat and on the ground. And a communiqué announced the next day that the Russians disposed of another German motorised division in the Lepel area, inflicted a severe defeat on the enemy in the Borisov sector and halted all German attacks in the Novograd Volynsk region. The Soviet Air Force destroyed 100 German tanks, bombed the Rumanian port of Constanza and landed parachutists in the outskirts of Helsinki. As against this, the Germans, in their latest communiqué, make the rather tall-claim that " with the conclusion of the double battle at Bialystok and Minsk, they captured over 3,23,000 prisoners and the greatest amount of war material in the world's history." Earlier, the German paper *Angriff* had petulantly complained that the Russians, true to M. Stalin's directions to leave only " scorched earth " behind, had completely burnt Minsk before evacuating it and that the German soldiers, on entering the town, were greeted only by smouldering ruins and hidden snipers.

SOVIET STRATEGY.

Every plane, gun and modern device, every man, who can be concentrated to ensure rapidity of destruction are being thrown in the struggle energetically and ruthlessly by the Nazi General Staff. Fortunately for Russia and her Allies, the Russian military doctrine is also based on total war. It is now evident that Russian preparations have been on a great scale and they have not failed to note that the efficiency of planes, tanks and artillery are not in themselves sufficient to ensure victory against great masses. The Russians are now bringing up their own masses of well-equipped troops into action. Moreover, it is also apparent that they recognise that the modern idea of " defence in depth " does not mean merely a number of fortified posts and forts, scattered in however deep a belt, and purely static and defensive action. On the contrary, the offensive of to-day—the break-through by powerful motorized columns, followed by large numbers who will then develop encirclements—can only be met by the use of equally powerfull and large masses in reserve who will come forward and assume the offensive against the enemy's advanced forces. So in the end you come to a decision being sought and gained in an encounter where offensive spirit, employing strong forces of artillery, tanks and planes, is the guide to victory. These principles the Russians seem to be putting into resolute action.

M. Lozovsky states that the Russian Government have no intention of allowing the Germans breathing-space. He points out that the front is not a straight line but a wide zigzag in which mobile forces are operating. Whenever a German unit stops, it is immediately counter-attacked and, as likely as not, destroyed. This high Soviet official claims that the Russians, in twelve days, inflicted 700,000 casualties on the Germans and destroyed 1,500 German planes and 2,500 tanks. To these must be added the German naval units destroyed in the Baltic and Black Seas. A German submarine struck a mine in the Gulf of Finland and was destroyed early this week and two German destroyers were sunk in the Gulf of Riga by the Soviet Navy. Now that all the members of the British Military Mission have reached Moscow, it may be confidently expected that the co-ordination of Russian and British efforts will see the Germans suffer more and more losses.

THEN AND NOW

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

The following comparison between the war situation last year and that in the present, prepared by a close and diligent observer, will be read with interest.

Lord Salisbury once said that the Russian danger to the North-West frontier was greatly mitigated by a study of large scale maps. In the same way a large scale view of time will greatly help in putting the present situation into proper perspective. Those who, comparing the week of victory at the end of March with the events of April, feel anxious or depressed, should adopt this method. They should survey the political and military field with long-range binoculars rather than magnifying glasses if they would know the true state of the campaign. You cannot see a landscape through a microscope.

This comprehensive view is exactly what Mr. Churchill has given us in his great broadcast of April 27, 1941. Without denying or belittling a single unfavourable factor, he has shown the world that there are no grounds for complacency, good grounds for hope and every ground for confidence in ultimate victory.

What are the tests which can be applied to our positions and prospects? The following may be suggested :—

Actual strength.—The actual strength and positions of the forces engaged. Existing strength suggests the likely result of a short or immediate battle.

Reserves.—A country which has accumulated reserves of material is obviously better off than a country with an even larger front line but an inadequate replacement reserve. Reserves determine the length of time during which a battle can be sustained. The Polish, the Dutch and the Yugoslav air forces were destroyed because they had no such reserves. Once their original fighter strength was exhausted in a heroic struggle against enormous odds, their lands and cities were a helpless prey to a foe who is never so ruthless and ferocious as when he meets no opposition.

Productive Capacity.—This means the the power to produce and so, by replenishing or enlarging the reserves, to maintain or increase the front line strength. In modern conditions this is mainly a question of industrial plant with, as a necessary corollary, access to raw materials.

Spirit or Morale.—The will behind the machines is still a fundamental factor in modern war as in all other previous conflicts. The essential conditions of its operation are also still the same. One common mistake is to imagine that morale can triumph over every obstacle; another that morale is no longer a factor to be reckoned with, that war is now only an arithmetical exercise in adding up each side's tanks, guns, ships and planes and conceding victory to the larger number. The truth lies between these two extremes. Actually, morale is the duplication or division of the war materials available. Their potency is decreased or increased according to its quality.

THE DECISIVE FACTOR

Other things being equal, morale is always the decisive factor in war.—Other things not being equal (and they very rarely are), morale is still often the decisive factor, but a point may be reached when the inequality of materials may be so great that the noblest and staunchest spirit must struggle in vain.

All history, past and contemporary, confirms this. The phalanx and the disciplined valour of the Greeks gave Alexander the Great the victory over the far larger, well-equipped but disunited Persians of Darius. The French under Gambetta in 1870 struggled magnificiently against the Prussian army of Bismark and Moltke, but the loss of their regular army at Sedan and Metz was too great a handicap, and they were robbed of Alsace and Lorraine. The Abyssinians in 1935 fought heroically against Mussolini's tinsel army, but their obsolete muskets could do nothing against armoured cars, aircraft and poison gas.

Nelson at Trafalgar annihilated a more numerous and heavier fleet because the spirit of his fleet was superior. In this war the Poles were overwhelmed by a superior weight of metal, but the winter campaign, in Libya and Abyssinia, as well as the naval campaign in the Mediterranean, have shown that inferior forces with superior spirit can still triumph to-day as much as at Salamis and Marathon, when the disparity of strength is not too great.

Man-power.—In the war of 1914 man-power was a decisive factor as it has been ever since the French revolutionaries introduced conscription and mass armies. To-day it is so no longer. The development of air forces, armoured warfare on land and technical improvements at sea, are leading the world back to an era of specialization. In the 19th century the fundamental unit of land warfare was the man with a rifle. In general, the side with most disciplined riflemen won. To-day a million men with rifles are useless against an armoured division.

We are moving back to the days of the professional armies of the 18th century, when each unit required years of training and quantities of treasure to produce it. In the 16th century artillery was the talisman of victory; it gave Babur victory over Ibrahim, and the empire of India at Panipet. In the Middle Ages the knight-in-armour corresponded to the armoured division—expensive, difficult to produce and so few in number, but irresistable against almost any number of bowmen or swordsmen.

For this reason there is no reason to be dismayed by the superior number of the German hordes. When France fell many people thought that superior numbers must overwhelm the stoutest hearted and largest possible British force. Time has shown that this was not so. Time did not work a miracle but merely demonstrated that man-power, pure and simple, is no longer the decisive factor in war that it has been for the past 150 years.

With these considerations in mind, it is possible to weigh the situation as it was a year ago, last April, again as it existed in July 1940, and as it exists to-day.

APRIL 1940—THE DREAM

At the beginning of April 1940, the Allies presented an apparently serried front to a single handed Germany. France, the world believed, had the best army in the world and a fine navy. Britain had the greatest fleet in the world and a fine army. Both powers had air forces with great traditions and though they were not equal in number to the German Luftwaffe, it was believed that they were at least its equal in quality and that both were increasing in number. Behind these forces lay vast productive capacities, not yet organised to the full and behind them again loomed the mighty industrial machine of America and the enthusiastic support of the Dominions with resources and population vastly greater than those of 20 years ago. Germany had overthrown Poland, but she faced the Maginot Line in the west, her submarine campaign had failed signally at sea, and her failure to raid Britain on a large scale was thought to be a sign of weakness in the air. This imposing facade deceived even Mr. Chamberlain who talked of Hitler missing the bus, when in fact he was just stepping out to board it.

MAY 1940—THE TRUTH

In the one brief month of April, 1940, all this vision vanished like a mirage and all informed people knew that the truth was far otherwise. In May disaster descended on the Allies, disaster which was only in part redeemed by the heroism of Dunkirk. What in fact was the truth? In two out of the four tests suggested it was clear that the Allies were inferior, in one, and that the most important, the position was doubtful, and only in one could it still be said the Allies held the advantage.

Actual strength.—Those eight weeks made it clear that the Germans were unquestionably superior in actual strength. They had more men, they had a great preponderance in armoured vehicles and they were strikingly superior in quantity in the air. They had produced a new heavy tank against which the existing anti-tank weapons were useless and they had developed a new technique of armoured warfare which differed almost as much from the tactics of the last war as canons and muskets differed from bows and arrows. Only at sea were they inferior, and the sea did not seem to be a decisive factor in the war at that time. The blockade was a weapon of slow strangulation and would avail nothing against a knock-out blow delivered by armoured might.

In *reserves* the Germans were equally superior. Throughout the winter, these events revealed, they had been producing war material to their full industrial capacity, unhindered by air action. The British war machine on the other hand was still only in low gear and the machine itself was not yet complete. British air strength was "accruing" and so was the gap between the Royal Air Force and Luftwaffe's numbers. The Meuse showed that the French had no reserves; Dunkirk that the British had none either.

In the vital matter of *morale* in which the Allies believed that they enjoyed an unquestioned superiority, a "rottenness in the state of Denmark" was revealed by the events of May. The neutrals Norway, Belgium, and Holland were wormeaten by fifth columnists, whose first incarnation and permanent name is Quisling. King Leopold's surrender was even more of a moral shock than a material loss. The collapse on the Meuse had shown that the white ants of defeatism were also at work in France and well informed people knew that the Lavals and Bonnets of Paris would soon break through the thin crust of patriotism and resistance which concealed their termite activities. Only Britain stood firm with a unity which grew closer with every blow and a resolution which braced itself more firmly to each new disaster. But Britain, as Mr. Churchill said, was only half or a quarter armed, and after Dunkirk her land forces had no arms at all for a while.

Production.—In the single item of *productive capacity* could the Allies still claim superiority, and this was only in *potential* capacity when the resources of Britain, the Dominions and America would be fully organised. But this would take months if not years. Never did the old proverb seem more true that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." At the end of May 1940 the situation was known to be very serious by the general public, grave by the army leaders and almost desperate by the leaders of the country.

The American Barometer.—The American public's reactions form a valuable barometer of the Allied prestige and prospects. Cynical of British policy after Munich, America welcomed Britain's stand after Prague and was encouraging in the autumn of that year. Winter inaction brought indifference and complaints of a "phoney war", the May defeats

brought contempt which, though mitigated by admiration for the heroism of Dunkirk, settled down into a conviction that the Allies had lost the war.

JULY 1940—A SEA OF TROUBLES

Time marches on two months. It is mid-July 1940. The picture is even more gloomy on the surface.

France had collapsed, amidst an exhibition of inefficiency, Quislingism, and contempt for obligations which eclipsed all neutral records. Not the body only but the soul also of France seemed to be rotten; and the country's leaders seemed ready, out of sheer senile decay or for the sake of keep, to stab in the back her tried friend of 40 years.

Italy had heard as she thought the cry of the tiger about to kill, and had started on her jackal's march in the hope of picking up some discarded morsels of the carcase.

Only *Britain* still stood firm, inspired by such leadership and fortified by such resolution as has never been surpassed even in her rough island story. But what were her resources? Her armies were deprived of their materials at Dunkirk, and even the bravest men armed with scythes and shot guns cannot stand against overwhelming material force. The Channel was exposed throughout its length, a condition under which it was always assumed in the last war that Britain could not continue fighting. Her sea routes and approaches were laid open by the defection of France. Her influence in the Danube basin had vanished. Her secret enemies rejoiced.

The French Fleet had been handed over to the Germans and the saving grace of Oran had been twisted by Laval and his minions into a treacherous attack on her old ally. Her commerce lay open to attack by air and sea from the French and Norwegian coasts, by Italian as well as German submarines, and largely unprotected owing to the lack of escort vessels. Her air force was intact and confident but heavily outnumbered. The Dominions were staunch but distant, America admiring but pessimistic. Britain lay hourly expecting the promised aerial attack and invasion, and apart from the Royal Air Force had little but stout hearts with which to oppose it.

SUNSET GLORY?

To the outward observer Britain's position could hardly appear worse. It looked as though the words of Queen Victoria "One day England will be too late" were about to come true, and that Britain would go down, in a blaze of defiant glory indeed, but still down to the bourn of lost causes and forgotten empires.

The question was whether the magnificent spirit of the people, working to capacity and the limit of human endurance, could prevail against the overwhelming material force of the enemy? Could they hold out long enough for this potential superiority of production to become actual? Above all, could they last out the summer against the promised and hitherto irresistible Nazi blitz? The spirit of the people had already written an imperishable page in the battlescarred history of Britain, but would that page be the last? A new Pitt had arisen in Churchill, the pilot had braved the storm but could he weather it? Drake's drum was beating in the Channel; England was in deadly peril.

MAY 1941—BRITAIN AWAKES

Time marches on to May 1941. To anyone who remembers the position a year ago, to anyone acquainted with the then odds against Britain, the transformation which appears is little short of miraculous. The "island set in a silver sea" still stands, her fleet still rules the sea, her ships still bring her food and war materials. Her spirit is still undaunted, her people as resolute as before. Her cities are battered, her national monuments despoiled, her airmen and sailors are tried to the limit but they hold on. Her people, bombed out of house and home, are at work as hard and more grimly than before.

Britain strikes.—All this is true, but it is only half the truth. Britain not only stands, she has hit back. Since Goering's defeat in the Battle of Britain, Britain has ruled the daylight air over Britain and has passed on to the offensive over the enemy coast as well. The Army of the East and the Fleet have dealt such blows at Italy that the new Roman Empire has become, in a few weeks, a despised appanage of the German Reich. Abyssinia has received back its Emperor after five years of exile, the first of the exiles, as Mr. Churchill significantly remarked, but not the last to return. The royal Duke of Aosta, in his turn, has gone into exile. Japan prepared to despoil Britain in the east but has thought better of it and is visibly hesitating.

THE BAROMETER RISING

Above all the American barometer has been steadily rising. Admiration mixed with pessimism changed during the Battle of Britain to admiration tinged with hope. *Willingness* to send supplies to Britain at a price has changed to a *determination* to send supplies without stint or limit and without requital till the end of the war. From an attitude of "all help which is paid for," America has passed first to "all help short of war," and now to "all help and war too if that is necessary".

Americans who thought 18 months ago that Britain was nearly as rotten as France, and last summer that her sun was grandly setting in a blood-red glow, have discovered (like Mark Twain in the Alps) that they were really

beholding a rising sun on the following morning. "Britain" said the President in words which rang round the world, "wants ships, planes and tanks. She shall have ships, planes and tanks."

American help is to be total help.

The landmarks of this change-over of American opinion were Wendell Willkie's adoption as Republican Presidential candidate last July, President Roosevelt's re-election in November, the passing of the Lease and Lend Act in March and the exetnsion of the Patrol system at the beginning of May.

BALKAN CLOUDS

This is not the whole of the picture, it is true. Against the collapse of Italy, the liberation of Abyssinia and the rising tide of American help and sentiment must be placed the German penetration of the Balkans, the overwhelming of Yugoslavia and Greece, the revolt in Iraq and the loss of Cyrenaica and Crete. But was not the fact of Greek resistance to Italy last October a proof of the rising confidence of the world in the outcome of Britain's resistance "contra mundum"? Was not the Yugoslav *coup d'etat* proof that after nearly a year's experience of the New Order in Europe a brave people preferred almost certain temporary destruction to submission to its dictator? Has not the Greek campaign itself shown that on the British side a spirit moves which does not only prize material advantages, which does not only weigh physical considerations but looks beyond to the "imponderables" of honour and justice?

HITLER'S WITNESS.

The changed state of affairs has no truer witness than Hitler, who renders this service in spite of himself. In his new year message, Hitler promised victory to Germany before Christmas this year. On February 24, he threatened Britain with such an Atlantic attack as she had never imagined. Springtime was coming, he said, and he always felt good, as the Americans say, in spring. There was a little flaw in this speech, because he backed up his remarks with the spurious claim that 215,000 tons had been sunk in the previous 48 hours. Late in March, Dr. Goebbels was saying that Germany was morally bound to end the war this year. But time marches by Hitler too in spite of his necromancing and self-hypnotism. On May 4, he could only comfort his hearers by telling them they would have better weapons *next year*. The Golden Age for which the Germans have toiled for eight years, was postponed once more. Instead, they were to work much harder than ever, for longer than ever, for less than ever. Could any better proof be desired of the change in Britain's position in the last twelve months?

THE TEST REVIEWED.

The test already suggested may now be applied to Britain's present position.

Actual strength—The Sea.—Britain is relatively much stronger at sea than she was in July 1940, thanks to her huge shipbuilding programme, America's 50 destroyers handed over last September, and many lighter vessels transferred since. Britain has replaced her merchant shipping losses so far by neutral and allied accretions as well as by fresh construction. From next year she is assured of a great flow of American shipping, and in the interval is being helped by two million tons of American shipping which is releasing British ships in areas outside the combat zones.

Land.—On land, the German army is still superior both in numbers and armoured strength. But Britain's armoured strength has already proved sufficient to cause the indefinite postponement of invasion and to overthrow Italy. Man for man and tank for tank the British have been proved superior. Britain now produces as many tanks per month as she possessed altogether in January 1940. Tanks (unlike submarines and aircraft) can be mass produced and American war production is just beginning.

Air.—The Royal Air Force is now approaching parity with the Luftwaffe. American estimates give Britain a production of 1,500 planes per month, against German production of 1,500 to 2,000. In April, 414 American planes were handed over to Britain, as well as 35 to the Dutch East Indies. Total American production for May is expected to reach 1,600, double the figure of December last. By July, it is expected to be 1,800. Thus the gap is almost closed. It will soon begin to yawn on the wrong side for Germany. In the first half of May, Britain's bomb loads released on Germany were, for the first time in the war, heavier than the German loads on Britain. Night-fighters, by bringing down 130 German bombers in the first half of May, have begun to deal with the night bombing menace and so far Germany has achieved no similar success against British bombers.

Reserves.—Lord Beaverbrook stated recently that the Royal Air Force has a 100 per cent reserve of aircraft in underground dromes behind its front line. Military reserves of trained men are steadily accumulating. The Home Guard, twelve months ago an affair of sportsmen in plus fours with shot guns and golf clubs and of city men protected by bowlers and armed with walking sticks and umbrellas, is now a disciplined fighting force. Reserves of armoured materials are pouring from factories now in full production. Naval reserves have always existed and have never been depleted.

Productive Capacity.—Britain is now approaching her peak production. Germany achieved it last year since when, if anything,

it has declined an account of well directed air raids. German anxiety to increase production is revealed by her efforts to exploit French industrial capacity when she ought, according to the principles of the New Order, to be reducing France to the status of an agricultural supply tract for Germany, and above all, by Hitler's exhortation to his hard-pressed helots.

Behind Britain stand the *Dominions and India* who are now producing every variety of war material from small arms to tanks, aircraft, merchantmen and destroyers.

Behind the British Empire looms *America* whose production, just now getting into its stride, will not reach its peak until 1943. The flow of American material, last year but a trickle, is already substantial,. and by next year will be a flood.

Behind the Maginot Line of factories lies the impalpable force of the *Blockade*. Germany is cut off from rubber, is short of oil, and gravely deficient in copper. " Oil, rubber and copper," said Lord Halifax recently " are three trump cards in the hands of the Allies."

Spirit or Morale.—In this vital matter three is no doubt of the enormous change in twelve months. It is German morale which is now in question. Who would have dared to prophesy a year ago that within 12 months, Hess, the third man in the Nazi hierarchy, would fly from his leader and friend of 20 years standing, in terror of his life? In the famous words of Pitt after Trafalgar, " Britain has saved herself by her exertions, and will save Europe by her examples ". All the 14 countries with whose blood the hands of Hitler are stained have taken fresh courage and derived fresh hope from the British stand. Not one of them, from Norway to Greece, has settled down under the German jackboot.

The British and Greek spirit has extorted the admiration of the civilized world, which nowhere has found more eloquent expression than in America. After nine months of relentless bombing, London has raised £120,000,000 by voluntary subscription. The bombed cities and the battered ports carry on as usual. Criticism in Parliament is reserved for the man who is not thought to be doing all that could be done for the war effort. After a year of blood and sweat and tears as promised by Mr. Churchill, Britain " goes to it " more grimly and more confidently than before. Other things being equal, morale is the decisive factor in war. These other things are getting near equality, and morale must now tell.

Britain's most dangerous period was the first winter of complacency : her darkest hour was in June last year with the collapse of France. Her moment of deadly peril was in July when she lay practically defenceless before Nazi might and during the Battle of Britain in August and September. Her time of most severe and sustained trial is this summer when she must hold on in the Atlantic, the Middle and Far East, and in Britain itself pending the arrival of the full weight of American help.

The clouds are still dark and the thunder rolls, but rifts have begun to appear, and shafts of light to descend. The storm is no longer gathering; it has broken in full force and is now beginning to scatter.

"And Westward look, the land is bright."

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page 5*)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 1st July 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 25	Nil.	2 night bombers.
June 26	Nil.	....
June 27	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 28	Nil.	....
June 29	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 30	Nil.	....
July 1	Nil.	....

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Explaining it away

Crocodile tears dripped on to the microphone as Lord Haw Haw, on June 29, added his little piece to the quires of equivocation that have been read out from Berlin explaining away the war with Russia.

" It was a heavy imposition and a bitter ordeal," sniffed Haw Haw, " which the Fuehrer took upon himself when he tried to conciliate the Bolshevik racketeers of the Kremlin." But " the Feuhrer deemed it his duty to work for peace with the Russian State." Unfortunately the Feuhrer failed (for the first time, apparently). " Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Esthonia and Rumania suffered Red invasion. . . . . ".

In the meantime, of course, the Feuhrer, posing as the dove of peace, had set about the Nazi invasions of Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, Greece and Yugoslavia—not to mention the " peaceful penetration " of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria.

It was because he was so busy with his own invasion programme that Hitler waited until midsummer 1941 before he allowed his " conscience " to make itself heard and oblige him to punish the Russian " aggressor." All the world knows (including Stalin) that Hitler followed an appeasement policy in the East so that he could be free to move in the West and South. Russia never ceased to be included in his list of potential victims.

Haw Haw adds that " the intrigue which led to the fate of Yugoslavia was primarily promoted by Moscow." But at the time of the Belgrade *coup d'etat* Berlin did not dare to implicate Russia. All the abuse was directed against Churchill and Roosevelt. On March 26 the *Voelkischer Beobachter* wrote that Anglo-Saxon diplomacy had left no stone unturned to persuade Yugoslavia to risk a war against the Axis Powers, and Hitler himself, in his declaration of April 6, referred to " a military clique in British pay."

Of no account

" In this great conflict (Russo-German war," says Haw Haw, " we can leave Britain out of account. All that she has contributed to it so far is a mission of the gentlemen who have apparently advised Stalin very badly in the past and who, it is hoped, will advise him badly in the future."

On the contrary, the calibre of the men chosen to accompany Sir Stafford Cripps when he returned to Moscow indicates the British Government's intention fully to implement its pledge. The mission includes Rear Admiral Miles, who is a navigation specialist, and Lieut.-General Macfarlane, who is Britain's greatest authority on German military tactics. General Macfarlane was Director of Military Intelligence with the B. E. F. in France and was formerly British military attaché in Berlin while Hitler was creating his war machine.

Foreign legions

Berlin (June 29) reports that " more than 18,000 Spanish volunteers have signed on already for the struggle against Bolshevism." We are told that recruiting offices for volunteers have been opened in Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and even " Independent Croatia." In addition Hitler has bullied the Governments of Finland, Rumania, Slovakia and Hungary into declaring war on Russia.

Yet Berlin never loses an opportunity of baiting Britain with the taunt that she gets " foreign legions " to do her fighting for her and of proclaiming that the German army is so powerful that it can manage any campaign single-handed.

Nazi monopoly

With an air of holding a monopoly on truth, the Nazis announce (June 28) : " We have already pointed out that the assertions of the Soviet war *communiqués*, are too ridiculous to warrant a detailed refutation." A typical Russian *communiqué*, published on June 25, claimed that 383 enemy planes had been destroyed, but also admitted the loss of 374 machines . . . Compare this with the fantastic German claim (June 29) to have captured 2,233 Russian tanks and destroyed 4,107 aircraft.

"Few" went far

On the night of Thursday, June 26, the Royal Air Force carried out exceptionally heavy raids on the industrial heart of Germany—Kiel, Dusseldorf and Cologne. Yet Berlin (June 29), reporting these raids, says, " British planes dropped a few high explosive and fire bombs. . . . . .there were some losses among the civilian population."

If a few bombs can cause all the havoc inflicted on Thursday night on ship-yards and factories, then the Germans cannot complacently contemplate the day when, as Sir Gerald Campbell, British Minister in Washington, declared on June 29, " with unlimited supplies of war material we can take complete control of the air and land. . . . . ".

Half the story

Berlin (June 28) reports a "successful attack" on Malta by Italian bombers, carefully omitting the other half of the story. In this "successful attack" the Italians lost six Macchi fighters.

It is now becoming a habit of the Germans to announce that a topical talk is to be broadcast at a certain time and then to play music instead. Apparently, the Nazis are finding it more and more difficult to give a credulous explanation of Hitler's right-about face on the Russian question. Or is it because Goebbels' lie-factory has been appearing in the bomb-sights of Royal Air Force raiders over Berlin recently?

Churchill talks too much!

"Mr. Churchill's outspokenness," says Rome (June 28), "is well known to everyone, as also is his mania for revealing events, even when he knows that it would be more prudent to keep quiet." But only a few days before both Berlin and Rome were making great play of Churchill's order that the war at sea should be discussed in a secret session of Parliament and offering their condolences to the British public, who were being kept in the dark about the true situation.

On June 26, Berlin gibed at Mr. Churchill's "inconsistent attitude" towards Russia. This is, of course, sheer nonsense. While Hitler sang the praises of a "community of ideals between Nazism and Communism" when it suited his purpose, Mr. Churchill has always stuck to his views of Communism. Even in his broadcast on June 22 he declared :—

"No one has been a more consistent opponent of Communism than I have been for the last 25 years. I will unsay no word that I have spoken about it. . . ." The British Premier has made it quite clear that his Government is joining hands with the Kremlin for no other reason than that they fight a common foe—Hitler and all that Hitlerism stands for.

"Masters of the daylight skies

Dr. Goebbels is working overtime, trying to cover up the *Luftwaffe's* abject failure to interfere with the Royal Air Force's mounting daylight offensive against Nazi positions in Northern France.

His bulletin on June 23, for instance, says : "On June 21 a few British bombers approached the French coast with a strong fighter escort. In a series of fierce aerial combats. German fighters shot down 26 British aircraft, while two further enemy machines were accounted for by German anti-aircraft guns and naval artillery."

But this is just a clumsy juggling act with the British *communiqué*, which shows that it was the Germans who lost 28 fighters that day—26 of them over French territory and two more near the English coast; British daylight losses were one bomber and three fighters, one of the pilots being saved.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Axis and the Muslims

Never tired of parading their much-advertized friendship for Muslim countries, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 27 and 28 announced with great satisfaction that the Arabs regard the British as the worst enemy of the Muslims. In spite of the Nazis' lying propaganda, the Muslims of Alexandria and Damascus (who have been ruthlessly bombarded by these self-styled friends) have now seen for themselves what Nazi friendship means. The Egyptian paper *Al Masri*, while expressing gratification at the British Government's donation to Egypt of £1,000,000 for Air-raid Precautions, contrasts this generous gesture with "the fact that the Germans and Italians at the same time gave their friends, the Egyptian Muslims, the gift of death, destruction, ruin and bereavement." And as for Italy, Marshal Graziani, describing how he colonized Libya for his Duce, writes in his book *Roman Peace in Libya*; "To the population, the mobile police must be the bloodhounds who tear the rebels with their teeth; they must destroy them from day to day, man by man."

Britain and Damascus

So utterly at variance are Germany's professions with her practices that, just a day before the Nazis bombarded the open town of Damascus, their Persian broadcast of June 25 concocted stories of Britain's massacre of the civilians in Damascus and destruction of their mosques. It can, however, be categorically stated that, during the recent Allied advance on Damascus, no damage whatever was done to non-military objectives, and that the story of civilians' massacre is equally baseless. Further, in spite of Nazi propaganda, the Syrians cannot fail to contrast their fate with the Iraqis and remember that the French failed to develop their independence and in 1926 provoked a serious revolt during which they bombarded and wrecked Damascus.

Germany's "Aims"

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast on June 26 represented the Finns as receiving the German forces as their liberators. The Nazi record in all the countries that they have over-run does not, however, show that the Finns can expect any prosperity under their liberators' stewardship. Indeed, the German attitude was outlined by the German Agriculture Minister, Darré, in a speech delivered to Nazi officials in May 1940. He declared: "All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and will be distributed primarily among worthy members of the Party . . . thus a new aristocracy of German masters will be created."

German Attack on Russia

The Nazi Radio's Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of June 22 state that the Fuehrer has ordered the German forces to wipe out the Soviet menace, and accuse Russia of having persisted in her anti-German activities. It will not be forgotten that it was with the same Government "representing the same Soviet menace" that Hitler signed a solemn pact in August 1939. And, as for Russia's anti-German activities, Hitler himself admitted in his Reichstag speech on July 17, 1940 (after Russia's move in Finland which is now represented to have been aimed against Germany, that "neither Germany nor Russia have overstepped her sphere of influence."

Exploiting Religious Sentiment

After having a pact with Russia for nearly two years and observing it just as long as it suited the German Fuehrer, the Nazis' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 24 return to the theme that the Germans are fighting a holy war to rescue Europe from Bolshevism. This pious claim comes ill from the Nazis who have persecuted all Christian Sects which dared to oppose the Nazi paganism. For example, the late Pope Pius XI was obliged to admit that the Church in Germany was being persecuted to an extent that was "terrifying, grievous and lamentable in its far-reaching effects." And this prosecution is a deliberate violation of the Concordat with the Holy See, which the Nazis respect as little as they do their other "solemn pacts and pledges."

Relentless Bombing

Unable to deny the Royal Air Force's severe pounding of the heart of industrial Germany, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 27 claim to have destroyed 138 British planes between June 18 and June 25. Actually during the period June 18-24 the British lost 30 planes as against Germany's loss of 97. The intensity of the British offensive may also be judged by the fact that during the fortnight ended June 25 a greater tonnage of Royal Air Force bombs had been dropped on Germany than in the whole month of April, hitherto the month of heaviest British bombing.

Nazi Forfeit of the Seas

In their Hindustani broadcasts on June 26, the Nazis accuse the British propaganda of having made false claims about German shipping losses in the English Channel. In fact the Nazis have suffered heavy losses in their coastal traffic, which they appear to be very anxious to conceal. The seriousness of Germany's shipping position was inadvertently emphasized by Japan, when the Tokyo paper *Asahi* declared "Germany has suffered tremendous damage in no way comparable to the loss of the Robin Moor, by America's aid to Britain."

Germany and the Arab Countries

In their Hindustani broadcast of June 29, the Nazis quote a long article on the British enmity towards the Arabs which, we were told, was written by the ambassador of Iraq in Berlin. Iraq, however, broke off diplomatic relations with Germany soon after the outbreak of war and since then the only Iraq "ambassador" that the Nazi intrigue and bribery could manufacture was the traitor Rashid Ali who to-day, wholly discredited by his own people, is a fugitive from their justice. Besides, no amount of Nazi casuistry can cloud the essential fact, recognized by the Arabs themselves, that it is due solely to the British endeavour that the former provinces of the Ottoman empire like Saudi Arabia and Iraq are now independent States.

European Countries and Russia

"All the European countries," says Berlin's Hindustani broadcast, "have started taking part in the war against Russia." The emptiness of this characteristically Nazi boast will be seen when it is remembered that independent countries like Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Sweden are still neutral in this struggle. Besides, the true representatives of the European countries now groaning under the Nazi yoke, *i.e.*, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, General Simovitch of Yugoslavia and Johan Nygardsvold, the Norwegian Prime Minister, have all declared their sympathy for Russia in her fight against the aggressor.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

11th July.—The Royal Air Force delivered one of its heaviest bombardments on German-occupied ports and industrial targets in Rhineland. Fourteen enemy planes were destroyed. It was officially announced that 16 German fighters were destroyed during operations over Britain.

12th July.—The German naval base of Wilhelmshaven and transport centres in France were raided by the Royal Air Force, who set fire to a German mine-sweeper off the north-west coast of France. Six enemy fighters were destroyed.

A Soviet military expert estimated that Royal Air Force raids had reduced German industrial production by 30 per cent.

Enemy planes dropped bombs on a place on the north-east coast of Scotland. The crack German air Ace, Captain Pingel, was forced to land in Kent by a British bomber.

The Royal Air Force, it was revealed, had in use a new type of Spitfire, capable of a speed of 400 miles an hour.

13th July.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy raid on industrial areas and shipbuilding yards in Bremen.

Twenty-three Nazi planes, it was announced, were shot down over Britain in the week ending July 11.

14th July.—Mr. Churchill reviewed a parade of London's Civil Defence Workers at Hyde Park and at a luncheon later at the London County Council Hall, paid a striking tribute to them. He promised that Royal Air Force attacks on Germany would increasingly grow in weight.

Many large enemy vessels were hit and destroyed by Royal Air Force bombers off the French and Dutch coasts. Bremen was again bombed.

Three passengers were injured when an enemy raider machine-gunned a train in the Home Counties. Two enemy planes were brought down.

It was announced that only 399 were killed and 461 injured in air raids on Britain in the whole of June (5,300 were killed in May and 6,065 in April).

15th July.—Extensive fires were caused when the Royal Air Force raided the industrial areas in Bremen and Hanover and the docks at Rotterdam.

The German Air Force confined its activities to Eastern England.

16th July.—The Royal Air Force raided Duisberg and other industrial objectives in the Ruhr. Rotterdam harbour was attacked by day and direct hits were scored on many ships.

Some damage and a small number of casualties were caused when enemy bombers attacked a place on the south-east coast of England.

17th July.—Nearly 25 enemy ships were destroyed or put out of action when the Royal Air Force raided Rotterdam. Big fires were caused in Hamburg.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

11th July.—An Italian Communiqué admitted vast damage when Naples was raided by the Royal Air Force.

Three Italian planes were shot down and nine damaged in an air battle over Malta.

12th July.—The Royal Air Force bombed Naples, Tripoli and Benghazi, destroying enemy seaplanes and fighter-planes. Several enemy raiders were brought down over Malta. Enemy planes bombed the Suez Canal area, six persons being killed. Slight damage to civilian property was caused in Cyprus by enemy raiders.

13th July.—An Italian Communiqué admitted British air raids on Benghazi and Derna.

14th July.—An enemy convey was attacked by the Royal Air Force off Tripoli and supply ships were sunk. British submarines also accounted for a number of enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

Italian planes were driven off by Gibraltar's anti-aircraft defences. Slight damage was caused by raiders in the Suez Canal area.

15th July.—An Italian communiqué admitted Royal Air Force raids on Messina in Sicily and on Derna, Bardia, Benghazi and Gondar in East Africa.

The British garrison at Tobruk inflicted severe casualties on the enemy and took many prisoners in a violent patrol action.

Some damage was caused to civilian property when Malta was raided.

16th July.—Enemy shipping was destroyed off the Tripolitanian, coast in extensive raids by the Royal Air Force, who also attacked enemy aerodromes in Greece and Crete. Seven German aircraft were shot down by the Royal Air Force while trying to bomb British ships off the Libyan coast.

An enemy plane was brought down in the Suez Canal. And none was injured when the enemy raided Cyprus.

17th July.—A British force from Tobruk penetrated 16,000 yards into enemy positions in the course of offensive patrol operations.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

11th July.—The employment of United States workmen in the construction of British bases and the use of American steel for that purpose were characterised as "legal steps" by President Roosevelt at a Press Conference.

Mr. Roosevelt asked Congress for 3,323 million dollars in cash and contract authorizations for the United States Navy and Maritime Commission.

The British Government waived their belligerent rights concerning German and Italian ships seized by the United States.

President Roosevelt appointed Colonel W. J. Donovan as Co-ordinator of Information bearing on the Defence programme.

12th July.—It was announced that a brand new explosive would be manufactured on a large scale in United States and made available to Britain.

The United States Navy Department announced extensive mining operations at the entrance to New York harbour.

14th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, said that the United States was anxious that Portugal should retain her sovereignty over the Axores but it was vital that strategic Atlantic outposts should remain in friendly hands.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, declared that "a war of defence against Nazism would be infinitely preferable to a peace accomplished by surrender to Hitlerism."

Legislative steps were foreshadowed to retain existing United States Army units in service.

Col. Donovan, in a broadcast to France, said: "We are confident of victory. We made the tragic mistake of withdrawing after the victory in 1918. We shall not make that mistake again."

15th July.—Mr. Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, and Mayor La Guardian of New York warned the Americans against the activities of the Nazis, pro-Nazis and Crypto-Nazis directed towards the appeasement of Germany.

16th July.—President Roosevelt declared that "the disintegration" of the United States Army was threatened if Congress did not allow the Army to keep selectees and National Guardsmen in service over a year.

The German Reich was named as a co-conspirator in an indictment against 33 persons arrested in June for suspected spying.

17th July.—Mr. Roosevelt called a conference of his Chief Naval Advisers.

The United States House of Representatives passed the 536 million dollar Bill for additional shipping and naval facilities.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, Lease and Lend Supervisor, arrived in London, called on Mr. Churchill and attended a meeting of the British Cabinet.

RUSSIA

11th July.—Reports from Moscow indicated that the Nazi drive into Russia was brought to a stand-still along the whole of the 2,000 miles front from the Arctic to the Black Sea. The Soviet claimed to have destroyed 179 German aircraft.

A German High Command communiqué stated that in the double battle of Bialystok and Minsk, the greatest amount of war material in world history was captured.

12th July.—While the German High Command stated that German troops had broken through the Stalin Line and were advancing from Lake Preipus towards Leningrad, Moscow did not confirm these claims. The Russians claimed that the Germans had sufferred over a million casualties in 19 days.

Eight million Soviet troops were said to be marching to the front.

13th July.—Great Britain and Russia signed a joint agreement at Moscow, undertaking to render support of all kinds to each other in the prosecution of the war and neither to negotiate nor conclude an armistice or treaty of peace except by mutual agreement. M. Molotov and Sir Stafford Cripps signed the agreement in the presence of M. Stalin.

A Soviet communiqué stated that, while a Nazi mechanised regiment was annihilated in the South-Western sector, Russian planes had bombed the Rumanian oil centres of Ploesti, Constanza and Sulina and a hundred German aircraft were destroyed during the day; there was no change in the dispositions on the front.

The Germans, on the other hand, reiterated their claim to have stormed the Stalin Line and to be advancing swiftly on Leningrad and Kiev.

14th July.—While the Russians were adjusting their Bessarabian front, Finnish and German troops registered an advance in the Leningrad sector. Railway lines in the neighbourhood of Smolensk and Leningrad were bombed by the enemy.

The Soviet claimed that German casualties in the campaign were over a million, 2,300 German planes were destroyed and 3,000 armoured vehicles lost. The relative Russian figures were not more than a quarter of a million casualties, 1,900 planes and 2,200 armoured cars.

The British Government entertained the Soviet Military Mission to a luncheon in London.

Russia refused to apply the rules of the Hague convention to German hospital ships as the Germans had systematically violated international rules.

15th July.—The Russian Air Force bombed Bucharest and destroyed enemy aircraft in attacks on German aerodromes.

Two enemy destroyers and 13 transports were sunk and one destroyer and a further 13 transports heavily damaged when Russian planes helped the Soviet Baltic Fleet in a battle with German naval units.

A German infantry and an artillery regiment were wiped out by the Soviet forces.

The Soviet Military Mission in London received representatives of the Indian and Empire Press.

Russia and Britain were formally proclaimed Allies by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons.

16th July.—The Germans once again claimed the capture of Tallinn and Navogorod but the Soviet High Command stated that no substantial change had occurred on the front. The Russians announced the cutting up "section by section" of German motorised and mechanised units in the Peskor and Porkhor sectors.

The Soviet Air Force bombed enemy oil stocks at Ploesti.

17th July.—The German News Agency's claim to have captured Smolensk was not confirmed even by the Nazi Radio. It was revealed that neither Kiev nor Tallinn had fallen to the Germans.

One Rumanian battalion went over to the Russian army in the South-Western sector and many Axis pilots also deserted to them. The Russians recaptured Rogachev. The Soviet Fleet bombarded Riga.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

12th July.—"Cease Fire" was ordered in Syria; General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner, sending a delegation to Allied Headquarters to negotiate an armistice.

13th July.—Armistice terms were initialled at Acre by the Allied and Vichy representatives.

15th July.—A 22 points Armistice Agreement was signed at Acre by Allied and Vichy delegates.

Allied troops entered Beirut.

16th July.—The Allied forces were accorded an enthusiastic welcome in Beirut.

SHIPPING

11th July.—Three German vessels were mined and sunk off Sweden.

The German ship, Hermes (7,209 tons), which tried to evade the British blockade in a dash from South America to Germany was intercepted and its captain and crew taken prisoner.

12th July.—It was stated that the United States would construct 566 merchantmen, the work beginning in August.

The United States Maritime Commission took over 16 more Danish cargo ships laid up in United States ports.

15th July.—The merchant shipping losses in June totalled 79 British, Allied and neutral ships representing 329,296 tons, being the lowest for the last twelve months excepting January.

16th July.—The Australian Government requisitioned 63 ships in inter-State trade, to be operated by the Shipping Control Board.

17th July.—It was stated that one ship per day had its keel laid in American yards during the forty days ending July 10.

FAR EAST

12th July.—The Japanese Consul at Vancouver said: "Japan is not going to pull Germany's chestnuts out of the fire."

13th July.—Protests (with a familiar ring) against alleged ill-treatment and victimisation of Japanese nationals in Indo-China were made in the Tokyo press.

15th July.—Britain gave an assurance to China that she would negotiate for the abolition of her extra-territorial rights when peace was restored.

16th July.—International tension in the Pacific was underlined by the resignation of the Konoye Cabinet, ostensibly to make room for a stronger Government. Pending the formation of a new Cabinet Prince Konoye was asked to carry on by the Emperor of Japan, who cut short his holiday and returned to Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the British and American Governments took all precautionary measures; Sulu Bay near Manila was mined by the United States Navy; and the British Far Eastern Commander-in-Chief said "We are fully prepared, come what may."

Chinese diplomatic and consular staffs in Axis countries were ordered to return home immediately.

17th July.—Prince Konoye was directed by the Japanese Emperor to form a new Cabinet.

Japanese pressure on Vichy for the cession of naval and air bases in Indo-China was revealed.

VICHY

12th July.—Differences between Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan were reported over the Syrian question.

Marshal Petain called on the French nation to think on its National Day (14th July) of its dead, its prisoners and its ruins.

14th July.—Free France celebrated the National Day, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Eden and other British and American statesmen sending messages affirming their faith in the resurrection of France.

16th July.—The Vichy Government appointed General Weygand as Governor-General of Algiers in succession to Admiral Abrial.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

12th July.—The Batavia Radio announced that the Netherlands Indies Government were considering the raising of an expeditionary force.

13th July.—The Rumanian Vice-Premier stated that Bessarabia and Bukovina would be re-annexed by Rumania after the war.

The Montenegrin National Assembly proclaimed Montenegro a sovereign, independent State, taking the form of a constitutional monarchy; the King of Italy would be asked to appoint a Regent, who would frame the new constitution.

15th July.—A new decree issued in Norway gave the Germans powers to compel any person, male or female, to do any work anywhere.

The Tass Agency reported that the Norwegians were continuing to hit back at the Nazi invaders by acts of sabotage.

16th July.—Russia (it was stated) was re-entering into diplomatic relations with the refugee Governments of Greece, Yugoslavia, Belgium and Norway.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12th July.—Italian planes bombed La Linea, the Spanish town near Gibraltar, apparently mistaking it for the latter. Six people were killed and a score injured.

13th July.—General Barron was appointed Commander of the Spanish Military area contiguous to Gibraltar in succession to General Grande, who was leading Spanish volunteers against Russia.

16th July.—In reply to questions in the House of Commons, Mr. Anthony Eden indicated that the British Government were closely watching the Spanish Government's attitude.

17th July.—Both Peru and Ecuador accepted the mediation proposal put forward by the United States, Argentina and Brazil.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 8th July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 2, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Merville aerodrome and railway junction near Lille. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen**, **Cologne**, **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; ports, communications and heavy industries in N.W. Germany, the Ruhr and Rhineland; oil stores at Rotterdam; naval base at Cherbourg; shipping in English Channel (6,000-ton merchantman torpedoed).	8 day fighters (all pilots safe). 2 day bombers. 4 night bombers.	21 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
July 3, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over N. France, including raid on railways in Hazebrouck-St. Omer area. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Krupps arms works at **Essen**; docks at **Bremen**; industrial objectives at **Bremerhaven**; other targets in N.W. Germany and the Ruhr.	6 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 7 night bombers.	12 day fighters.
July 4, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on **Bremen** (docks, factory, railway junction, goods yard, aerodrome); seaplane base at Norderney Is. (barracks, gun emplacements). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over N. France, including raid on Bethune (power station, chemical works, railway junction). R.A.F. offensive night patrols over N. France, including raid on railway yards at Abbeville. R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives in the Rhineland; naval bases at **Brest** (*Scharnhorst, Gneisenau,* cruiser *Prinz Eugen*) and Cherbourg; submarine base at **L'Orient**; quays, shipping warehouses and factories at Kristiansund and Haugesund (Norway).	3 day fighters. 6 day bombers. 5 night bombers.	16 day fighters. 2 night fighters.
July 5, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off the Norwegian coast (3,000-ton merchantman sunk, another damaged), Dutch coast (barge sunk, another damaged), Belgian coast (merchantmen of 4,000 and 6,000 tons hit). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on arms factory at **Lille**; railway yards at Abbeville; ports of Dieppe, Treport and St. Valery en Caux. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Munster** (oil dumps, railway station, goods yards); **Magdeburg** (foundries, engineering works, railway yards); **Osnabruck** (factories, railway yard); **Bielefeld** (power plant, gas works, railway yards); industrial objectives at Osterbruck and elsewhere in the Rhineland; oil stores and docks at Rotterdam; invasion base at Den Helder. R.A.F. night fighter raid on aerodrome in N. France.	3 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 3 night bombers.	2 day fighters.
July 6, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber attack on light naval craft in North Sea and off Hook of Holland (4 patrol vessels sunk, 1 believed sunk, 3 damaged). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over N. France, including raid on **Lille** (steel and engineering works, railway yards), R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Munster**; **Dortmund**; Dusseldorf; Cologne; docks at Emden; other objectives in Ruhr and Rhineland; docks at Rotterdam; naval base at Brest (warships and 10,000-ton liner hit).	7 day fighters. (1 pilot safe). 2 day bombers. 6 night bombers.	11 day fighters. 1 night fighter.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 7, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on aircraft works at Meaulte, near Albert; power station and chemical factory at Bethune; shipping in English Channel (E.-boat and 3000-ton merchantman sunk) and off Dutch coast (6 merchantmen of 2,000 to 8,000 tons damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Munster**; **Osnabruck**; **Krefeld**; oil stores at Amsterdam; invasion bases at Den Helder, Ostend, Dunkirk and Boulogne (ammunition dump).	3 day fighters. (2 pilots safe). 4 day bombers. 9 night bombers.	7 day fighters.
July 8, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over N. France, including raid on synthetic oil wells between lens and Bethune; power station and chemical works at Lille; German naval bases including Wilhelmshaven. R.A.F. night bomber raid on synthetic oil plant at **Leuna**; railway yards at **Hamm**; railways and aerodrome at **Munster** arms factory at Essen; industrial targets at **Bielefeld**, Halle and elsewhere in W. Germany; shipping off north and west coasts of France and harbour at Haugesund. R.A.F. night fighter attack on aerodrome in N. France.	12 day fighters. (2 pilots safe). 1 day bomber. 7 night bombers.	23 day fighters.

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 8th July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 2	Nil.	....
July 3	Nil.	1 day raider.
July 4	Nil.	3 night bombers.
July 5	Nil.	2 night bombers.
July 6	Nil.	3 night bombers.
July 7	Nil.	5 night bombers.
July 8	Nil.	5 night bombers.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The most important event of the week is the signing of the Armistice in Syria. The Syrian Armistice Convention was ratified at Acre on Monday evening. So this Syrian business is over. At first the representative of the Vichy Government in Syria refused to discuss Armistice terms if a representative of General de Gaulle formed the Allied Commission but the British authorities were stiff and the French authorities yielded. It should be noted that the negotiations were conducted in an atmosphere of the utmost cordiality, in striking contrast to the conditions which prevailed when the Franco-German Armistice was signed.

Another notable event of the week is the Anglo-Soviet Agreement. This is an alliance between Great Britain and Russia and great expectations have been formed regarding the results of this notable achievement.

The week saw a renewal of the offensive on the part of Germany in three different fronts and Russia's stiff resistance. Russian counter-attacks constitute the chief feature of the present phase of the war. What is undoubtedly true is that Hitler's *blitzkreig* has failed. Many of the best German divisions have been extirpated by Soviet troops, while Germans have lost at least one million men in dead, wounded and prisoners. Russia claims that her loss is only one-fourth of a million. Two thousand three hundred German planes have been accounted for while Russia has lost 1,900 planes. Germany is stated to have lost 3,000 armoured vehicles against 2,200 by Russia.

Seventy-nine British, Allied and Neutral ships were lost during June representing 329,298 tons. These figures show a substantial decrease on losses during May and are the lowest for any month since January. The total losses of merchant shipping during the whole war are 1,738 ships representing 7,118,122 tons, consisting of 1,078 British ships, 634 Allied ships and 326 neutral ships, the monthly average being 324,000 tons. The Axis tonnage captured, sunk or scuttled from the beginning of the war up to July 10 is estimated at 3,391,000 tons. The Admiralty will not hereafter publish shipping losses due to enemy action at regular intervals in order to avoid giving valuable information to the enemy. These losses will be announced from time to time as may be required.

As announced by *The New York Daily News*, it would appear that General Goering, who opposed the Russo-German war, is confined to his home and he has been given the option of either adhering to Hitler or going to a sanatorium. Other Generals who opposed Hitler are, it is stated, being put out of the way.

Like the United States, Britain has promised to negotiate for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China when peace is restored. This is in accordance with the undertaking already given by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons in reply to a question.

Mr. A. V. Alexdander, First Lord of the Admiralty stated the other day that there were three facts calculated to give satisfaction to the British public. The first was interference by the Navy and the Royal Air Force with the German supply lines to Libya. The second was that British aircraft were sinking and damaging a large amount of enemy shipping. The third was the destruction of German submarines by British Naval forces.

From January 1940 to the end of June 1941, British civilian air-raid casualties were approximately 41,900 killed and 52,678 injured and detained in hospital.

During a remarkable day-light sweep over Rotterdom by Blenheim bombers of the Royal Air Force 17 enemy ships of an estimated tonnage of nearly 100,000 tons were put out of action or sunk.

ANGLO-SOVIET AGREEMENT

The Anglo-Soviet Agreement concluded in the current week is an event of historic significance which has altered the international situation fundamentally. By this agreement the two Governments mutually undertake to render all possible support in the prosecution of the war against the Nazis and, during the war, they will neither negotiate nor call an armistice or treaty except by mutual agreement.

Speaking in the House of Commons on this agreement, Mr. Churchill stated that in concluding it Great Britain had the support of the Dominions and America had been kept fully informed. He declared that the agreement was an alliance and that Russian people were now British Allies. Mr. Churchill expected that this agreement would exercise a highly beneficial and potent influence upon the future of the war. It is significant that General Smuts stated about this alliance: "Nobody can say that we are now in league with Communists and are fighting the battle of Communism. More fitly can neutrals and fence-sitters be charged with fighting the battle of Nazism." The alliance has been hailed with great satisfaction in Great Britain, Russia, the Dominions and America. It is a military alliance pregnant with great possibilities. What is of considerable significance is that mass meetings are being held in different parts of Russia in support of this agreement and great enthusiasm prevails over the fact that after all Great Britain and Russia have come closer together for the purpose of destroying Hitlerism.

POLAND AND GERMANY

A very promising and satisfactory development is the probability of the state of war still existing between the Soviet Union and Poland being ended. There have been talks between the representatives of both the countries. It would appear that the Soviet Government propose that a fresh frontier should be set up restoring purely Polish districts to Poland, that a Polish diplomatic office be established, that Polish prisoners be set at liberty from Soviet camps. The Polish Government ask that Polish prisoners, military and political, should be released and that full diplomatic relations be established.

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that a great measure of agreement between Russia and the Polish State had been attained. No definite conclusions have yet been reached, but the statesmanship of General Sikorski has been very helpful in the matter and very soon an agreement satisfactory to both the parties will be concluded.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

Mr. Churchill made a striking speech at the London County Council's luncheon to the British Cabinet. His main theme was the way in which London and other cities faced the onslaughts of the *Luftwaffe*. He specially paid a tribute to the unconquerable grit and stamina of Londoners. He asked no favour of the enemy. He pointed out: "We seek from them no compunction. We will mete out to the Germans the measure, and more than the measure, they meted out to us. . . . You do your worst and we will do our best." He further said: "We will have no truce or parley with Hitler or the grizzly gang who did Hitler's wicked worst." Referring to the increased activities of the Royal Air Force in Germany and occupied countries, Mr. Churchill said: "We believe it will be in our power to keep the process going on in a steadily rising tide, month after month, year after year, until the Nazi regime is either extirpated by us, or better still, torn to pieces by the German people themselves." And he continued: "Every month, as great bombers are finished in our factories, or sweep hither across the Atlantic Ocean, we shall continue a remorseless discharge of high-explosives on Germans. Every month, we will see, as the tonnage increases, and as the nights lengthen and the range of our bombers also grows, that unhappy, abject, subject province of Germany which used to be called Italy will have its fair share, too." Mr. Churchill claimed that in the last few weeks Great Britain had thrown upon Germany about half the tonnage of bombs thrown by the Germans upon English cities during the whole course of the war.

PEACE IN SYRIA

After a brief period in which the Vichy Government indulged in hedging and face-saving, their High Commissioner in Syria, General Dentz, sent a delegation to the Allied headquarters to negotiate an armistice. It was speedily initialled and then ratified formally at the historic town of Acre. British, Vichy and Free French representatives met in an atmosphere of friendship and the 22 points agreement accorded all honours of war to the French while securing the independence of Syria and the strategic and military position of the Allies. The main terms are as follows, according to a message from Cairo, dated July 15th.

The French forces will be concentrated in certain localities by noon (Tuesday) and they will remain under French Command until repatriated. When retiring to selected localities with all arms and ammunitions, they will receive the honours of war. And officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers will be permitted to retain individual arms but soldiers will not be allowed to carry ammunition. War material, such as guns and military transport, will be stocked under the control of the British, who have the right to take over what they require. The remainder will be destroyed by the French under British control. Allied prisoners will forthwith be set free, including the Indian officers transferred to France. The alternative of rallying to the Allied cause or being repatriated is left to the choice of each Frenchman. Executive officials will remain at their posts so long as it is necessary to ensure the continuance of the administration. The British authorities agree to the repatriation of the French troops by French ships under British control. The holdings of repatriated French subjects will be transferred. French cultural institutions are assured that their rights will be respected.

Thus within a period of 34 days from June 8, when the Allies entered Syria, a country of an area of 60,000 square miles had been so effectively penetrated that General Dentz, despite considerable Vichy forces at his disposal, was obliged to sue for peace. The object of the Allies could well have been achieved in half the time or less, but two facts have to be borne in mind. The nature of the terrain with steep hills, deep rivers, forests and indifferent communications was such that quick results could not be expected. In the second place, Generals Wavell and De Gaulle were particularly anxious to avoid clashes between comrades and Allies. Leaflets and appeals to join General De Gaulle had only very partial successes. The Vichy troops had no alternative but to fight, but the reinforcements promised did not arrive. The French put up a stubborn resistance, helped thereto by the Senegalese troops. General Wilson proved himself to be a great tactician, reaching the outer defences of Beirut after having occupied Damascus, the capital of Syria in a month. Other columns swept across the desert from Iraq towards Homs and Aleppo and General Dentz' forces were rapidly encircled. Air and naval support played a significant part in the campaign.

What are the results of the Armistice? The outer defences of Syria and India are no longer in danger of becoming bases for Axis operations. The Syrians will gain their independence and the advantage of being outside the blockade of Germany and her vassals. The Turks will naturally be gratified because land and sea communications with their British Allies have been safeguarded and Turkey will be able to resist further Axis demands on her. A tribute should be paid to the Free French Forces who undertook a very delicate and painful task.

CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

By the beginning of the third week of the German campaign in Russia, the Russians had fallen back—fighting inch by inch and in perfect order—on the Stalin line inside Russia proper, stretching roughly from Lake Peipus on the Estonian border in the north, through Ostrov, Polostak, Lepel, Bobruisk and Novograd-Volynsk, to Podolsk and thence to Bassarabia where the Soviet troops retiring from River Pruth were falling back on River Dniester, the 1939 boundary. The mortal blow which Hitler hoped to inflict on the Russian army by *blitzkrieg* methods did not materialise and the Red Army's numerous but untried divisions, exposed for the first time to the full fury of the Nazi onslaught, not only retained their fighting ability intact but indulged in numerous local counter-attacks, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. Great vigilance is, however, indicated on the part of the defenders, especially as the Germans have now launched a twofold drive—one towards Leningrad in the Lake Peipus region and the other in the south towards Kiev, the Ukrainean capital. The two "claws" of the Nazi pincers aiming at Moscow are being well held by the Russians—in the Polotsk-Lepel sector and the Borisor-Bobruisk region respectively. The German claim to have taken Tallinn, the Estonian capital in the north, Smolensk in the centre and Kiev in the south are now known to be false. Commenting on the Nazi claim that the defences of Kiev have been annihilated, it is pointed out by correspondents at Stockholm that what has happened is that German tanks have arrived at Kiev while the main body of the German infantry has been held up at Jitomir and Novograd-Volynsk. Thus the Russians have repeated the tactics used at Minsk, where the German infantry was cut off while the Nazi tanks disappeared towards Smolensk. In the Ukraine, the Russians are hurriedly harvesting wheat and burning what cannot be taken away. A similar application of the "scorched earth" policy is reported at Tallinn, where the factories have been destroyed preparatory to the defence of the city by 150,000 soldiers, who will bar the German advance. Meanwhile, the warships Kirov and October Revolution have shelled Riga while Soviet bombers raided Nazi barracks in the city. A great German offensive towards Leningrad is now being prepared but Russia has one million first-class troops in the Leningrad military district and so the offensive will be no picnic. Further north, it is becoming clear that the Finnish thrust is no more than a token attack and that the Finns are waiting till the Germans get near Leningrad before they sacrifice themselves. Nor does the attack by Austrian troops towards Murmansk show any progress whatever. The Germans also claim to have won decisive victories in the Pripet Marshes but the Russians are grimly fighting back. Indeed in the large-scale operations now in progress on the whole Baltic—Black Sea front, they have so far stood up to the invaders with vigour and success. And it must be remembered that the Stalin Line is not a defensive line in the ordinary sense of the term; it is a series of cleverly designed fortified positions in great depth and even if the Germans break through at some points, as they claim to have done, it does not mean that the battle is won or lost or that the Russians are in a bad plight. Provided they keep their armies intact till the fury of the Germans exhausts itself and winter conditions bring relief, they can hope to launch a massive counter-attack later. And they must feel heartened by the knowledge that Great Britain is now their declared Ally and all the might and resources of the British Commonwealth of Nations will be at their disposal. A formal agreement was signed in Moscow by Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador, and M. Molotov, Russia's Foreign Commissar, in which both powers undertook to aid each other to the utmost and not to negotiate a separate armistice or treaty without the knowledge of the other. M. Stalin was present at the signing; and Mr. Churchill formally announced in the House of Commons that "the Russian people are now our Allies." And the Soviet Military Mission has been in close touch with the British Government and their military advisers.

CHINA FINDS UNITY AND STRENGTH

FIFTH YEAR OF WAR WITH JAPAN

A Commander of the Japanese North China Garrison, while holding night " manœuvres " close to Marco Polo bridge, near Lukouchiau, on the night of July 7, 1937, noticed that one of his men was missing. His remarkable and only conclusion was that the man had been kidnapped by Chinese troops who, he asserted, had spirited the man into the near-by walled town. He demanded, therefore, that his force be admitted to the town but this was naturally refused. The Japanese stated that the Chinese there wantonly opened fire. Japanese artillery bombarded the town. The Chinese Government protested to Tokyo against the provocative activities of Japanese forces in North China (stationed there since the occupation of Manchuria in 1931). Martial law was declared in Peiping and Tientsin. On July 9, in spite of an agreement on the terms of truce, a statement was issued in Tokyo after a meeting of the Japanese Cabinet, declaring that " all necessary measures will be taken for the despatch of military forces to North China." Further fighting broke out on the 12th July and reinforcements were sent from Tokyo. The Chinese Minister in London stated : ' Events of the last few days give strong evidence that the Japanese military action in North China is a premeditated attempt to reduce North China to a second Manchuria.' Japanese troops thereafter moved from Manchukuo and Chinese troops from Nanking and fighting took place at Wang-Ping on July 20. On July 28 serious fighting took place in the affected area, Peiping being bombed by Japanese aircraft. On July 29, Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, addressed a mobilization appeal : " China is determined to fight to the last man. I call upon the people to mobilize their total resources and struggle hand-in-hand to save the country." The Japanese replied by marching on Peiping itself, which fell the same day. Tientsin was taken the next day. Following an incident at Shanghai on August 9, Japanese began invasion of the port on the 15th August and the war flared up, which has now entered its fifth year.

JAPANESE OUTRAGES IN NANKING

The fighting at Shanghai lasted till November 9, 1937. It was the biggest battle the world had seen since the carnage at Verdun during the Great War, the casualties running into hundreds of thousands. The Chinese put up a stubborn resistance to the violent attack of the invaders; but gradually they had to withdraw, gave up their position in Shanghai, and lost Nanking, the national capital, on December 13. Certain military advisers of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek were of the opinion that he should not have attempted to hold Nanking at such gigantic cost but possibly he felt justified in doing so owing to its emotional and historical importance. The Chinese soldiers fought rear-guard actions up to Nanking, where a ferociously maddened Japanese army committed one of history's most terrible acts. Murder, rape, destruction, looting—a crazy vindictiveness on the part of the Japanese—resulted in some 50,000 civilian deaths. And Japan proceeded to outrage the feelings of foreign powers by deliberately bombing and sinking the United States gunboat, *Panay*, in the Yangtze, a few miles above Nanking on December 12, 1937. Escaping survivors were machine-gunned. Even Tokyo was alarmed by the repercussions and promptly paid the bill for £442,801 submitted by the United States of America.

It is very likely that the Japanese Government hoped to restrict the war to North China; they wanted simply to nip off the five Northern Provinces and did not want a major war. But within four months of the outbreak of hostilities it was already obvious that the war could not be limited to North China and that the Nanking Government were in no danger of collapse. The invaders, therefore, decided to destroy that government and put in their place a subservient puppet regime. Even this failed to bring peace. Disconcerted, the Japanese decided to conquer the country.

Marshal Chiang-Kai-shek now initiated a process of what Mr. John Gunther calls attrition in reverse; he fought, he receded a little, he stood, he receded again, always with the object of making any Japanese advance extremely expensive. And in March 1938, a brilliant Chinese forward movement won a memorable victory at Taierchuang in Shantung Province. The Japanese, however, achieved in the first half of the year their principal objective—the junction of their northern armies in the Hopei-Shantung area near the Yellow River with their central army in the Yangtze Valley, based on Nanking. Thanks to a victory in a fiercely-contested battle at Hsuchow in May, they proceeded to gain control of the Lunghai railway (from east to west) and to spread out fanwise towards the south. Helped by bombardment by their naval craft cruising up the Yangtze river and, of course, by bombing from their air-planes, the Japanese were able to capture in October Marshal Chiang's new capital, the city of Hankow.

LOSS OF CANTON

The Chinese army retreated west and took up new positions in Szechwan ; and Chungking was chosen as capital. Guerilla troops fought hard in the north and held Shansi and generally they developed the technique of rousing the people behind the Japanese front line. Before Hankow had fallen, however, the Chinese sustained a crippling blow, the fall of Canton. On October 12, some 40,000 Japanese soldiers landed at Bias Bay, just to the north of Hongkong, under the guns of the Japanese fleet. Though the local Chinese Commander, General Pai Chung-shi, was the ablest in China, the defenders had made no preparations to meet the attack—either due to over-confidence or thinking that the Japanese would not dare to venture so near the British Colony of Hongkong. The great bulk of their arms supplies had come from Hongkong *via* Canton to Hankow although the Japanese had constantly bombed the railway: That route could be used no more with the loss of Canton. Other noteworthy events in 1938 were the investment of most of the Chinese coast-line, the occupation of Hainan Island and terrific bombings of Chungking. These last, far from breaking Chinese morale, served only to consolidate it.

The summer of 1939 opened with spectacular Chinese victories in Shansi Province. The Japanese shook up their High Command and started a face-saving drive on Changsha. Their faces were slapped instead in what Chungking called " the biggest single victory of the war." Desperate, the Japanese undertook a surprise attack, this time successful, on Naning, in order to stop the flow of munitions from French Indo-China into China. This was a serious blow to the Chinese. The fall of Ichang gave the Japanese a convenient base for new and heavier-than-ever bombing attacks on Chungking.

BURMA ROAD

In March 1940 the Japanese installed Wang Ching-wei, a Chinese nationalist leader who had turned against Marshal Chiang, as head of a puppet Government at Nanking. Neither Britain nor America recognized Wang's Government. On June 24, Mr. Arita, then Japan's Foreign Minister, made strong representations on the use of the Burma Road—linking Lashio, northern terminus of the Burmese railway coming from Rangoon, with Chungking—for the transport of war material to China. On June 28, he defined, Japanese foreign policy, marking out Eastern Asia and the (undefined) " Southern seas " as Japan's special sphere and warning other powers against interference with his country's mission to establish a " New Order " in China. On July 18, were published the terms of an Anglo-Japanese agreement closing the Burma Road to the transport of munitions for three months. The agreement, which the British Government made reluctantly and on the understanding that Japan would take prompt measures to arrive at an equitable peace with China, evoked a Chinese protest and American official criticism, without Japan being completely satisfied. On July 17, the then Japanese Premier, Admiral Yonai resigned, and Prince Konoye formed a Ministry with Mr. Matsuoka as Foreign Minister. On July 27, when the British Ambassador drew Mr. Matsuoka's attention to the deterioration of Anglo-Japanese relations and asked whether the situation permitted further negotiations, he obtained no clear reply. A campaign against British residents in Japan followed. On August 9, the British troops in Shanghai were withdrawn. Americo-Japanese relations grew worse. American embargoes on the export of aviation petrol and steel scrap affected Japan's war effort, and a large American loan to China followed the State Department's public expression of concern at events in Indo-China. On September 28, Japan concluded a ten-year treaty with the Axis Powers at Berlin by which Germany and Italy recognized Japan's hegemony in Eastern Asia and Japan recognized their hegemony in Europe. The three powers agreed to co-operate on the above lines, and to assist one another with military, political and economic means were any of them attacked by any power not yet involved in the European or the Oriental conflict. The treaty did not affect the relations between each of the signatories and Russia. The British Government now hit back and did not renew the Burma Road Agreement; and the construction of the Chinese railway to the Burmese frontier will doubtless increase supplies to the Government at Chungking. America too, interpreted the Berlin Treaty as a threat. On November 30, the Japanese, after evacuating large areas in Southern China, recognized the Nanking Government as the sole Government of China, an ineffective demonstration, as was shown by an American loan to China of 100,000,000 dollars on the same day. On December 11, British credits of £10,000,000 were promised to General Chiang's Government.

JAPANESE OFFENSIVE FRUITLESS

This year, taking a leaf out of Hitler's book, Japan astonished the world by entering into a pact of non-aggression with Russia. But the German assault on Russia has thrown the international diplomatic and political situation out of gear and the Japanese Government have not yet ventured to come out into the open with any definite military policy. Japanese troops are still toiling in Chinese mountains and up river gorges. The recent much advertized offensive on five fronts and in four provinces has not yet attained any decisive result. Both sides have made claims to victory, and it is not easy to disentangle the truth from the conflicting testimony of the meagre reports available. It would seem, however, that on three of the fronts the Japanese advance has been halted, and that on only one has any substantial progress been made. The boasted Japanese " steel rings " are illustrating once again the proverbial shoddiness of Japanese goods. In the south, after taking Waichow, 90 miles east of Canton, the Japanese have advanced no further. In Chekiang they have not succeeded in advancing inland from the ports they recently seized. In a drive south from Hangchow, however, they have occupied Chuki and pushed some miles further on. In Central

China, their double drive up the Han river (a tributary of the Yangtse) and westward from the Hankow-Yengchow railway, whose ultimate aim was the cutting of the northern supply route from Russia, has been repulsed. The Japanese are retiring to their original positions. Only in the north have the Japanese made substantial progress. Their drive in Southern Shanshi towards the Hwang-Ho (Yellow River) has resulted in their occupation of Tungfeng and the retirement of the Chinese to the southern bank of the river. In the mountains of northern Shansi a Communist army, which stood watching events for some time, apparently dissatisfied with the Chiang administration, has now responded to the Marshal's appeal and is co-operating vigorously.

Thus, the Japanese Imperial Army, promised an excursion which would last three months, and which is still called not a war but an "incident" has been struggling vainly in China for more than four years. When Hankow fell the military phase of Japanese conquest came to an end. A war of waiting and attrition began. The mere bulk of China is a powerful shock-breaker, capable of absorbing the most violent Japanese *Blitzkierg*. Her immense man-power and inexhaustible natural resources have been so mobilized as to produce the most astounding results. Her ancient history and culture have endowed her leaders and people with courage, resource, and vision. Increasing aid from Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union is strengthening her defences. China can afford to wait. Apart from the areas of "mobile warfare" where the Japanese are almost permanently on the defensive (notably in Shantung, Northern Kiangsu, Anhwei, Hopei, Chahar, Eastern Suiyan, Hainan Island and the Chungshan area in Kwantung Province) there are three main fronts. (1) The Northern Front in Shansi; (2) The Central Front, covering parts of Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi, Chekiang and Kiangsu and (3) The Southern front, running through Kwantung and Kwangsi. On all these fronts, guerilla units support the regular forces, while in the areas of mobile warfare small units of regular troops are used to strengthen the guerilla forces which bear the brunt of the continuous fighting.

FOREIGN MINISTER'S REVIEW OF WAR

Mr. Quo Tai-chi, China's new Foreign Minister, speaking at a luncheon of the Fabian Society in London recently, rightly emphasized the immense importance of the Chinese factor in the present world situation. This, he was happy to say, was now being recognized, though for two years China had had to fight her battle almost unaided. China remains unconquered and remains more than ever unconquerable. "China, like Britain," he said, "is 'blest with a brilliant and great leader,' to quote President Roosevelt's words, in her supreme crisis. We have our Chiang Kai-shek as you have your Churchill and as the Americans have their Franklin Roosevelt. Also our plain people, like your plain people, are indomitable in spirit, valiant in deeds, and immeasurable in fortitude."

Reviewing the military situation, the Foreign Minister remarked that the Japanese had made little or no progress into the interior of South China since the fall of Canton and Hankow in October 1938, nor had they advanced in Central China since the capture of Ichang, on the Yangtze, last June. In November they launched a useless and costly offensive in Western Hupeh, and in January more than 100,000 Japanese launched an offensive in Southern Honan. But the Chinese lured the enemy into a battlefield of their own choice, and by February 1 the enemy's lines of communications became so exposed that when the Chinese counter-attacked, they withdrew in great haste and had to set fire to hundreds of lorries. To-day, Mr. Quo Tai-chi said, Japan had about a million troops bogged in China and had suffered at least a million casualties. China, on the other hand, had more than doubled her military strength since the war began. She had five million men under arms, of whom four million were regular troops and one million guerilla soldiers. There were one million reserves in training camps and ten million others who had received elementary military training. China was self-sufficient in all arms except heavy guns and planes, which would be essential for a general counter-offensive which might come sooner than was expected.

After dwelling on the far-reaching internal reforms carried out by the Chinese Government and their valuable industrial and economic work, the Foreign Minister stressed the fact that "this development of China's rich hinterland has had one consequence which might well outweigh all the rest, and that is that it has given China the pivotal strategic position in Eastern Asia. The south-western provinces of China, which have almost miraculously been opened up, are the pivot of any future war in Eastern Asia."

CHINA REJECTS "PEACE" OFFER

Marshal Chiang Kai-shek is as convinced as ever that Prince Konoye can never succeed in "beating China to her knees." When Hankow fell, China was alone, facing the most acute crisis. Yet Dr. Trautman, the Nazi Ambassador, failed to persuade General Chiang Kai-shek to make peace. A second German attempt at mediation to-day would also be foredoomed to failure (says a writer in *The Times*). The Japanese make no disguise of the misgiving with which they view the war outlook. Prince Konoye in January admitted that peace was not in sight: General Tanaka in February told the

Japanese Diet that it was needless to crush the Chungking regime by force of arms, but essential to develop economically the areas already occupied, which could then afford to ignore the Chungking regime! Japan's armies live largely off the country; in 1940 they were said to extract 60 per cent of their rice from China, paying the Chinese in yen notes which buy nothing and causing starvation in the occupied areas. Japan has also increased her wool, salt, and coal imports from China. Even this easing of the burden leaves a heavy strain; and with a decline of three-fourths in cotton exports from China to Japan, caused by Japanese Army control of the trade and refusals to pay an economic price, "co-operation" with the occupied areas does not promise to cover war costs.

China has, of course, suffered more than Japan from the war. War devastation and the deliberate depredations of the Japanese Army have wrecked the wealth of the coastal and central provinces. It is typical that the puppet Government of Wang Ching-wei at Nanking derive their revenues largely from the drug traffic run by the invading army, although that faction occupies what used to be the richest provinces. The Chinese military retreat to the interior was doubled by a cultural and industrial migration. The removal of students to the interior preserved continuity in education. From their distant, reformed colleges, men have gone out to staff the administration. It might be said that the students had to leave, since only death awaited them if the Japanese caught them. But that was not true of the craftsmen and mechanics, who moved and took their tools with them. Seventy machine workers of Ning-po pulled 200 tons of machinery in hand carts over the hills of Chekiang. They struggled on for months, frequently bombed from the air, but at last they reached a spot where they could set their machines up again. It is bodies as tough as these which form the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives, of which there are now 20,000 of various sizes. These forms of patriotism are a new phenomenon in the land. No doubt the vast size of the country, which renders a total military occupation impossible, has helped, as also has the immensity of the population, which can spare millions of men for the army and millions more for industry.

These are the moral, strategic, political, and economic factors involved. China will not yield to threats or be ensnared by treacherous peace offers. "The indomitable spirit of revolutionary China knows no defeat", Marshal Chiang has said, and only a week ago, he pleaded for a close alliance of Britain, the United States, Russia and China to tackle the menace of totalitarian aggression that threatens to kill freedom and democracy all over the world.

JAPAN'S DILEMMA

REACTIONS TO THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

Hitler's diabolical move against Russia has landed Japan in a quandary. Important conferences have been held of the leading Japanese statesmen and the Cabinet and it is stated that a " momentous decision " has been taken, but the words has not been told what it is. What it knows is that a sentational development has taken place—the Konoye Ministry has resigned after holding office for exactly one year. Prince Konoye has again been asked to form a Cabinet. The reason stated is that there was a widespread demand for a ' strong ' Government. The fact that the Emperor and the Empress have returned to Tokyo interrupting the vacation at Hayama Villa adds great significance to the resignation. In Washington there is a disposition to believe that the conservative business group has compelled the Army-controlled Government to clear out, justifying the hope of the United States Government that this turn was likely to occur—a hope which lay behind President Roosevelt's desire to avoid any serious break with Japan in recent weeks. On the other hand, a Reuter's Far Eastern Expert inclines to the view that the extremists have forced out the Cabinet in the hope of carrying their policy with the help of the new Government. At the same time authoritative Government circles state that there will be no change in either the domestic or the international field.

It is certain, however, that Germany is instigating Japan to attack Russia in the Far East. As an inducement, Germany and her slave-states have recognized the puppet Government in Nanking. But an attack against Russia is not easy. In the first place, after four years of violent struggle, China has not been subjugated. That war has been exhausting and so far unsuccessful. In the second place, Russia has her own eastern defences which have nothing to do with her western defences. Both are entirely separate and each is self-supporting. It is estimated that Russia has two to four million men in the East. Japan has about a million men in China. Can she find a force to attack Russia without either weakening her Chinese garrisons or straining the war-weary home front?

As regards Japan's commitments, the situation is as follows : Japan is a member of the Tripartite Pact with Germany and Italy, but Soviet Russia is expressly excluded from that agreement and Japan is under no obligation to go to the help of the two partners in the war against Russia. On the other hand, there is the Soviet-Japanese Pact of last year, perhaps entered into under pressure from Berlin. Under this Pact, Japan has promised to be neutral in any war in which Russia is involved. Will she honour her obligations in letter and in spirit? That is the question. There are extreme elements in Japan, the ultra-nationalist group supporting Mr. Matsuoka and the moderates led by Baron Hiranuma, former Prime Minister. The War Cabinet is extremist in its composition, and the problem before Japan is how to manoeuvre the ship of State along the forbidding rocks.

As soon as hostilities between Germany and Russia began, the Japanese papers, taken by surprise, were very critical of Hitler's policy which they called " bullet diplomacy." One newspaper stated bluntly that this was a race for raw materials, for securing which treaties and pacts were being reduced to scraps of paper and morals banished from the world. Later on, however, the extremist elements seem to have somewhat gained the upper hand. Generally, the Japanese public and press are anti-British and anti-American and the promise of American and British help to Russia has added fuel to the fire. The *Nichi Nichi* wrote : " In order to develop the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere, the Anglo-American influences and the rest of the old order must be wiped out," The *Miyako* stated : " The time is coming when Japan must ask meddlers to reconsider their policy or she must halt them by force."

It will be seen, therefore, that, while there is a party which does not obviously like the German move because its eventual object is world domination which, if attained, would reduce Japan to the position of a vassal State, there is another, consisting of the extremely wild elements which call for strong action against the Western Democracies.

So far as Japan's moves are concerned, it is pretty clear that there have been many in the last few months. Formosa, Hainan and South China have now strong Japanese forces. Japan has acquired important rights in Indo-China and she may like to possess air and naval bases in South Indo-China and Thailand, both as a measure of protection against Germany should she defeat Russia in the present war and as a measure of help in her southward drive. There are reports that merchant shipping is being concentrated in the Pacific and that warnings have been issued in respect of trade and other commitments in foreign lands in Asia and elsewhere.

Why are these moves taking place? That is so far a mystery. If she proceeds against Russia she will have to face the coalition of Great Britain, Russia and America. If Germany wins, Japan will become nothing but a Far-Eastern slave-country just like Italy and all her dreams of a New Order in the Far-East would vanish. If, however, Japan is neutral and does not walk into Germany's parlour, she would still have to be friendly with the Pacific Powers and a settlement with the Democracies would involve both the cessation of the war with China and the abandonment of her south-eastern drive. This would

(*Continued on Page* 17)

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

" Facts—Not Propaganda "

The reports issued by the German Supreme Command,—" unlike those issued from Soviet Headquarters, deal in facts, not propaganda ", that's Lord Haw Haw's latest gem (July 6).

The British Ministry of Information has always followed the principle that facts and propaganda are synonymous, but it is obvious from Haw Haw's remark that Dr. Goebbels has other ideas. We knew that long ago, but it's good to get confirmation out of their own mouths.

" Spiritual crusade "

" By inciting the Reds to attack National Socialist Germany," says Haw Haw, " Mr. Churchill has done the world one great service . . . He has united Europe against a deadly menace. He has given occasion for a spiritual crusade, which will make Europe clean for centuries to come. . . "

But Haw Haw, who spends so much time gloating over the wonderful words of the beloved Fuehrer, would do well to read the utterances of his lord and master more carefully. We need not go back as far as *Mein Kampf*. Just two weeks ago Adolf was explaining why he had decided to invade Russia and for once a few words of truth escaped him. He said :—

" So long as German forces had to be kept on guard at Russia's western frontier, the German High Command could not guarantee victory over Britain."

In other words, the Nazi dictator is gambling on a quick and cheap victory over Russia so that he can release more than 100 extra divisions for the assault on Britain. That is the kernel that lies hidden behind the masses of drivelling nonsense emitted from Berlin.

Sidelights on the Soviet

" Scientists the world over," says Berlin (July 1), " would do well to recall the thousands of respected and renowned colleges which were liquidated in a most horrible fashion by those in power in the Kremlin. Science was practically exterminated by the Bolsheviks . . . they have no brief for science; no more are they entitled to speak in the name of religion."

And again on July 4 we are told that more than 800,000 peasants and others have been put to death in Russia during the Bolshevik regime, while aspersions are cast by Berlin on Russia's industrial situation.

If the Soviet economy is so useless, how do the Germans explain the highly industrialised condition of the Ukraine and the Urals, a condition which they hoped to exploit, first by economic agreements of astronomic proportions, then by annexation? And whence came the 5,774 tanks, 2,330 guns and 4,725 aeroplanes that the Germans claim to have destroyed or captured in the first ten days of the Russo-German war?

Nazi " Culture "

As to Berlin's cultural comments on the latest victim of Nazi " friendship," we seem to remember the " Burning of the Books " and the " Night of the Long Knives," not to mention the Reichstag Fire and the religious persecution which forms a cardinal point of Nazi policy.

What happened to Albert Einstein, Thomas Mann, Sigmund Freud, Pastor Niemoller and a host of other doctors, divines and professors who were not allowed to continue their work in Hitler's Greater Germany?

Russia's advance in stratospheric researches, her investigations into the physiology of the human body under Pavlov, her concrete achievements in socialised medicine, her experiments in the film industry under Pudovkin, in the drama under Gorki. . . . these entitle her to ally herself with the forces of civilisation and to combat, with the world's sympathy, Nazi criminalities.

In the air

On July 4, Berlin alleged that in one daylight raid on Northern France 25 British bombers were escorted by 200 fighters and concluded that this provided " the best proof that the British Air Force is very much afraid " of the *Luftwaffe* and German anti-aircraft defences.

These daylight bomber-and-fighter sweeps are a daily feature of the Royal Air Force's midsummer offensive which has already pushed the front line of the air war back from the shores of Britain to a depth of 60 miles inside the Continent.

In addition to escort duty, fighters themselves have special jobs, such as shooting up German troop concentrations and aircraft dispersed on the ground.

Although most of the dog-fights are now taking place over enemy territory, German losses continue in the same high ratio (in relation to Royal Air Force losses) as characterised the dramatic days of the attempted air invasion of Britain last autumn.

German air losses

In the last fortnight of June these offensive sweeps in daylight over Northern France accounted for 157 German fighters and one seaplane, while Royal Air Force losses for the same period were 48 fighters and six bombers. In the same area in the first five days of this month the Germans have lost 54 fighters, shot down at a cost of 20 British fighters and 11 bombers.

In view of these facts, what is there for the Royal Air Force to be "afraid of"?

Britain, Russia and Iran

Berlin claimed on July 4 that "Britain has offered to Soviet Russia the division of Iran into a British and a Soviet sphere of interests," adding that "the British are to be entitled to send troops through Iran."

Apart from the fact that this report has been officially denied in Moscow, it is interesting to recall that only a few days before, the same announcer told us that Iran, though remaining neutral in the Russo-German conflict, felt great relief as the "menacing clouds that had gathered over her north-eastern frontier have now dispersed."

Arabs and Jews

Berlin continues to regale us with fabrications about "serious clashes between Arabs and Jews." On July 2 "travellers arriving at Istanbul from Baghdad" were quoted as the source of information.

It is well to recall what the editor of *Falastin*, the Palestinian newspaper, wrote at the outbreak of war in September 1939:—"The Arabs now set aside their local issues in order to play their role in this world conflict, cherishing the hope that when justice emerges victorious they will be adequately rewarded for their loyalty."

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Britain and Small Countries

The inimitable Dr. Goebbels, in his Asiatic broadcasts of July 1, surpassed himself when he accused England of suppressing the freedom of all small countries. This base and baseless lie comes ill from Nazi Germany, which has her hands already red with the blood of no less than twelve European countries—mainly small. In these countries, all freedom—political, economic, religious and social—is a thing of the past. On the other hand, the part Britain played in emancipating countries like Greece, Belgium, the Spanish American colonies, the Moslem countries of Iraq and Egypt and, yes, Italy is a matter of history. As the Egyptian paper, *Al Masri* recently remarked: "The British representative proves once more, by deeds and not by words, that the British Empire fights, not for invasion and conquest, but for the cause of right and freedom. Now, after liberating Abyssinia, she aids Free France, who proclaims the objective as the liberation of Syria and Lebanon."

Russian Campaign

So anxious are the Germans to boost their "successes" in Russia that their Asiastic broadcasts of July 2 purported to quote the Spanish paper *A. B. C.* as stating that the Germans have dispersed the Russian Army. It is, all the same, undeniable that Italian political and military circles are issuing warnings against the belief that a quick victory will be gained over Russia, as the Russians "dispose powerful reserves of men and material apart from possible traps due to the expanse of the territory and operations." Still more significant are the observations of the German paper *Frankfurter Zeitung* which describe the Russian resistance as "stubborn and desperate" and stresses the fact that the German army is only at the beginning of its task.

Nazis 'Caught Napping'

German High Command's special announcement from the Headquarters of the Fuehrer, broadcast with their Hindustani news on July 3, claimed to have taken 160,000 Russian prisoners of war and destroyed 4,725 Russian planes. Nothing however, could better reveal the absurdity of these Nazi claims than an Italian news item, broadcast in a Weekly Review of News in Bengali from Rome, an hour and a half *after* the German news, which stated that no more than 40,000 Soviet troops were captured. And as regards the destruction of Russian planes, the Germans had, according to the Boston News in German, at the outbreak of the Russo-German war declared that Russia did not possess more than 4,700 planes in all. So, according to their own reckoning, the Germans have already destroyed 25 planes more than the Russian total.

German Bombast

Always eager to assume the role of the crusaders of the past, the Germans, in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of June 6, claimed that the whole of Europe was helping Germany against Russia. The nature of this so-styled co-operation was revealed by the Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau when he published a 'secret' document captured with the German Staff of a defeated tank unit, which states: "The occupation of the Soviet oil regions must be effected in such a way that the Hungarians are by no means able to reach them. Secondly, inasmuch as the Slovakian troops are also being utilized for this purpose, it must, by adding a German unit, be made sure that the Slovaks and the Hungarians do not clash." This incident, together with the Italo-Hungarian wrangles over the prostrate body of Yugoslavia clearly

shows that Hitler's hordes, far from acting as allied troops, are a gang of robbers who do not believe one another and can fight among themselves over the booty at any time.

Dr. Grobba Answered

Quoting the arch-fifth columnist, Dr. Grobba who is misdescribed as the German Ambassador in Iraq, the Nazis' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 30, suggested that the Eastern countries could participate in Germany's new order. The Eastern countries, however, realise that, even from the European countries which Hitler has forcibly annexed to his "new order" he is exacting no less than Rs. 13½ arabs (an arab = 100 crores) a year and de-industralising those unfortunate countries. They also know that their own fate under Hitler who expressly refers to their "racial inferiority" in *Mein Kampf* would be much worse.

Germany's Bombing of Damascus

In their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 30, the Nazis trump up the lie that Britain bombarded the historic Muslim town of Damascus, causing the death of 300 people and destroying several mosques. In point of fact, the inhabitants of Damascus publicly expressed great satisfaction at the care taken during the Allied attack, shown by the fact that only two civilians were killed and seven wounded and none near any mosque. On the other hand, the Nazis' indiscriminate bombing of the thickly populated quarter of Babtouma (Damascus) resulted in 70 killed and 29 seriously wounded, and the historic tomb of Saladin was damaged. The Syrian Premier, Khaled Bey Alazm, characterized this typically Nazi manifestation of "friendship for the Arab peoples" as sheer savagery.

German Diatribe against Sir Claude Auchinleck

In his new appointment in the Middle East Sir Claude Auchinleck will no doubt have the opportunity of replying with something better than words to the verbose German attack on him, broadcast from Berlin on July 3. That Auchinleck's capture of Narvik should have been passed over was natural from the German point of view, but the main Berlin accusation is that he made all sorts of promises to India which were never fulfilled. In five months' work here the late Commander-in-Chief's most widely appreciated proposal was that for the Defence Committee of the Central Legislature, with which, as he said in his farewell message, he was much looking forward to working. He also expressed confidence "that General Wavell will welcome its existence and will be no less conscious of its usefulness and importance."

The press in India, while congratulating General Auchinleck on his new appointment, regrets his departure in the midst of what the *Hindustan Times* calls "a spasm of reformist energy." He "had given ample proof of his fitness for the post," says the *Pioneer*.

Berlin's Idea of the Indian Army

In the same diatribe Berlin betrays its wish that the Indian Army should abandon its task of defending India with the British, and assist the German purpose instead. The broadcaster describes it as a conscript army, being probably quite unable to understand that recruiting throughout India is voluntary—a system remote from all Nazi theories. He further declared that "all the ranks down to the lowest officer are British,"—a statement which everyone in India knows to be fantastically untrue.

JAPAN'S DILEMMA

(*Continued from Page 14*)

necessarily be opposed very strongly by the present military and naval clique in Japan. What her next step would be is uncertain. Vague phrases are being used as a smoke-screen. What is clear is that Japan is biding her time. She will grab things as chances occur and will follow a policy of pure opportunism till there is some over-powering necessity, compelling her to take a decision.

America and Great Britain are alert and prepared for any eventualities. The policy of His Majesty's Government continues that of giving all possible aid to China in her brave struggle. "We are fully prepared," said Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the Far East, on Wednesday last, "Come what may. We are confident that whatever the British forces in the Far East may be called upon to perform, it won't find us wanting." There is perfect understanding in the A. B. C. D. Front—America, Britain, China and the Dutch East Indies—and any southern move by Japan likely to affect the safety of this front is not likely to be acquiesced in. And Japan knows about the American Fleet in the Pacific as how it has been strengthened in every way.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

18th July.—The Royal Air Force attacked Cologne and industrial areas in the Rhineland. A supply ship was hit off the coast of France and nine German fighter planes were destroyed.

German bombers attacked Hull in North-east England.

19th July.—The Royal Air Force made a highly successful attack on an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast, destroying several vessels.

20th July.—Industrial areas in Hanover were the principal targets of the Royal Air Force, who also took a heavy toll of the enemy's coastal shipping. In all, eight ships totalling 48,000 tons were destroyed or very badly damaged.

There were only a few planes over England and little damage and no casualties were caused when bombs were dropped at two points in the Midlands.

21st July.—The Royal Air Force was again over the Rhineland in force, Cologne being the principal objective. The docks of Rotterdam were also bombed. During a daylight sweep across the Channel, a factory at Lille (in Northern France) was attacked and eight Nazi fighters destroyed.

It was revealed that 55,000 tons of Axis shipping had been destroyed by British bombers during the week-end.

22nd July.—The Royal Air Force attacked German military camps and other objectives on the west coast of Denmark as also the Rhineland and Northern France.

23rd July.—The main targets of the Royal Air Force were Frankfurt and Mannheim. Dunkrik, Ostend and Rotterdam were also raided.

Enemy planes dropped a few bombs on two towns on the East coast of England.

24th July.—Frankfurt and Mankheim were again bombed by he Royal Air Force, who also caused great havoc to enemy shipping off Norway and to enemy planes over Bethune. The German battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* were bombed at La Pallice and Brest respectively.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

18th July.—British patrols from Tobruk were very active and inflicted severe casualties on the enemy.

The Royal Air Force bombed the Sicilian base of Palermo, destroying one enemy cruiser, as also the Libyan harbours of Benghazi and Tripoli.

British submarines sank several vessels in the Mediterranean carrying Italian and German troops.

19th July.—The Royal Air Force was again active over Cyrenaica.

An enemy bomber was destroyed when Cyprus was raided.

Indian troops particularly distinguished themselves in patrol activities by the Tobruk garrison.

20th July.—One person was killed and 11 injured when enemy planes raided Alexandria.

Thirty persons were killed when an Italian train crashed on the viaduct near Como.

Artillery activity was reported in the Tobruk area.

The Italians admitted British air raids on Benghazi and Tripoli and the loss of one of their submarines in the Atlantic.

21st July.—The communique issued by the Allied High Command in the Middle East again paid a tribute to the work of Indian soldiers in the operations near Tobruk.

The Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi and Naples.

22nd July.—The Rome Radio denied the Moscow Radio's report of an attempt on Mussolini's life by an Italian royalist.

23rd July.—Further patrol activity by the British garrison at Tobruk was reported.

It was revealed that General Cunningham's victorious force in East Africa did not exceed 20,000 infantry and 68 guns; the defeated Italian force numbered 170,000. including 96,000 infantry and 400 guns.

24th July.—An enemy convoy was attacked by the Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm off the fortified Italian island of Pantellaria when four vessels and a destroyer were hit. The Royal Air Force made another successful raid on Benghazi.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

18th July.—President Roosevelt stated at a Press Conference that the sea lanes to Iceland would be kept open and shipping protected against an attack or threat of attack.

Mr. Roosevelt conferred with his chief Naval Advisers, presumably on the Pacific situation.

20th July.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, in a speech at Richmond (California) emphasised Britain's resolve to make an end of Hitler and said that if American workers speeded up the shipbuilding programme, "we can bring this Nazi business to an end."

It was announced that arrangements were being made by the United States Maritime Commission to turn over a hundred oil-tankers to Britain.

21st July.—President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, asked it to authorize the extension of the one-year period of active service in the Army for selectees, National Guardsmen and Reserves. He declared that America was in infinitely greater danger than a year ago and that unless the extension was granted, the nation would be taking a grave risk and the Army would face disintegration.

22nd July.—An American loan of 425 million dollars to Britain to pay for war supplies contracted for prior to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act was announced in the House of Commons.

The United States House of Representatives passed the 287 million dollars Defence Highway Bill while the Senate approved legislation permitting the President of the United States to take over private property for use in national defence.

23rd July.—Mr. Tom Mooney, the famous United States Labour leader, who opposed America's entry in the last war, came out in favour of intervention in the present conflict.

While Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, received the Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Nomura, Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, declared that the United States Pacific Fleet was in a position to carry out American policy in the Far East.

Mr. Sumner Welles, in a speech, outlined American peace aims and pleaded for an association of free nations.

President Roosevelt foreshadowed the possibility of new steps by the United States to check German infiltration into Latin America.

The United States Senate unanimously passed and sent to the White House the Bill authorizing a 545 million dollars expansion in naval shipping repair and other facilities.

24th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, in a farmal statement, condemned Japan's move against Indo-China.

The United States War Secretary, Mr. Stimson, condemned Senator Wheeler's action, in writing to army officers and men, urging them to oppose United States' entry in the war.

The sinking of a Norwegian ship in the Atlantic, carrying Red Cross nurses to Britain, was reported.

A time-bomb was stated to have been discovered in a Japanese ship which was denied passage through the Panama Canal.

The United States House of Representatives passed the 244 million dollars Bill for providing additional Naval share facilities. The House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee recommended an outlay of eight billion dollars for the expansion of United States defence services.

RUSSIA

18th July.—The Germans claimed the capture of strategic positions in Bessarabia, including the occupation of Kishinev. There was violent fighting in Smolensk but the Soviet stated there was no change in the front. The German General Otto Lancelle was reported to have been killed in action.

19th July.—The Germans announced the capture of Novograd-Volynsk and the crossing by German and Rumanian troops from Bessarabia of the River Dneister.

The Soviet Air Force inflicted heavy losses on Nazi motorised units. It also raided several Finnish towns.

The Soviet contradicted the "absolutely mendacious and infamous invention of the Rome Radio" that the Red Army was using poisonous substances.

20th July.—M. Stalin was appointed People's Commissar for Defence, Marshal Timoshenko to be his Deputy. M. Stalin remains Premier.

The Soviet Air Force, in conjunction with the Red Navy, sank twelve enemy vessels sailing in a convoy in the Baltic.

The German High Command claimed further successes on the Finnish front and in Bessarabia, where, however, the capital, Kishinev, was said to have been left blazing by the retreating Russians.

21st July.—While the Germans claimed an advance in the Southern sector, Soviet guerilla forces were reported to be very active and to have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

22nd July.—Twentyone German planes were destroyed during an air raid on Moscow when only slight damage was caused. An attempted enemy air raid on Leningrad was beaten off.

It was reported that Marshal Timoshenko had recaptured Smolensk with his storm detachments.

23rd July.—While the Germans and Finns claimed some progress on the Northern front, the Soviet reiterated that there was no essential change in the position of the troops and that Smolensk remained in Russian hands.

Moscow had its second air raid but no military objective was hit. Fifteen German planes were shot down.

The Soviet published the contents of secret German documents, which were seized from the enemy, clearly indicating that Germany planned to use poison gas.

The Archbishop of Canterbury blessed the Russian people fighting for national freedom against "the evil embodied in the rulers of Germany."

24th July.—The Moscow Radio reported that Gen. Branchitsch had been removed from the Nazi High Command as also General Keitel.

Moscow was raided again by the German air force.

The Germans, calling for reinforcements from their troops in the Balkans, admitted stiff Soviet resistance.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

19th July.—It was emphatically denied that Turkey was selling chrome to Germany and it was affirmed that the entire exportable surplus would be purchased by the United Kingdom.

20th July.—It was reported that the Allied forces were consolidating their position in Northern Syria.

21st July.—General Wilson placed Syria under Martial Law in order to round up Germans and Italians regarded as dangerous.

It was thought in Ankara that the German Foreign Ministry was planning to reorganize the Balkans by forming a new Macedonian State, consisting of Western and Eastern Thrace as well as the Dardanelles region.

22nd July.—It was announced that Dr. Clodius, the German trade envoy, would go to Ankara to negotiate a deal involving 25 million Turkish pounds.

23rd July.—Italo-Bulgarian talks in Rome related to a proposal that Bulgaria should share with Italy "the task of keeping Greece alive and reconstructing the country." The Bulgarian Premier and Foreign Minister were taking part in the conversations.

Rashid Ali, the Iraqi rebel leader, left Iran for Turkey.

Major-General John Chrystall was appointed Chairman of the Armistice Control Commission in Syria, the Vichy representative being General de Verdillac.

SHIPPING

18th July.—Mr. Harry Hopkins, Special American Envoy, stated in London that the United States was building a million tons of merchant shipping this year, six millions next year and substantially more than that in 1943.

22nd July.—The United States Maritime Commission estimated that its emergency shipbuilding programme would be 60 days ahead of schedule.

23rd July.—A German bomber that attempted to attack a British convoy, was shot down into the sea.

FAR EAST

18th July.—Lord Halifax, in a speech at San Francisco, said that he saw no reason for any Anglo-Japanese clash but Britain would not allow her interests in the Pacific to be ignored.

Prince Konoye formed a new Cabinet, dropping Mr. Matsuoka and appointing Admiral Toyada as Foreign Minister.

19th July.—The Japanese Foreign Minister announced that Japan's "basic policy" was "unchanged."

Japanese planes carried out their 22nd raid on Chungking.

Clashes were reported between Chinese Communist forces and the Central Government forces in the Northern Provinces of Shanshi and Shantung.

The announcement that Admiral Jean Decoux, the Vichy Governor-General of Indo-China, was to return to Hanoi from Saigon with the whole of his staff was responsible for a crop of rumours about Japanese pressure on Indo-China.

It was officially announced that Thailand and Indo-China had reached an agreement on the exchange of currencies in the territory ceded to the former under the armistice.

21st July.—The Japanese Cabinet conferred with the High Command of the National Defence Services, the Prime Minister presiding.

Train services in Korea were reported to have been cut down for military reasons.

22nd July.—Disquieting reports came from Japan where a large-scale mobilization was stated to be proceeding. While the Foreign Minister gave assurances of continued friendship to Axis Ambassadors, the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, who had given the most categorical assurances to the British Ambassador regarding Japan's policy towards Indo-China, was relieved of his office at his own request.

23rd July.—Japan was reported to have imperatively demanded of Vichy the cession of strategic bases in Indo-China. Censorship was imposed in Japan on radio and cable communication.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, contradicted Japanese reports of British designs on Indo-China and Thailand.

Certain Japanese circles charged the United States with discrimination against Japanese vessels by preventing their passage through the Panama Canal.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo Tai-chi welcomed Britain's assurance to help China defend her freedom.

24th July.—American press reports stated that Vichy had yielded to Japan and ceded naval and military bases in Indo-China.

New visa regulations closed Japan to all foreigners except the Chinese.

Japanese warships were reported to be in Camranh Bay.

VICHY

19th July.—Changes were announced in the Vichy Cabinet, M. Pierre Puchen taking the post of Minister of the Interior.

Admiral Darlan received the Japanese Ambassador while Admiral Leahy, the United States Ambassador, was received by Marshal Petain in the presence of Admiral Darlan.

22nd July.—Various acts of sabotage were reported from occupied France; and the Paris Police Chief offered a reward of 20,000 francs to anybody who could hand over to the military authorities those responsible for a disaster to an army train resulting in the death of many German officers and soldiers.

23rd July.—"We shall perhaps again have to defend our colonies," said Marshal Petain, obviously referring to Indo-China.

24th July.—Free French authorities repudiated the concessions made by Vichy to Japan.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18th July.—A Russo-Czech Agreement was signed in London under which the two countries agreed to exchange diplomatic representatives and to carry on the common struggle against Germany.

20th July.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a message to the people of the occupied countries, broadcast from London, announced the mobilization of the "V" Army. He said, that the "V" was a portent of the fate awaiting Nazi tyranny.

It was announced that King George of the Hellenes and M. Tsouderos, President of the Greek Council of Ministers, would shortly reach Britain from South Africa.

22nd July.—Many brawls were reported in the occupied territory in South-East Europe between German soldiers and their allies—the Italians, Bulgarians, Rumanians, etc.

23rd July.—The announces on the German-controlled Dutch Wireless threatened dire penalties against pro-British demonstrations like those of the Rotterdam citizens who cheered and cried for joy when the Royal Air Force was overhead.

Scout groups in Czechoslovakia were ordered to be dissolved by the German authorities because their belts contained the monogram "V", the symbol of Allied victory.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18th July.—General Franco, addressing the National Council of the Falange, expressed sympathy with the Axis and made a violent attack on the Soviet Union.

While Mr. De Valera reiterated Eire's decision to defend her neutrality at all costs, Mr. Dillon, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Dail, entered a forceful plea for aid to Britain.

21st July.—The Bolivian Government declared a state of siege throughout the Republic as a result of a Nazi *putsch* in Bolivia. At the same time, the German Minister received an order to leave the country in 24-hours. Many Nazi sympathizers were rounded up.

22nd July.—It was disclosed in Washington that the United States had promised full support to Bolivia in the event of any international incident arising from the exposure of Nazi designs and the expulsion of the German Minister.

The German Government ordered the Bolivian *Charge d'Affaires* in Berlin to leave within three days.

Four Nazi journalists were charged in Buenos Aires with murder and robbery.

23rd July.—It was disclosed that over a hundred persons had been recently arrested in Switzerland, including a few foreigners, on charges of endangering Swiss neutrality.

24th July.—Bombs were dropped by unidentified planes on an area in Eire.

Mr. Anthony Eden, replying to General Franco's recent speech, warned Spain against alienating Britain.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 15th July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 9, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Lille.	8 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	13 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on factories and railways at **Aachen**; industries and communications at **Osnabruck**; Bielefeld; Munster; docks at Ostend.	4 night bombers.	
July 10, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway siding and chemical works at Choques, near Bethune; docks and shipping at **Cherbourg** and **Le Havre** (6 ships totalling 20,000 tons sunk).	9 day fighters (2 pilots safe) 2 day bombers.	16 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne** and other industrial targets in W. Ruhr and Rhineland; invasion bases at Ostend, Calais and Boulogne.	2 night bombers.	1 night fighter.
July 11, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railways at Hazebrouck; shipyards at Le Trait, west of Rouen; dive-bombers dispersed on aerodromes.	4 day fighters.	9 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Wilhelmshaven** and targets in N. W. Germany; German minesweeper set on fire off north-west coast of France.		
July 12, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railways and canals at **St. Omer**; patrol vessels off Dutch coast; gun emplacements on Walcheren Is.	2 day fighters. 1 day bomber.	6 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen** and targets in N. W. Germany.	2 night bombers.	
July 13, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen**; **Vegesack**; industrial targets in N. W. Germany; docks at Amsterdam and Ostend; oil storage tanks at Rotterdam.	1 night bomber.	1 night fighter.
	R.A.F. offensive night patrols over aerodromes in N. France.		
July 14, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway yards at Hazebrouck; factory, troops, railways, docks and shipping at Cherbourg (6,000-ton ship damaged); docks and shipping at Le Havre (6.000-ton ship damaged); enemy convoy off Frisian Is. (Ships of 6,000 and 3·000 tons and escort vessel of 1,200 tons hit.)	4 day fighters. (2 pilots safe) 2 day bombers.	8 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks and industrial plant at **Bremen**; industrial targets at **Hanover**; docks at Rotterdam.	5 night bombers.	
July 15, Tuesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Duisburg-Ruhrort** and other industrial objectives in the Ruhr.	3 night bombers.	1 night fighter.
	R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodrome in N. France.		

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Japan has given a twenty-four hour ultimatum to Indo-China demanding naval and air bases in South Indo-China. The ultimatum has been denied, but it is reported that naval and air facilities have been given to Japan as well as permission to maintain troops in South Indo-China.

There are two events of importance to be recorded in regard to Russia. M. Stalin has been appointed the Defence Commissar and he will be assisted by Marshal Timoshenko, Commander-in-Chief of the Central Front, and M. Peresipkui, formerly Commissar of Posts and Telegraphs, as Vice-Commissars of Defence. There is some significance in the appointment of political leaders and military commissars in the army who were formally abolished in August last year after the Finnish war though, however, political control has continued in some form or another. Military commanders are so much absorbed in military matters that they have no time to attend to political matters. These commissars and political directors are expected to maintain the morale of the army and deal with the danger of fifth columnists and enemy inspired defeatism.

A Russo-Czech Agreement has been signed, providing for exchange of diplomatic representatives of the two Governments and for arrangements for war against Germany. National Czecho-Slovakia military units will be formed in Russia and these units will work under Soviet Military High Command.

General Franco has broken his silence by attacking Russia in a recent speech. Though he said that Spain's sympathy was with the Axis, he stated that there was no change in Spain's foreign policy. Spain, for the first time, he declared, was master of her own fate. Mr. Anthony Eden has warned Spain that if she does not want further economic assistance from Great Britain the latter will not proceed with the plan for such aid, in the absence of good-will. Future policy will depend on the actions and attitude of the Spanish Government.

An announcement of some importance relates to a new type of heavy infantry tank now being produced on mass scale in Great Britain. This has been named "Churchill." Its main features are heavy armour, maximum protection to the crew, great speed and terrific gun power.

It has been announced that America has granted to Great Britain a loan of 425 million dollars for war supplies contracted prior to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act. The loan is for the purpose of providing Great Britain with exchange to be used towards paying for war supplies. It is another indication of the readiness of the United States to extend all the help she can to Great Britain.

Another reshuffle in the British Cabinet has been announced. Such changes during war time are quite common and necessary for adapting the administration to the rapidly changing conditions under the stress of war. The changes are—

Mr. R. A. Butler, President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Brendan Bracken, Minister of Information.

Mr. Duff-Cooper, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to be entrusted with a special mission in the Far East.

Lord Hankey, Paymaster-General.

Mr. R. K. Law, Under Secretary of State of the Foreign Office.

Mr. F. D. Sandys, Financial Secretary of the War Office.

Mr. E. Thurtle, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Information.

Mr. Herewald Ramsbotham, Chairman of the Unemployment Assistance Board.

Mr. Harold Nicholson, Governor of the B.B.C.

Colonel G. S. H. Watt, Prime Minister's Parliamentary Private Secretary.

Sir Hugh Seely, Additional Parliamentary Under Secretary of State of the Air Ministry.

SHIPPING

The battle of the Atlantic is, of course, being waged fiercely, but the public will note with satisfaction the fact that the situation has definitely improved. Of course, regular announcements of British losses will not be made hereafter in order to avoid giving valuable information to the enemy. But if we examine the shipping figures for June it is found that the drop in the losses on those of May has been 132,000 tons. They are the lowest since January, Great Britain having lost 52 British ships of 282,284 tons, the Allies having lost 19 ships of 82,727 tons and neutrals having lost 8 ships of 18,285 tons, the total figure being 329,296 tons. The average of the number of ships lost also came down in June from 27 to 20. The total shipping losses are 7,118,122 tons, Britain's shipping losses being 4,605,132 tons but of a pre-war total of over 21 million tons. It is calculated that about 2 million tons of shipping would have been built up by Britain since the outbreak of the war. What may the reasons be for this improvement. They are:—

(1) More German submarines are being sunk;

(2) aerial bombing of Germany's submarine bases and German dockyards have achieved a good measure of success;

(3) Germany has fewer surface raiders than before; *Bismarck* has been sunk and *Scharnhost*, *Gneisenau*, *Lutzow* and *Prinz Eugeen* are lying immobilised; and

(4) the great help afforded to Britain by American patrols has not a little been responsible for this favourable situation and the extension of the patrol to Iceland will be of additional use to Great Britain because very heavy losses have been incurred in the northern waters.

What are the figures of enemy shipping? Until July 10 the total losses had amounted to 3,391,000 tons. For the four weeks ending July 10 the losses amounted to 180,000 tons, the loss for the preceding month having been 299,000 tons. To these figures must be added another 100,000 tons of shipping put out of action at Rotterdam. A million tons of shipping are either laid up in neutral harbours or have been seized by the United States and South American Republics. Thus it is stated that while more than a half of the Axis pre-war shipping tonnage is now out of action, Great Britain has lost between a quarter and a fifth of her pre-war tonnage.

WAR IN THE AIR

The tremendous increase in the fighting power of the Royal Air Force is having its effect on German war production. The Ruhr has had very frequent visits by British bombers and a German newspaper had said: "The destiny of the Ruhr is the destiny of Germany." It is known that between June 16 and July 10, the R.A.F. has dropped a thousand tons of bombs on Cologne which had been raided 55 times in 1940 and more than 500 tons on Bremen which had experienced 52 raids last year. The Ruhr, which is responsible for 73 per cent of Germany's total output of hard coal, 71 per cent of her coke, 69 per cent of her steel ingots and castings and more than 40 per cent of her electric power, received 2,000 tons during the same period.

As the nights are growing longer the night bombers of Great Britain are able to penetrate further and further into Germany. A fact that should be remembered is that the R.A.F. has more and better bombers now than was the case last winter. Britain's home production is increasing and this is being added to, to the extent of 300 American-made war planes each month, 3,500 of which have arrived safely in England already. Another fact that must be borne in mind is, Britain and America unlike Germany, which is only improving on old types of aircraft, are producing numerous entirely new types of aircraft, designed to meet new situations. It looks almost as if the inferiority in the air of Great Britain at the beginning of the war was not altogether a disadvantage.

The other day a description was given in Parliament of a new fighter which can fly at 40,000 feet, far beyond the range of anti-aircraft fire and search-lights. Of course, the German bombers have been over Britain's aircraft factories, but the damage has been very slight, while the German factories have had 14 months bombardment by the Royal Air Force and there is positive proof that, besides such losses as have been incurred by Germany in the factories, 6,000 German planes have been definitely destroyed by British and 1,500 by Allied action. It should also be borne in mind that daylight bomber and fighter sweeps over communications and supply vessels in Germany have compelled a large number of German pilots to return to Northern France from where they have been sent to the eastern front. Nevertheless, as recent statistics have shown, the R.A.F. has superiority in the air and by these sweeps it has given tangible aid to Russia. Sir Archibald Sinclair stated in the House of Commons on Wednesday: "We are compelling the enemy to maintain a large Air Force in the West to resist our growing assault." The incidental gain has been that fewer air raids have been made over Great Britain. In June only 175 men, 160 women and 64 children under 16 years of age, i.e., altogether 399 people, were killed, while 461 were injured. To the end of June 1941 18,314 people were killed in air raids, compared with 23,960 killed in the second part of last year.

Besides these attacks on land the aircraft of the Bomber Command had worked on enemy shipping. From March 12 to July 16, 250 enemy ships had been bombed of which more than half had been sunk. As is well known, in the raid on Rotterdam on July 16, 17 vessels of 10,000 tons were put out of action and five more of 5,000 tons were severely damaged.

JAPAN MOVES SOUTH

A serious move has been made in the Far East. Japan has demanded from Indo-China authorities the lease of air and naval bases in South Indo-China. The twenty-four hours ultimatum, which has been denied, is also said to demand complete occupation of Indo-China by Japanese troops. The Vichy authorities are stated to have given naval and air facilities as well as permission to maintain troops on an assurance that sovereignty will not be effected. Though Marshal Petain spoke of France having to defend her colonies, he has not been able to resist the pressure of Germany to give in to Japanese demands. Plans, it is said, had been prepared for a move against Indo-China immediately, should Vichy be obstinate, involving the occupation of Camranh Bay and landing of troops at Saigon.

The ostensible reason for this move is that Great Britain has some unspecified designs in Indo-China—an example of totalitarian tactics preceding aggression with which the world has become only too painfully familiar. Mr. Anthony Eden has clearly and categorically denied this innuendo. Speaking in the House of Commons on Wednesday he said :—

" I welcome this opportunity, therefore to state that the alleged designs of Great Britain in both these countries are entirely non-existent. As regards Indo-China, our relations have been much restricted since the collapse of France, though a limited amount of trade continues. As regards Thailand, our policy is governed by our Treaty of Non-Aggression with that country. It is not designed to obtain exclusive advantage and it is not directed against a third party, except in so far as such a third party may attempt to interfere with our neighbourly relations, political, economic and otherwise, which have always existed between Great Britain and Thailand. "

America has denounced Japan as an aggressor country and as desiring the *status quo* in the Pacific by duress and threat of force. Great importance should be attached to the statement of Mr. Sumner Wells on Thursday that this move constituted preparation for further " movements of conquest in the adjacent areas and that the facilities granted in South Indo-China would " endanger peaceful use by peaceful nations of the Pacific." The safety of the Phillipines and security of the United States, he declared, would be jeopardized by this action. The Phillipines and the Dutch East Indies are fully prepared to meet any developments.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, Mr. Eden's statement should satisfy all reasonable people about the absolute untruth of the allegation on which Japan is said to base its action. For the rest, great satisfaction is felt in Malaya with the statement of Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke Popham, Commander-in-Chief in the Far East : " We are fully prepared, come what may. We are confident that, whatever the British forces in the Far East may be called upon to perform, it will not find us wanting." As for America, reports about any immediate action against Japan should be taken with the greatest possible reserve. But it is reasonable to expect that joint Anglo-American action in the economic field is very likely and it is possible that the United States may stop gold purchases, freeze Japanese assets and completely stop the export of essential commodities to Japan.

There are also reports that the southern drive is only a smoke screen for activities contemplated against Siberia, towards which large Japanese troops are said to be moving. But it is not probable that Japan will do so unless she feels that Russia is definitely breaking down in the Russo-German war.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 5)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 15th July 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 9	Nil.	4 night bombers.
July 10	Nil.	1 night fighter (Me. 109 F. crashed in Kent) ; 2 night bombers.
July 11	Nil.	1 day bomber.
July 12	Nil.	..
July 13	Nil.	2 night bombers.
July 14	Nil.	2 day bombers.
July 15	Nil.	..

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

MONTH'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

On Sunday, July 22, the German campaign in Russia entered its second month. The invaders made fairly rapid progress at first, forcing the Soviet troops practically out of all territory occupied by the Russian Government after hostilities had broken out between the Allies and Germany (in 1939). The foresight of M. Stalin in securing the buffer states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and a large slice of Eastern Poland as well as Bessarabia has stood in good stead the Russian forces now opposing the German advance towards Leningrad and Moscow. The Russians have inflicted heavy punishment on the Germans for entering these territories on the borders of Russia proper. It was only after 26 days of fierce fighting that the Germans began to feel their way in Russian territory.

In the northern sector, they are now definitely threatening Pskov and Novgorod—not to be confused with Novograd-Volynsk, south of Minsk on the old Russian-Polish border. These two towns are about 125 miles south of Leningrad, Pskov on the Latvian-Russian border and Novgorod about 120 miles north-east of Pskov. A strong Russian army bars the way to Leningrad ; and it is clear that the Finns in the Lake Ladoga region under Marshal Mannerheim still hesitate to challenge this army though the Germans have vicariously claimed several successes for their allies.

SMOLENSK IN RUSSIAN HANDS

It has taken the Germans in the Central sector a whole month to traverse the 130 odd miles of territory in White Russia leading to the industrial town of Smolensk, about 200 miles to the west of Moscow. The Germans claim to have taken Smolensk and advanced beyond it but the latest Russian communiques speak of severe fighting round Smolensk itself. And Marshal Timoshenko is reported to have recaptured the town itself with his storm detachments. The Germans advanced in a wide front across the demarcation line in Poland on June 22, and they rapidly overran the Polish territory. In the first place, they announced the encirclement and capture of a large number of Russian troops in Lithuania and the Bialystok area. The Russians, however, state that these forces are fighting a guerilla action behind the German lines.

The German and Rumanian forces in the southern sector, which have as their objective the Ukraine capital city of Kiev, are still in Bessarabia. The Germans, it is true, took Lwow but they met with such severe resistance that they abandoned the line and developed a new thrust from Luck towards Kiev. It is evident that the Russians anticipated a German attack in the south and made elaborate preparations to meet it. The Rumanians now claim to have occupied Kishinev (Chisinan in Rumanian), the capital of Bessarabia, while the Germans have also announced the capture of Novograd-Volynsk, just inside Russia proper, which they reached on 4th July.

Incidentally it may be noted that, following the instructions given by M. Stalin, the Russians are destroying every single thing of value before retiring. Kishinev, for instance, was completely set on fire before the Russians evacuated it. And the Russian guerilla forces, in the areas occupied by the Germans, are performing prodigies of valour and taking a heavy toll of German troops and munitions.

LONG WAY OFF FROM OBJECTIVES

Thus, after a month of very fierce fighting, the Germans are still a long way off from their three main objectives of Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev. And the attack on the " Stalin Line " itself still hangs fire though the Germans have periodically claimed to have breached it at several points.

But this is not to say that the Russian position is not exposed to serious danger. German tank thrusts have made three marked bulges or salients in the Russian front—in the region of Pskov-Porkhov, near Smolensk and lastly towards Kiev. But the Soviet forces are not committing the mistakes of the French last year; they are doing everything to hold the main body of the motorized troops while the advanced armoured columns, the spear-heads, are dealt with by counter-tank action. But Hitler is recklessly throwing men and machines into the fray and the Nazi drive into Russia proper has attained a disquietingly large depth in the Smolensk region. The Germans claim to have widened the gap between Vitebek and Mobilev of which Smolensk is the centre; they are obviously determined to prevent the Russians closing in behind the advanced tanks and cutting them off from the main body of the German troops. A similar situation prevails in the region between Novograd-Volynsk and Kiev. Everything depends on the ability of the Red Army to hold the German motorized divisions while rounding up the advanced tank columns.

It is instructive to compare the progress made by Napoleon in 1812 with that of the Germans now. After crossing the frontier into Russia on June 24—Hitler's troops marched in on June 22 this year—Napoleon reached Smolensk on August 16 after vainly trying to encircle the Russians in much the same fashion as the Nazis. Thanks to the mechanization of the modern army, the Germans are in advance of Napoleon's time-table but they too, have so far failed to administer the mortal blow to the Russians.

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"V" FOR VICTORY CAMPAIGN

MOBILIZING EUROPE'S "INVISIBLE ARMY"

The "V" for Victory campaign formally inaugurated by Mr. Churchill is part of the war of nerves carried on in occupied territories simultaneously with the air war. July 20 was the date which Colonel Britton, who broadcasts regularly from the British Broadcasting Corporation to enemy occupied countries, fixed for the opening of the "V" campaign in those countries. Colonel Britton —the man who hovers over Europe like a cloud menacing with a thunderstorm the Nazi regime in the conquered lands—hovers over London in a fashion almost as vague. He broadcasts—but the British Broadcasting Corporation will disclose nothing of him. There is a rumour that he is in M-15 (the Bureau of Military Intelligence) but M-15 plainly disclaims any knowledge of him. Another version gives him the title "Head of Counter Espionage" but the War Office flatly denies any cognizance of him. There are two other versions; one says he is Air Adviser to the Foreign Office and the other that he is the Foreign Adviser to the Air Ministry. Again both these reports are denied in official quarters. In the meantime, at his behest, the symbol "V" is scrawled on half the walls of Europe; streets are littered with paper cut into "V" shape; cigars sliced into diagonals to form the letter "V". According to a despatch from Copenhagen, the Nazis at first took stern steps in Denmark to repress the use of the Allies' Victory signal "V". One man, it is reported, was sent to prison for 40 days for writing "Victory" on an office occupied by the German military authorities. And well might the Nazis fear that symbol. "The 'V' sign is portent of the fate awaiting Nazi tyranny" said Mr. Churchill in a message to occupied countries on the 20th July.

MESSAGE TO OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

Broadcasting at 10 o'clock the same night, Colonel Britton said: "I come to the studio to-night with a message for all the occupied countries. It is just past midnight—July 20 —and the mobilization of the V army has begun. The message to you is from the British Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill. Here it is: The "V" sign is the symbol of the unconquerable will of the occupied territories and a portent of the fate awaiting Nazi tyrrany. As long as the peoples of Europe continue to refuse all collaboration with the invader, it is sure that his cause will perish and Europe will be liberated.' That is Mr. Churchill's July 20th message to you. I have said that the mobilization of the vast army has begun. At this moment, men and women all over Europe are dedicating themselves to the continuation of this war against Nazi Germany until the 'V'—the sign of victory and freedom—is triumphant. In a few minutes, there will be millions of new 'Vs' on walls, doors and pavements all over Europe. It is dark now. If you listen, you may hear distant bugles sounding the 'V' rhythm, drums tapping or a train whistle sounded by one of your comrades. Darkness is your chance too. Put your 'V' up as a member of this vast army. Do it during daytime too. Your friends will be doing it from one end of Europe to the other. Do not forget the 'V' sound. Tap it out so that your comrades of the 'V' army hear it and the Germans hear it too. They must pretend that they like it but they do not. One word more —the 'V' army must be a disciplined army. When the moment comes, it will act in such a way that the Germans are powerless. To-day we sign on. Good luck to you."

Earlier, Colonel Britton had stated that the act of establishment in the "V" army, Europe's invisible army of many millions, is simple.

"You are asked to do two things. Firstly, to take a vow at the earliest moment on Sunday, July 20th, to continue faithfully this fight in the best way you can for your country's independence and honour and that of the other nations enslaved by the Nazi Germans. Secondly, you are asked to take every opportunity on this Sunday to demonstrate to the Germans the mobilization of the 'V' army by putting 'Vs' on the wall and everywhere you can put them and by beating out the 'V' sound whenever you get a chance. Let 'V' be splashed from one end of Europe to the other. Good luck to you."

GERMANS' CHAGRIN

The degree of anxiety manifested by Germany because of the widespread character of the campaign was indicated by Dr. Goebbels' attempt to appropriate the "V" sign for his own purposes. To make "V" stand for Victory, the German propaganda department has produced the practically unknown word *Viktoria* which the German dictionaries define as a foreign word. The equal German word for it is *Seig*. Widespread blazoning of the anti-German "V" for Victory sign was admitted by the German radio. That radio claimed that "V" stood for *Viktoria*. The German radio stated "In Prague, the sign appears on walls, in cinemas, on tramcars and buses and recently it was printed across newspapers. The same thing happened in Cracow, Warsaw and in other Polish towns, in Denmark, Norway, Holland and Belgium and in short, everywhere where German troops are. In Paris, there suddenly appeared huge streamers on the Eiffel Tower which bore the 'V' sign and postcards with the sign were in great

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AMERICA AND THE CRISIS

THE ATLANTIC

America feels that there is a threat to her safety both in the Atlantic and in the Pacific and is preparing to meet such emergencies as may arise. She has already taken three important measures.

(1) President Roosevelt has re-asserted the ancient American doctrine of freedom of the seas.

(2) He has asked the American Fleet to defend the Western Hemisphere by extending its patrols far into the Atlantic. *The London Times* has characterised his action "as nothing less than a transformation of the United States from a Continental into an Oceanic Power."

(3) Reports had reached America of German troop concentrations and invasion practice in the northern ports of Norway. Recently measures had also been taken in Bergen which had raised the suspicion that secret manoeuvres were being held. Further, German broadcasts in the Icelandic language have been stressing the Nordic bond between the Germans and the people of Iceland. The authorities of the United States forestalled the contemplated German thrust from the north by the way of Iceland, Greenland and Newfoundland, by sending her troops to Iceland, which is 600 miles from the Scottish ports. This means that the duty has devolved on the American Fleet of protecting American ships up to 3,000 miles across the Atlantic, an area considered by Germany as a combat zone. These steps are, of course, in addition to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act enabling America to send 7 million dollars worth of war supplies of every description to Great Britain and other countries in war with Germany, the leasing of 50 destroyers from her Navy and the provision of many hundreds of tons of shipping monthly to Great Britain and sending war-planes of the latest types and ammunition. There is, of course, an apprehension that there may be a German thrust to the south on America by way of Dakar and Brazil. This point is now being actively discussed both in Great Britain and in America and various suggestions are being made such as lending a naval base in South Africa south of the Gambia.

THE PACIFIC

America is no less interested in her security in the Pacific. It is possible that Hitler thought that American pre-occupation with Japan in the Pacific would prevent any initiative being taken in the Atlantic. Germany has been disappointed in that hope. On the other hand, the United States Government have promised aid to Russia in the war against Germany, of course, care being taken to have this done without throwing Japan into the Axis camp. It is significant that America has not yet declared that a state of war exists between Russia and Germany and this means, of course, that American vessels would continue to carry war materials to Vladivostock. Japan wants large quantities of rubber and tin and she may not like the conversion of Vladivostock into an American supply base for these articles. The German and Italian press have been asking Japan to proclaim a security zone including Vladivostock, but Germany has also, to all intents and purposes, been bringing pressure on Japan to move south against Indo-China, the Dutch East Indies and Singapore, in the expectation that a war might be provoked, relieving Germany of American and British pressure. But America, as England, is here again prepared to meet any contingency because she is quite aware of the nature of the motives inspiring Germany in her relations with Japan. American statesmen have been saying that there is no reason whatever why the relations between Japan and America should deteriorate. The position has been neatly analysed by Lord Halifax who stated the other day in discussing the Far Eastern situation, that it was the settled policy of the British Government "and I have no doubt of the United States Government, to do all in their power to preserve peace in the Pacific. There is not the slightest desire on their part to pick a quarrel with Japan and, provided she is willing to approach questions which affect her in the Far East with due regard to the rights of other interested Powers. I cannot see why any difficulty need arise which might lead to a clash. But no one should make the mistake of thinking that, under the pressure of the European struggle, Britain would be prepared to allow her legitimate rights and interests in other parts of the world to be ignored or set aside. There are certain nations which cannot be intimidated or bullied into accepting action by other powers which might be against their own best interests."

THE PRESIDENT'S WARNING

President Roosevent has again warned the American public against the German threat to America. Here are a few points which he made in his message to the Congress on Monday last:—

(1) "The international situation is not less grave but far more grave than it was a year ago. It is so grave in my opinion and in the opinion of all who are conversant with facts that the Army should be maintained at effective strength and without dimunition of its effective numbers in a complete state of readiness."

(2) Effective strength of the Army should be maintained during the coming year and training should be given to as many additional Americans as possible because it would be a

(*Continued on Page* 15.)

GUARDING THE GATES

AMERICAN TROOPS IN ICELAND

Iceland is 3,000 miles from New York. American forces have been sent to help Britain in guarding Iceland from Axis attack.

Suez is 2,300 miles from Karachi. On the same well-founded principle of defence in depth, India's soldiers help their British comrades-in-arms to hold this vital outpost.

Between Europe and India lie Middle Eastern countries whose security from Axis ambitions is bound up with the security of India herself. Enemy attempts, whether by force or intrigue or bribery, to seize such countries, to cut communications and establish bases for further attacks, must be met and defeated. They have been met and defeated in Iraq and in Syria.

Britain has no more intention of "attacking" Middle Eastern countries than America has of "attacking" the Atlantic Ocean. Both areas, of land and sea, must be guarded from Hitler's depredations and kept open for the legitimate purposes of all who move and trade across them.

In terms of time and space the Battle of the Atlantic is a far vaster operation than the struggle in Russia. The area in which it is fought is one of 40 million square miles—the hunting down of the *Bismarck* alone took place over an area of 5 million square miles.

The great contest between commerce protection and commerce destruction has been proceeding now without a pause for nearly 100 weeks. "On any one day," said Mr. Churchill recently, "there are 2,000 ships at sea sailing for the Allied cause, and between 300 and 400 of them are in the danger zone."

FORESTALLING THE NAZIS

Hitler had long had his eye on Iceland. Six months before the war began he tried to bully the Icelanders into giving him an air-base on their soil, but they refused.

In May 1940, when the Germans had seized Norwegian bases and were about to fall upon Holland and Belgium, British reinforcements were sent to help the small Iceland police force to hold the island against Nazi designs.

More recently, with the Battle of the Atlantic beginning to run against him and the tide of American supplies to Britain mounting higher, Hitler looked again toward Iceland.

In German hands Iceland could be a base of the first importance not only for commerce raiding by sea and air in the North Atlantic, but also for an attack on the American continent via Greenland.

There is one more temptation for the German jack-boot—Iceland has a free parliament

So German broadcasts in Icelandic began to talk at length of the "Nordic bond" between the peoples of Germany and Iceland. German troops in Northern Norway prepared to inflict Nordic bondage on Iceland by holding invasion practices. A large area of Norway was made a military zone, and residents were forbidden to look out of their windows.

But London and Washington knew. The Government of Iceland also recognized their danger. American help came in time, and Dr. Goebbels could only storm: "President Roosevelt's action unmasks him as an ally of Bolshevism and as a Yankee imperialist who rapes small nations on the European continent."

"V" FOR VICTORY CAMPAIGN—(*Continued from Page* 10)

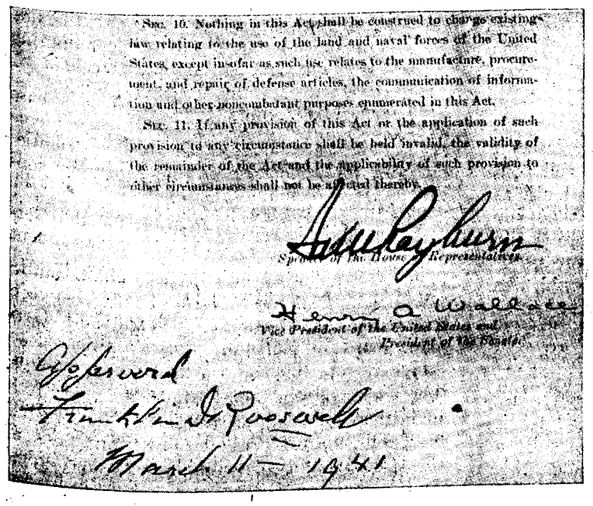
demand throughout occupied France." Dr. Goebbels does not explain why, until now, the people who chalked the sign on walls should have thought it highly necessary to do it at night or why occupied countries longing for German victory should have expressed their hopes in such unlikely places as on the backs of German officers. And Colonel Britton promptly replied to the Germans by asking their Propaganda Minister to turn to the New Testament—"If you have got a Bible"—Book V, Chapter V, Verse V, which reads: "And Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and gave up the ghost; and great fear came on all them that heard these things."

IN AMERICA

High on the Indiana County Court House in the United States of America, a ten-foot aluminium coloured 'V' was placed 300 feet above the heads of the curious townfolk who were quick to grasp its significance. The sign was bathed in floodlights. "The most amazing piece of propaganda devised in this war" in one American radio commentator's description of the 'V' for Victory Campaign. *The New York Herald Tribune* declares, "For those in occupied territories, German capitulation to the 'V' must come as a pure joy. Now they can chalk up the symbol, tap it out in Morse code or thunder out the Fifth Symphony's beat, unmolested and with the full consciousness that the Germans have openly admitted their inability to check the swelling chorus of freedom."

IMPORTANT AMERICAN DOCUMENTS

The following are reproductions of important American documents relating to the Lease and Lend Act for which we are indebted to Hutchinson's 'Pictorial History of the War'. The top one is a portion of the Act bearing President Roosevelt's signature and the signature of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate. The bottom one is the President's letter asking Congress for appropriation for helping nations at war with Germany:—



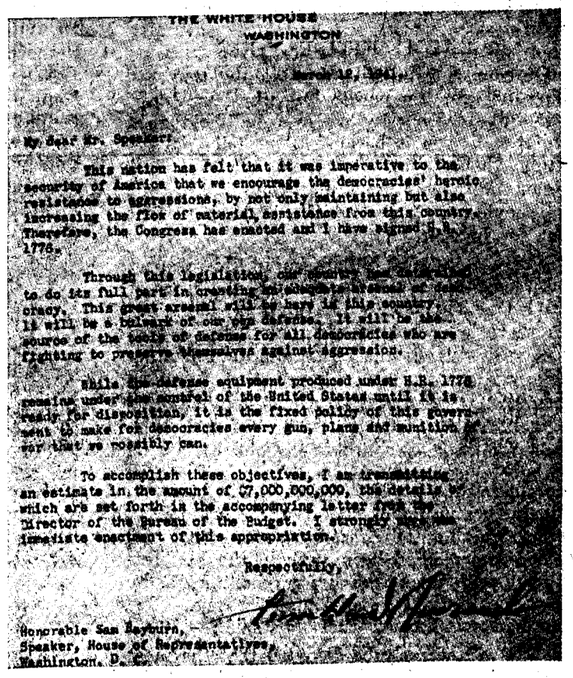
"Sec. 10. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to change existing law relating to the use of the land and naval forces of the United States, except insofar as such use relates to the manufacture, procurement, and repair of defense articles, the communication of information and other noncombatant purposes enumerated in this Act.

Sec. 11. If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any circumstance shall be held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the Act and the applicability of such provision to other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Sam Rayburn
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Henry A. Wallace
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

March 11—1941



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1941.

My dear Mr. Speaker:

This nation has felt that it was imperative to the security of America that we encourage the democracies' heroic resistance to aggressions, by not only maintaining but also increasing the flow of material assistance from this country. Therefore, the Congress has enacted and I have signed H.R. 1776.

Through this legislation the country has declared to do its full part in creating the arsenal of democracy. This great arsenal will be here in this country. It will be a bulwark of our own defense. It will be the source of the tools of defense for all democracies who are fighting to preserve themselves against aggression.

While the defense equipment produced under H.R. 1776 remains under the control of the United States until it is ready for disposition, it is the fixed policy of this Government to make for democracies every gun, plane and munition of war that we possibly can.

To accomplish these objectives, I am transmitting an estimate in the amount of $7,000,000,000, the details of which are set forth in the accompanying letter from the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. I strongly urge the immediate enactment of this appropriation.

Respectfully,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Sam Rayburn,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

TRUTH IS SLOWER THAN FICTION

A FEW FACTS

Sir Walter Monckton, Director-General of the Ministry of Information, in the course of a recent broadcast from the British Broadcasting Corporation, stated a few facts about the Ministry which should be of interest. He said :—

I expect you have often said : Why doesn't the Ministry of Information give us more news? ' Why doesn't it tell us more quickly? Why is it so often behind the Germans? ' Why does the British Broadcasting Corporation announce news in such a dull fashion? ' These are just the questions about which I should like to say a word.

Let us start with first things first. The principle which guides us about news is to tell the truth and nothing but the truth. (The Germans have no such principle as I shall show you.) We should like to tell you, not only the truth, but the whole truth as soon as we can get it. We know that you can take it—and take it much more easily than silence. In the Ministry we have never had any doubt about that. We should like you to regard the giving and receiving of news as a kind of partnership in which there is mutual confidence and co-operation. If we try to get you the news as fully and as quickly as we can, we want you, on your part, not to lose confidence if you have to wait for it and not to make up for lack of news by a crop of rumours. But if you are to do this for us, we must help you to understand the difficulties we have in doing our part of the work.

ENEMY KITE-FLYING

Of course, it must often happen that we have not got the news : but when we have, the only reason why we ever withhold anything from you is because if we tell you, we cannot help telling the enemy at the same time. And there are some things it is better he should not know—or should have to find out for himself.

There is a great difference in this respect between the present war and the war of 1914–18. This time we have got broadcasting, so that the whole world can listen. This time this island, our cities and our countryside, are in the front line, so that information about what is going on here is much more valuable to the enemy than it was last time. And what's more, the enemy is always trying to coax information out of us, by what I can only describe as " Kite flying ". For instance, at the beginning of this year he wanted to know whether the *Illustrious*, one of our aircraft carriers, had been sunk in the Mediterranean action. So on January 20, 1941, he flew his kite. It was done this way. The German wireless on that day said :—

It will scarcely be disputed that the most serious loss the Navy suffered was that of the *Illustrious*. Whether she lingers on the surface or has gone to the bottom, it is quite certain that she cannot be used any more during the course of the war.

It was tempting to say she had not gone to the bottom and that she would be a lot more use to us before the war was over. But that was just what the enemy wanted to know. And if he was told, it might risk the lives of our men. So he was not told and everyone had to endure the silence till she was repaired and safely away, and then, twenty days later, on February 9, the Prime Minister told you the true story in these words :

" All the necessary repairs were made to the *Illustrious* in Malta harbour and she steamed safely off to Alexandria under her own power at 23 knots."

You will understand now what I mean when I say that in giving you the news we try to tell you the truth and nothing but the truth, but we cannot always tell you the whole truth as quickly as we wish.

HITLER'S PREFERENCE FOR THE BIG LIE

But the Germans, as I said, work on a quite different principle. They tell the truth when it suits them and a lie when it doesn't. They always said they would do this; it is in Hitler's bible, *Mein Kampf*. ' Propaganda,' he wrote, ' must present only that aspect of the truth which is favourable to its own side.' And he expressed a preference for the big lie on the ground that the broad masses of the nation more readily fall victims to the big than to the small lie.

Now the enemy gets certain advantages from not worrying whether he tells the truth or not. His method is quicker than ours. If we want to tell the truth, we have got to find it out first. When the fighting is a long way off and confused, the truth takes time to discover. We may have to wait for news of a naval engagement until H.M. ships have got back to harbour. And it's a long way from Matapan back to harbour. To use wireless before getting back to port might betray the position of our ships. Or again, if we want to tell the truth about the results of an air raid on Germany, we must wait till the pilots have got back and they and their reports have been carefully examined. But the Germans can, and do tell you what they want you to hear, true or false—or (more often) half true and half false—as soon as they wish.

Finding out the truth is a slow business. If you are prepared to fill in gaps by invention, you can save a lot of time. But you save it at some cost. And I am quite sure of one thing, that we must stick to our rule of trying to find out and tell the truth and nothing but the truth. It is because we try to do this that people listen to our news and rely on it not only in British and Allied countries, but in neutral countries, in enemy-occupied territories and even in Germany and in Italy themselves. If it be said that we are not always first with the news, I say that depends on what you mean by the news. We are first with what can be relied upon as the truth.

But when we have got the facts we haven't finished. How are we going to present those facts to the world? We cannot hope to satisfy all tastes. We can only do our best to see that news is presented honestly and simply.

NO EASY HOPES OR LIES

I have spent most of my time in talking about news because news must be by far the most important interest of a Ministry of Publicity. ' But what is it,' you may well ask, ' apart from news about events, which by various means we seek to put out?' Well, we tell the world exactly what we are fighting for. We explain what is involved in this struggle for freedom; the right to think, to speak, to act and to worship according to our consciences. And we show what would inevitably follow if we lost this war. We point out what it has meant in those countries which the enemy has already overrun. Nobody doubts that if Hitler won he would make it pretty hot for us. Our way of life would be rather different when we become a ' second-class folk ' with the duty of ministering to the ' master race,' the Germans. Here is a recent quotation from one of Hitler's newspapers which shows what he would like to do to us : ' We will bring to Britain a revolution of blood and tears which as a punishment will reduce the British population to degradation and poverty.' Well, it's part of our job to explain all this in plain language to the whole world. We must show that the freedom we are fighting for is no abstract idea but is the essential principle which, for us, makes life worth living. It is a real thing : it is bred in us; it springs from the earth from which we come. If you want to appreciate the truth of this, think of the places which you love best. For me, it is the good red earth of Devon; the stony wildness of Dartmoor; the orchards, the cast-houses and the hop gardens of Kent. For you—I wonder what place you are thinking of, but I am sure it is somewhere (like mine) for free men to live in. This sort of freedom is not to be preserved by complacency or lying :—

No easy hopes or lies
Shall bring us to the goal,
But iron sacrifice
Of body, will and soul.

In the Ministry of Information we can take our humble share in this discipline. For the Ministry in which we serve is your watch-tower. And we shall go on telling you from it—not what we should like to see—but what we do see. Still, in the blackest night we shall have with us the lamp of sure and certain hope. Till then, we, like you, shall wait patiently and cheerfully. In the darkest watch we know that in the end we shall feel on our faces the breath of the morning, and our eyes will catch the first flush of dawn. When the day comes, it will have been worth the agony of waiting and watching to be able to bring you the good tidings of victory. Do you remember how they asked the watchman in the old days, much as you ask us to-day, ' Whatchman, what of the night? ' and the watchman said, as we shall say, ' The morning cometh.'

AMERICA AND THE CRISIS

(*Continued from Page* 11)

tragic error to eliminate two-thirds of the trained soldiers and three-quarters of the officers personnel.

(3) Permitting the present army to melt away would be disastrous and set back the training and expansion programme by at least six months.

(4) " I do believe—I know—that the danger to-day is infinitely greater. I do believe—I know—in all truth we are in the midst of a national emergency."

(5) Describing the technique adopted by Germany, President Roosevelt pointed out, " Every move up, down, and across Europe and into Asia and Africa has been conducted according to a time schedule, utilizing in every case overwhelming superiority not only in material but also in trained men. Each campaign has been based on disarming fear and gaining time until the German Government was fully ready to throw treaties and pacts to the winds and simultaneously launch an attack in overwhelming force."

AMERICAN PRECAUTIONS

That is why President Roosevelt has asked the Congress for the extension of one year period of active service in the Army for Selectees, National Guardsmen and Reserves. Newspaper forecasts cannot obviously be believed, but speculation is rife that any or all the following measures might be taken :—

(1) The American Navy may be told to treat U-boats or air raiders as pirates and deal with them as such.

(2) American pilots can fly their machines direct to Britain instead of they being handed over to the British ferry service.

(3) A closer watch would be maintained on Nazi infiltration to the Azores, the Cape Verde Islands and Dakar.

No wonder that German newspapers now consider United States as enemy No. I and President Roosevelt is stated to be aiming at world domination!

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

CAPTAIN FALLS'S COMMENTARY

Captain Cyril Falls is a familiar name to listeners of the British Broadcasting Corporation. His commentary, delivered on July 18, on the Russo-German war will be read with interest :—

" One of the greatest campaigns in the whole history of warfare " he said, " is now coming to the end of its fourth week. . . Many people who were as eager as anyone to see the Russians do well feared that by this time the enemy would have gained some decisive success. They know that the Russian army was the only one in the world which approached that of Germany in strength and armament. They knew that the Russians possessed vast numbers of tanks, probably considerably more than the Germans themselves, and as many aircraft at least as the Germans could bring against them. They knew that the Russians had made a big study of mechanized war. They knew that the Russian soldier, Tsarist or Soviet, had always been extremely tough, and particularly formidable in his own territory. Yet they feared a worse state of affairs than has actually come to pass . . .

" I am far from saying that this fear was without ground. I wish I could say that I thought the sting had already been taken out of the German attack, but I very decidedly do not. What I do feel is that after a campaign of nearly a month, a lengthy period measured by the standards of *blitzkrieg*, which imposes a heavy strain on the attacker as well as on the defender, that after nearly a month the enemy is still far short of the decision. Apart from taking a great number of prisoners and capturing or destroying great quantities of materials, he has made advances deep enough to put objectives of very great importance into very grave peril. But, he has as yet neither captured those objectives nor deprived the Russian army of its fighting power, still less destroyed it . .

" It seems to me that so far the Germans have as yet scarcely achieved solid enough successes to repay them for their tremendous effort. And I can't resist believing that they have been disagreeably surprised by the resistance and determination of the Russians. . .

THREAT TO LENINGRAD

" One of the most serious German threats has been promptly recognized by the Russians and was dealt with by powerful counter-attacks on Tuesday, in the course of which heavy losses were inflicted on the German armoured and motorized forces. I am talking now of the offensive from Estonia, East of Lake Peypus, in the direction of Leningrad. This threat is all the more acute because the Finns in the North are at the same time exercising strong pressure on the Karelian Isthmus, and there is reason to believe that the Russian counter-offensive has not yet extinguished the danger.

" At the first sight you might say that Leningrad is a secondary objective, not nearly so important as Moscow and probably less important than Kiev. But as I read the situation, its significance is as follows: Kronstadt, close by, is the base of the Russian Baltic fleet. The other bases, such as Tallion, and Hango in Finland, are closely beleaguered and it's not even certain whether the Russians still hold Tallion. The Russian fleet is strong enough to be mistress of the Baltic. It recently carried out a devastating attack on a big German convoy of troopships, which was presumably on its way to Finland. If it could be put out of action, by the capture of Leningrad, the Baltic would become a German lake.

" This might also have an important effect on the land fighting, because the enemy might establish a big advance base at Leningrad which he could supply by sea better than he can now supply his forces along his lines of communications running through Estonia and Latvia. He might be able to put greater weight into his drive to Moscow and he would certainly be able to occupy Murmansk and the railway running from it. That is a very great danger, which as I say, the Russians have fully recognized and which they have taken vigorous steps to meet, but which they have not as yet succeeded in dissipating.

CENTRAL OFFENSIVES

" On the two other great offensives in the direction of Moscow and Kiev, there is little more to be said. You have all read and heard on the radio of the tremendous tank battles which are raging in those two quarters North and South of the huge Prypet Marshes. The great importance of these two cities, one the capital of the whole U.S.S.R. the other that of the republic of Ukraine, is that from the point of view of administration, organization and transport, their loss to Russia—if they were to be lost and, the enemy hasn't got either of them as yet—would be mainly that it would greatly increase the difficulty of keeping the political and military machine working well. But even if either or both were to be lost, the campaign would not be lost as long as the Russians could still keep those machines working, so long as their forces remained in being with a will to fight on. . .

(*Continued on Page 20*) →

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Wind Blows Cold

The Axis accomplices have failed to conceal their concern over Roosevelt's latest move in sending American forces to Iceland. Both Rome and Berlin have labelled the President's action as " rape," " invasion," " aggression." Rome talked of " round-about interventionism " (July 12) and foreshadowed American occupation of Northern Ireland and Scotland. " America is on the march," said the announcer. " Europe is the target. Step by step, Mr. Roosevelt is pushing ahead," but he darkly hinted that the President would not emulate John Brown's soul and " go marching on." No! " Greenland, Iceland, and then—then the Axis turns up and the American imperialism gets a taste of what European coalition is made of."

Shades of Matapan and Taranto

But two days earlier (July 10), Rome had been at pains to explain why Roosevelt had no excuse for occupying Iceland. And the reason?

" Iceland cannot be attacked by sea as Germany has not a sufficient fleet to do so."

Then, as a sort of afterthought, " and furthermore, 60,000 British soldiers were garrisoned on the island."

Peeved at their own navy's failure in the Mediterranean, the Italians are glad of the chance to get a sly dig at Raeder's defeats—at least two capital ships, five cruisers, 11 destroyers and 70 submarines definitely sunk, not to mention the battle ships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* and cruiser *Prinz Eugen* lying winged and winded in dock at Brest, where they have been visited regularly by the Royal Air Force and attacked with heavy armour-piercing bombs for three months past.

Mussolini's " Empire "

Rome (July 10) broadcast what amounted to a funeral oration on the Italian Army of nearly a quarter million that has " lost itself " in East Africa. The soldiers' " sacrifice " was described as " an everlasting testimonial of Italy's contribution on African territory for the final victory which the Allied Axis Powers will achieve."

Broadcasting from the same radio just three months ago, Signor Ansaldo said :—

" Never has the whole of Italy felt with such certainty that, in the long centuries to come, she will be mistress in Africa."

Now Italy is not even mistress in her own homeland. The German weekly paper *Das Reich* classifies Italy as one of the " occupied countries." At a cost of half a million casualties, Mussolini has lost his empire and Nazi bailiffs are esconced in his head office. The gambler is bankrupt.

Profitable Sacrifice

" At present," says Lord Haw Haw (July 13), " Churchill is sacrificing a large number of planes in order to carry out daylight raids over the occupied and German coastal territory for purely propaganda purposes. He wishes first to create the illusion that he is helping Russia and secondly to cheer up the British public with the old legends of R.A.F. superiority."

In these raids last week the Royal Air Force " sacrificed " 85 machines, but destroyed 82 German aircraft.

Four days before Lord Haw Haw went on the air, Berlin announcers told the German people that these Royal Air Force attacks " unfortunately cannot yet be prevented altogether " and they " will continue to have disagreeable effects."

Air Aid to Russia

Berlin told us on July 10 that " The British air attacks on the Channel coast and open German towns, as for instance the old town of Munster, can in no way influence the great decision in the East."

Royal Air Force aid to Russia consists mainly in the systematic blasting of communications behind the German lines. Munster, which the Germans choose to call an " open town," is an important railway centre, is used as an air base and includes a military barracks.

Errors of Judgment

On July 8, Berlin reported " a particularly successful raid on the harbour installations of Portsmouth " on Monday night and claimed to have inflicted heavy damage on the naval dock-yard there.

The German pilots seem to have lost their bearings, for, in the first sharp raid on Britain for nearly three weeks, it was Southampton that suffered. Southampton is 20 miles to the north-west of Portsmouth.

An Italian pilot made a similar mistake on July 12, when he loosed his bombs on the Spanish town of La Linea, thinking he was attacking Gibraltar. Six neutral Spaniards were killed and nearly a score injured. True to form, Berlin accused the Royal Air Force of attempting to provoke Spain.

Wavell on Victory

Berlin reported on July 8 an alleged interview with a representative of the *New York Times*, in which General Wavell " openly admitted that Britain could not win this war." The German announcer went on to say that " Egyptian political circles were deeply impressed " by this statement.

Only five days previously, Premier Hussein Sirry Pasha of Egypt had written of Wavell in *Al Ahram* :—

" In critical hours he was always absolutely confident of victory and in his troops."

"Booby-traps"

Berlin (July 12) retailed "another typical example of Britain's methods of warfare," reported from North Africa by a special correspondent of the Italian *Stefani* news agency The allegation was that British pilots had dropped a number of Thermos flasks containing tubes of toothpaste which were supposed to attract the attention of the troops. "All these tubes had been filled with explosives, however, which seriously injured several German and Italian soldiers who picked up these bottles from the desert. One German soldier was killed."

The Germans have a little personal experience of setting booby-traps themselves. During operations in German South-west Africa (1914–15), the Germans were forced to evacuate the town of Aus, and here is the personal account of one of the South African troops who marched in after the Germans had fled. It is recorded in P. W. Rainer's *African Hazard*.

"'That hat's mine,' cried a ragged trooper, flinging his worn hat from his head and dismounting to grab a nice new one, which had apparently fallen from the head of some German. Inside the hat was a string which led to a switch, which caused a spark, which touched off a mine and sent the trooper where hats were not needed.

"The whole place was full of such booby-traps. For the few days that we were there we heard occasional explosions, which meant that someone had been maimed or blown to bits. We got so that we shied across the road at the sight of a hat, made a detour of yards at the sight of a tin and couldn't have been coaxed inside a building by the promise of paradise."

So much for Axis accusations about "fighting dirty."

War at sea

Commenting on the Australian Commerce Minister's decision to buy up all wheat surpluses in the country, Berlin (July 11) said this constituted an indirect admission of Germany's success in the Battle of the Atlantic.

That Germany's efforts in this gigantic battle have shown relatively poor results is proved by the announcement that only four per cent of all war material shipped from the United States to England in recent months has failed to reach its destination.

It is also worth remembering that every day Britain has at least 2,000 ships at sea and more than 300 of these are in the danger zone. Yet the average weekly loss for February, March, April and May of this year was only 27 ships.

Among friends

On July 9, Berlin accused Britain of betraying her Rumanian friends by sending to the Russian High Command "detailed sketches and plans of the Rumanian oilfield."

Rumania ceased to be a friend of Britain when she renounced the British guarantee exactly a year ago and later allowed German troops to occupy her territory, using it as a base for the invasion of other Balkan States.

Rumanian oil represents three quarters of Europe's production and it has all been surrendered to the Nazis. Rumanian oil enabled German bombers to rain death and destruction on Britain's cities, as well as on British and Indian troops in Iraq and the Western Desert.

Food for Syria

The German radio, on July 7, reported "tremendous increases" in the price of bread in British occupied Syria, "due to the fact that the British authorities did not import a sufficient quantity of grain."

Ever since the surrender of Damascus (June 21) 400 tons of extra foodstuffs have been arriving daily in the Syrian capital for distribution among the civilian population. These food convoys include large consignments of Australian wheat.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

U. S. A.—German Intentions

Talking of the American move in Iceland the Italians' Hindustani broadcast of July 10 says that Roosevelt produced the lame excuse that the Western Hemisphere was threatened by Germany. It is remembered, however, that on June 13 the Italian broadcaster in English to Great Britain and North America was so eager to deny even the possibility of an Axis invasion of the U. S. A. that he went a little too far and said: "Hitler and Mussolini are the last to attempt an American invasion at an unpropitious moment." The moment when Germany would be ready to attack the U. S. A. was hinted at by Doctor Ley, the Nazi Labour leader in an article he published on June 6. "In two years at the least," he wrote, "Germany and Italy will be unconquerable and no power will be able to suppress them. Then over 300 million Europeans with their endless resources of coal, ore and materials of all kinds will face 170 million Englishmen and Americans whose resources are widely scattered over the face of the earth."

Discomfiture over Iceland

In view of their declared intentions, it is not at all surprising that the Germans waxed indignant over what was styled American aggression against a small country, and their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 9 did their best to make out that President Roosevelt had invaded Iceland. Actually, so deep was the Icelanders' apprehension about a probable Nazi thrust against their country, that their Prime Minister not only invited the U. S. A. forces to occupy Iceland for the duration of the war but also insisted that the occupation should be in sufficient force to preclude all possibility of interference. In any case, Germany's anger and disappointment at being outmanœuvred by the U. S. A. becomes very understandable when it is remembered that the Germans themselves considered the island of such strategic importance that in March 1939 Hitler requested the Iceland authorities to give him permission to establish an air base there.

American Public Opinion

Germany's Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of July 11 proudly declare that, according to a poll conducted by an American paper, 80 per cent of the Americans are against going to war. That the Nazi analysis of the situation is entirely fictitious is shown by the latest Gallup poll. Asked about their views regarding the Russo-German war, as against 72 per cent desiring a Russian victory, only 4 per cent wished to see the Nazis triumphant; the remainder being indifferent or undecided. Significant too are the remarks of one of the most influential American newspapers, the *New York Post*, which calls on the United States to declare war immediately against Germany. "We are in this war," says this paper, "because we stand fatefully in the path of a war-maker bent on world conquest, to whom our very existence and freedom is a taunt."

Out of their own mouths

Still seeking to convince a by no means credulous world that they are waging a holy crusade against Bolshevism, the Nazis' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 10 make a Norwegian paper say that just when "Europe" had launched a crusade against Russia, President Roosevelt stabbed her in the back. In a talk to Germans, however, Rear Admiral Luetzow did not trouble himself with this propaganda theme. He merely described the situation as being a war by Germany to get the territory and property of Russia, which in fact it is. Besides, the Italians let the cat out of the bag when they, rather tactlessly, broadcast a long account of Russia's wealth in grain, oil and manganese, all of which, they said, would become available to the Axis.

Lies as Allies

The Germans in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 8 joyfully quote an unknown and unnamed Swiss "weekly" as stating that the Russo-German war is going to end the common enemy of the world, namely, Bolshevist Russia. It is, however, typical of the Nazis that their Propaganda Minister did not feel like quoting the famous Swiss paper, the *Basler Nachrichten*, which calls the invasion of Russia not a crusade but a "Swastikade". "Germany", it says, "is fighting not for cornfields but for the mastery of Europe and against England". As regards the German public's reaction, the Berlin correspondent of the Swiss paper *Volksrecht* wrote on June 23: "Gloom and sinister forebodings came over many millions of Germans on hearing the news of the Russo-German conflict".

Trying to depict Russian Troops' defeatism, the Nazis in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 7 circulate the fantastics story that 70,000 of the Russian troops "cleared off" their political commissars and joined the Germans. It will be recalled, however, that as a part of general reorganization, after the Finnish campaign, Stalin removed those commissars. So much for the German story.

Pounding of Nazi War Machine

The Nazis, in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 7 minimise the Royal Air Force's pounding of Germany's war machine and say that the British aircraft attacking Germany were "utterly thwarted". Actually a number of towns in Western Germany, including Munster, Bielefield and Magdeburg provided the main targets for aircraft of the Bomber Command on July 5. In all these industrial towns considerable damage was observed, and many fires left burning. Heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force escorted by squadrons of fighters renewed the attack over Northern France on July 6 when the important steel and engineering works at Lille were hit by sticks of high explosive bombs.

Germany and Syria

When the Vichy authorities had asked for an Armistice, Germany was busy saying that England had achieved no success. Now that the British terms have been accepted and the fighting has ceased, Germany's Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of July 13 under-rate the British achievement and describe it as a 'nominal' success. Germany's use of Syria during the intrigue that the nefarious Nazis engineered in Iraq proves beyond doubt Syria's strategic importance. The outstanding result of this successful campaign, therefore, is that the outer defences of Suez and of India are no longer in danger of becoming an Axis base of operations. Communications with Turkey are restored, and Syria's important trade with Palestine will be resumed under British protection.

Truth about "Beirut Bombing"

The Nazis' Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 7 report British bombing of Beirut and characterise it as a deliberate massacre on the part of the British. Berlin's desire to forget her own deliberate raids, delivered without warning, over Alexandria and Damascus is quite understandable. The Arabs, however, know that British action in Beirut was

in striking contrast with the Axis proceedings in Alexandria and Damascus. Before attacking Beirut on June 9, the Royal Air Force dropped leaflets on the port, indicating the exact time of the impending air raid and listing the objectives that would be bombed. The raid was carried out on time and there was not a single civilian casualty.

German Raids on Alexandria

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani broadcast of July 8 plays up to Germans' raid on Alexandria on July 6 and says that they scored direct hits on a British aircraft ship, the harbour and the railway station. Actually, the German raid was directed against the civilian population of the town, killing two and wounding fourteen. Writing about an earlier German air-raid—and the Germans have been consistent in their indiscriminate bombing of the civilians—the *Al Balagh*, a Cairo newspaper, remarked on June 13:—"Axis airmen do not hesitate to bomb towns indiscriminately. The Axis planes did not venture to approach the British fleet in the harbour, but they poured their wrath on civilians."

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA—(*Continued from Page* 9)

The air and naval forces have also been active and the Soviet claimed this week that, in an attack on a convoy in the Baltic, they destroyed a dozen enemy vessels. The Russian Air Force has dealt crippling blows to the Rumanian oil plants at Ploesti and Constanza and also raided Finnish towns. The Germans made their first air raid on Moscow on Tuesday, the air raid alarm in the Russian capital lasting nearly six hours. But little damage was caused while 2 German planes were shot down. Similar results were reported during subsequent air raids.

AID TO RUSSIA

Thus, as *The Times* remarks, the end of the fourth week of the German onslaught on Russia finds the Russian armies everywhere resisting in good order and despite their ordeal, with unabated courage and confidence. There is no sign at all of a break on which Hitler must have counted, either in the military or political front. The spirit of the Russians is indomitable in line behind line and indeed in front of the line, where resistance is constantly springing up to embarrass the invader in the territory already occupied by him. Hitler is being made to pay dearly for every square mile of Russian territory invaded by him in the past four weeks. *The Times* proceeds: "The essential factor in Russia's power of resistance is the modern eastern dispersal of Russia's heavy industry. There can no longer be any question of putting Russia out of action by a few fortunate or well planned strokes at the vital points. If Hitler counted—as he may well have done—on the strategy of a knock-out blow, this method has failed him. The Russian armies can withdraw as they withdrew before Napoleon, leaving destruction and devastation behind them. So long as the Russian defence holds together—and there are no symptoms of distintegration—no German acquisition of territory can destroy its power to resist and to fight again another day." *The Times* in conclusion refers to the Anglo-Russian alliance and says: Hitler's plan is to crush Russia, before turning back to destroy Britain. The British plan is to frustrate the first of these purposes before he has a chance of reverting to the second. The policy of all aid to Russia, direct and indirect, must be pursued to the limit of capacity and of the practical possibilities of the situation. The Anglo-Russian alliance, if its opportunities are promptly seized and consistently followed up, may yet make the day of Hitler's invasion of Russia the decisive turning point of the war.

Now that, following Mr. Churchill's example, M. Stalin has taken the portfolio of Commissar for Defence in addition to the duties of Prime Minister, we may expect an even greater co-ordination of effort in Russia. The three Generals under him in charge of the operations in the field—**Marshals Voroshilov, Timoshenko and Budenny—are all tried veterans and may be relied on to give a good account of themselves.**

RUSSO-GERMAN WAR—(*Continued from Page* 16)

CONCLUSION

"Unfortunately, we have got nothing like the detail to go upon that we had in other campaigns . . . I believe that the Russians stand in very serious peril. But I do want to emphasize once more that this is a campaign where there is no means of winning victory except by completely crushing the enemy in the open field. No other campaign in this war was fought under such conditions. So long as the Russians fight and have a will to go on fighting, there will be no decisive victory for the Germans. There is no cutting through to a Dunkirk, or a Trondjheim, or a Salonika or an Athens. Victory must be won in the open field. And what a field!"

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The sell-out of French Indo-China to Japan has been completed. Under the new Agreement 40,000 Japanese troops are to be stationed in South Indo-China and eight air bases including one on the new Thailand border, are to be given to Japan. Also two naval bases, Camranh Bay and Saigon, are to be occupied by the Japanese navy. The terms of the Agreement are for the purpose of joint defence, it is stated, of Indo-China. Quick action has been taken by England, the United States of America, the Dominions, India and the Dutch East Indies by freezing the Japanese assets or by denouncing trade treaties or by stopping exports of essential commodities. The effect is to stop all financial transactions on Japanese account for financing trade or other purposes which are not licensed. Chinese assets have also been frozen at the request of China and this is for the purpose of preventing evasion through Japanese-controlled China and of enabling assistance to be given to China by releasing such assets for approved purposes.

Japan has started a radio war against Thailand, alleging that British troops are moving towards the Thai frontier, that British warships are patrolling far off the coast of Thailand, that strong British pressure is being brought to bear on Thailand and that the fate of Syria may be meted out to Thailand at any moment. It is apprehended that these rumours which are like those spread in the case of Indo-China may be a prelude to a similar action against Thailand. But a special Bankok radio broadcast proclaimed to the world that Thailand had nothing to fear from Great Britain and that economically and strategically there was no reason for any threat either from England or from Japan. England had taken certain defence measures, but had done so after informing Thailand. There was a non-aggression pact between Great Britain and Thailand and "the British have never been known to break such pacts."

Germany is finding it increasingly difficult to maintain her communications with the advanced bases in Russia. Guerilla warfare has been intensified. Germany has resorted to desperate tactics and papers have been found on German soldiers in regard to the use of poison gas.

Regarding the magnificent resistance put up by the Russians, M. Lozovsky, Vice-President of the Information Board, stated at a Press conference, that the Smolensk battle "will be studied for many years." Mr. Wendell Willkie, who may be expected to know what he is talking about, stated in an interview in Chicago, that if the Russians held out until September it would mark the beginning of the end of Hitler and then Germany's defeat would be more rapid than most people expected.

Mr. Eden, speaking at a Foreign Press Association luncheon on Tuesday, stated: "A peace blitz would soon be hurled at the Allies. An offer of compromise peace would be a monument of moderation and reasonableness—and hypocrisy." Of course, the Allies were not prepared to negotiate with Hitler at any time on any subject. Only when a repetition of Germany's misdeeds was prevented would the time arrive for peace; but while these military measures must be taken, he added, "it is not part of our purpose to cause Germany or any other country to collapse economically. A starving and bankrupt Germany in the midst of Europe would poison all of us who are her neighbours. That is not sentiment but commonsense."

It is revealed that from the outbreak of the war to the end of June 1941, the total number of enemy planes destroyed was 7,195. Of these, 1,937 were destroyed at sea, 3,566 over Britain, 324 over Europe, 56 in Norway, 57 on the Western front, 327 by the Royal Navy and 1,928 in the Middle East. These figures do not include planes damaged.

Finland has severed diplomatic relations with Great Britain. Being a co-belligerent with Germany, Finland has felt herself unable to continue normal diplomatic relations with Great Britain.

Mr. Eden, British Foreign Secretary, has informed Iran that her own interests required that she should realize the danger of permitting an excessively large number of Germans to reside in that country. There is some reason to think that Iran will respond to this warning against German "' tourists."

A new secret Russian weapon, details about which have not been revealed, is stated to have been invented by M. Kostikov, marked by " extraordinary technical daring and broadness of conception."

It is now disclosed that between July 21 and July 23, an important convoy of ships carrying fresh troops, food and munitions to reinforce British forces in the Mediterranean was successively attacked by a U-boat (which was destroyed), by aircraft (about a dozen of which were either brought down or damaged) and by E-boats (one of which was sunk and another damaged). The convoy arrived safely at its destination, but a British ship, a cruiser and a destroyer were damaged and the destroyer *Fearless* was sunk.

Japan has apologized to the United States for bombing the gunboat " Tutila " during a recent raid on Chungking, capital of China. American authorities have accepted the apology and the incident is closed.

The Egyptian Ministry has been reconstituted and now consists of five Liberals, five Independents and five Saadists. The inclusion of Saadists may result in a more active policy in regard to the war.

Mr. Harry Hopkins who is in Moscow in connexion with American help to Russia has been handed a message by M. Stalin to President Roosevelt.

GERMANY AND THE REMAINING NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

Mr. Sumner Welles told a Press Conference on July 22nd that the United States had information of new aggressive steps planned by Germany against the remaining independent states of Europe. It may be presumed that the states mentioned are Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal. Turkey may be left out of account as a Middle Eastern state, while Vichy also may be excluded because it is now entirely subservient to Germany. We then come to Sweden. All her neighbours are under some form of German control. It may be taken for granted that she will be unable to resist military measures if they are taken against her by Germany. Sweden depends upon Germany for her export trade, which is mainly iron ore. Swedes are patriotic, but with a powerful neighbour and with Quislings, she feels embarrassed. Sweden had been prevailed upon not to send aid to Finland against Russia and in the Russo-German war, passage for German troops across Swedish territory to attack Russia from Finland was granted. Sweden has been avoiding war for more than a hundred years. She would not help Denmark in 1864, and maintained neutrality in 1870 and in 1914–18. It is possible that as Germany has not much to gain by a direct aggression against Sweden, the present situation may not be changed.

As for Switzerland, though at one time it was necessary for Germany to attack this country, events have happened which have made that move unnecessary. Of course, Germany has been complaining against " unneutral " war reports appearing in Swiss papers. But no action has followed these threats. Switzerland is sending to Germany various industrial and agricultural products. Further there are two factors which should be remembered. If Germany invaded Switzerland, the Royal Air Force offensive will become active. Switzerland also will resist such an attempt. By blowing up the Alpine tunnels communications between Germany and Italy would be prevented for a considerable time.

Now, coming to Spain and Portugal, the occupation of these countries by Germany would give her certain definite strategic advantages. The Falange is favourable to the Axis plans. A land attack on Gibraltar and the closing of the Western Mediterranean by air action would be the objectives of such a move, making possible a renewed attack in North Africa. The Battle of the Atlantic would then flare up again in all its fury, because Germany would have bases from which to operate on British and Allied shipping. Portugal is on the trade route between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and it will provide Hitler facilities for launching an attack on America. But Portugal, as can be seen from her sending reinforcements to the Azores, is alert.

But Spain, after the Civil War, lacks moral strength and food. The problem of feeding the 24 million people presents a formidable difficulty. England and America will cease to give aid to Spain if she were subjugated by Germany. Mr. Eden's statement of July 24th that trade can flourish only in an atmosphere of good-will sums up the situation very well and it is now for General Franco to decide between " guns and butter." A loan of 24 million pounds was given by England to Spain. But General Franco attributed a motive to

Britain and the United States of America. Whatever be the difficulties of Spain, they would not prevent Hitler subjugating that country if his aim of conquering England would, in his opinion, be facilitated.

THE CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

It looks as if the second German attempt at a *Blitzkrieg* in Russia will meet with the same fate as the first. We were repeatedly told by Nazi propagandists, and even by the German High Command, that the Stalin Line had been pierced at many points, that Smolensk had fallen and the road to Moscow was open, that Leningrad in the north and Kiev in the Ukraine were doomed and that the resistance of the Soviet Army had been smashed, only isolated groups offering any resistance to the Germans. But, as *The Hindu's* London correspondent remarks, the facts of geography have given the lie to German claims and Dr. Goebbels, the Nazi Minister for Propaganda, must be a sadly disillusioned man by now!

The fighting last week clearly reveals that the German army in the south is still held up at Zhitomir, 80 miles west of Kiev; that Smolensk is in Russian hands as the result of a battle that will go down in history for the vehemence with which it has been conducted on both sides and the number of men and machines involved; that the joint Finnish-German offensive against the Murmansk-Leningrad Railway between Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega has failed so far. The Finns in the north, indeed claim the capture of Salmi but it has little significance and, despite Marshal Mannerheim's call for action, the Finnish forces are obviously waiting on German success further south to move forward to the attack on Leningrad. In the extreme south, the Germans, the Rumanians and the Hungarians appear to be as far off as ever from the Black Sea port of Odessa, key to the Caucasian oil-fields. In the Ukraine, the Russians have apparently brought up against the Germans very large forces from Kharkov, which is 250 miles south-east of Kiev, and the territorial military headquarters.

The Germans themselves are probably beginning to realize the truth of the saying admitted to the great military expert, Clausewitz that it is impossible to conquer Russia by invading armies; and that only political crisis or revolution is likely to disintegrate Russia. And as *The Times* remarks, there is no sign of either in Russia. And Nazi propagandists are now telling the German people of the sad fate of tank divisions which are cut off by the Russians and are even admitting that Russian storm-troops are deeply penetrating into German lines. The Soviet writer, Alexis Tolstoy writes that German tactics have been carefully studied by the Red Army and effective counter-measures devised to shatter the *Blitzkrieg*. Soviet counter-attacks around Smolensk are proving successful and on balance the Germans are losing heavily. Once the Germans are forced on the defensive, the Russian counter-offensive may be expected to sweep the enemy back and rout him and the war may finish more suddenly than most people imagine.

AMERICAN AID

Over and above the decision to retain army selectees, national guardsmen and reservists in service for the duration of the emergency created by the international situation, steps will soon be taken in the United States to accelerate merchant shipping construction to two vessels daily by early next year. The result of this will be that the merchant marine would be increased from about ten million tons to 16,712,000 tons. The United States Air Force will soon consist of 83 groups instead of 54 groups planned at present, while a very large addition will be made to the pilots trained. Huge ammunition reserves are to be built up in specially selected places. Crews for the expanding fleet will also be increased and money will soon be provided for the construction and improvement of shore bases, many of which are on outlying islands. Appropriation will also be made for naval shipbuilding facilities. This is so far as the defence of America is concerned.

In regard to help to Great Britain, Mr. Harry Hopkins, Personal Envoy to Britain of President Roosevelt, made a remarkable statement on Sunday last. He revealed the different kinds of help which are being provided to Great Britain:

(i) Thousands of American-made planes have been already flown or shipped to Great Britain. There is a vast programme for building thousands of giant Boeing four-engined bombers of such power that Hitler cannot move his factories far enough to escape their devastating power of destruction.

(ii) Several hundred American tanks have already been distributed to different parts of the British Empire and many more are *en route*.

(iii) Ocean-going ships including oil-tankers have been transferred to Britain and a vast merchantship-building programme is in progress so that there will be enough ships to carry food, oil and ammunition.

(iv) Machine tools made in America are to-day being employed in British factories.

(v) Vast quantities of food will be sent to England. America will never allow the British people to go hungry. Shipments will include huge quantities of cheese, pork, eggs, canned salmon, raisins, evaporated milk and concentrated fruit juice.

(vi) Thousands of miscellaneous articles, useful to the war, from aviation petrol to road-building machinery are on their way to England.

"All this is being done," Mr. Hopkins continued, "for safeguarding our heritage of freedom of thought and action." "American destroyers," he said, "are plunging their bows into the waters of the North Atlantic." The Atlantic to-day was merely a channel which was spanned by the bridge of friendship. He continued, "The bridge of friendship and admiration extends from Washington to London and, although unseen, it is so strong that all powers of darkness and Nazi terrorism cannot destroy it."

Here is a passage which will be remembered :

"We no longer measure the distance in miles. The Hun is only 21 miles from Dover, yet he and his pagan ways are 2,000 years away from Dover. Like most Americans I feel that our way of life and our country are threatened by Hitler. Like most Americans, I feel that your fight is the fight for the freedom of the whole world and that it must not and will not fail."

He concluded by saying that President Roosevelt was not a man who gave his words lightly and assured the people of Great Britain : "You are not fighting alone."

MR. CHURCHILL ON WAR PRODUCTION

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Winston Churchill refuted the rumours and apprehensions to which expression had been given both in the House and elsewhere about the chaos and inefficiency in the Supply Department. He made the following points :—

(1) Though England was not a Totalitarian State, it was steadily becoming a total war organization.

(2) There was no dispute in progress about priorities for labour or raw materials, factory space or machine tools between departments but on the other hand production in all its forms was gaining steadily and swiftly.

(3) The British Spring and Summer fashions in aircraft this year were farther ahead of the German production than they were last year.

(4) As to production in the last three months, more than twice the field guns that the British made in the Dunkirk period had been made. Munitions were half as much again while the combined programme of merchant and naval shipbuilding was bigger than in any period of the last war. The increase in aircraft was substantial.

(5) As to British production of bombers, the power of bomb discharge on Germany at 1,500 miles range had been doubled. In the next three months, together with American reinforcements, this would be doubled and in the next six months that would again be redoubled.

(6) England was getting the greatest harvest this year.

(7) In the seventh quarter of the war the total output in England of warlike stores had been twice as great as the output in the seventh quarter of the last war and had equalled the output in the fourteenth or the culminating peak quarter of the last war.

(8) Further no stoppage of work of any kind arising from a trade dispute in any part of Great Britain had been experienced.

Mr. Churchill recapitulated the gains so far secured which were :—

(1) Russia has struck back with her magnificent strength and courage, resulting in great slaughter of the Nazi armies.

(2) The help of the United States is growing and is on a gigantic scale and America is advancing in rising wrath to the very verge of war.

(3) The German air superiority has been broken and air attacks on Great Britain, for the time being, have almost ceased.

(4) The Battle of the Atlantic has not been won, but it is progressing in the Allies' favour, thanks to American intervention.

(5) The Nile Valley is safer than two or three months ago.

(6) Germany has lost its pretence of theme and doctrine and sunk even deeper in moral and intellectual degradation and bankruptcy.

Mr. Churchill warned Great Britain to be prepared against invasion :—

(1) German power is still formidable.

(2) She has captured or made vast destructive munitions.

(3) Her centralized war production is still immense.

(4) The conditions of subject peoples under the German yoke are, for the time being, favourable to Germany.

(5) The resources of so many countries are available to her.

Mr. Churchill concluded by saying : "For more than a year we have been all alone; all alone we have had to guard the treasures of mankind. Although there may be profound and encouraging changes in the situation, our own final and commanding responsibilities remain undiminished and we shall only discharge them by continuing to pour out in the common cause the utmost endeavours of strength and virtue and, if need be, to proffer the last drop of our hearts' blood."

RUSSO-POLISH AGREEMENT

The negotiations which have been going on in the last few weeks between Great Britain, General Sikorski on behalf of Poland and the Soviet Government have now happily concluded with the signing of an agreement on Wednesday evening. According to it :—

(1) Russia recognizes that the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 (as to the division of Poland and other matters) have lost their validity.

(2) Both Poland and Russia will resume diplomatic relations and exchange Ambassadors.

(3) Both countries will co-operate in fighting Germany, their common enemy.

(4) A Polish Army will be formed in U.S.S.R. which will be, for purposes of efficient military co-operation, under the Soviet High Command on which the Polish Army will be represented.

This historic pact is a great achievement and Mr. Eden, British Foreign Secretary, to whose efforts it is mainly due, deserves the warm gratitude of all those who wish success to the Allies. The consequences of the agreement may be summarised as follows :—

(a) The British Government have declared that they have entered into no undertakings with Russia affecting the relations of that country with Poland and they do not recognise the territorial changes effected in Poland since 1939.

(b) Russia will immediately grant an amnesty to about 500,000 civilian prisoners and 100,000 soldiers in Soviet territories, with complete freedom of movement.

(c) The prospects of the integrity independence and sovereignty of pre-1939 Poland being definitely recognized by the Allies, including Russia, are now very bright.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of signing the agreement, General Sikorski said that they were at a turning point in history. Not all questions had been settled between Russia and Poland in the present agreement, but a basis was provided for useful collaboration. The future would depend on the goodwill of both sides. They possessed that goodwill. He thanked the British Government and especially Mr. Eden for all the great work he had done to bring about the agreement. The solidarity of all freedom loving people against Hitlerite Germany would provide a basis for a common victory.

Mr. Maisky, responding, on behalf of Russia, stated that co-operation in fighting the common enemy would have the way to a firm and solid friendship between Poland and Russia when the time came to build up a new Europe, after the war had been won, on the principle of self-determination of nations.

Mr. Churchill said that this memorable episode marked the association of two historic nations of Eastern Europe in the defence of human rights. Here, as a result of the labours of the last few days, was a pact of friendship signed between the Russians and the Poles whose long history had been chequered and darkened by their quarrels, whose future could be lightened by their comradeship. Mr Churchill concluded by saying that it was a sign and proof of the fact that hundreds of millions of men all over the world were coming together on a march against a filthy gangster power which must be effectively and finally destroyed.

CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST

JAPAN MOVES INTO INDO-CHINA

Events in the Far East are moving fast. The Vichy-Japan Agreement has been ratified by the Privy Cauncil at Tokyo and the Japanese have been allowed to use nine air bases in Indo-China, including Saigon and Siemreap near Angkor on the new frontier with Thailand (Siam). Japanese troops have arrived in Southern Indo-China. Japanese warships were reported earlier this week in Camranh Bay and Japanese bombers over Saigon.

These moves by the authorities in Tokyo do not surprise anybody conversant with the foreign policy which Japan has pursued for over a decade. True to this policy, she joined the Axis Pact last September, when she thought Germany would win the Battle of Britain. She soon after extorted economic concessions and military bases at Hanoi and Haiphong in Northern Indo-China, when Britain was still occupied in the west. Now, with Russia defending herself against the Nazi hordes, Japan sees another opportunity of advancing without danger—at least that is what she imagines!

Japanese bases in Indo-China might not be a direct threat to India or Burma, which would still be separated from Indo-China by Thailand. But they would pave the way for further pressure on Thailand and bring Japan nearer the East Indies. Despite denials reports are persistent that Japan is presenting demands for naval and air bases in Thailand to the Thai Government. This clearly shows the hollowness of the talks about " the joint defence of Indo-China " by Vichy and Japan and the flimsiness of the excuses offered by them both, namely, that Great Britain contemplated aggressive action against Indo-China.

The Japanese Press, indeed, as part of the campaign against French Indo-China, referred to Indo-China as a Far Eastern Syria. This description, it may be reiterated, can have no other purpose than to excuse Japanese aggression in that quarter, for there is no parallel between the cases of the two countries. The British went into Syria because, as they said in a note to Vichy, they intend to fight the Germans whenever and wherever they can find them. In addition, the Germans in Syria were violating their own armistice terms. There being no Germans in Indo-China, the British have no reason for sending troops there. And the contrast between Vichy's surrender to the Germans in Syria and to the Japanese in Indo-China with the decision to resist—though in a futile manner—the British in Syria will not be lost on the outside world. Japan, however, is mistaken if she feels that she can get off any more with aggression in the Far East. With the best will in the world to maintain peace in the Pacific, the British will not, as Lord Halifax emphasized in a speech at Vancouver, be " intimidated or bullied into accepting any action by other Powers which might be against their best interests."

DEMOCRATIC POWERS REPLY

And the whole of the " A. B. C. D. "—America, Britain, China and the Dutch East Indies—Democratic Front in the Far East is united in its decision to call a halt to Japan's menacing policy. The Governments of the British Commonwealth of Nations, the United States of America, the Royal Netherlands Government, Marshal Ciang Kai-shek and his administration—all these have taken immediate steps to get an economic stanglehood on Japan. While Britain has given notice of her intention to denounce the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Commerce of 1911, the Indo-Japanese Commercial Convention of 1934 and the Burma-Japan Commercial Convention of 1937, she has also taken parallel action with America in freezing Japanese credits and assets in the Emipre. According to Japanese sources the total Japanese assets in the United States amount approximately to 131 million dollars as against the United States assets of 2,170 million dollars which Japan has frozen by way of retaliation. The figure of 131 million dollars may not look formidable, but the American freezing means that not only are no Japanese assets in American are at the disposal of Japan for trade withdrawal, but also that no American bank can honour any draft on Japanese account. Therefore the continuation process of commercial finance has stopped and Japan cannot get her much-needed supplies of oil and scrap iron. But the export and import trade so vital to Japan will be cut off and she will be forced to limit her operations mainly to the so-called " Yen Block" territories, Manchuko and Korea. Marshal Chiang has himself requested the Allied Governments to freeze Chinese assets and credits in order to defeat any possible manouvre by Japan to exploit the resources of occupied China. Thus while the Chungking Government will get permission in specific cases to have their assets and credits freed for operations as they desire, the Japanese puppet regime in China will not get such benefits.

The " A. B. C. D. Front " has taken all military and other precautionary measures. Mr. Eden, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said in the House of Commons. " The British Government regard these developments as a potential threat to their own territories and interests in the Far East. In anticipation of them they have been in close communication with the United States Government

(*Continued on page 7*)

THE JAPANESE NAVY

ITS FIGHTING STRENGTH

Japan's Navy is stated to rank third, after the navies of Britain and the United States of America. At the Washington Naval Conference in 1922 the ratio as to capital ships of the three leading naval powers, Great Britain, the United States of America, and Japan, was laid down at 5—5—3; but towards the end of 1934 Japan gave the required two years' notice of denunciation of the Treaty, and at the Naval Conference held in London next year Japan insisted on parity.

Japan, according to " War Illustrated " had at the end of 1937 under construction three 46,000-ton battleships, while sixty-three other men-of-war were building or projected. The Japanese Fleet had about 200 ships with a total displacement of 756,798 tons and it is possible that by 1941 it will have been increased to 289 ships, displacing 1,109,130 tons. In 1939, a six-year naval building programme was approved by the Japanese Cabinet, when Admiral Yonai, the Navy Minister, stated that the new programme was based on the determination that Japan's Navy must be equal to that of the strongest naval power, and of sufficient strength to deal with any international friction arising out of the construction of the " new order " in Eastern Asia.

The outside world does not know any details of Japan's Navy, but it is open to doubt whether in view of her financial condition she has been able to do more than keep her fleet reasonably up to date. It is possible that Japan may have four or five 16-in. gun battleships of over 40,000 tons under construction in Japanese yards. Two of these, *Mission* and *Takamatu*, were launched in November 1939 and April 1940, respectively, and so may be expected to be ready for sea this year.

Japan has now in service 10 battleships. *Nagato* and *Mutu*, completed in 1920–21, are most powerful, their displacement being 32,720 tons and their main armament eight 16-in: guns. She has further *Huso* and *Yamasira*, with displacements of 29,330 tons, armed with twelve 14-in. and sixteen 6-in. guns and *Ise* and *Hyuga*, with a displacement of 29,900 tons and a primary armament of twelve 14-in. and eighteen 5-5 in. guns. Next there are three ships of the Kongo class, completed in 1913–16; *Kongo*, *Haruma* and *Kirisima*. They have a standard displacement of 29,330 tons and are armed with eight 14-in. and sixteen 6-in. guns. There is a fourth ship of this class, *Hiej*, which was demilitarized in 1930, but has probably now been rearmed.

Japan's heavy cruisers comprise 12 ships, all armed with 8-in. guns. They are divided into four classes called after the first ship mentioned in each: *Atago*, *Takao*, *Tyokai*, and *Maya*, displacing 9,850 tons apiece, and carrying ten 8-in. guns, completed in 1932; *Nati*, *Myoko*, *Asigara* and *Haguro*, 10,000 tons with ten 8-in. guns, completed in 1929; and *Kako*, *Hurutaka*, *Kinugasa* and *Aoba*, displacing 7,100 tons, carrying six 8-in. guns and completed in 1926–27. There are also five old cruisers which are now used as coast defence ships; *Yukumo* (9,010 tons), *Idumo* and *Iwate* (9,180 tons), *Aduma* (8,640 tons), and *Kasuga* (7,080 tons).

Of second-class cruisers, the newest are those of the Mogmai class, all of 8,500 tons and armed with fifteen 6-1 in. guns. They

CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST—(*Continued from Page 6*)

and, of course, with the Governments in the Dominions. I do not propose to-day to give an account of the measures which the British Government have prepared to meet these and other possible developments. I will give this further information at an early date, but I can state at once certain defence measures in Malaya have already been enforced in view of the plain threat to our territories which the Japanese action implies." And Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham has stated that " come what may," the Empire Forces in the Far East under his command are ready to face any eventuality. The United States of America is also acting speedily. The American Pacific Fleet is reported to have left Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, for an unspecified destination. The organized military forces of the Philippines have been called by President Roosevelt into the armed services of the United States. And the President has nominated Lieut.-General Douglas Macarthur, former United States Chief of Staff, as Commander-in-Chief of the United States and Commonwealth forces in the Philippines. " The American Government's action in establishing this new (Far Eastern) Command only means that they intend to maintain at any cost America's full rights in the Far East," said the new Commander-in-Chief in a declaration to the Press. Mr. Sumner Welles, the American Under-Secretary of State, while intimating to Press representatives in Washington that the United States and Britain were pursuing parallel courses in the Far East, declared that the United States of America would welcome parallel action by other American nations in the economic control measures against Japan.

are *Mogami, Miluma, Suzuya* and *Kumano*, all completed between 1935 and 1937. In the two latest ships of the class, *Tone* and *Tikuma*, the armament has been reduced and only twelve 6-1 in. guns are mounted instead of fifteen; there are also three ships of the Zintu class (*Zintu, Naka* and *Sendai*), six of the Natori class (*Natori, Isuzu, Kinu, Nagara, Yura* and *Abukuma*), five Kuma class (*Kuma, Tama, Oi, Kitakami* and *Kiso*), two Tenryu class (*Tenryu* and *Tatuta*) and *Yubari*. These range from 5,195 tons in the Sendai class to Yubari's 2,890 tons. They have 5-5 in. guns.

SEVEN AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

Japan has seven aircraft carriers. The newest are three of the Soryu class—*Soryu, Hiryu* and *Syokaku*—displacing 10,050 tons; the remainder are *Ryuzyo*, 7,100 tons, *Hosyo*, 7,470 tons and two of far larger size, *Kaga* and *Akagi*, both displacing 26,900 tons. Two more aircraft carriers are under construction.

Of smaller ships the Japanese have some 130 destroyers (12 Kagero class, 10 of them completing; 10 Asasio, 10 Sigure, 6 Hatuharu, 23 Hubuki, 12 Mutuki, 9 Kamikaze, 15 Akikaze, 7 Wakatake, 19 Kaya and 3 Momo). There are 12 torpedo-boats, with others building. Japan's submarines are divided into four groups, ocean-going, sea-going, minelaying and coastal, displacing 1,400 and 1,000 tons. They number some 72 with others building.

The United States Pacific Fleet is as powerful as the whole Japanese Navy and America's building programme far surpasses that of Japan. Moreover, it may be doubted whether the Japanese fleet would prove as formidable in action as it would appear to be on paper. Hessel Tiltman, " Free Europe's " correspondent in Washington, wrote a few weeks ago " Independent experts consider the Japanese fleet, ship for ship, about 20 per cent inferior in markmanship, protection and manoeuvrability, to the American or British fleet. At Hawaii American naval officers have told me that any American destroyer flotilla leader would be willing to ' take on ' any Japanese cruiser or any American cruiser a Japanese battleship. There is also a widespread impression in the Orient that the Japanese personnel does not compare in quality with the blue-jackets of the two great white navies." Yet, went on Mr. Tiltman, the Japanese are a very brave people and " it would be unwise to minimize the punch packed by the sailors of Nippon."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Positively No Forecasts

In an attempt to discredit British reports of operations in Russia, Berlin (July 14) declares naively that " we in Germany, as a rule, do not go in for prophecies " and alleges that the British Ministry of Information banks on " the shortness of public memory."

In *Mein Kampf* Hitler laid down the rules which still form the basis of the Nazi propaganda policy: He wrote:—

" The receptive powers of the masses are very restricted and their understanding is feeble. On the other hand, they quickly forget."

Goebbels banked on this when he told German workers in March 1940 that pleasure trips to Britain would be organized within the next four months; when his radio stations prophesied victory over Britain by September 1940; and when he himself, in March of this year, told Spanish correspondents that " before the year is over Germany will finish the war."

So much for German prophecies.

As to the fairness of British reports on operations in Russia, that is what Walt Mittler said in a Topical Talk broadcast from Berlin on June 30, 1941:—

" The B. B. C. bulletins cover the war in the east very carefully and reservedly, and they give as much prominence to the German Army bulletins as to the Soviet ones."

A long Three Weeks

When the Fuehrer decided to attack Russia, German official circles confidently forecast that three weeks of *blitz* warfare would suffice to hoist the swastika over the Kremlin.

Moscow is 525 miles from the Russo-German frontier. In the first week, the Germans advanced 200 miles; it took them three more weeks to advance another 100 miles. So after four weeks' fighting they are still 225 miles from their principal objective and the speed of their advance has been reduced by more than 80 per cent.

No wonder the German High Command *communiqués* are getting steadily vaguer.

Lord Haw Haw (July 20) tries to explain away this vagueness. " We are living through a period in which sensational news might be announced at any moment, " he says hopefully, only to add, " or on the other hand nothing of decisive import may be known for some days."

Then he gets a brainwave. " So great and expansive is the theatre of war, " he says, " so defective is the enemy's transport and so imperfect are his communications that the Bolshevik Command cannot form at any one time a full and clear picture of the course which operations are taking. Under these circumstances it would be indeed unwise to enlighten them."

But the German Supreme Command continues to forecast success soon. For instance, we are told on July 19 that " eastwards of the Stalin Line tremendous victories are in the making." Cautiously, the names of the future victors are not mentioned.

Western Front

In the same way the Germans are at pains to minimise their set-backs on the Western Front, where the Royal Air Force is not only providing direct aid to Russia by dislocating rail and sea communications used to supply the forces in the east, but by its devastating daylight sweeps has compelled several hundred *Luftwaffe* fighters to return to Northern France, whence they had been withdrawn for operations against the Soviet.

So, day after day, we hear the monotonous tale that British bombers and fighters " tried " to raid the Channel coast, but were driven off.

When the Royal Air Force knocks out in one daylight blow as much shipping as the entire armada of German U-boats, surface raiders and long-range bombers have ever sunk between them in ten days and nights we are told that they were merely attempting to attack the Dutch coast!

The German radio cannot lie freely when it addresses the people on the home front. On July 6 the German people were told:—" Such attacks can unfortunately not yet be altogether prevented. German defences inflict as much damage as possible on the enemy. In spite of that, these raids will continue to have undeniable effects." And on July 9:—" These attacks can be as little eliminated as, for instance, artillery fire at the front."

Mr. Churchill and the Air War

On July 14 Mr. Churchill announced that " in the last few weeks alone we have thrown upon Germany about half the tonnage of bombs thrown by the Germans upon our cities during the whole course of the war. But this is only the beginning."

Commenting on this announcement, Berlin could only revive (July 15) the old lie about Britain having started indiscriminate bombing of civilians. We are told once more that the

Fuehrer waited patiently for three months before ordering reprisal raids on British civilians.

But the facts speak for themselves.

Intensive British bombing of industrial and military targets in Germany began in May 1940. The *Luftwaffe* were then not in a position to bomb Britain on the same scale—for two reasons—

(i) The shortest air routes to targets in the Midlands and South England were over neutral Holland and Belgium or over France, where bombers would be intercepted long before they reached their objectives.

(ii) Shortage of aviation spirit forced the Germans to keep long-distance air raids down to a minimum. In fact, in all their campaigns they have carried out big raids only when their aerodromes have been within short range of the targets.

With the fall of France in June 1940, the Germans were able to establish air bases, within half-an-hour's flight of London. By August they were able to send their bomber squadrons to darken the sky over Britain.

That is the real reason for the three months' delay—not any Nazi tenderness for the British people.

Hitler Speaks

Picturing pessimism in Britain over the shipping situation, a Berlin broadcaster (July 16) emphasizes British dependence on American help.

Britain is well aware of her dependence on war supplies from America and equally well aware of the American guarantee that those supplies will continue to arrive.

The German broadcast goes on to recall that last year Hitler said :—

> "One day one of the two belligerent parties will break down, and this will not be National Socialist Germany."

However, we also remember other German statements on this subject. For instance :—

Shipping.—"The sinking and destroying of the whole British shipping will become a matter of two months." (August 7, 1940.)

Starvation.—"Britain's food stocks will last only a couple of weeks." (July 19, 1940.)

Collapse.—"A complete collapse of the British war instrument is imminent this coming winter." (August 9, 1940).

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Germany's Conscripted Allies

The Nazis repeat in their Hindustani broadcast of July 16, that all their European "allies" are collaborating against Bolshevist Russia. This fiction has been pushed so far that even Italy does not believe it. On June 25 an Italian broadcast actually said this: "The presence of the Rumanian forces in the fighting line with the Germans is perhaps the most pleasant surprise of this war". The actual reluctance and resentment of the Rumanians is made perfectly clear from another Axis broadcast on July 2 which said that many Rumanians had gone into hiding in the country rather than obey their calling up notices for the army.

Nazi Propaganda Betrays Japan

In their Hindustani talk on July 15, entitled "Accuracy of German Reports," the Germans say that their news are God's own truth because they are based on actual photographs taken on the front. "Words," we are told, "might lie but pictures cannot." The German abuse of pictures was recently brought to light when they showed, in Finland, an alleged "horror film" of the Soviet bombing of the civilian population.

This picture, however, could immediately be recognized by anyone who knew the region as having been taken during the bombing of Kansu by the Japanese fleet air arm. The details of the landscape and of the operations carried out left no doubt as to the origin of the film.

Holy War against Communism

Exultant over their self-styled successes, the Nazi broadcasts of July 14 (in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic) quote a Spanish paper as stating that Stalin's hopes of spreading Communism have been frustrated. The Soviet political leaders, including Stalin, Molotov and Litvinov, have made it quite clear that the war is in defence of the Fatherland and against Nazi aggression. The Swiss paper *Feuilie Neuchatel*, wrote on June 28: "A crusade against Bolshevism would need a movement with spiritual unity, whereas Germany and her allies are fighting Russia for political reasons. The cause for which those States are fighting Russia is not that of civilization."

Besides, the Nazis stand exposed by their own declarations. On January 12, 1940 a special broadcast to German Youth was sent out by all the German home stations which announced: "We believe in Hitler. . . . The scriptures are dead. We need no fairy tales to-day." And the Nazis have not changed in the last 18 months. Here is an extract from the issue of the *Schwarze Corps*, the official paper of Hitler's Black Guards, dated May 29, 1941: "We are in the midst of war and the war proves every day how little the religious adherence of the people counts as long as they do their duty to the Fuehrer and the Reich."

Hitler and Islam

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of July 18 announces that the Moslems in Croatia (who, incidentally, are a small minority) are very appreciative of Germany's services in the defence of India against Bolshevism. Despite the Axis need for Moslem gratitude, the latter have no cause for thankfulness; least so the Muslims of Croatia. The grim fate of Muslims in Europe under the Nazi heel has been described by Mahmoud-el-Hashimi in the Egyptian paper, *Wafd el Masri*. "When Hitler let loose his Huns in Yugoslavia," we are told, "Moslem towns and villages were among the worst sufferers. Sarajevo's beautiful mosques were rased to the ground. To-day all is sullen and silent in that Moslem town." As regards that other Moslem country in Europe, Albania, the writer goes on to say: "The lot of Albanian Moslem is stark and fearful starvation. Mosques and shrines have been pulled down and plundered and happy hamlets have been turned into concentration camps."

Britain and Iraq

In their Arabic and Persian broadcasts of July 20, the Nazis come forth with the information that the British tyranny of the Iraqis is fiendish and contemptible. It is noteworthy, however, that even this lavish use of adjectives does not save the Nazis. The Iraqis know these self-styled friends for what they really are. The following recent comments of representative Baghdad papers speak for themselves :—

> "There is none but Great Britain on whose alliance and word we can rely, because we find that other great powers attach no value whatsoever to the treaties they enter into with smaller powers." (*Al Zaman.*)

"Germany is well known for her Machiavellian policy—a policy which is not bound by any international convention or treaty. In pursuance of this policy, Germany is out to attain her object by any means, fair or foul." (*Alamul Arabi.*)

Obligation to Syrians

The Nazis' Arabic and Persian broadcasts of July 15 purport to quote a Turkish paper as stating that now that British forces have occupied Syria, nothing more is heard of their promise of Syrian independence.

The offer of Syrian independence was a Free French step, which the British supported. Accordingly, the Armistice terms explicitly pointed out that the Allies have an obligation to the Arab population in the guarantee of independence given at the time of their entry into Syria and that they have no aims in Syria except to prevent it being used as an enemy base.

Mr. Willkie and German Propaganda

By putting in Mr. Wendell Willkie's mouth words to the effect that President Roosevelt had, at their meeting, disclosed his orders to the U.S.A. Navy to bombard the German submarines and the air force, the Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of July 16 attempts to present Mr. Willkie as an opponent of Mr. Roosevelt's policy. Col. Knox's rebuttal of the rumours that the American forces had already operated against the German submarines is a proof of the fact that Mr. Roosevelt did not make the statement wrongly attributed to him. And as for Mr. Willkie, not only did he approve of the President's move in Iceland but he has also recommended its extension.

Nazi Jitters

From a Hungarian paper Germany's Hindustani broadcast of July 18 quotes as follows:—"Mr. Roosevelt's order to open fire on German ships is nothing but a declaration of war."

This is a fair measure of the fear of American action that grips the German leaders. In fact President Roosevelt has given no such orders, though he has pledged his people's word that American supplies will continue to reach Britain. Hitler, however, as long ago as January 30 last tried to frighten America with the empty threat that "every ship within the war zone that comes within the range of German torpedoes will be torpedoed."

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 22nd July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 16, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on warehouses, stores, docks and shipping at **Rotterdam** (17 ships totalling 90—100,000 tons put out of action; 5 totalling 40—45,000 tons severely damaged; 2 warehouses and a factory set on fire).	5 day bombers.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber attacks on docks and warehouses at **Boulogne**; industrial areas in **Hamburg** and several other objectives in N.W. Germany; shipping off N.W. coast of France (escorted 3,500-ton supply ship damaged); at St. Nazaire (2 ships totalling 4,000 tons hit); in the English Channel (escorted 6,000-ton tanker torpedoed and sunk); off Norwegian coast (3,000-ton ship set on fire).	3 night bombers.	..
July 17, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel including attack on large escorted steamer off Cap Griz Nez.	6 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	8 day fighters, 1 sea-plane.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial areas in **Cologne** and elsewhere in the Rhineland; shipping at St. Nazaire (4,000-ton ship hit). Offensive night fighter patrols over occupied territory, including attacks on aerodromes.	1 night bomber.	..
July 18, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel (escorted 6,000-ton supply ship damaged off Dunkirk).	2 day bombers. 1 day fighter.	1 day fighter.
	(No reports of night activity—bad weather).		
July 19, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off Norwegian coast (supply ship damaged); off Dutch coast (4 ships, totalling 22,000 tons, of escorted convoy sunk); off Norderney Is. (10,000-ton tanker, 6,000-ton ship and two other vessels, totalling 10,000 tons, of escorted convoy sunk); docks and shipping at **Dunkirk**.	2 day htfigers, 3 day bombers.	4 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber attacks on industrial areas in **Hanover** and other targets in N.W. Germany.	2 night bombers.	2 night fighters.
July 20, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on shipping off French coast (tanker ablaze, flag-ship and vessels of 8,000 and 2,000 tons hit and left burning).	3 day bombers.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at **Rotterdam**; industrial areas in **Cologne**; **Aachen** and other targets in the Rhineland. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.		

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 21, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on factory at **Lille**; shipping off French coast.	3 day fighters.	8 day fighters.
	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on military camps and other objectives on west coast of Denmark.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on railway junctions and industrial areas in **Mannheim** and **Frankfurt-am-Main**.	1 night bomber.	
	R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodrome in N. France.		
July 22, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France including raids on ship-building yards at **Le Trait** and a number of aerodromes.	6 day fighters.	9 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber attacks on industrial areas in **Mannheim**; **Frankfurt-am-Main** and other objectives in W. Germany; docks at Rotterdam and Ostend.		
	R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 22nd July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 16	Nil.	..
July 17	Nil.	..
July 18	Nil.	1 day bomber.
July 19	Nil.	..
July 20	Nil.	..
July 21	Nil.	..
July 22	Nil.	1 night bomber.

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

25th July.—It was officially announced that the Royal Air Force bombed the enemy warship Gneisenau at Brest and hit again the already damaged Scarnhorst which had moved to La Pallice. Great damage was done to Brest dockyard where the enemy cruiser Prinz Eugen was berthed.

Royal Air Force attacks on Germany proper were chiefly concentrated on Kiel and Emden.

26th July.—The Royal Air Force offensive was mainly concentrated on Hanover and Hamburg, where docks, industries and communications were heavily bombed. A small force of four-engined bombers also raided Berlin.

27th July.—An Air Ministry Communique stated that bombs were dropped on the port of Emden.

28th July.—On account of unfavourable weather Royal Air Force activities over France were restricted but a small force attacked docks in Dunkirk.

German planes raided London in somewhat larger numbers than in recent weeks but the damage was slight.

29th July.—Bombs were dropped on a few places in East Anglia by German planes but little damage and no deaths resulted.

31st July.—The official German News Agency admitted British raids on Western Germany. Cologne and Aachen were attacked as also shipping off the Heligoland Bight, many enemy vessels being destroyed.

A Hamburg paper reported that the Royal Air Force dropped over Germany imitation German clothes and other ration cards.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

25th July.—It was reported that two German divisions had left Libya.

Mr. Sumner Welles, the Acting Secretary of State flatly denied the report that the United States intended to occupy Liberia.

26th July.—An E-boat attack on the port of Valetta in Malta was repulsed with heavy losses. Twelve enemy E-boats were sunk and five planes were shot down.

It was authoritatively stated that the British Government were negotiating with the Italian Government about the evacuation of distressed Italians in Ethiopia.

27th July.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty disclosed in a broadcast the safe and timely arrival of an important British convoy of troops and munitions that was involved in a two-day battle in the Mediterranean. The British destroyer "Fearless" was sunk but many enemy planes were shot down.

Slight damage was caused when bombs were dropped on Alexandria.

28th July.—The remnants of Italian forces in Abyssinia were reported to have been surrounded. Benghazi harbour was raided by the Royal Air Force which also intercepted two Savoia 79's off Malta and shot down both.

29th July.—German patrols were beaten back on the Libyan frontier and the British captured many prisoners.

The Royal Air Force made extensive raids on aerodromes in Sicily. Thirty-six Italian planes were destroyed.

30th July.—It was reported that a German dive-bombing attack on British shipping off the coast of Cyrenaica was beaten off with loss to the enemy.

31st July.—The Royal Air Force destroyed a large number of enemy aircraft in an attack on the Sardinian base of Elmas.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

25th July.—President Roosevelt disclosed that the United States would retaliate with specific action against Japan's occupation of bases in Indo-China.

Mr. Roosevelt said that the United States had allowed Japan to obtain oil from the United States so far in order to prevent Japan going to the Dutch East Indies to get it.

27th July.—Mr. Harry Hopkins, personal envoy to Britain of President Roosevelt declared in a broadcast that no enemy action could prevent American aid reaching Britain, Russia and China, namely, the supply of planes, food, oil and munitions.

28th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State, stated at Washington that the United States and Great Britain were pursuing parallel courses in the Far East and intimated that the United States would welcome parallel action by other American nations in economic control measures against Japan.

The United States House of Representatives passed the 8,063 million dollar Defence Appropriation Bill.

29th July.—Col. Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy urged prompt decision by America to resist Japanese aggression in the Far East.

Col. Knox revealed to the Senate Naval Committee that the captain of an American destroyer had to drop three depth charges off the coast of Greenland in order to ward off attack by what he took to be a submarine.

30th July.—President Roosevelt called on the United States Congress to pass legislation controlling prices and rents.

31st July.—Japan apologised to the United States for the bombing of the United States gunboat *Tutilla* during an air raid in China but Mr. Sumner Welles, acting Secretary of State, said that the apology was insufficient to close the incident.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, Mr. Roosevelt's Personal Envoy, saw M. Stalin at Moscow and was handed a message for the United States President.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

25th July.—It was officially reported in Sofia that Soviet planes bombed Ruschuk, Pleven and Lovetz in Bulgaria.

Soviet anti-aircraft guns and fighters dispersed German bombers that attempted to raid Moscow in two divisions.

26th July.—Constanza was heavily bombed by Russian planes.

The Finns claimed an advance North-east of Lake Ladoga.

27th July.—Reports indicated no change in the Soviet front from the Arctic to the Black Sea. Two German divisions were wiped out. The Finns claimed the occupation of Salmi.

A Soviet Military Mission arrived in New York *en route* to Washington.

28th July.—Constanza was again bombed by the Russian Air Force.

The destruction of German naval units in the Baltic was claimed by the Russians as well as of 109 enemy planes. The Russians lost only 36 planes.

The Tass Agency stated that the Soviet Foreign office had asked the Swedish Government to make representations to Helsinki, regarding illegal detention of Soviet diplomatic representatives by Finland.

The Soviet Military Mission, after being received by the Acting Secretary of State at Washington, conferred with the Chief of the Staff of the United States Army.

29th July.—An attempt on another mass raid by enemy planes on Moscow was defeated by Soviet counter-attack.

The Battle for Smolensk and the Battle for the Ukraine continued with unabated fury but indications were that the German offensive was breaking.

Finland, as a "co-belligerent with Germany", requested the severance of diplomatic relations with Britain.

30th July.—A Russo-Polish Agreement was signed in London in the presence of Mr. Churchill, by which the territorial changes made in Poland as a result of the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 were declared void.

A fierce Soviet counter-offensive was reported from the Smolensk sector and it appeared as if the German drive on Moscow had definitely failed.

The Berlin radio admitted that British torpedo bombers, from an aircraft-carrier in Arctic, made a strong attack, coinciding with the appearance of Russian planes, on a northern Norwegian harbour.

31st July.—Extensive activities by the Russian Air Force were reported; an enemy attempt to raid Leningrad was foiled.

Four enemy supply ships were sunk when British Naval aircraft made heavy raids on the harbours of Kirkenes and Pëtsamo in Northern Scandinavia.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN

26th July.—The Syrian campaign came to a close with the entry of General de Gaulle in Beirut.

28th July.—The official German News Agency denied the Soviet allegation that Hitler planned an attack on Turkey. This was apparently in reply to the Soviet's charges, based on documents seized from German troops, that comprehensive directions had been issued by the German High Command for an attack on Turkey.

29th July.—It was persistently rumoured in diplomatic circles in Ankara that the Soviet Union would renew its assurances of friendship for Turkey.

31st July.—Turkey notified the Vichy Ambassador that she will not, until the end of the war, release the Vichy ships interned in Turkish waters.

The Egyptian Cabinet resigned but the Premier, Sirry Pasha, formed a new one.

SHIPPING

25th July.—Speaking at Ottawa the Canadian Minister of Munitions stated: "June and July have been the best months for the number of ships reaching Britain safely. I believe that the worst of the battle of the Atlantic is now over for Britain."

27th July.—The German ship "Erlangen" (6,101 tons) which attempted to run the blockade was intercepted by British vessels.

FAR EAST

25th July.—Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, condemned in the House of Commons the Japanese Government's action in presenting demands to the Vichy Government who yielded to them, for the occupation of air and naval bases in Southern Indo-China. He announced that Britain and United States were consulting each other on the steps to be taken, also that the Malayan defences had been strengthened.

Mr. Eden received M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador and Dr. Wellington Koo, the Chinese Ambassador.

The Thailand Premier declared that Thailand would definitely remain neutral.

26th July.—The freezing of all Japanese assets and credits was ordered by the United States of America and the British Commonwealth of Nations including India. Chinese assests were included in the ban, at the specific request of the Chunking Government in order that Japan might not exploit occupied countries to defeat the American and British moves.

The Japanese Foreign and Finance Ministers reported to the Emperor on the international situation. Japan froze American and British assets in her territory.

It was reported that the United States Pacific fleet had left Pearl Horbour, Hawaii, for an unknown destination.

27th July.—President Roosevelt announced that all American forces in the Philippines would be grouped under one command, designated the United States Command in the Far East, and that Lt.-Genl. Douglas MacArthur, former United States Chief of Staff, would be the Commander-in-Chief.

28th July.—The Japanese Privy Council ratified the agreement with Vichy, and Japanese troops began disembarking in Southern Indo-China. It was reported that the Japanese would be allowed to use nine air bases under the agreement, including Saigon.

An unconfirmed Chunking report stated that Japan had presented demands for naval and air bases in Thailand to the Thai Government.

The Dutch East Indies suspended foreign exchange transactions with Japan and made all exports to Japan and Japanese-occupied countries liable to special licences.

29th July.—The Japanese occupied Camranh Bay. The number of Japanese troops in Indo-China exceeded 40,000.

It was reported that the Dutch East Indies had suspended the Oil Pact with Japan.

A continuous radio campaign was launched by Japan against Thailand, similar to the recent press campaign against Indo-China, alleging British influence in Thailand.

The Japanese air force made an indiscriminate attack on civilian property in Chengtu in the Chinese province of Szechwan.

Further military precautions were announced in Australia.

30th July.—A special broadcast from the Bangkok radio expressed complete confidence in Britain's friendship for Thailand.

31st July.—The Chinese Foreign Minister appealed for joint action by Britain, United States of America and China against Japanese aggression in the Far East.

VICHY

26th July.—M. Max Dormoy, former Socialist Minister of France, was killed in his room at a hotel in Mont Elimar, owing to an explosion believed to have been caused by a time-bomb.

The Vichy Cabinet met presumably to give final touches to the agreement with Japan, granting the latter air bases and other facilities in Indo-China.

29th July.—Vichy published the Protocol to the agreement with Japan, in which Japan undertook to "respect" French sovereignty and interests in Indo-China.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

26th July.—Dr. Benes, Head of the Czechoslovak Government in London, in a broadcast to his country, welcomed the British decision to grant full recognition to his Government and explained the value of the recent agreement arrived at with Russia.

27th July.—The German authorities in Yugoslavia blamed Communists for numerous acts of sabotage and had a number of them shot.

The German Secret Police arrested a large number of railwaymen following a collision between a goods train and a German troop train near Warsaw in which over 200 casualties were reported.

31st July.—The Polish Foreign Minister and two other Ministers resigned following the signature of the Polish-Russian Pact.

The United States of America accorded recognition to the Czechoslovak Government in London.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

27th July.—An official announcement in Kabul reiterated Afghanistan's neutrality in the present war.

The Portuguese President, on a visit to the Azores, affirmed Portugal's desire to live in peace but to defend herself against aggression.

It was reported (but later denied) that hostilities between Peru and Equador had ceased in response to an appeal by the United States, Argentina and Brazil for a peaceful solution of their dispute.

The Germans were stated to have protested to the Swedish Government against the blowing up of two troop trains on their way to Finland through Sweden.

27th July.—The German Consul in the Bolivian town of Cochabamba, was arrested for complicity in an attempted Nazi *putsch*.

The Argentine authorities seized further incriminating materials from the baggage of a Nazi diplomat.

30th July.—Mr. Eden stated in the Commons that Britain had drawn the Iran Government's attention to the danger, in Iran's own interests, of continuing to permit an excessively large number of Germans to reside in their country.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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LEAP-FROG

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The notable event of the week is the occupation by Japan of the air and naval bases granted to her by Indo-China. Large reinforcements are being sent by Japan to Thailand-Indo-China border and it is said that demands are being made on Thailand. There are also reports of troop movements to Manchukuo.

America has given a stern warning to Vichy against giving way to Nazi pressure—a step which endangers Amercian security. Mr. Sumner Welles has specifically stated that the attitude of the United States Government towards Vichy "will be governed by the manifest effectiveness with which those authorities endeavour to protect these territories from domination and control by those Powers which are seeking to extend their rule by force and conquest or by threat thereof." Vichy has replied that the position of Indo-China was peculiar owing to political and geographical reasons and that "the disproportion between Japanese forces and the meagre effectives at France's disposal in Indo-China fully explains the position which

confronted her and the inevitable consequences." The United States Government have prohibited the export of motor fuels and oils for use of aircraft for places outside the western hemisphere. This directly affects Japan.

Things in Norway are not proceeding satisfactorily to Germany. A state of emergency has been proclaimed throughout the country. Police have been given far-reaching powers to maintain order and martial law will be introduced wherever necessary. The causes for these panicky measures are discontent throughout Norway and sabotage activities by the Norwegians.

The Third Canadian Division has arrived in Great Britain.

It is stated that Axis losses during the first seven months of the current year in planes were 2,500 destroyed by Great Britain alone. Of these 433 were destroyed last month for a British loss of 308.

Stubborn resistance by the Russians continues all along the line. It is stated that during the first three weeks of the war the Germans lost a million men. Their losses up-to-date are placed at a million and a half.

The Finnish press reports the presence of a large British Naval force in the Arctic. It is stated that the British bombing of Petsamo was not an isolated attack but part of a British-Russian plan for large-scale operations.

There are clear indications that the Battle of the Atlantic is turning in favour of the Allies. The reasons are the successful bombardment of German naval and air bases, making it difficult for submarines and bombers to operate against British shipping, the Soviet-German war which has necessitated concentration of the Luftwaffe in the East and the activities of the American Neutrality Patrol which has considerably reduced the strain on the British Navy.

It is stated that the armament of one of Britain's newest long-range day and night fighters—the Bristol Beau-fighter—consists of four cannon-guns and six machine-guns. Its speed is 330 miles per hour and it has a range of 1,500 miles. It has two Bristol Hercules engines, air-cooled with sleeve valve and radial type of power units. It carries 550 gallons of petrol and there are separate oil tanks for each engine with a capacity of 18 gallons each.

America has promised economic help to Russia of all kinds with priority on orders. The annual trade agreement with Russia has been renewed. Russia has requested shipping facilities and the United States has promised to expedite the delivery of materials. Unlimited licences have been issued for the export of articles to the Soviet Government. Large quantities of British goods are also on their way to Russia and it is stated that the British are doing everything possible to supply Russian needs.

There are persistent reports in Washington that President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill are to meet.

THE BATTLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

An important convoy has passed through the Mediterranean in the full knowledge of the enemy and despite all his efforts to destroy it. The Battle of the Mediterranean is still being fought and there is no room for complacency. But the passage of the convoy exposes the hollowness of German boasts of their domination of the Eastern Mediterranean. It is true that the Italian Fleet had numerical superiority at the beginning of the war and before the French collapse. Though the Italian Navy is still there, it is now considerably reduced. The enemy has an advantage in air in narrow waters; but these disadvantages have certainly not driven the Royal Navy from the Mediterranean nor have they prevented traffic in these waters. It is significant that, though there was considerable activity in the narrow seas south of Sardinia and in the Sicilian channel and though the attack on the convoy lasted 27 hours, yet it proceeded on its way and arrived with only one ship damaged and with a loss of one destroyer and six aircraft.

A typical Nazi boast contained in a broadcast topical talk from Berlin stated : " From Crete the German Navy and Air Force can now exert very effective control of the relatively small stretch of sea between Crete and the North African Coast . . . This means that it will from now on be almost impossible for Britain to ship any goods throughout the Mediterranean." If the Luftwaffe is as powerful as it is stated to be, then (i) Axis shipping would move in the Aegean Sea and (ii) the British Navy could no longer use naval bases in the area and would be driven well to the West of Crete; but, as a matter of fact, both these consequences have not happened though, of course, Axis pressure is continuing.

IRAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Iran has definitely declared her neutrality in the present war, but considerable German infiltration is a potential danger to the rear of Britain and Russia, as well as to Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan and India. The number of Germans in Iran is variously estimated to be between two to five thousand and there are many Germans in key positions in industry. Tourists are, it is stated, arriving in large numbers, but it is hoped that the advice of the British authorities to Iran not to allow this infiltration will have its desired effect. In his speech in the House of Commons on Wednesday last, Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, repeated this warning. After pointing out the danger to her own interests and independence

in allowing this large infiltration he said : " I trust the Iranian Government will not fail to heed this warning given in all friendliness and in all sincerity and that they will take the necessary measures now to deal with this situation." Of course, Germans have perfected the process of infiltration. First, specialists are introduced as key-men in industry, secondly, these constitute themselves propaganda agents and fifth-columnists and thirdly this advance guard is reinforced by ' tourists.' These methods have been at work in Rumania, Bulgaria and other countries and in Iran, the ' tourists' ' stage has begun. Iran, of course, should be wary of Germany's policy in the Middle East. She wants to get economic control of Turkey, Iraq and probably Syria right down to the head of the Persian Gulf. Economic control means necessarily control of Iraqi and Irani oil-fields and later, political domination.

The striking contrast between German policy and British policy in the Middle East should be noted and emphasised, especially because the German radio is grossly misrepresenting British aims. The matter was made crystal clear by Mr. Eden in his speech in the House of Commons on Wednesday last. He said : " We have said over and over again that this country has no territorial ambitions in this war. We seek no territory anywhere. We did not go to war to enlarge our frontiers. We went to war because the Nazi menace threatened the life of Europe and our own lives and freedom as it threatens to-day the people of the world. We went to war to resist aggression, not to steal prizes or pilfer loot. It follows that there can be, on our part, only one policy towards all those nations who live in the area bounded on the west by the Suez Canal and on the east by the frontiers of India. For all the countries who live in that area, we have only one policy. We wish them to live their own lives in security and at peace. After the Great War, in Iraq, and after considerable expenditure of money, we set up an independent Iraqi state and withdrew our forces. The world will have to look far, before it will find any sign of action of that kind in Hitler's policy. When our conflict with Germany and Italy is over, we shall do our utmost to assist those lands of the Middle East to enjoy a free and independent life.

" Meanwhile, our forces of men and material in the Middle East are being strengthened for their next forward blow. I suggest to those lands in the Middle East that the blows which these forces will strike will be blows struck for their own independence as much as for ours. That carries with it the corollary that those countries must co-operate with us in ensuring that they do not afford an opportunity to Germany or to the Axis to create troubles, disturbances, upheavals and risings to further their war efforts."

GERMANY'S STRIKING POWER

There is now a note of optimism in the Allied press in regard to the Russo-German war, though that optimism must be very cautious. The Russians are counter-attacking in a number of points and they are able to mobilize and bring up large reserves. No major strategical-centre has passed into German hands and Germany's aim to dislocate Russian mobilization has utterly failed. Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev have not yet been captured and Germany has to make great strides before she can succeed in this attempt. The proportion of Russian territory actually overrun during six weeks can be gauged from the fact that, while Smolensk is 300 miles from the German frontier, Moscow is nearly 200 miles further on. From Moscow to Urals is 1,100 miles and from Moscow to the Caucasus still further. The " blitz " has so far failed and the fact that explanations have to be offered to the German people means that Germany has lost all hopes of a quick victory. The impediments to the realization of Hitler's ambitions are forests, marshes, mosquitoes, heat, rain and bad roads, according to the German radio. Further, the German attempt to represent the Russian campaign as a crusade against Bolshevism and as a holy war has failed. From Sweden a small Fascist group and a few retired officers volunteered; from Catholic Spain volunteers were very few, from Denmark 100 have volunteered, from Belgium less than a dozen and from Holland none.

The remarkable stand by Russia has provided those who are fighting against Germany with a great opportunity. The Nazi war machine is in danger of being subjected to attrition, while Great Britain, the Dominions, and the Allies are fast approaching the state of being fully armed. Whatever may be the result of the war against Russia, the fact remains that Germany's striking power both on land and in the air would have been considerably weakened by next spring. She is now on the defensive in the west with the Royal Air Force striking heavy blows. The day-light sweeps over Northern France and the severe attacks on German transports have compelled the withdrawal of German fighter pilots to the western front. German production has also been slowed down by the repeated hammering by the Royal Air Force of industrial targets.

JAPAN COMPLAINS OF " ENCIRCLEMENT "

There is plenty of evidence to prove that the Japanese drive in the Far East is intimately connected with German strategy. Germany is putting great pressure on Vichy to lease her African bases to her, while at the same time she is forcing her Axis partner in the Far East to do likewise in order to weaken Allied strength. Japan is adopting familiar totalitarian tactics. She is now complaining of her being encircled. ' Encirclement ' is a magic word, bringing back to one's mind Germany's allegation of her being encircled by the Democracies before she embarked on her

mad venture in Europe. Mr. Spender, the Australian Minister for War, commenting upon the excuse that the agreement with Indo-China for granting air and naval bases was dictated by the necessity for protecting herself, says that this was only a cynical pretext for unblushing aggression. Three facts are clear: all Japanese shipping to Australia, the United States of America and South America has been stopped. Japan has sent troops to Manchukuo possibly for attacking Russia, though the fact that she is outmatched in the East may put a curb on her ambitious desire to strike at Russia while she is engaged in a life and death struggle against Germany. Japan has also sent large troops to the Thai border. But when asked why, a Japanese official would only say that it was a military matter about which he will not say anything. There are reports that she is demanding monopoly of Thailand's production of rubber, tin and rice together with the right to use certain naval and air bases in return for the possession of the province of Laos and the ancient city of Angkor. This means that Thailand would, by consenting to the demands, become a supporter of Japan in her aggression.

THREAT TO THAILAND

There are certain factors which are not altogether satisfactory. It is reported that Thailand is on the point of recognizing or has already recognized the puppet state of Manchukuo. Further, an agreement has been reached between the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Thai Banking Syndicate for a credit of 16 million yens to be utilized for facilitating Japanese imports from Thailand—a step to offset the freezing of Japanese assets by America, Great Britain, Dominions and India. Further, there is the undoubted fact that Thailand is indebted to Japan for her mediation between herself and Indo-China. It will be remembered that in February last, the Vichy Government gave way and Thailand got practically the whole of the territory which was wrested from her in a series of encroachments from 1893.

Thailand has non-aggression pacts with France and with Britain and a treaty with Japan of friendship and mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity. A good-will mission has visited India and she has always been earnest in her profession of friendship to Great Britain. Her geographical position is obviously unsatisfactory. She has French Indo-China in the East, Burma in the North and West and the Malaya States to the South, with no common frontier with China. She has about 1,300 miles of road completed or under construction and nearly 2,000 miles of railway. Thailand has an army of 21 battalions, and 13 cavalry regiments as well as gunners and fortress troops. The Air Corps is a part of the army and consists of 207 planes of all types. The Navy has two coastal defence ships, one destroyer and 12 torpedo boats, 4 submarines and 12 coastal motor torpedo boats. The more modern of Thailand's vessels are of Japanese construction.

Reuter reports that Thailand is experiencing untold difficulties and it is stated that she may be compelled to behave in a "realistic" way. America and Great Britain have not guaranteed the integrity of her territory and, in view of the Japan's threat, she may succumb. As a matter of fact, it is said that events may be expected to move fast. The American view is that the safety of America is being threatened by the Japanese policy of aggression. As regards the Vichy-Japan deal, Mr. Sumner Welles has stated very clearly that it menaces American security and America has already taken economic measures against Japan and also prohibited the export of motor fuels and oils for the use of aircraft to countries outside the western hemisphere. It is certain that this embargo will have a serious effect on Japan, especially because the ban extends to certain raw stocks from which aviation petrol, etc., are being derived.

REACTIONS

The defences of the Philippines have been strengthened and there is the American Navy about ready for any emergency. Great Britain has demanded no special rights and privileges for herself, but obviously she is very particular that no rights and privileges not granted to Great Britain should be granted to any other power.

Mr. Hughes, the Australian Naval Minister, has made a statement to the effect that Great Britain is able, if necessary, to send her Fleet into the Pacific. The announcement has been welcomed in Singapore. It is of great significance that an American who has visited the defences of Malaya has paid a tribute to the efficiency of the British forces in that country. He has further stated that the Australian soldiers and Indian regiments there are well equipped and more of these have arrived in Singapore which is busy in completing arrangements.

As regards Burma, it is known that the Royal Air Force there has been greatly strengthened especially by the arrival of American-built Brewster Buffalo multi-gun fighters and she is well-equipped for offensive and defensive air action. Aerodromes have been and are being built in the frontiers with China and Thailand and plants for the maintenance and repair of aircraft have been provided. It has been recently stated that British and Australian troops have arrived in Burma for training in bush-warfare.

It is well recognized that Japanese acquisition of the aerodromes at Siemreap, Kompongtom and Pnompenh in Cambodia on the border of Thai territory or close to it, is a very serious matter. That is a threat to Burma, the Burma Road, Singapore and Dutch East

Indies. As the Australian Minister for War has put it "Indo-China, Malaya and Thailand are as close neighbours to Australia as to Japan. We look with misgiving on the arrival of Japanese forces in Indo-China." But the understanding among the ABCD countries is complete as regards any menace to the *status quo* in the Far East and the outlook, though serious, need not unnecessarily alarm the public mind, the preparations for defensive and offensive action being so very satisfactory.

WARNING BY UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN

Both Mr. Cordell Hull and Mr. Eden have administered a warning to Japan against any encroachments in Thailand about which there can be no mistake. At a Press Conference on Wednesday Mr. Hull said that Japanese move into Thailand would be considered as a step menacing American security and endangering American territory in the Pacific. She was opposed to any move in the Pacific and elsewhere, including Thailand, and viewed reports about Japan's demand of military concessions in that country with increasing concern. Mr. Hull expressed the United States interest in the integrity and independence of Thailand.

Mr. Eden was even more specific. Speaking in the House of Commons on Wednesday he pointed—and this is important:—

"As to the position in Thailand, the British Government have not failed to note that the Japanese newspapers have recently been using the same kind of language regarding Thailand as they had employed before the Japanese demands for bases in Indo-China. For that reason, on July 31, His Majesty's Ambassador in Tokyo drew the attention of the Japanese Foreign Minister to this newspaper campaign which stated, among other things, that we are intriguing in Thailand, that British military preparations are threatening Japanese interests and that, in consequence, Thailand should in her own interests come to an easy understanding with Japan, the power which controls Indo-China.

"Our Ambassador pointed out that this kind of thing could only mean that someone in authority in Japan was endeavouring to manufacture a case for Japanese intervention in Thai territory." He added that if a step of this kind were taken, coming on the top of the recent action in Indo-China, it must inevitably give rise to a most serious situation—between Great Britain and Japan. Sir Robert Craig then gave to Admiral Toyoda a most formal assurance that all these reports of British aggressive designs against Thailand were of course utterly baseless.

"The truth is we have for over a century had friendly relations with Thailand. Our policy has no other object than to maintain those relations but it is no less true that any action which would threaten that independence and integrity of Thailand would be a matter of immediate concern to this country, more particularly as threatening the security of Singapore."

Mr. Eden added, in serious tones, "I hope these words may yet be heeded."

MR. ATTLEE ON JUSTIFICATION FOR CONFIDENCE

During the debate on the war situation in the House of Commons, Mr. Attlee described the satisfactory features in the present phase of the struggle. The invasion of England, he warned the public, had only been postponed, not abandoned. Instructions had been issued to bring the preparations against invasion to the highest state of preparedness. His points may be summarized as follows:—

(1) Hitler was now fighting on two fronts, which Germany had hitherto striven to avoid.

(2) Germany is now engaged in a gigantic struggle over a wide front in Russia. Russians are putting up a magnificent resistance with a determination, courage and fighting quality which has surprised Germans so much so that they consider that such pertinacity is not quite playing the game. Great Britain is sending quickly war supplies to Russia and "the activities of our Fleet at Kirkihes and elsewhere in the North show how close is our physical contact with the Russian forces."

(3) British bombers are delivering increasingly heavy attacks on Western and Central Germany, without cessation, with growing weight and their range is increasing while the nights lengthen. In July, 70 attacks were made on towns in Germany and 76 on German occupied towns. There are also heavy day-light bombing raids.

(4) In July, in the Middle East, the Royal Air Force delivered 126 attacks on various targets. Great Britain lost 285 aircraft while the enemy lost 410 units.

(5) The Battle of the Atlantic was proceeding in all its fury, but though Great Britain has suffered severe losses, "we can look back on the last two months with reasonable satisfaction." Imports are being maintained at a satisfactory figure. The German story to have destroyed 140,000 tons in a convoy recently was an exaggeration of between 350 to 700 per cent.

(6) On the North Sea and the Atlantic the enemy had lost in July of this year 69 ships of 291,000 tons besides small craft, barges, tugs, etc. In the Mediterranean the corresponding figures were 23 ships of 168,000 tons, besides 30 ships hit and damaged.

(7) Turkey and Cyprus should now feel greatly heartened by the presence of British forces on the Turko-Syrian frontier. There

was only a small pocket of Italians held up in Gondar, while the Emperor of Abyssinia had begun his work of reconstruction with his Cabinet and British Advisers. British offensive patrol was busy on the Libyan frontier and in Tobruk. " Day by day, week by week, tanks, guns, planes and supplies continue to arrive in the Middle East and the reorganization and to aiming for the next forward move go on."

(8) " Another fact, which differentiates our situation from that of last year is the vastly increased scope of assistance we are receiving from the United States."

(9) " Important as is the physical help we are receiving, no less encouraging is the sense of spiritual unity between the English-speaking people. By independent but parallel action in relation to Japan, the United States and the British Commonwealth have again affirmed their community of interests wherever liberty is threatened."

(10) There was clear evidence of the rising tide of resistance to Hitler's rule in all invaded countries. From the start there had been sullen resentment and growing opposition. This increased month by month. The " V " campaign was no stunt but a spontaneous expression of the desires and hopes of civilized human beings who longed for deliverance from barbarian rule.

Mr. Attlee concluded: " The nations in Europe look to us not only to destroy Hitlerism but to show by practice as well as by precept the true alternative to Hitler's ' New Order '. We cannot foresee either the time or the circumstances of our victory: we cannot tell the trials and difficulties that we have yet to endure, but we know that when victory comes, as come it will, we shall have to take a leading part in helping to establish a world of peace, freedom and social justice."

WHAT IS CO-PROSPERITY SPHERE?

Japan complains that her aims are being misunderstood and that she really wants " a harmonius world under one heaven." What have her statesmen said about the " New Order " in the East and about " the co-prosperity sphere? " Mr. Matsuoka, till recently Foreign Minister, had declared that it extends beyond Japan, Manchukuo, and China as far as Thailand and Burma in the south-west, and as far as New Caledonia in the south-east—that is to say, it stops short of Australia and New Zealand. Admiral Takahashi is less modest. According to him, it includes in the area Australia and New Zealand, Burma, and all the land eastwards to the 180th meridian. Mr. Matsuoka's famous parliamentary speech of February 24, 1941, in which he suggested that the white races should cede their possessions in Oceania to the yellow races, specified an area 1,200 miles from north to south and 1,000 miles from east to west, but also stated that the area had sufficient natural resources to support a population of 600 to 800 million. Large parts, if not all, of the Netherlands Indies were included in the area referred to. Mr. Matsuoka specified that he had in mind New Guinea among other countries, but not Australia, New Zealand, or Hawaii, and an authoritative statement later added that the Philippines were also excluded.

What are the implications of this policy? Here they are, according to a writer in *The Bulletin of International News*:—

" On its economic side, the Japanese policy is apparently very closely similar to that of Germany. The unit proposed to be built up by Japan in Eastern Asia and the Pacific is, like German-dominated Europe, an area aiming at self-sufficiency, with an industrial State as the centre and primary producing countries grouped round it. The industrial State, Japan, has a far higher standard of living than the satellite States, but a far lower population, and it is clearly very much in her immediate interest, both from the economic and from the military point of view, to prevent them from treading the path of industrialization by which she herself has advanced from extreme poverty, and which, in view of the extreme agricultural overpopulation existing in most of them, is their most obvious, if not their only line of escape from their poverty also. The development of China or of Netherlands Indies, for instance, would probably, under normal circumstances, follow lines somewhat similar to those followed by British India, but India's rapid approach to self-sufficiency in cotton tissues, for instance, is a spectacle which the Japanese must view with dismay. It is little wonder that they wish to prevent it from being repeated elsewhere, within their main trading area. Economic development in the satellite States means the development of means of resistance to Japan, and a considerable modification of the position which she has enjoyed hitherto as the only industrial and relatively advanced country in a vast area populated mostly by overcrowded and unresisting peasants.

The power of military resistance to-day rests more than ever before upon power of production, and the tendency to divide the world up into economic spheres of influence of the Great Powers is in fact, apart from being an attempt to purchase freedom from competition and the pressure of economic change on the part of economic interests in the powerful States, an effort to fasten military domination upon backward countries. That this sinister tendency is not universal is demonstrated by, for instance, the assistance which the United States is giving to Latin American countries in their development of secondary industry, as well as by the history of the British Empire. The school of thought which aims at regional self-sufficiency is essentially a totalitarian one, and the real objects of its policy are thoroughly consistent with totalitarian doctrines in general."

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

SEVENTH WEEK SEES LITTLE CHANGE

The German High Command has launched a third *blitzkrieg* attempt to break down the terrific resistance of the Soviet armies. Their preparations account for the more stabilized line which has been the feature of the Eastern campaign for the past week. It is considered that this third push by the Nazis may be the turning point in the war. The conditions, however, favour the Soviet. Unlike the enemy, their lines of communication are being well maintained at the moment and if they keep these lines intact, the advantage should be on their side in the third test also. As for the German army, their difficulties must increase as they are drawn farther into Russia. One situation which can be foreseen is that of the German army being bogged in the Russian winter. This might happen if the third *blitzkrieg* which is now in progress proved a failure. Such a situation would render the Germans vulnerable to constant attacks from the Russians, who naturally are accustomed to the severe Russian winter.

In the great battle which has been raging all these days along the fifteen-hundred kilometres front, the Germans have carried out encirclement after encirclement, but Russian attempts to break through have been constantly successful, according to neutral reports. The Germans continue to indulge in tall claims—one this week was the capture of 10,000 prisoners west of Lake Peipus and they have just issued a long communiqué, claiming a break-through at three decisive points, namely, south of the Pripet Marshes in the direction of Smolensk and south of Lake Peipus—but the fact remains that they have not much to show for their pains. And Russian reports reveal that in the first three weeks alone of the Russo-German fighting, German casualties and prisoners amounted to one million men, 2,300 planes and 3,000 tanks and many of the best German divisions were destroyed.

CONFIDENCE IN MOSCOW

Reuter's Special Correspondent in Moscow, indeed, bears testimony to the fact that the atmosphere in Russia's capital grows more and more inspiring as the German campaign moves into its seventh week. German propaganda, with stories that the rear must be cleared before spectacular successes could be achieved, seems to be preparing the German public for a longer Russian war than anybody expected. The coming month will clearly be most critical, but Moscow looks forward with confidence and comparatively unperturbed to air raids. German inability at present to bomb Moscow on a grand scale is due to a number of reasons, one being considerable Soviet activity in the systematic bombing of Nazi aerodromes not far from the front. It may be that with longer nights, bombing will increase, but with excellent anti-aircraft defences, it is likely to be only indiscriminate and indecisive. Generally, numerous reports confirm the impression of Russian heroism and boldness against *blitzkrieg* methods while encirclements of advance tank thrusts, the unnerving effect of guerillas in Poland and West Russia and disappointment at delays have greatly weakened the Nazis' self-assurance and are bewildering the German soldiers who are accustomed to working to a plan. The moral effect of the British bombing of Petsamo is excellent and Finnish press reports speak of the presence of large British Naval forces in the Arctic, coinciding with big Russian troop concentrations in the north. Murmansk, despite reports to the contrary a month ago, is certainly still in Russian hands. The German-Finnish movement around Lake Ladoga does not seem to have made any advance in the Petrozavodsk direction and is no longer mentioned in any communiqué. The attempted Finnish advance across the Karelian Isthmus is equally inconclusive but the push towards Leningrad from the south-west and the attempt to cut off Leningrad from Moscow is a bigger Nazi ambition. The Germans have pushed towards Kholm, some 80 miles due south of Lake Ilmen, on the north-south road from Leningrad to Moscow, and midway between Leningrad and Smolensk. To the east of this town, the country is mainly made up of marshes and forests. Kholm itself lies on Lovat River, a strongly defended natural barrier to the foot of Valdai heights. On reaching Kholm, the Germans might attempt a drive in either direction. A push in the direction of Moscow would indicate an attempt to extend the Smolensk wedge northwards and increase the pressure against Moscow by means of a semi-circular formation. But this operation is still uncertain and tentative. The German claim that they are " completing the encirclement of Russian troops in the Smolensk area " is meaningless, unless it merely means that certain local Russian troops are encircled on the intricate front, just as German troops are encircled at some points by the Russians.

BATTLE FOR KIEV

A recent Soviet communiqué mentions two new directions in which fighting is reported, namely, Korosten, north-west from Kiev, and Byelaya-Tserkov, due south of it. It seems clear that, having failed with a direct thrust against Kiev, the Germans are attempting a pincer thrust, aiming at the encirclement of Kiev and the cutting off of the railway main line parallel to, and west of, the Dnieper, which is an important link between Central Russia and the Ukrainian mining areas and the granary surrounding Nikolaev. The success of this thrust would also cut off Odessa,

(*Continued on Page* 8)

GERMANY NEEDS A QUICK VICTORY

A GOEBBELS CALENDAR

Russia's remarkable stand against violent and treacherous attack has disappointed the German hopes expressed in the following series of boasts:

NOVEMBER 1940.—"In half a year I will talk to you again, and you will see that my prophecy of victory will have been correct." *Goebbels to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin.*

MARCH 1941.—"I affirm again that before the year is over Germany will finish the war."—*Goebbels to Spanish correspondents in Berlin.*

JUNE 26, 1941.—"The Soviet army has already been defeated in the first days."—*Goebbels in "Dienst aus Deutschland".*

JUNE 30, 1941.—"The German advance will now be practically unopposed."—*Rome Radio, quoting Berlin.*

JULY 7, 1941.—"The Russians have thrown in their last reserves."—*German Army communique.*

JULY 13, 1941.—"From now onwards the interior of the Soviet Union lies open to our victoriously advancing troops." *German home broadcast.*

JULY 15, 1941.—"It is an indisputable fact that the Russian army has ceased to exist as an entity."—*Rome Radio's Portuguese broadcast.*

JULY 20, 1941.—"The fighting ability of the Red Army has been destroyed."—*German broadcast.*

JULY 21, 1941.—"It is now only a matter of days before Leningrad will be captured or evacuated."—*German broadcast in Norwegian.*

Every week that passes without substantial German successes, every week in which the Russian armies remain intact and their guerilla bands active behind the enemy's forward units, means another nail in Hitler's coffin.

Signs are multiplying that the German intention was a swift and spectacular success in Russia, followed by another of Hitler's notorious "peace-offers" to the nations that stand across his path to world-domination.

Britain has refused, and will always refuse, to parley with those whose word is worthless. But the Germans have been told by their leaders that the world will soon accept Nazi tyranny as a permanent system.

If Hitler wins the battle of Russia, the peril of all other nations would at once become more acute. If, on the other hand, Russia, with British assistance, can hold the fort, the opportunity will arise to deal a heavy blow to German confidence.

Every nation now realizes the issues involved. There must be no relaxing of effort if the Allied grip on the wild beast is to be tightened into a stranglehold.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA—*(Continued from Page 7)*

whose main railway connexions all run northward, not eastward. The Russian Command in the Ukraine under Marshal Budenny is aware of the Nazi plans and has certainly taken precautions, as can be seen from the failure of the Nazis' direct thrust against Kiev.

The defence of Hangoe will probably rank among the most heroic stories of the war. Though frequently bombed and shelled, this Russian base is still holding out and even continuing to impede Nazi naval movements in the Baltic. The Russians say that the Gulf of Finland is not, as Germans pretend, thick with mines "like soup with meat balls." German mining from aircraft and casual minelayers is sufficiently thin not to impede Russian naval movements. Witness the repeated attacks on Nazi convoys bound for Finland. And the Russian air force continues to take heavy toll of Nazi planes on the front and of Nazi naval and merchant vessels in the Baltic.

The Soviet forces have delivered heavy hammer-blows in the Smolensk sector where the entire 137th German Infantry Division has been wiped out. The 253rd German Division has met with a similar fate. No wonder the Moscow paper *Pravda* says that this successful counter-attack is the first of a series of mighty Russian blows at German Fascism while the newspaper *Izvestia* claims that the Red Army has learnt how to smash the enemy. President Roosevelt has characterised the Russian resistance to Nazi aggression as magnificent and Mr. Harry Hopkins, his Special Envoy, during his visit to Moscow, doubtless thrashed out with M. Stalin the question of speedy aid to Russia.

THE NAZI 'PANZER' DIVISIONS

THEIR STRENGTH AND STRIKING FORCE

The German Panzer Divisions which smashed their way across Poland, France and the Balkans, are now engaged in Russia. Their strength is variously estimated. The Panzer Division has its own squadron of supporting aircraft which can be summoned very quickly to its aid; within each division, it is said, are a brigade of lorry-borne infantry, a mechanized reconnaissance unit, which, in the form of advance "clouds" of motor-cyclists, played such a prominent part in France, a regiment of field artillery, an anti-tank battalion, a heavy machine-gun battalion, and an engineer battalion carrying bridging equipment, besides a thorough system of ordnance field workshops, with a light aid detachment attached to every tank battalion. The core of this hurtling spearhead is the tank brigade, consisting of two regiments, each of two battalions of 100 light, medium and heavy tanks. The whole organization, swift and flexible, makes for a high degree of reconnaissance and hitting power under the hand of the foremost leader. A Panzer Division consists of 48 heavy tanks, 84 medium tanks, 252 light tanks, 230 troop carriers, 96 artillery, 27 dive-bombers, and 258 armoured motor cycles and nearly 1,000 other service vehicles, 4 battalions motorized infantry, engineers and signallers.

A Panzer Division—according to *War Illustrated*—Panzer is the German word for 'armoured'—comprises 400 tanks, divided into two brigades of two battalions each, but in addition to the tanks, each division contains a brigade of infantry carried on motor lorries, a reconnaissance unit of motor cyclists, a regiment of field artillery, an anti-tank battalion, a heavy machine-gun battalion, an engineer battalion, equipped for bridge and road construction and repair, and a mobile repair and supply unit. Furthermore, it has attached to it a squadron of aircraft for reconnaissance and dive-bombing operations. Altogether, the number of vehicles is about 3,000, all motor-driven, and the number of men is some 14,000. But perhaps the most important fact about a Panzer Division is that it is a *self-contained unit*, it is capable of acting on its own and does act as an individual army, receiving its direction from the divisional commander, who rides with his staff in the H.Q. armoured vehicle.

Germany has 15, or perhaps 16, of these armoured divisions, representing a total strength of more than 6,000 tanks. Three of the divisions are reported to be in Libya, and seven are believed to have been engaged in the fighting in the Balkans. Four sufficed to crush Poland, and ten triumphed in the Battle of France.

In each division there are usually heavy, medium and light tanks. The fast, light and medium models range from 18 to 20 tons; each is equipped with a 37 mm. gun (100 mm. are a little short of 4 inches) and 2 machine-guns, and its armour is about 30 mm. in thickness. It carries a crew of three. The heavy tank, which the Germans seemingly are coming to prefer, is a cruiser with a road speed of about 30 miles per hour. It weighs about 36 tons, but there has been talk of monsters of between 70 and 100 tons. Its armour is some 50 mm. thick, and it carries a 75 mm. gun and two machine-guns. It has a crew of five, and can carry a heavy load of ammunition. A model Pzwk 6 shown in Berlin in 1939 had armour of 75 mm. or 105 mm. and a 47 mm. anti-tank gun; its crew numbered eight.

When going into action the Panzer Division seeks to outflank, rather than to make a frontal attack. If, however, it is not possible to work round the enemy the motor cyclists and the light motorized unit probe the opposing defences, searching everywhere for a soft spot. As soon as this is found a wedge is driven in by dive-bombers and heavy tanks.

Once the line is penetrated, then the tanks spread out like an opening fan; and behind them, through the gap which they have caused, pour the rest of the Panzer Division. Far and wide throughout the countryside speed the motor cyclists and the light tanks, the heavies, the flying artillery, spreading confusion and destruction. The enemy communications are first threatened, then disrupted, severed, smashed. The civilian population are driven from their homes and become panic-stricken mobs. The opposing troops are cut off into isolated pockets of resistance, which may continue firing hours after the main battle has swept past and beyond them; they are left to be dealt with by the motorized infantry. So what was once a nibble has become a thrust; what was once a crack is now a breach, through which rushes a flood of armoured troops not to be withstood.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Disaster for Goebbels

Never has the elaborate and expensive Nazi propaganda machine suffered such a hopeless and humiliating breakdown as in its attempts to cover up the poor performance of the German armies in Russia.

Apart from two small advances in the north and south, the front line remains where it was a week ago. Kiev, whose fall was described by the Germans as "imminent" a fortnight ago, is still firmly held. Smolensk, which the Germans claimed to have occupied on July 16, is still in Russian hands.

Yet Goebbels continues to print colourful word pictures of four million healthy young German giants opposed to a hopeless and decrepit rabble entirely devoid of stamina, enthusiasm and leadership.

India was told on July 21 that . . .

"The desperate efforts of the Bolsheviks to support their shaken ranks by flinging the Communist Youth Organisation of Women's battalions into the battle have not succeeded in restoring their position. As their last means the Soviets have now fallen back on the factory guards of the Petersburg works, strengthened by retired police officers and members of the fire brigade. Armed with cutlasses and muzzle-loaders, with machine-guns mounted in their rear, these unfortunate wretches are driven against the German tanks and shock troops in a mad attempt to stop the German drive. By hundreds of thousands these last defenders of Communism were killed or taken prisoner."

But three days later the Essen *National Zeitung* reminded its readers that "the Russian High Command has immense reserves; new masses of Soviet soldiers can always be mobilised to hurl against the German lines," and the *Frankfurter Zeitung* says, "Fortresses we thought we had captured have suddenly renewed their resistance, utilizing underground fortifications not noticed by our forces. Here and there we have been compelled to fight in territories we had considered conquered."

These factory guards, retired police officers and members of the fire brigade, with their cutlasses and muzzle-loaders, seem to know their stuff!

Bombs on Moscow

No more successful are the little doctor's lurid accounts of damage done in Moscow by German bombs. Of the hundreds of planes sent to *blitz* the Russian capital, not more than 4 per cent. have succeeded in ramming their way through the anti-aircraft barrage and night fighter opposition; at least 10 per cent of those that have got through have been brought down.

Walt Mittler, broadcasting from Berlin on July 23, said of these raids on Moscow, "Most likely important offices connected with the handling of the war have been damaged... ...And we must bear in mind also that Moscow is a most vulnerable spot of the Soviet war system, in so far as most of the institutions and offices vital for the war effort are pretty much concentrated there."

All very impressive. But, just 24 hours before Moscow's first air raid, Rome radio announced that "diplomatic circles in Moscow have confirmed the fact that the greater part of the Soviet Government offices have been removed from the capital. The only Government offices remaining are political offices." How now, Mr. Mittler?

Mussolini's Mediterranean

Reporting the attempted aerial *blitz* on a British convoy in the Mediterranean last week, the Italian War *Communiqué* (July 25) says:—

"The bombers sank a British vessel of 10,000 tons. The torpedo-carrying planes had sunk two additional large vessels, namely, a vessel of 2,000 tons and a tanker of 15,000 tons.

"A cruiser returning to Gibraltar was torpedoed by Italian planes while another warship of large tonnage was hit by a bomb of 500 kilograms. It is now learnt that an aircraft carrier was also damaged on July 23 by an Italian bomber. One of the damaged steamers has meanwhile sunk. The number of destroyed enemy planes has increased to eight while five Italian machines are missing."

British losses in this three-day attack were—

1 destroyer, damaged and later sunk by British units;

1 destroyer damaged;

1 merchant ship damaged, but safe in port.

6 aircraft, but four of the crews safe.

Italian losses were—

1 submarine probably destroyed;

1 E-boat damaged;

1 E-boat sunk;

12 aircraft shot down;

4 aircraft probably destroyed.

Broadcasting from London on July 26, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, reported that the convoy of troops and munitions had—in spite of the Italian attacks—arrived at its destination safely and on time. "The destination for the convoy," he said, "was in a very dangerous spot. The route was through narrow waters close to enemy bases. The safe and timely arrival of the convoy meant reinforcements for our forces in the Mediterranean in ships, fresh troops, munitions and stores."

These facts seem to corroborate the sentiments expressed by the German official news agency in a despatch, dated May 27, 1941, which said:—

"The news published by the *Corriere della Sera* is entirely false, says the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as is all other news emanating from Rome."

E-boats v. Malta

But that does not prevent Berlin (July 27) from quoting an Italian Headquarters announcement that "the British naval base of Malta was attacked with unparalleled audacity by speedboats of the Italian Navy on Friday night." Explosions and flames are said to have been observed in the harbour, "proving that the daring Italian attack had been successful."

Speed is the trademark of the Italian Navy, which insists on being assured of a quick getaway before it even dares to launch an attack. In this operation speed was not enough to prevent retribution. Reports so far received indicate that eight speedboats attacked the harbour and eight speedboats were sunk by coast defence artillery and fighter attack. Three enemy aircraft, trying to give air support to these surface mosquitoes, were shot down.

British Air Offensive

With amazing frankness; Walt Mittler (July 23) remarked:—

"We must never underrate the activities of the Royal Air Force bombers and fighters. Our own efforts have calmed down at the moment, which is partly because we have other jobs to tackle in the East. So why not let the enemy have his fun if he likes it?"

Other Nazi broadcasters, however, tried to create a totally different impression.

On the same day that Mittler was on the air we were told that the people of Britain are "no longer satisfied merely with attacks by the British air force on Germany," especially, said the announcer, as these attacks are costing the Royal Air Force an average of ten aircraft a day.

Yet Royal Air Force losses over Germany and occupied territory in the preceding fortnight had averaged only six machines a day. When the *Luftwaffe* were raiding Britain on a similar scale last autumn they lost an average of 29 planes daily.

Nazis Uneasy

Reviewing offensive operations by the Royal Air Force on July 22, 23 and 24, Berlin (July 26) claimed that "while the British lost 102 planes in three days, the German losses during the same period amounted to only seven machines."

British and German air losses for these three days were:—

July 22 6 Royal Air Force fighters, 9 German fighters.

July 23 10 Royal Air Force fighters, 14 German fighters, 5 Royal Air Force bombers.

July 24 7 Royal Air Force fighters, 34 German fighters, 15 Royal Air Force bombers.

So the Royal Air Force lost 43 planes, *not* 102; while the *Luftwaffe* lost 57 machines—exactly 50 *more* than the German radio admits.

Recent German claims to have destroyed vast numbers of British aircraft are a measure of their growing uneasiness as the weight of the Royal Air Force offensive increases. It will be remembered that the same tactics were followed by Goebbels last autumn when, during the Battle of Britain, the German radio regularly broadcast figures which were almost exactly the reverse of the facts.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES -

A Nazi Promise is a Nazi Threat

After a long and contradictory harangue about the Indian prisoners of war in Germany, Berlin's Hindustani broadcast of July 24 concludes with the fervent declaration that Germany has no enmity towards India.

The world, however, has witnessed the blood-stained record of the Nazis and rightly come to the conclusion that a Nazi promise is, more often than not, a prelude to Nazi violence. The following examples, which by no means comprise the whole catalogue of Nazi crimes, will suffice:—

Holland. "Germany will respect the inviolability and integrity of the Netherlands in all circumstances."—*German Minister at Hague, August* 26, 1939.—**Invaded and Occupied May 1940.**

France. "We want nothing from France. We have guaranteed France's frontiers for ever."—*Goering, September* 9, 1939.—**Dismembered and Plundered June 1940.**

Russia. "Never will Germany and Russia slaughter each other for the sake of Britain.... This agreement, which settles for all time the

relations between the two biggest European peoples, is of fundamental historical significance."—*Voelkischer Beobachter, September* 25, 1939.—**Attacked June 22, 1941.**

Indian Prisoners

The above Nazi broadcast also specifically mentions that the British Government is doing nothing for the Indian prisoners of war in Germany and that some of them are mere boys under 16. This lie is best answered by the fact that, during the last fortnight in January 1941 alone, the British Red Cross in England despatched 106,217 food, 1,551 clothing, 6,852 invalid food, 3,125 tobacco and 6,485 personal parcels to the British and Indian prisoners of war in Germany. Besides, the packing centre of the Indian Red Cross, which was opened in London after the collapse of the French Army in June 1940 when 300 officers and men of the Indian Transport Companies fell into German hands, has been doing useful work under the personal guidance of Mrs. Amery who has shown great drive in the organization of the Centre. Nearly 300 parcels are packed every week at a cost of approximately £150.

And as for the age of the Indian prisoners of war in Germany, it must be stated that the minimum age for recruitment is 17½ years.

Peace-making in Syria

Germany's Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 27 charge the British with plundering Syria to feed the British troops in the Near East. Far from feeding the British troops on supplies from Syria, even during the campaign, Damascus was receiving consignments of Australian wheat—part of the 400 tons of food arriving daily in the Syrian capital. Now, of course, Syria's important trade with Palestine is resumed and the country enjoys all the advantages that British sea power and economic relations with the British Commonwealth afford.

The Syrians also remember their plight under Vichy (and Axis) control when a shortage of rice, coffee and sugar soon became obvious, and prices sky-rocketed. They also contrast the easy terms offered to them with those imposed on metropolitan France by Germany. Under Hitler's dispensation 2 million French men are held as prisoners of war and that country pays about £500 million a year as the cost of occupation—three times the amount of reparations demanded from Germany under the Dawes Scheme of 1924.

Syria's Holy Places

In its Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 20 Berlin brazenly broadcast to the world imaginery stories of British excesses in Syria, including the defiling of sacred institutions. The utter untruth of these calumnies is proved by the message sent by the keepers of the world famous Al Aqsa mosque in the old city of Jerusalem. This message thanks General Wilson for the care taken by the Allied forces in Syria to avoid casualties among the civilian population and damage to civilian property, and expresses gratitude for food supplies distributed among the population in Syria.

Imagined Atrocities in Iraq

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 24 invent completely baseless stories about so-styled persecution and hangings in Iraq. The Nazis, furthermore, quote Ankara reports to confirm their wild stories. What Ankara really thinks of Britain's policy in Iraq is plain to everyone. The Turkish Prime Minister, Dr. Saydam, in his speech on July 5, declared: "British moderation and foresight in handling the Iraqi situation and her guarantee of Iraqi independence are worthy of Turkish praise and congratulation".

Food to French Somaliland

In their Arabic broadcast of June 22, the Germans accuse the British of wishing to starve women and children in French Somaliland.

Actually, General Wavell intimated the Governor of Jibuti (French Somaliland) last June that he must make up his mind either to join General de Gaulle's Free French forces immediately or dissociate himself from the pro-Axis policy. Even in the event of a refusal to negotiate on this proposal, General Wavell expressed his willingness to evacuate women and children and meanwhile to supply them with milk and essential foods until the evacuation is completed.

Battle of Germany

"During nominal raids on Germany," says the Nazi broadcasts in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic of July 21, "the British, from June 18 to July 18, lost 422 fighters and bombers."

The Nazis do not mention their own figures, and wildly exaggerate the British losses. Actually, during this period the British losses amounted to 239 as against Germany's 268. Some idea of the actual damage done during these so-called nominal raids may be had from the fact that between June 16 and July 10, the Royal Air Force dropped 1,000 tons of bombs on Cologne (raided 55 times in 1940) and more than 500 tons on Bremen (52 raids in 1940). Two thousand tons of bombs were dropped on targets in the Ruhr area, which was bombed more than 500 times in 1940. So important is the industrial Ruhr that the German paper, *Koelnische Zeitung*, is driven to conclude: "The destiny of the Ruhr is the destiny of Germany".

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 29th July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 23, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on objectives near St. Omer and Bethune; shipping off French coast (1 vessel sunk, 1 damaged). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at **La Pallice** (battleship *Scharnhorst*) and **Brest** (battleship *Gneisenau*, Cruiser *Prinz Eugen*); docks at Le Havre and Ostend; industrial areas in **Mannheim** and **Frankfurt-on-Main.**	10 day fighters 5 day bombers.	14 day fighters.
July 24, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway yards at **Hazebrouck** and docks at **Cherbourg** (whale oil ship ablaze); R.A.F. day bomber raids on **La Pallice** and **Brest**; shipping off Norwegian coast (700-ton supply ship and 1,500-ton tanker sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at **Kiel, Emden** and Wilhelmshaven; docks at Rotterdam. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	7 day fighters, 15 day bombers. 5 night bombers.	34 day fighters.
July 25, Friday.	(No reports of day activity—bad weather) .. .. R.A.F. night bomber raids on industries. docks and communications at **Hamburg** and **Hanover**; Berlin and other targets in N.W. Germany.	9 night bombers.	
July 26, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter patrols over French coast, including attack on patrol vessel off Boulogne. R.A.F. single day reconnaissance bomber attack on Emden. (No reports of night activity—bad weather.)	Nil.	1 day fighter.
July 27, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter patrols over English Channel .. R.A.F. night bomber attack on docks at Dunkirk .. R.A.F. Coastal Command minelaying operations in enemy waters. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	1 day fighter. 1 night bomber.	1 day fighter.
July 28, Monday.	(No reports of day or night activity—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
July 29, Tuesday.	(No reports of day or night activity—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..

(Continued on Page 15)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

1st August.—Royal Air Force bombers scored hits on three ships in an enemy convoy off the Belgian coast; two bombers and one fighter were missing.

2nd August.—A heavily laden German tanker was hit and set on fire in a torpedo attack by aircraft of the British Coastal Command.

3rd August.—Germany's capital city, Berlin, was subjected to one of the heaviest attacks by four and two-engined bombers of the Royal Air Force. Many fires were started there as also at Kiel and Hamburg, the German naval bases. Fighter aircraft of the Royal Air Force made low-level attacks on a number of objectives in Northern France. An enemy patrol ship was set on fire and sunk off the Dutch coast by aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command:

Slight enemy activity was reported over Eastern England. There were no casualties.

4th August.—The Royal Air Force attacked industrial targets in Hanover and Frankfurt-on-Main. Docks at Calais were also bombed.

There was slight enemy air activity over the East Coast of England and Scotland.

6th August.—The Royal Air Force made conspicuously successful attacks on objectives at Mannheim, Frankfurt and Karlsruhe and scored direct hits on three patrol vessels and a 2,000-ton ship in an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast.

7th August.—An enemy tanker in the English Channel was set on fire by the Royal Air Force during offensive patrols over Northern France. An aerodrome at Cherbourg was attacked, as also objectives in West and South-East Germany.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1st August.—The Royal Air Force made a successful raid on enemy shipping in the harbour of Messina in Sicily. Palermo, Benghazi, Gazala, Bardia and Dura were also attacked without any loss of British aircraft.

Patrol activity was reported in the Tobruk sector as well as artillery activity on the Egypt-Libya frontier.

There was one death but no damage when enemy planes dropped a few bombs in the Nile delta.

Hussein Sirry Pasha, Egypt's Premier, reconstructed his Cabinet, including five members of the Saadist Party.

3rd August.—Besides beating off an enemy dive-bombing attack on British warships off the North African coast, the Royal Air Force destroyed two merchant vessels off Lampedeusa Island, enemy aircraft at Borizoo in Sicily and petrol and munition dumps at Candia and at Malemi in the Island of Crete.

In addition to torpedoing an Italian cruiser in the Mediterranean, British submarines sank two enemy supply vessels and damaged a floating dock (within a mile of the Italian coast).

4th August.—The Italian High Command admitted attacks by the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force on the airports of Catania in the Island of Sicily and Reggio on the Italian mainland in the Province of Calabria. Benghazi harbour in Libya was also bombed.

Mussolini, addressing Italian volunteers for the campaign against Russia, exhorted them to participate in the struggle between Fascism and Bolshevism, "the fifth act of the world drama".

It was announced in Rome that an Italian submarine had failed to return to its base from the Atlantic.

Seventeen persons were killed and 58 injured in an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal area.

5th August.—Italian harbours and aerodromes in Sardinia were subjected to British Naval and air attacks.

Ninety persons were killed and 106 injured in enemy air raids on the Suez Canal area. Enemy planes also raided Malta but there were no casualties or damage to military targets.

6th August.—Raiding parties from the British and Indian garrison at Tobruk seized a German post, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The Royal Air Force bombed enemy bases in Libya.

Mr. Eden reaffirmed in the House of Commons Britain's intention to recognize the independence of Ethiopia.

7th August.—Three enemy bombers were shot down when they attempted to raid Malta.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

1st August.—Mr. Sumner Welles, acting United States Secretary of State, characterised as "barefaced impudence" Germany's action in urging Mexico to protest to the U. S. A. against the black-listing of certain Latin American firms working for the Axis Powers. Mexico rejected the German suggestion at once.

The sponsors of the U. S. Army Service Extension Bill agreed to a compromise proposal providing that the maximum service for drafted men should be two years and a half.

President Roosevelt directed the Export Control Administrator to prohibit the export of motor fuels and oils for use in aircraft to destinations outside the Western Hemisphere, the British Empire and the unoccupied territories of the countries resisting aggression.

2nd August.—A third Canadian division, commanded by Major-General C. B. Price, arrived in Britain.

Mr. Sumner Welles, who received the British Ambassador and the Australian and South African Ministers, declared that the attitude of U.S.A. towards the Vichy Government would be governed hereafter by the effectiveness with which France defended her territories against the aggression of the Axis Powers.

It was revealed that cash expenditure on the United States armaments programme for July amounted to a thousand million dollars—the largest monthly expenditure since the Great War.

3rd August.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, in an international broadcast to England and Canada, expressed confidence that the Allies would win the war.

4th August.—On his return to duty from a holiday, Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, expressed confidence in the victory of the free peoples of the world.

5th August.—The U. S. House of Representatives passed the 3,206 million dollars Tax Bill.

6th August.—There was much speculation in Washington regarding a possible meeting in mid-Atlantic between President Roosevelt, who was officially reported to be continuing his cruise to an undisclosed destination in northern waters, and Mr. Churchill. The British Premier did not take part in the Commons debate on war and was apparently away from London.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 13)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 29th July 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
July 23	Nil.	2 night bombers
July 24	Nil.	1 day bomber.
July 25	Nil.	..
July 26	Nil.	..
July 27	Nil.	3 night bombers.
July 28	Nil.	..
July 29	Nil.	..

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1st August.—Diplomatic relations were broken off between Great Britain and Finland.

Stubborn fighting in the Smolensk region saw the Germans thrown back with heavy losses.

Following the loss the previous day of one patrol ship in the Baltic and damage to another caused by Russian dive-bombers, Germany lost a destroyer and two large transports.

President Roosevelt described the Soviet resistance to the German onslaught as magnificent. His Special Envoy, Mr. Harry Hopkins, had a second conversation with M. Stalin at Moscow while the President himself received the Soviet Ambassador and the head of the Soviet Purchasing Mission at Washington.

2nd August.—The Soviet forces routed the 137th German Infantry Division in the Smolensk sector as also the 253rd German Division. There was no substantial change in the position of the troops at the front but many German ships and planes were destroyed.

3rd August.—The Finnish Press reported the presence of large British Naval forces in the Arctic, combined with big Russian troop concentrations. Russian activity on the entire Finnish front was increasing. In other sectors there were no substantial changes. The Germans claimed the capture of 10,000 prisoners in the Lake Peipus region; and also reported that "a great battle of annihilation" was in progress 150 miles south of Kiev. A combined German-Rumanian move over River Dniester was reported in the direction of Odessa, the Black Sea port.

Mr. Harry Hopkins left Moscow, where absolute confidence reigned in the Russians' ability to beat off the third German offensive which was being launched.

4th August.—Fierce battles raged in the Ukraine in the south and in Estonia in the north, where the Germans made fresh attempts to reach Leningrad and Odessa respectively. A German submarine was sunk in the Baltic and a Soviet submarine sank a German munitions ship in the vicinity of the Norwegian port of Vardo. A German tank column was wiped out by the Russians, over a thousand soldiers being killed.

5th August.—Fierce fighting was reported on the northern front in Russia where the Germans claimed the capture of the Estonian town of Pabst as well as of Kholm and Byelaya—Tserkov. The Russians, however, stated that bitter fighting was raging for these two latter cities. An attempt by German planes to raid Moscow was dispersed by Soviet night-fighters and anti-aircraft fire.

The annual trade agreement between Russia and the United States was renewed.

6th August.—A special announcement by the German High Command claimed a break-through at three points on the Russian front—south of the Pripet Marshes, in the direction of Smolensk and south of Lake Peipus. But it was evident that the Germans had not advanced substantially and had taken heavy punishment. Their pincers movement in the Ukraine was successfully held by the Russians. The Red Air Force was very active and a submarine of the Red Navy sank a German transport with troops and munitions in the Baltic Sea.

It was announced in Washington that the United States had unfrozen millions of dollars worth of Soviet orders in America and had sent the first consignment of arms to Russia.

7th August.—Six enemy planes were destroyed in the course of an air raid on Moscow.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, SYRIA, IRAN, ETC.

1st August.—An official statement issued in Teheran affirmed the Iran Government's determination to safeguard their neutrality and condemned alarmist rumours.

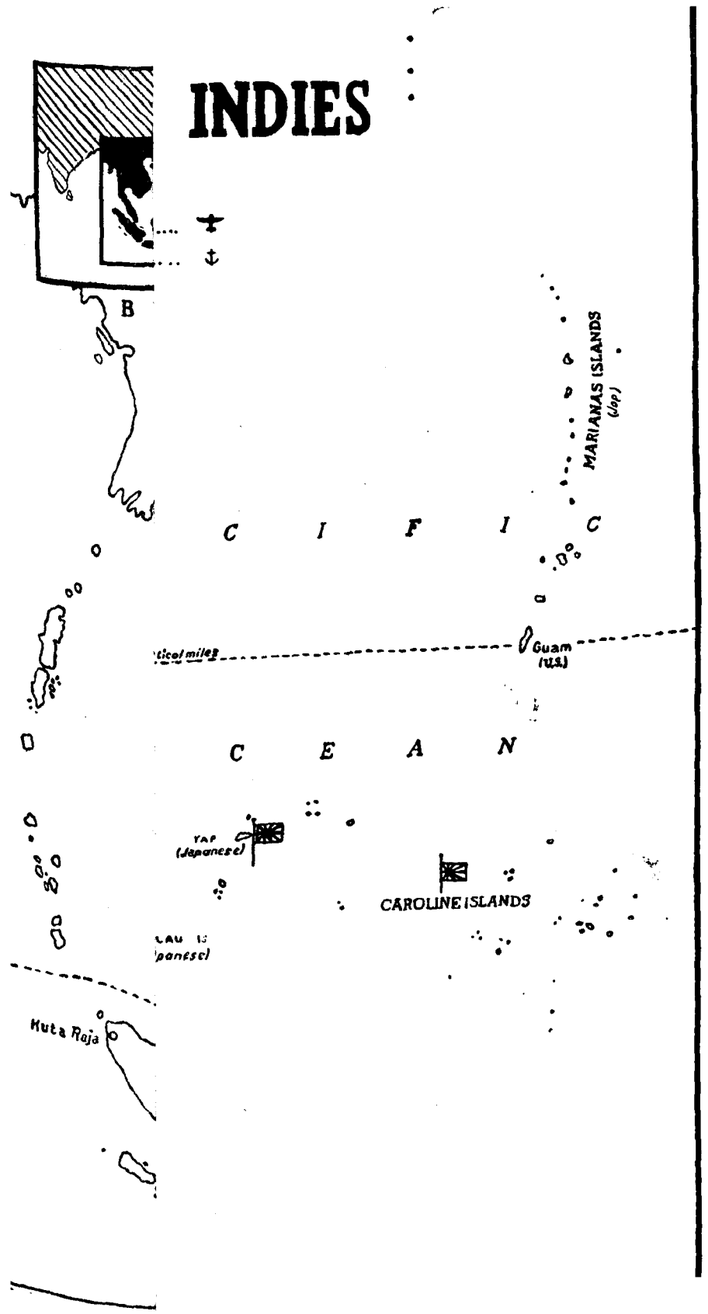
2nd August.—The Iran Consul at Karachi, in a statement to the press, characterized as being entirely without foundation the story that four German merchant ships now anchored at a Persian Gulf port were expected to slip out to the Indian Ocean to become raiders against British shipping off Indian and Arabian coasts.

SHIPPING

2nd August.—One of the largest convoys to cross the Atlantic reached London safely with food and munitions.

The great increase in United States shipbuilding activity was stressed by the Navy Department, which reported that 109 shipyards were building naval vessels on July 1, compared with only 12 shipyards one year ago.

3rd August.—A Netherlands warship intercepted the French steamer Dupleix (7,135 tons), coming from Indo-China, and conducted her to Java for inspection of her cargo.



4th August.—The German steamer Frankfurt (5,529 tons) was intercepted by British patrols while attempting to run the blockade.

6th August.—Mr. Attlee declared in the House of Commons that the Battle of the Atlantic was definitely going in Britain's favour and announced that, in July, 69 enemy ships totalling 291,000 tons had been destroyed on the North Sea and off the Atlantic coast.

THE FAR EAST

1st August.—Following an extraordinary meeting of the Thailand Cabinet, it was reported that Japan had offered Thailand the Province of Laos and the ancient city of Angkor (in Indo-China) in exchange for a virtual monopoly of Thailand's production of rubber, tin and rice and the right to use certain naval and air bases. It was also stated that Thailand had recognized the Japanese puppet regimes in Manchukuo and occupied China and that a Thai banking syndicate had agreed to grant a credit of 16 million yen to the Yokohama Specie Bank.

2nd August.—Vice-Admiral Seichi Miimi, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Fleet in South China Waters, entered Saigon aboard his flagship while Major-General Sumita, head of the Japanese Military Mission in Indo-China, made a formal entry into the naval base at Camranh Bay.

It was announced that Japan was increasing the active personnel of her Navy.

3rd August.—Large Japanese troop movements towards Manchukuo were reported.

The Australian War Minister warned Australians to be alert to the danger from the north; and the Australian Navy Minister declared that the help that the U.S.A. was giving Great Britain in the Atlantic would enable the latter to send a fleet to the Pacific, if needed.

4th August.—Over 1,700 Japanese soldiers were killed in a Chinese counter-attack on the Yangtse River above Hankow. Heavy fighting was reported north of Ichang. It was stated that American and Russian pilots and planes were arriving in increasing numbers to help China.

It was reported that Japanese ships had suspended sailings to the United States.

5th August.—An Official Japanese spokesman indicated that Japan was making economic demands on Thailand.

A.R.P. exercises were ordered in Singapore. Two U.S. cruisers arrived in Brisbane on what was described as a training cruise.

6th August.—Mr. Eden (in the House of Commons) and Mr. Cordell Hull (at Washington) warned Japan that Great Britain and America would react swiftly to any movement by her, aimed at the integrity of Thailand.

VICHY

1st August.—Admiral Leahy, United States Ambassador, warned Marshal Petain against further concessions to Japan in the Far East.

Attacks by the German-controlled Paris Press on the members of the Vichy Government indicated further pressure by the Nazis towards a policy of "collaboration".

2nd August.—A German ultimatum was reported to have been rejected by the Vichy Government at the instance of Marshal Petain and General Weygand.

5th August.—Comte de Brinon, Vichy's representative in occupied-France, stated that "the French Government were absolutely decided not to break off the policy of collaboration" with Germany.

6th August.—The Vichy Govenment handed to the American Ambassador their reply to Mr. Sumner Welles' strong strictures on their surrender to Japan in Indo-China. They emphasised Indo-China's isolation from France and its consequent helplessness.

It was announced that Admiral Darlan would go to Paris "to confer with German quarters on outstanding questions".

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

2nd August.—The Stavanger Radio announced that the Reich Commissar for Norway had proclaimed a state of emergency throughout the country. Under this edict martial law would be proclaimed in specified districts or over the whole country. In the western and eastern coastal areas all radio sets must be surrendered to the authorities. The police were granted far-reaching powers to maintain order and martial law would be introduced wherever necessary. The death penalty could be imposed for violation of the regulations.

Resistance to the Germans was reported to be growing in Bulgaria and Rumania, also in Belgium where the Burgomaster of Brussels

had been sent to a concentration camp for asserting himself against the German military authorities.

3rd August.—The Royal Government of Greece decided to send a diplomatic mission to Moscow.

Marshal List, the German *blitzkrieg* specialist, was reported to be taking defence measures in Greece and other Balkan territories.

5th August.—An agreement signed by the Royal Norwegian Government (in London) and the Soviet Government announced the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

It was reported that three trains had been derailed by saboteurs in Bulgaria.

The outbreak of a big revolt in Montenegro was revealed in a Berlin despatch to a Swiss newspaper.

6th August.—Acts of sabotage were increasing in Belgium where the German army's petrol stores were reported to have disappeared. Following a bomb explosion, a collective fine of a million francs was imposed on the town of Malines.

In Czechoslovakia, it was reported that a consignment of arms at the Skoda works was blown up and, in the course of eleven railway accidents, 250 German officers and men were killed.

A revolt flared up in Belgrade.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1st August.—The cessation of hostilities between Peru and Equador was announced in a Peruvian official communiqué.

Several arrests followed the discovery of another Nazi plot in Argentina. The Bolivian police also unearthed a Nazi organization in Bolivia.

3rd August.—President Camacho of Mexico declared that Mexico would not intervene in the war except in case of aggression against her or against another nation on the American continent.

Peru decided to cancel her agreement with Germany on the exchange of Diplomatic bags for official correspondence as the bags were being misused by German diplomats.

5th August.—Japan sent a note to Equador, demanding the suppression of anti-Japanese sentiment and the protection of Japanese nationals.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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A HISTORIC AND MAGNIFICENT DECLARATION

WAR AND PEACE AIMS OF THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN

JOINT ROOSEVELT—CHURCHILL STATEMENT

At the invitation of the President of the United States of America, Mr. Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, met Mr. Roosevelt somewhere in the Atlantic. Mr. Churchill was accompanied by Lord Beaverbrook and high officials connected with the three Defence Services. The movements of Mr. Roosevelt were regarded as a military secret, and Mr. Churchill's departure from England was also a closely guarded secret. The two leaders had a series of conferences at which they discussed, according to Mr. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal and Deputy Prime Minister, whose broadcast speech at 2 p.m. (G.M.) on Thursday was heard by millions of people all over the world, (*a*) the problem of the supply of munitions of war, under the Lease and Lend Act, to the Allies and to all those who were fighting the Nazi menace, (*b*) the dangers to world civilization arising from the policy of military domination by conquest upon which the Hitlerite Government of Germany and other Governments associated therewith have embarked and (*c*) the principles which underlie the policy of the United States and Great Britain in regard to ensuring the freedom and safety of the countries of the world. Lord Beaverbrook has already arrived in Washington to continue the talks regarding supplies to Great Britain and America. The joint declaration has been hailed as a People's Charter of Liberty, as a noble statement enshrining a very splendid concept of the fundamental principles of democracy, as a far-sighted pronouncement which was even better than the four freedoms—freedom of speech and expression, freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, freedom from want and freedom from fear—which Mr. Roosevelt spoke about during his famous fire-side talk in May last. There has been an insistent demand especially in America for such a definite enunciation of the peace aims of the Allies and American opinion can hereafter be in no doubt about this important aspect of British policy.

THE DECLARATION

The joint declaration, which Mr. Attlee read out, runs :—

The President of the United States and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being met together, deem it right to make known certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a better future for the world.

FIRST their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other.

SECOND they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

THIRD they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live ; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.

FOURTH they will endeavour, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further the enjoyment by all States, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity.

FIFTH they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field, with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security.

SIXTH after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries and which will afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want.

SEVENTH such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance.

EIGHTH they believe that all nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armament.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The Germans are pressing very strongly all along the Russian front, especially south-west of Leningrad and in South Ukraine. The Black Sea port of Odessa is in danger of being isolated. But the fact remains that, after eight weeks of fierce fighting, the Germans cannot yet claim a major victory and Russian resistance has nowhere withered or shown signs of weakness. In Ukraine, the Russians are retreating in order, avoiding the danger of being encircled.

Under clause 7 of the Armistice Convention entered into with regard to Syria, the Vichy authorities should return all officers of the Allied forces captured in the recent campaign, but many of these have not yet been freed and, as a protest, 35 senior Vichy officers in Syria and the Lebanon, including General Dentz, have been placed under detention by the British military authorities. They will be held in custody in Palestine, pending the release of the British officers.

It is noteworthy what great importance is attached by General Smuts in regard to superiority in the air. He said that invasion by air has already begun and this would continue on an increasing scale until the air forces of the Commonwealth and the Allies gave Germany the smash-out blow. This, he said, might obviate the necessiy of a land invasion. Air superiority, he continued, was the decisive factor in this war.

It is stated that a second Lease and Lend programme amounting to 1,200 dollars will be submitted to Congress shortly, for food principally and also for planes, munitions and artillery.

In a broadcast speech to the American people on Sunday last, Her Majesty the Queen described the present situation in England and expressed gratitude for the sympathy and help of America. The following are the main points in the speech :—

(1) " The warmth and sympathy of American generosity has touched beyond measure the hearts of all of us living and fighting in these Islands."

(2) "Women and children have been killed and even sufferers in hospitals have not been spared. But hardship has only steeled our hearts and strengthened our resolution."

(3) " Here in Britain our women are working in the factory and the field, turning the lathe and gathering the harvest, for we must have food as well as munitions. Their courage is magnificent, their endurance amazing."

(4) " I must give a special word to the nurses, who are wonderful women whose duties and whose heroism will never be forgotten."

(5) " We can and shall never forget that in the hour of our greatest need you (Americans) came forward with clothes for the homeless, food for the hungry and comfort for those who have been sorely afflicted. Canteens, ambulances and medical supplies have come in an unceasing flow from the United States. I find it hard to tell you of our gratitude in adequate terms, though I ask you to believe that it is deep and sincere, beyond expression."

(6) " We shall not forget your sacrifice. The sympathy which inspires it springs not only from our common speech and traditions, which we share with you, but even more from our common ideals. To you tyranny is as hateful as it is to us. To you the things for which we will fight to the death are no less sacred; and your generosity is born of your conviction that we fight to save a cause that is yours no less than ours; of your high resolve that, however great the cost and however long the struggle, justice and freedom, human dignity and kindness shall not perish from the earth."

His Excellency General Sir Archbald Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief of India, broadcast his first talk at Simla on Wednesday evening and this has had a favourable reception in Great Britain. He said that three-quarters of a million men are already under arms and recruitment is proceeding. Modern equipment and weapons were being manufactured in India and arriving from overseas. General Wavell paid a tribute to the magnificent services of Indian soldiers in Sidi Barrani, Agordat, Barentu, Kiren, Asmara, Massawa, Amba Alagi, Machili, Tobruk, the Western Desert, Syria and Iraq and said that comradeship in arms had been established between Indian troops and troops from other parts of the Commonwealth. The Commander-in-Chief stressed two points. The first was that it was not correct to say that Indian troops had been called upon to do an unfair proportion of the fighting. Indian army casualties, mostly under the heading ' slightly wounded,' between November 1940 and June 1941, totalled only 15 per cent of the total of the Empire Forces in the Middle East. The highest proportion of casualties were among the British both in total and in proportion to their strength. The second point was that it was wrong to think that India, in sending her troops overseas was fighting other peoples' battles. Really Egypt, Palestine, Aden, Iraq and Malaya were the bulwarks of India's defence.

IRAN

The situation in Iran (Persia) is still somewhat unsatisfactory. It will be remembered that Mr. Anthony Eden warned her against the infiltration of Nazis and hoped that, in her own interests, the Iran Government would take steps to avoid the danger. Germany, on the other hand, is reported to have told Iran that if the 5,000 Nazis in that country are sent out owing to pressure brought to bear upon her by Great Britain, then she would be compelled to break off diplomatic relations. Russia has, in view of the growing threat of Nazi intervention and steady growth of Nazi agents in Iran, drawn the attention of Iran's Government to clause 6 of the Treaty of 1921.

(1) According to this treaty, which is called the Treaty of Moscow, Russia and Persia undertook to prohibit the formation or presence within their respective territories, of any organizations or groups of persons, irrespective of the name by which they are known, whose object is to engage in acts of hostility against Persia or Russia, or against the Allies of Russia.

(2) They further undertook not to allow a third party or any organization, whatever it be called, which was hostile to the other contracting party, to import or to convey in transit across their countries material which can be used against the other party.

(3) They also undertook to prevent the presence within their territories or within the territories of their Allies of all armies or forces of a third party in cases in which the presence of such forces would be regarded as a menace to the frontiers, interests or safety of the other contracting party.

The above is ARTICLE 5. ARTICLE 6 provided that if a third party should attempt to carry out a policy of usurpation by means of armed intervention in Persia, or if such power should desire to use Persian territory as a base of operations against Russia, or if the Persian Government should not be able to put a stop to such menace after having been once called upon to do so by Russia, Russia should have the right to advance her troops into the Persian interior for the purpose of carrying out the military operations necessary for its defence. Russia undertook, however, to withdraw her troops from Persian territory as soon as the danger had been removed.

ARTICLE 7 said that the consideration set forth in Article 6 had equal weight in the matter of the security of the Caspian Sea. The two High Contracting Parties therefore agreed that Federal Russia should have the right to require the Persian Government to send away foreign subjects, in the event of their having taken advantage of their engagement in the Persian navy to undertake hostile action against Russia.

Iran, of course, has been placed in a very delicate situation at present. But she must remember the fate of other countries which allowed the incursion of fifth columnists. The importance of a de-Germanized Iran from the point of view of the safety of India is obvious. Iran would also do well to learn a lesson from the action taken by the South American Republics against Nazi infiltration.

NAZI PLANS FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Hitler has, from the beginning, included South America in his plans for world domination. For instance, he told Albert Forster and Dr. Rauchning in 1932 : " We shall send our men across the border in peace-time, gradually . . . Our strategy is to destroy the enemy from within." There have been many disturbances in South American countries fomented by Nazis, in order to embarrass the United States on the American continent and thus hinder American aid from reaching the Allies. Germany has been very jealous of American influence in South American States and she has been striving through the radio and film to diminish this influence.

The world knows that the recent Peru-Ecuador conflict was fomented by Nazis. In Bolivia, plans for a Nazi " putsch " have been unearthed by the discovery of secret documents, as a result of which the German Minister has been ordered to leave the country. In the province of Entre Rios a Nazi plot was discovered and the German Embassy was politely told that a wireless set was not permissible in a diplomatic mail bag. The Uruguayan Government has already leased six Axis controlled ships to a neutral power, presumably the United States. In Uruguay and Peru, Nazi activities have been discovered and

have now been put down. The Mexican Government rejected the German request that it should protest to the United States against blacklisting firms deemed working for the Axis, Chile is employing police to prevent the danger of Nazi infiltration into the country. While the South American Republics are taking all these measures it is obvious that Iran should not do less.

TURKEY

A striking development has taken place in regard to Turkey. A joint Anglo-Soviet note has been presented to that country. British and Soviet Ambassadors called on the Turkish Foreign Office on Monday and declared that they had no aggressive intentions or claims towards the Straits. They further told the Turkish Government that they were prepared to observe scrupulously Turkish territorial integrity and that they were prepared to assist Turkey if attacked by a European Power. This declaration of policy has been welcomed, especially in Turkey and in Allied countries. The *demarche* runs as follows :—

" His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom confirm their fidelity to the Montreux Convention and assure the Turkish Government that they have no aggressive intentions or claims whatever with regard to the Straits. His Majesty's Government as also the Soviet Government are prepared scrupulously to observe the territorial integrity of the Turkish Republic. While fully appreciating the desire of the Turkish Government not to be involved in war, His Majesty's Government as also the Soviet Government would, nevertheless, be prepared to render Turkey every help and assistance in the event of her being attacked by a European Power."

Turkey is firm in her friendship with Great Britain. She is also taking precautions against any contingencies that may arise. She has widened the scope of the law providing for a state of siege in the area of the Dardanelles and Turkish Thrace and preventive measures are being taken to deal with cases of treason and spying. It is just possible that Germany might, if her troops are brought to a standstill before Leningrad and Moscow, think of a sudden attack on Baku oilfields by way of the Black Sea and Turkey. There are accounts of Bulgarian troop concentrations in Thrace and further, Von Papen is telling the Turks that a German victory is certain and that unless Britain and the United States accept Germany's terms, Germany will march on Iran and Iraq and that Turkey therefore had better promote mediation between Britain and Germany if she wishes to avoid being involved in the war herself. The Turks know fully well that Britain has no intention of falling into the German trap and there can be no doubt whatever that, if Turkey were to be attacked, she will fight for her independence. It is significant that the trade negotiations between Germany and Turkey have been called off because the time is held not opportune to bring pressure to bear upon Turkey.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The Germans are pressing strongly all along the Russian front, which has " bucked " slightly at two points—at Solsti, south-west of Leningrad and in South Ukraine. Encountering inflexible opposition at Korosten and Byela-Tserkov, the German troops are spreading southwards feeling, in characteristic style, for a weak spot to break through and with a view to threatening Odessa, the Black Sea port and key to the Caucasus. The general line of attack is obviously from the direction of Uman towards Odessa rather than towards Kiev. News received from London indicates the possibility that a small enemy armoured column has reached a point about seventy miles from Nikolayev but there is no indication that any substantial infantry units have broken through though the Germans have been indulging in tall claims. Marshal Budenny, the Soviet Commander-in-Chief on the Southern Front, is adopting a policy of elastic defence and is falling back from the Dniester to the Dnieper river. He has thereby frustrated German encirclement tactics; and his policy of leaving nothing but " scorched earth " for the German advance forces is severely trying the invaders' moral and material resources.

After seven weeks fierce fighting, unrelenting German pressure has forced back the Russian defence along the whole of the 2,000 miles front from the Baltic to the Black Sea but nowhere can the Germans claim a major victory. While the German effort is daily taxing Hitler's resources and increasing the strain on his troops, the Russians, slowly falling back on shortened lines of communication, are increasing their resources of men and material. Their tanks and airplanes are fully a match for the Germans, and they are now making daily raids on Berlin and bringing home to the German people that, in the coming winter, Germany will be exposed to raids both from the East and the West—as the Royal Air Force machines are demonstrating their mounting power and range. Neither the Rumanians nor the Finns seem eager to plunge deeper into the war and the Germans are feeling the strain of the entire campaign. In contrast, the Russians feel they are fighting for freedom and in defence of their homes; and even their guerilla fighters in occupied territory are doing their utmost to carry out the orders of Marshal Timoshenko " to wreak merciless, complete and continuous vengeance on the enemy." And they know that winter is at hand—Russia's most potent ally, who will immobilize the best of Hitler's tanks and troops. If the Soviet High Command can hold out for a few weeks, there is every possibility of the momentum of the German attack dying down.

VICHY

The position in Vichy *vis-a-vis* Germany is, from all accounts, deteriorating, in the sense that the latter is succeeding in making France her slave-state. Admiral Darlan,

(*Continued on Page* 6)

FAR EAST TENSION

DEMOCRACIES READY FOR DEFENCE

The Far East tension continues. Japanese newspapers and even Japanese statesmen are as bellicose as ever. Admiral Toyoda, the Foreign Minister, answering questions by the Tokyo correspondent of the official German and Italian News Agencies, said " No encirclement, whether already realized or in preparation, could turn Japan aside from the road which she is treading. Japan will not remain indifferent to any new measure threatening her security and that of Eastern Asia." This imaginary " encirclement " is Japan's official reason for her flagrant aggression in Indo-China as the establishment of " a Co-Prosperity Sphere in East Asia " has been the excuse for her invasion of China. All accounts agree that Japan is contemplating a further forward move in Thailand and the Foreign Minister, in the press interview already referred to, gave his explanation and extenuation in advance : " I take this opportunity of repeating that the so-called Japanese expansion in the south is in reality a policy having a purely pacific character and aim." And he went on to charge other powers with misunderstanding Japan's real intentions and making false accusations against her!

Germany, it is quite clear, is egging Japan on to take action in the Pacific because it would suit her very well. The pursuit of Japanese national ambitions, whether in the north against the Soviet or in the south against the British and American interests would, of course, be of immense help to the Axis which may well be expected to promote it by offer of assistance. So far as the Soviet Union is concerned, Japan is not likely to do anything just at present and is clearly playing for time. The way, of course, is being prepared in right totalitarian style for a possible rupture by such incidents as formal protests lodged with Moscow against laying protective minefields outside Vladivostok and Peptropavlosk, together with unofficial Japanese threats that warships will be sent to patrol the approaches to these harbours. There are persistent reports that Japanese troop movements are also taking place in the north of Manchukuo to make it known that Japan is playing the part which Italy played in the first nine months of the war, by attempting to divert a part of the Russian forces if not actually preparing to stage an attack. Of course, Japan should realize that if she did anything against Russia in the East, Tokyo and other principal Japanese cities, with their wooden houses, would feel the pressure of Russian bombers, loaded with incendiaries.

Berlin compelled Vichy to enter into a humiliating Pact with Japan for the joint protection of French Indo-China against the man in the moon and Japan has thereby secured bases in which she might have warships and bombers to attack as she pleased Burma, Singapore and the Netherlands East Indies. She is fast consolidating her position in Indo-China and is now trying to secure a similar hold over Thailand.

But Japan is cunning and careful. She is protesting that she is only asking for economic concessions. Japan's object is, of course, after obtaining concessions in Indo-China and Thailand, to watch events. If Russia collapses she will jump on Siberia or attack Malaya and the Indies. If, however, Germany collapses, she will just sit still and hope that Britain, after the trying war, would not be very anxious to recover for France the colonies lost by her. But Hitler has only one aim, that is, to embarrass the Allies and does not care, as a writer in an English paper puts it, whether Japan succeeds or not.

Japan has up to now successfully waved the big stick—Thailand has yielded a credit of ten million baht to the Yokohama Specie Bank and an official recognition of " the independent State of Manchukuo." Against this has to be mentioned the fact that Thailand through her radio has issued a warning that she would use every possible means of defence against any aggressor, including " scorched earth " in a most thorough form and even gas, if necessary, and, if invaded, would burn houses, destroy food, communications and even the crops before retreating. The speaker at the radio stated the other day that the Thais would die to the last man rather than surrender their freedom.

DEMOCRACIES STAND FIRM

The firmness of the A.B.C.D. Front—America, the British Commonwealth, China and the Dutch East Indies—should, moreover, reassure the Thailanders. Australia has speedily called the Japanese bluff. Sir Frederick Stewart, Minister for External Affairs, says that Japan must know that the only encirclement she has to fear is of a combination of countries feeling themselves threatened by her aggression; and the responsibility for raising such a combination is hers alone. For she knows, thanks to the warnings administered to her by the Foreign Ministers of Great Britain and the United States, that any move into Thailand threatening Burma, Malaya and the East Indies will necessarily be regarded as a grave and direct menace to British and American interests, entailing serious consequences. And Mr. Menzies, the Australian Premier, has been even more pointed. " While we desire peace in the Pacific ", he says " we are not disposed to run away from the geographically plain fact that Singapore is part of Australia's frontier."

The Netherlands Foreign Minister has indicated time and again that the East Indies Government are ready for any eventuality.

The Chinese Government at Chungking have already taken precautions in Yunnan Province to guard the Burma Road. It is reported by the way that French forces have been asked to assist Japan if China should oppose Japanese invasion of Thailand—so low has Vichy become! American and British planes are ready in the Burman airfields to take off against any possible invader. It is well-known that the United States is ready—her fleet in Hawaii and her army in the Philippines are ready—to meet any challenge from Japan. And Mr. Hughes, the Australian Navy Minister, has drawn attention to the visit of United States warships to Brisbane which (he says) should not " escape the notice of friends northwards."

SINGAPORE READY

Finally, and most reassuringly, the British Far East Command at Singapore is ready. It is reported that a considerable British Naval force is already in the vicinity of Singapore, thus proving that Admiral Layton, Naval Commander-in-Chief of the British China Station, was indulging in no idle boast when he broadcast recently that the White Ensign would be seen again in those parts if occasion arose. With Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham as Commander-in-Chief of the British Far Eastern Forces, it was only to be expected that the Empire air forces—in Malaya, Burma, Australia, *etc.*, would be strong enough for any emergency. Reinforcements of troops are reaching Singapore in a constant flow.

The recent arrival of further British reinforcements is no isolated event but the latest instance of the reinforcing of British forces in the Far East which has been proceeding steadily in the past year and which can and will be continued relentlessly. Perhaps even more important than mere quantities of men and materials is the time factor. A large proportion of the British troops have been in Malaya and Burma for a considerable time which has been fully used to acclimatize and train effectively in jungle warfare. Burma, Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies, Thailand and South Indo-China are all principally tropical jungle. Japanese troops have only just begun to penetrate this type of terrain in Indo-China, so they have had little chance of acclimatization or training in jungle warfare.

It may truly be said that the Democracies put their trust in peace but keep their powder dry.

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from Page 4*)

General Weygand, Marshal Petain and General Huntziger have concluded their long deliberations. Marshal Petain has made a broadcast speech asking all Frenchmen to unite under his banner. Admiral Darlan has been given extraordinary powers and been placed, in addition to the portfolios he holds already, in charge of the defence of France and of the French Empire. General Weygand has gone back to Algiers and it is surmised that he differed very much from the plans for close co-operation with the Axis.

The question is whether, after obeying Germany as regards the lease of bases in Indo-China to Japan, Vichy would still further disgrace France by allowing Germans to occupy air and naval bases in West and North Africa. This question is of great importance to Great Britain and America, to Great Britain because such a step would offer still greater facilities to Germany to attack British shipping, and to America, because from Dakar to the north-east point in America is only 1,500 miles. No wonder it is surmised that the United States desires to have bases in Brazil, the nearest place to Dakar. No precise information has been given as regards the decisions reached at the meetings of the Vichy Cabinet. It is said that relations between the United States and Vichy are very strained. It is pretty obvious that if Vichy becomes subservient to Germany and hands over French bases to Germany, America would break off diplomatic relations with Vichy at once. America realizes that if Germany occupies Dakar, her own safety is involved and she may well be expected to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent this happening.

Marshal Petain, in his broadcast speech after the meetings, outlined changes involving the conversion of France into a Totalitarian State. All parties are to be dissolved and Admiral Darlan has been given large powers presumably to counteract the growing influence of the Free French. According to Marshal Petain, activities of all parties and political groups are suspended in Non-Occupied France. Salaries of members of Parliament are abolished as from September 30. Sanctions will be taken against civil servants who are freemasons, and holders of high masonic rank will be excluded from public functions. The Legion remains the best instrument of national resurrection in Non-Occupied France, but is still under Government control. Powers at the disposal of the police will be doubled. Commissioners will be entrusted with discovering and destroying administrative organizations and the activities of secret societies. The powers of the regional prefects will be strengthened. A labour charter will be promulgated shortly. The provisional statute for economic organization will be remodelled. The organization for food supply will be altered. A Council of Political Justice will be set up in order to speed up the trial of those responsible for the disaster. All Ministers and high officials must take the oath to Marshal Petain.

AUGUST BALANCE SHEET

"It would be madness", said Mr. Churchill on July 29, "to suppose that Russia or the United States is going to win this war for us."

What are the changes that a year's hard fought warfare has brought?

August 1940	*August* 1941
(i) Economic collaboration with Russia was regarded as a great source of German strength. Her eastern frontiers secured by Ribbentrop's Non-Agression Pact, Germany could launch her full power against Britain.	(i) Economic collaboration is replaced by a destructive and exhausting war, which in six weeks has not brought the German armies to any of their main objectives, nor disorganized the Russian resistance.
(ii) Mass bombing-raids over Britain, though they cost the *Luftwaffe* 180 planes on August 15 and 152 on August 18, kept British fighters perilously on the defensive and killed over 1,000 civilians.	(ii) The Royal Air Force raids Germany and the occupied territories not only by night, but by day with fighters and bombers in a mounting offensive. German raids on Britain have for the time being been reduced to insignificant proportions.
(iii) The physical threat of a German invasion of Britain was far more serious than the Nazi propaganda which foretold August 15 as the date for Hitler's entry into London.	(iii) The reversal of the position in a year's warfare is shown by the Germans' own fear of invasion. On August 1 the German Hindustani broadcast alleged that Mr. Brendan Bracken, British Information Minister, had prophesied " an enormous invasion of Europe."
(iv) On the Egyptian frontier, British strategy was described as " active defence."	(iv) British and Imperial forces are still actively defending the Egyptian frontier, but in the meantime they have liquidated the Italian armies prepared for the invasion of Egypt.
(v) British Somaliland was evacuated by British troops on August 19, and the Italians claimed to have broken British control of the Red Sea.	(v) British Somaliland has been reoccupied, and Italy has lost her vast East African Empire. The Red Sea, cleared of enemy shipping, is a channel for American supplies to the Middle East Theatre.
(vi) Germany and Italy were busy with bribery and intrigue in the Middle East, timing treachery and disturbance to fit in with their projects of military adventure.	(vi) In Iraq and Syria two serious Axis attempts to open a way to the Persian Gulf and India have been frustrated. From the Turko-Syrian to the Egypto-Libyan border the defence of the Middle East is uninterrupted.
(vii) " Total blockade of Great Britain " was announced by Germany on August 17.	(vii) Dependent for food and raw materials on overseas supplies, Britain has not only held out but has increased her war-production.
(viii) Of Anglo-American co-operation Mr. Churchill said (August 20), " Let it roll." But it was only just beginning. Roosevelt was not yet re-elected and Germany was resolved to see that he should not be.	(viii) The Americans are in Iceland, patrolling the North Atlantic, and determined that nothing shall be allowed to interfere with their supply-line to Britain and the Middle East. President Roosevelt has become the target for Nazi abuse inspired by fear.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

A COMMENTARY ON ENEMY BROADCASTS

FOR THE PERIOD JULY 28–AUGUST 3, 1941

IN RUSSIA NOW

" Throughout the Soviet Union people are complaining of sabotage." (*German News in Hindustani, July* 29.)

But not so loudly as the Germans. For instance:

(i) " Foodstuffs have been destroyed worth several hundred millions." (*German broadcast to Holland, July* 5.)

(ii) " Everyone had looked forward to a halt at Minsk, but all they found was smoking ruins with snipers lurking behind every hiding place." (*Der Angriff.*)

(iii) " The Russians set fire to every house in the city (Kishinev) when they saw they would have to retreat." (*Rome radio, July* 20.)

(iv) " Nothing but burning or charred houses and ruins. Villages are ablaze, forests and factories. Huge clouds of smoke stand like walls on the horizon." (*Deutschlandsender, July* 24.)

" The official Soviet newspaper *Pravda* has called upon all workers to protect factories, railways and farms as carefully as possible. Vigilance is the watchword of the hour. Sentries would be posted everywhere . . . This appeal very clearly shows the hysteria and disorganization existing in the hinterland of Soviet Russia." (*German news in English, July* 29.)

Does it?

" The Soviet Government has flatly refused the request of the United States to permit military observers to enter the war zone." (*German news in English, August* 1.)

President Roosevelt's envoy Mr. Harry Hopkins was accompanied on his visit to Moscow by Brigadier-General Joseph Monarney and Lieut. John Alison, both of the United States Army—which should at least convince the Nazis that Moscow is not where they want it, in the war zone.

LESSONS IN SAVAGERY

" British brutality and savagery were displayed during their campaign in Syria. Beirut alone was raided 17 times." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, July* 31.)

The figure is taken from Royal Air Force records recently published and is therefore correct. It is curious, however, that while the Royal Air Force made 17 attacks on definite military objectives at Beirut, the local fire-chief's records show that the fire-brigade turned out on 27 nights.

In other words the Germans were following in Syria their practice developed in Holland of bombing civilian centres in the hope that blame would be cast on the Royal Air Force. This has been further proved by the unearthing in a crowded residential district of Beirut of a huge German aerial mine which fortunately failed to explode. At the time this mine was dropped, no British aircraft were over the city.

" Documents have come into our hands which reveal the brutality of the English in Cyrenaica, and that General Maitland Wilson is the only man responsible for such barbarism and brutality." (*Italian news in English, July* 31.)

The charge is so fantastic that it could only have come from those brought up on Marshal Graziani's text-book of Fascist Imperialism *Roman Peace in Libya*, in which he wrote: " To the population the mobile police must be bloodhounds who tear the rebels with their teeth; they must destroy them man by man."

WELL OFF THE TARGET

" German bombers flying singly dropped bombs on the harbours of Great Yarmouth and Plymouth causing extensive fires." (*German news in English, July* 29.).

Not a single bomb dropped within 40 miles of these places. Very few enemy aircraft crossed the British coast on the night in question, no casualties were reported, and the only damage was the severance of a few telephone wires.

" It is reported that 7,000 Indians were lost in the battles of Africa from December 1940 to July 1940." (*German news in Hindustani, July* 30.)

On April 11, 1941, the Germans announced that 15,000 Indian soldiers had been killed at Keren alone.

In fact the Indian casualties during the African campaign in the stated period are 6,427 (which seems to be the figure Dr. Goebbels has got to work on). Of these, 759 only were killed.

During this period our forces inflicted on the enemy at least 213,000 casualties in the first Western Desert campaign, the Sudan and Eritrea alone.

SIX WEEKS OF GOEBBELS

At a Moscow press conference on August 2, the following evidence of the bankruptcy of German propaganda on the eastern front was given by Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau:

To-night it is exactly six weeks since Hitlerite Germany suddenly attacked the Soviet Union . . . At the beginning the Germans reported that the battle was proceeding according to plan.

On June 26, the Fascist radio reported that the Soviet troops had been utterly routed and were incapable of further resistance. On June 30 the Germans announced to the world that the entire Soviet transport had been destroyed. On July 7 the Germans reported that the United Social Soviet Republic had exhausted all its reserves. On July 13 in a report it was claimed that the Soviet front had been pierced at all decisive points, and that the road to Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev was clear. . .

But in recent weeks the German newspapers, the German radio, the German Command, and also all their agents in Rome, Helsinki and elsewhere have begun to point out that the fight on the eastern front is something quite different from a fight on the western front . . . To understand that the German propaganda is a tissue of lies we need only draw attention to the following contradictory statements made by German sources:

BOAST

" A day or two ago we spoke of the Russians retreating. Now the Russians are fleeing in disorder." (*German radio, June* 30.)

" The Soviet Air Force has lost practically all its strength in the fighting. We may assume that in the future the German operations will not be impeded by the actions of the Soviet Air Force." (*Rome Radio citing Berlin, June* 30.)

" The Russian High Command have thrown their last reserves into the battle." (*German Information Bureau, July* 17.)

" From the technical point of view the Russian tanks are of poor quality." (*Frankfurter Zeitung, July* 17.)

ADMISSION

" From the very beginning the Russian High Command has retaliated against the German offensive with counter-attacks and counter-offensive." (*Frankfurter Zeitung, July* 26.)

" The Russian bombs prevented the Germans from carrying out certain operations." (*German radio, July* 25.)

" The Russian High Command have enormous reserves and large numbers of Russian soldiers can still be mobilized and sent against the German troops." (*Nazional Zeitung, July* 24.)

" The Russian armament is more up-to-date than the armament of all the opponents which the German Army has had to deal with yet." (*German radio, July* 27.)

[These notes take the place of " Misleading Statements in Enemy Broadcasts."]

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 5th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
July 30, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attack on shipping in Heligoland Bight (vessels of 1,200 tons and 1,500 tons sunk, two more hit).	7 day bombers.	3 fighters 1 dive-bomber.
	Fleet Air Arm attacks on docks and shipping at Petsamo (Finland) and Kirknes (Norway)—warship of 1,460 tons and at least 4 supply ships hit.	16 naval air-craft.	
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial targets in **Aachen** and **Cologne**; docks at Boulogne.	3 night bombers.	
July 31, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and French coast.	2 day fighters. (1 pilot safe).	2 day fighters.
	(No reports of night operations—bad weather).	..	..
August 1, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, including attack on convoy off Belgian coast, (2,000-ton ship on fire and sinking, another damaged). (No reports of night operations—bad weather)-	2 day bombers.	..
August 2, Saturday.	R.A.F. single day reconnaissance bomber attack on naval base at Kiel.	2 day bombers.	..
	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on patrol ship (on fire and sinking) off Dutch coast; gun emplacements on Ameland Is.; shipping off Belgian coast (2,000-ton tanker torpedoed and sunk).		
	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France (troops, aerodromes and E.-boats in coastal waters).		..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Berlin**, **Hamburg** (docks, railways, industries) and **Kiel** (shipbuilding yards).	5 night bombers.	..
August 3, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France.	1 day fighter.	4 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at Calais; industrial areas in **Hanover** and **Frankfurt-am-Main**; other targets in the Ruhr and Rhineland.	1 night bomber.	..
August 4, Monday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 5, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off Dutch coast (3 patrol ships, and 2,000-ton vessel hit); off German coast (3 patrol ships hit).	1 day fighter.	..
	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on aerodrome at Cherbourg.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim**, **Frankfurt-am-Main** and **Karlsruhe**; other objectives in S.W. Germany; factories and railways at Aachen; docks at Ostend; shipping at Nantes (large supply ship set on fire),	9 night bombers.	..

(Continued on Page 13)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

8th Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombed armament factories at Essen and also raided Dortmund and Hamm. Offensive sweeps were carried out over France and shipping off the Danish and Dutch coasts attacked.

9th Aug.—The Royal Air Force made a highly successful raid on Kiel. Supply ships were attacked near Bergen in Norway. Eighteen enemy planes were destroyed in sweeps over France.

Bombs were dropped at a few places in East England but very little damage was reported.

10th Aug.—Attacks on German shipping and sweeps over Northern France were the main Royal Air Force activities.

12th Aug.—Germany was subjected to raids by both the British and Soviet Air Forces. While Berlin was raided by the latter at night, the strongest daylight attack was made by the Royal Air Force on Cologne.

Britain had an absolutely bomb-free night.

13th Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombed Berlin, Kiel, Bremen and Cologne.

Enemy activity over Britain was on a small scale.

14th Aug.—The Royal Air Force attacked Boulogne and other French ports.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

8th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm's raid on the Italian submarine base at Augusta in the Island of Sicily was followed by attacks on an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean; two merchant vessels were sunk.

9th Aug.—Enemy-occupied ports in Libya were raided, Tripoli being subjected to a particularly heavy attack.

A small Italian patrol was captured while attempting to approach the British positions in Tobruk.

Eleven were killed and seven injured when enemy planes raided the Suez Canal area.

10th Aug.—An Italian High Command Communiqué admitted Royal Air Force raids on Corinth (Greece). The Royal Air Force also raided enemy aerodromes in Sicily and Libya.

11th Aug.—An Italian attack on an outpost in Tobruk was repulsed, the enemy being killed almost to a man.

Axis bases in Libya and Sicily were again attacked by the Royal Air Force. The Fleet Air Arm made a torpedo attack on a large merchant ship in Syracuse harbour.

12th Aug.—Alexandria and the Suez Canal area were visited by enemy planes; the Royal Air Force raided Crotona and Catanzaro, according to the Italian High Command's own admission.

13th Aug.—While the enemy bombed Tobruk, the Royal Air Force raided Derna, Bardia, Benghazi and Tripoli.

14th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raided Libyan bases and also strategic points in Sicily.

It was revealed that General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, had recently visited London.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

8th Aug.—Further American reinforcements arrived in Iceland.

A new American dive-bomber, much faster than the German Stuka, was examined at the Brewster factory by Mr. Knudsen, the Director-General of Defence.

9th Aug.—The British Supply Mission asked the United States' Office of Production Management to put tanks ahead of bombers on the priorities lists.

Strikes and other labour troubles were reported in some American shipping and aircraft factories and the Federal Government got ready to take over some shipyards.

10th Aug.—Her Majesty the Queen, in a broadcast to the United States, thanked the American people, especially the women, for all the help rendered to Britain. Her Majesty declared: "Hardships has only steeled our hearts and strengthened our resolutions. However great the cost, however long the struggle, justice, freedom, human dignity and kindness shall not perish from the earth."

11th Aug.—Mr. Cordell Hull contradicted Press reports that the United States of America had offered a plan of settlement, involving some concessions to Japan.

12th Aug.—It was announced that two huge air bases costing approximately 5,500 thousand dollars, were being established at Maine to serve as ferrying points for the delivery of warplanes to Britain.

13th Aug.—Washington reports stated that the U.S.A. was negotiating air-base rights in Brazil to offset any German threat to Dakar.

The U. S. House of Representatives passed the Bill extending the period of training of conscripts by a margin of one vote.

14th Aug.—Mr. C. R. Attlee, broadcasting from London announced that Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt had met at sea and drawn up a joint Anglo-American Declaration, setting out the objectives for which the Allies were fighting and indicating the fundamental principles on which plans for permanent world peace must be based after the final destruction of the Nazi tyranny.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, who was present at the Churchill-Roosevelt conferences, proceeded to Washington to discuss supply problems with U.S. officials.

Mr. Duff Cooper, Special British Envoy to the Far East, conferred *en route* at Washington with Mr. Cordell Hull, U. S. Secretary of State.

Mr. Roosevelt signed the Bill authorizing special protection to guard naval establishments from sabotage and espionage.

The U. S. Senate approved the Bill extending the period of conscription training.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

8th Aug.—Russian planes raided Berlin for the first time in the war. A number of incendiary bombs were dropped.

The Germans claimed to have made rapid advance towards the Black Sea port of Odessa and to have captured 30,000 prisoners, including an Army Commander, south-east of Uman.

The Soviet Information Bureau exposed the hollowness of the claims put forward by the Germans last week.

9th Aug.—The Germans announced the capture of the railway junction of Korosten and over 100,000 prisoners in the Ukraine.

Soviet planes again bombed Berlin. Marshal Timoshenko, Commander-in-Chief on the Central Front, called on Russian guerillas in occupied territory "to wreak merciless, complete and continuous vengeance on the enemy."

10th Aug.—The Finns claimed an advance in the region of Lake Ladoga.

Eight German planes were shot down in an attempted mass raid on Moscow.

11th Aug.—It was reported that the Russians were withdrawing to the Dnieper river in the giant battle in progress in the Ukraine.

Berlin was again raided by the Soviet Air Force.

12th Aug.—A German armoured force was reported to be 70 miles from Nikolayev. An attempted German air raid on Murmansk was broken up by Soviet fighters.

Besides raiding Berlin, the Soviet Air Force bombed a number of towns in Finland and dropped parachutists behind the Rumanian lines.

More men were called up in Finland for service in the army.

13th Aug.—The German High Command claimed a rapid advance in the Ukraine towards the Black Sea.

The Soviet Information Bureau announced the annihilation of the 68th German Division in a bloody battle.

14th Aug.—The Nazi claims to have encircled Odessa were described by M. Lozovsky, Deputy Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, "as wishful thinking."

It was announced that Hitler had moved his headquarters to Ukraine.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

8th Aug.—A broadcast report from Ankara stated that the German Government had threatened the Iran Government with the rupture of diplomatic relations if the latter expelled the German subjects in Iran as a result of Anglo-Russian representations.

It was officially announced that General Dentz, former Vichy High Commissioner in Syria, and 35 officers had been interned by the Allied authorities in view of the non-release of 75 British and Indian officers who had been flown to an unknown destination before the signing of the Armistice.

9th Aug.—Rumania, which had already lost 100,000 troops in the Russian campaign, was reported to be war-weary.

Over 2,000 Vichy soldiers were stated to have joined the Free French forces in Syria.

Germany denied any application of pressure on Iran.

11th Aug.—Germany put off negotiations with Turkey for a trade pact and German commercial experts in Istanbul were ordered to leave for Bucharest.

It was learnt that the Soviet Government had made a *demarche* to the Iran Government, calling attention to the importance in Iran's own interests of reducing the number of Germans there and to the relevant portion of the Treaty of 1921 under which the Soviet army was entitled to march across Iranian frontiers in certain circumstances.

12th Aug.—The Turkish National Assembly passed a Bill, allowing 19 and 20-year old youths to be called up for service without a formal declaration of mobilization.

Free French Headquarters announced that Syria and the Lebanon were again open to tourist traffic.

13th Aug.—A joint Anglo-Soviet *demarche* was made to Turkey in which the two countries declared they had no aggressive intentions or claims towards the Straits and, while scrupulously respecting Turkish integrity, would assist Turkey if she were attacked by a third power.

The German Ambassador, Von Papen left Ankara for Berlin.

SHIPPING

8th Aug.—It was reported that the Cunard—White Star liner Georgic had sustained damage by enemy action.

11th Aug.—The Canadian Minister of Merchant Services, in an interview in London, said that the Canadian Navy had grown since the war broke out from 13 ships to 250 and the personnel from 1.800 to 22,000. Canada was planning a ship-building programme, including the construction of destroyers and the launching of a million tons of merchant shipping next year.

13th Aug.—A big British Convoy was reported to have arrived safely in an Uruguayan port.

FAR EAST

8th Aug.—The Bangkok Radio announced that the Thais would defend Thailand with the last drop of their blood.

A considerable British Naval force was reported in the vicinity of Singapore, where an official statement declared that high-speed American fighter planes had arrived to defend the Burma Road.

Tokyo denied Italian reports that Japan had presented certain demands to Russia.

9th Aug.—The Japanese Foreign Minister, Admiral Toyoda, stated that "no encirclement, whether already realized or in preparation, could turn Japan aside from the road which she was treading."

An official communiqué issued in Bangkok reaffirmed Thailand's neutrality, also her readiness to defend it by force of arms.

Japan decided to raise her Legation in Bangkok to the status of an Embassy.

Chungking experienced five Japanese air raids in the course of 24 hours. Scores of people were killed and houses destroyed but no military target was damaged. It appeared as if the raids were of a terroristic nature.

11th Aug.—Over 3,000 bombs were reported to have been dropped by 400 Japanese planes in four days raids on Chungking.

Japan decided to send a special envoy to Indo-China with the rank of Ambassador.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 10)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 5th August 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
July 30	Nil.	..
July 31	Nil.	1 night bomber.
August 1	Nil.	..
August 2	Nil.	2 night bombers.
August 3	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 4	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 5	Nil.	..

While the Japanese Foreign Minister received the British Ambassador in Tokyo, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies said that Australia would defend Singapore against any attack.

12th Aug.—It was announced in Melbourne that the Australian Prime Minister was going to London again as soon as possible at the unanimous request of his Cabinet colleagues.

The Japanese Minister for War was received in audience by the Emperor.

Four Imperial Ordinances, designed to gear Japan right up to a total wartime economic footing, were approved by the National Mobilization Committee. Prices and shipping would be controlled in future.

13th Aug.—It was reported that 180,000 Japanese troops in all had arrived in Indo-China and that Japanese aircraft, operating from bases in Indo-China, raided key-points in the Chinese hinterland including Kumming.

14th Aug.—Baron Hiranuma, Minister of State and former Prime Minister of Japan, was shot at by a young man in Tokyo.

Admiral Toyoda reported to the Emperor.

The U. S. A. (it was stated at Chungking) was sending 80,000 tons of supplies to China. American transport experts had surveyed the Burma road with a view to increasing the tonnage that could be carried over the road.

VICHY

8th Aug.—General Weygand arrived in Vichy from North Africa for consultation with Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan. It was reported that the Germans were demanding the use of French bases in North Africa.

9th Aug.—The Vichy Cabinet discussed the future of the French African Empire (in the words of the Vichy News Agency) "within the framework of the principles laid down in Vichy's note to the United States."

It was reported that the corporative system of Government would be introduced in Vichy with wider powers for the Head of the State.

11th Aug.—General Weygand left Vichy for Algiers.

12th Aug.—The Vichy Cabinet was reconstituted, Admiral Darlan becoming Minister for National Defence in addition to being Vice-Premier, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Secretary for the Navy. The Secretaries of State for War, Air and the Colonies were placed under him.

Vichy-American relations were reported to be heading for a climax.

13th Aug.—Marshal Petain, in a broadcast to the French, outlined a Fascist programme for France. All political parties were to be dissolved.

An authoritative statement issued in London drew attention to Vichy's "abject record of dishonour."

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

8th Aug.—It was announced that the German authorities had suppressed over 500 newspapers and periodicals in Czechoslovakia.

A Polish Military Mission arrived in Moscow; General Anders was appointed to command the Polish forces in Russia.

10th Aug.—Representatives of all Slav nations met in Moscow and declared their determination to continue the war against Germany.

The Czech Foreign Minister announced that a Czech military unit was being organized in Russia on the same lines as the Polish unit.

12th Aug.—The Polish Government decided to protest to world opinion against the compulsory mobilization of Poles in the German army in the occupied territories.

13th Aug.—Two more former Dutch Ministers were arrested and sent to concentration camps.

A Soviet decree granted amnesty to all Polish prisoners in Russia.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

9th Aug.—The German Ambassador assured the Argentine Foreign Minister that the Reich Government had agreed to suspend Axis propaganda in Argentine.

10th Aug.—A Nazi plot was discovered in Southern Chile where several Germans were taken into custody.

12th Aug.—The United States Treasury unfroze Portuguese assets in America.

14th Aug.—The Argentine Cabinet decided to take over 20 belligerent ships with a total tonnage of about 200,000.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Mr. Churchill has returned from his visit to President Roosevelt and received a great welcome in London. He congratulated the First Lord of the Admiralty on the excellent arrangements made for his safety, and Mr. A. V. Alexander, after expressing the pride of the Navy to have carried the Prime Minister on such an important journey, said that his safe return had taken a load off his mind.

The third Nazi offensive against Russia has met with some initial success. Nikoloyev, north-west of Odessa, has been evacuated by the Russians. They have also evacuated Kingisepp, south-west of Leningrad. Marshal Budenny has withdrawn his forces, avoiding encirclement, and his Ukranian army along the Dnieper will defend the main industrial region of the Ukraine. It is significant that President Roosevelt has stated that Russia has a real chance of holding out indefinitely against the Nazis.

There is increasing evidence that women in the Allied countries are to take greater part in war effort. In Britain compulsory powers will, it is stated, be used if necessary, for the purpose of mobilizing women for war work. All women up to 30 would be registered and older women would be required to come forward voluntarily to replace younger women transferred elsewhere. The occupations in which women can work are nursing and domestic work in hospitals, work on aircraft and tank manufacture, semi-skilled engineering, the land army, service canteens and ordnance factories. In Australia, the War Cabinet has authorized the establishment of the Women's Home Army with the object of releasing from certain military duties men whose work can be done by women.

A striking development, which is partly an answer to German pressure on Vichy to seek bases in North-west Africa and elsewhere, is the decision of the United States of America to hasten the delivery of aircraft to the British forces in Africa and the Middle East. The Pan American Service will run an air ferry system of planes. It is stated that one of three routes will be chosen. A ferry service for bombers may operate from Trinidad to Freetown in West Africa—a distance slightly over 3,000 miles. Shorter-range military planes may fly from somewhere in Brazil to Freetown which is only 1,600 miles. Another possible route is from Bathurst in British Gambia to Khartoum. The object is that there should be a line of communication as President Roosevelt stated, "between our country and strategic outposts in Africa."

Dr. Goebbels has paid an unconscious tribute to the effectiveness of the British Broadcasting Corporation's propaganda once again. He frankly says that those who continue to listen in to the B.B.C. deserve beheading and his reasoning is as follows: 'Some Germans say that they are strong-minded enough to listen to the British Broadcasting Corporation's lies and not be harmed by them. I imply that this is not true, as those who listen have not the means of checking and finding out whether or not the British Broadcasting Corporation is lying. Their lies get into the blood, making listeners weak and tired of carrying on, thus showing that the B.B.C. poison is beginning to work.'

MR. CHURCHILL'S RETURN

Mr. Churchill's return after his talks with President Roosevelt was triumphant. On his way back, he visited Iceland. It is stated that he discussed with Mr. Roosevelt problems of

supply to Great Britain and Russia, the situation in the Far East and the peace aims of the Allies. The personal contact established should be of great value in future, and acceleration and co-ordination of industrial effort should ensue so that Great Britain and those who are fighting against Nazism may get all the help they want. There is naturally great expectation that the talks will result in important developments in all fields of war activity. It has been officially stated that there was complete agreement between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill. The Joint Declaration as regards peace aims of the United States of America and Great Britain has been enthusiastically welcomed by the representatives of peoples subject to Nazi domination who are now in Great Britain, by the Free French, by the Dominions, India and the Colonies. It is also important to note that Mr. Attlee has followed up the statement by saying that the principles enunciated therein apply as much to the people of Asia and Africa as to those of Europe.

REPLY TO GERMAN PEACE OFFENSIVE

Of course, Germany has sought to belittle this great declaration, but there are certain points in regard to the joint statement which should be borne in mind. They do not, of course, constitute a peace offer. They are really a draft statement of peace aims which is quite a different thing, and they are a definite answer to the expected German peace offensive. Clause (2), for instance, provides that there should be no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned. Clause (3) respects the rights of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live, while clause (8) provides for the disarmament of agggressor nations. It is absolutely clear that these three provisions should be fundamentally at variance with any peace terms which Germany can at any time offer the world. Clause (1) declares that America and Great Britain have no desire for aggrandisement, territorial or other. This has been rendered necessary because such isolationist elements as exist in America and certain groups of people in other parts of the world imagine that Great Britain is engaged in an imperialist war. Clauses (4) and (5) provide for free access to all countries, of raw materials, general economic collaboration and improved social standards and labour conditions. This expresses both British and American social idealism. Clauses (6) and (7) are especially dear to President Roosevelt whose insistence on four freedoms and the freedom of the seas are well known. The disarmament of aggressor nations and general disarmament are envisaged in clause (8) which postulates the renunciation of war as a means of settling international disputes on realistic as well as spiritual grounds.

COMPARISON WITH FOURTEEN POINTS

These eight points differ from Wilson's 14 points, in many respects. The eight points are simple and general. They deal only with general principles and broad issues. President Wilson's points constituted a unilateral declaration. But the eight points have been accepted by Mr. Roosevelt for the United States of America and Mr. Churchill for Great Britain. The 14 points were a statement of American opinion, not of Allied policy. There is reason to believe that Russia may accept this declaration. It is further noteworthy that while, in 1918, America was not united about Wilson's 14 points and a year later America refused to be a party to the terms settled in the Treaty of Versailles, the eight points have been welcomed by the vast mass of Americans.

THIS PICTURE AND THAT

It is necessary again to stress the fact that Hitler's ambition is to secure domination over the whole world, to make Germany politically and industrially supreme and to treat the other nations as dependent slave-states. The object of Germany's New Order is to guarantee to the greater Reich the maximum of economic security and to the German people, the maximum of consumption. This is to be ensured by making Europe one economic unit, not a number of States trading freely with each other. Compare the Roosevelt–Churchill declaration with Hitler's plans. In his scheme of world domination, Germany is to be industrially supreme, while the people of the other countries will be hewers of wood and drawers of water and they will devote themselves mainly to the supply of raw materials to the Reich. And what has the New Order already done? There are about 2 million foreigners in Germany working in war industries and these workers belong to countries under German domination. There has been out and out confiscation of properties in the occupied countries. Sometimes properties are purchased at a very low price. Businesses have been purposely driven into bankruptcy or their shares have been ruthlessly reduced in price. In the Reich alone, the total seizure of property is estimated at 2½ to 5 millard Rm. The value of confiscated property in Poland alone is placed at 600 millions. It is estimated that there has been a gross contribution to the Reich of 1,500 million pounds, as a result of the occupation of other countries. At a modest estimate it is stated by an observer that "it would not be rash to say that (quite apart from confiscations of land, capital and stocks of goods which cannot be repeated), between a quarter and a sixth of the war effort being made and to be made against the Allies by Germany is probably the result of her conquests in the last three years and her current exploitation of those conquests."

AID AND LOAN TO RUSSIA

An event of the week which is of great significance is the invitation extended by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill to M. Stalin to hold a Three-Power Conference in Moscow in order to discuss the allocation of war supplies to Russia. This is the direct result of the report by Mr. Harry Hopkins after his return from Moscow. According to the official invitation, the conference will discuss the apportionment of the joint resources of the three countries. This is specially important because "there is need for a long term policy as there is still a long and hard path to be traversed before there can be complete victory without which all the efforts and sacrifices will be wasted." The joint invitation to Russia significantly added that before the war was over there might be further fighting in other countries. M. Stalin has accepted this suggestion and it is expected that the Moscow Conference will come off at a very early date. Another important development, which is also due to the Atlantic conference, is the conclusion of an Anglo-Soviet agreement under which Great Britain grants to the Union of Social Soviet Republics a credit of £10 millions for five years. When this credit is exhausted the two Governments will enter into negotiations for a further amount. Russia will get rubber, tin, wool, hides, jute, shell, ore and industrial diamonds, while Britain will secure hemp platinum and glycerine.

A further result of the talks is that measures are to be taken to make a survey of actual production needs and deliveries both in America and in Great Britain through 1943 as, in President Roosevelt's view, the war will continue through that year.

THAILAND

It seems as if there will after all be a showdown in the Pacific. The distinct facts of the situation are :

(i) Japan is sending reinforcements to the west of Indo-China which may be interpreted as a threat to Thailand;

(ii) the war of nerves is going on;

(iii) the Japanese radio is still harping on the subject of 'encirclement' of Japan by Great Britain and America; and

(iv) there is Japanese infiltration into Thailand.

It has been denied by Thailand that Japan has made any demands on her or sent any ultimatum. This denial has to be taken against the fact that it is well-known that Japan is resorting to the familiar totalitarian tactics of alleging increased Allied influence in Thailand.

However, British authorities have made it perfectly clear that England has not presented any demands to Thailand, a declaration which, it should be emphasized, has been welcomed in Thailand itself. Some Japanese spokesmen have, however, been less discreet than others. They have stated that there is now the calm before the storm, provoking the reply that Thais would fight to the last against any aggressor. Thailand's attitude has visibly stiffened "as she no longer feels her position to be one of hopeless isolation" and the Thais have not failed to notice that anti-Axis countries have shown appreciation of their difficulties and desire to help them. Though the threat to Thailand remains, there are also indications that Japan is preparing for an ultimate southward drive from Indo-China. It has been stated by Japanese spokesmen that Japan cannot be indifferent to the sending of American reinforcements to Vladivostock. Amidst all this confusion one fact emerges very clearly and that is that there is a perfect understanding between America, Britain, China and Dutch East Indies, that Malaya is fully prepared, that Singapore is so strong that it cannot be molested by any foreign power and that Australia is getting busy. A significant statement has been made by President Quezon of the Philippines: He said "Our country is a democracy, we believe in the democratic way of life and therefore go with America in life or death." Speaking of independence he said, "If as a result of the war small nations are placed at the mercy of big nations, the Filipinos might as well bid good-bye to independence."

TURKEY

Reports of enemy troop concentrations on the frontier between Bulgaria and Turkey have naturally caused speculation regarding Germany's next move in the Balkans, but Turkey will not yield any concessions to Germany. One point about the Russo-British declaration to Turkey is that Turkey cannot hereafter remain in any doubt about Russia's attitude. It may be remembered that in the spring Russia undertook "not to attack" Turkey if she was attacked. Now, jointly with Great Britain, Russia has undertaken to "assist" Turkey if she is attacked by a European Power. Both Powers have confirmed their fidelity to the Montreux Convention which gives Turkey complete control of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus in time of war and drastically limits the number of foreign warships which may pass through in peace time. This declaration has been welcomed in Turkey which remains absolutely friendly to Great Britain. *The Times'* Ankara Correspondent says that Turkish reaction to the Anglo-Russian declaration is one of restrained pleasure. This is understandable. There is an apprehension that the declaration might be purposely misinterpreted by Germany. Turkish opinion,

(Continued on page 5)

STERN FIGHTING IN RUSSIA

GERMANY'S COSTLY ADVANCE

The third great German offensive in Russia has now taken shape in a drive through the southern Ukraine towards Odessa. Fighting continues in the Baltic region where the Germans have made some progress in the Estonian sector. Here the German forces advancing on both sides of Lake Peipus on the Estonian border joined up in the Narva "neck"—a 30-mile wide strip of land separating the lake from the Baltic. The Soviet Army of the North under Marshal Voroshilov has evacuated the town of Kingisepp on the west bank of the Luga river, some 70 miles south-west of Leningrad, and is reported to be falling back on the outer defences of Leningrad, just inside the old Soviet frontier which the Nazis have only now crossed after eight weeks of war. Kingisepp is on the railway from Tallinn, the Estonian capital, about 15 miles east of Narva.

Fighting also rages in the central region around Smolensk, which the Russians recently evacuated after literally razing it to the ground and rendering it useless for occupation by the Germans. Marshal Timoshenko, who commands the Russian Army of the Centre, is bitterly contesting every inch of ground with the enemy who has had to suffer colossal losses. But it is in the south, in the Ukraine where Marshal Budenny is leading the Russian Army of the South, that the fiercest fighting has just taken place. Here the Germans bye-passed the Russian forces at Belaya-Tsekov by means of a feint against Korosten and drove south-eastwards towards Odessa, the Russian port on the Black Sea. Fighting was reported during the weekend in the Uman district and the Germans captured Nikolayev, a port on the Dnieper river east of Odessa, and Krivoirog, an iron-ore centre in the "elbow" of the Dnieper. But despite their claim first to have encircled Odessa and then to have captured 60,000 prisoners in an attack on the port, it is an undoubted fact that the Russians hold Odessa and are determined to defend it.

What has happened is that the Germans, unable to cross the Dniester, the Bug or the Dnieper river—three formidable lines of Russian defence—suddenly wheeled south-east and advanced parallel to the river courses towards the sea. And Marshal Budenny, the great commander that he is, wisely withdrew the main body of his troops to the Dnieper where he can offer a flank-threat to the lengthening German line and, if necessary, make a decisive stand and break the German offensive before it threatens the industrial region of the Ukraine which lies east of the river Dnieper in the basin of the Don river. Before the Germans reach it, they would have to cross the formidable obstacle of the Dnieper; and the main Russian army bars their way. A feature of this fighting has been the reappearance of Russian cavalry divisions, who deal with the masses of the German infantry after the mechanized forces have passed on.

The Germans have desisted from costly efforts to smash through which were features of the first six weeks fighting. At Kiev, too, conditions are more or less static and the two arms of great pincer movement have been stationary at Korosten in the north-west and Byelaya-Tserkov in the south-east. It is too early to say whether the Germans will try to force the Dnieper with a view to threatening the Don coal basin. Any such movement with large Russian forces still undefeated on the left flank of the advance would be a venturesome proposition. It is more likely that Hitler will fling in his sorely tried troops against the central sector in the hope that they will have been weakened by despatch of help to Marshal Budenny. Already it is reported that while the German offensive in the Ukraine shows signs of slowing down in the face of the terrible battering administered by the Russians, the latter have launched a counter-attack in some places.

A SECOND TOBRUK

And it must not be forgotten that Odessa is not likely to fall easily. Here evidently the Russians seem determined to make a second Tobruk—in the same way as the gallant British and Indian garrison in the Libyan coastal town has not only been defying all the efforts of the enemy to storm the defences but actually acting as a thorn on the enemy's side and harrying his movements on land and sea. For the Russians well know that, though Odessa is not their chief naval base—which is Sebastopol in the Crimean Peninsula—and its loss would not cripple their Black Sea Fleet, its possession by the Germans would make easier a parachute or seaborne attack on the Crimea. Odessa, with its deep natural harbour, is built on the steep slopes of a hill, which runs like a sauce-brim around the town's outskirts and falls again steeply to the wide cornfields and forests of the Ukrainian hinterland. On this natural bulwark the Russians have built a system of modern fortifications comparable with anything yet constructed by any of the world's military engineers. It is likely to hold out a long time even against the largest forces. Its shore batteries can take care of any possible Nazi seaborne landing, and its "flank" (anti-aircraft) defences are also capable of giving a good account of themselves. The Russian navy's overwhelming superiority in the Black Sea is perfectly capable of supplying Odessa while Soviet fighter squadrons from the Crimean airfields and Odessa's own airport are able to ensure supplies going through without unreasonable loss. Civilians were evacuated from Odessa several weeks ago and replaced by storm troop regiments recruited from the tough, warlike Ukrainian peasants.

At sea, indeed, the Russians continue to hold their own; they have destroyed 15 German submarines, a dozen destroyers or torpedo boats and about 40 transports. And in the air they are taking heavy toll of German raiders attempting to attack Moscow and have inaugurated a series of raids of their own on Berlin and other German cities as well as on the cities in Rumania, Hungary and Finland. Germany now faces the prospect of a two-front air war in the coming winter.

On August 8 the Russians published the German losses and their own during the first six weeks of the war. Describing the German claims in this respect as fantastic, the Russians gave the true position as follows: The Germans have lost 1,500,000 men (killed, wounded or prisoners), over 6,000 tanks, 8,000 guns and 6,000 aircraft. In the same six weeks the Russians have lost 600,000 men, 5,000 tanks, 7,000 guns and 4,000 aircraft. The thoroughness of the Russian "scorched earth" policy has again been attested by the Germans themselves, who have described the complete devastation in which they found Smolensk, the heat of burning houses and factories being so great that the first German troops who entered had to retire again. The usually well-informed American commentator in Ankara, Martin Agronsky, summed up the situation on August 10 by saying "The Red Army is hurting the Nazi military machine badly, perhaps vitally. The Germans may still win in Russia but victory is no longer thought certain and there is every reason to believe that it may never be conclusive." That Russia is determined not to let anything valuable to pass into the enemy's hands is evident in the report—which is, however, unconfirmed—that they have blown up the dam at Dniepropetrovsk, the industrial heart of the Ukraine and one of the biggest power stations in the world.

And President Roosevelt has now expressed his confident belief that the Russians can hold out indefinitely against the Nazis. Indeed, he as well as Mr. Churchill, has backed up this belief by the invitation that they have issued to M. Stalin to hold a three-power conference in Moscow to draw up what is evidently a long-term programme to smash the Nazi war machine. And Britain has just entered into an agreement with Russia which will enable the latter speedily to repair the deficiencies in her defence, in time for the campaign next spring. Meanwhile the Germans face the prospect of a long winter in Russia.

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from Page* 3)

therefore, hesitates to take the declaration as a guarantee given to Turkey, because Turkey is chary of entering into or accepting any guarantees which are unilateral. The Anglo-Russian declaration is spontaneous and is not due to any move on the part of Turkey and it is emphasized in Turkey that she does not consider herself threatened by any danger of attack. Turkey wants to avoid war while remaining firm in her friendship with Great Britain.

IRAN

A fresh *Demarche* has been presented by Great Britain and Russia, drawing the attention of the Iran Government to the concern felt by the two Governments in regard to the excessively large number of Germans in Iran. The two Governments have further made strict representations that effective measures should be taken to remove the Germans from Iran. The report that Germany has demanded air bases in that country and fuel supplies for the planes using them has not been confirmed. There can be no doubt that Great Britain and Russia feel that this infiltration should be stopped because of the danger to their interests in Iran and in other countries. Similarly in her own interests also, Iran should stop this incursion. It is to be hoped that the Government of Iran, which has not yet replied, would realize the gravity of the situation and act in a proper manner. She knows the plight of countries which have allowed fifth columnists and German "tourists" to enter them and prepare the ground for eventual subjugation. She should also be aware of the efficient manner in which South American republics are avoiding this danger of German infiltration.

THE NEW ORDER OF HITLER

WHAT IT PORTENDS

In view of the joint Roosevelt-Churchill declaration about the kind of peace which the United States and Great Britain envisage after the war is won, the following observation of Mr. F. A. Voigt summarized from an article appearing in the *Listner* will be read with interest.

If there is one thing we realize today, it is this; when the war is over our world will not be the same as it was when the war began. Our world has been changed much in our own time by several revolutions. The mightiest of these revolutions is, I think, the most recent one, the German revolution of 1933, the National Socialist revolution as it is called, which destroyed the transitional democratic order in Germany and established that new German order which now extends from the Arctic to the Aegean, and from Finisterre to the Black Sea. The nucleus of this vast order, of this prodigious revolutionary empire which the Germans have created by violence, is Germany herself, the Third Reich, as it calls itself, a term that was first used by Moeller van den Bruck, a precursor of National Socialism, who committed suicide several years before it was established. The First Reich was the Holy Roman Empire; the Second was the Empire of the Hohenzollerns; the Third is the Germany of today and the 'new order' she has erected under the leadership of Hitler.

Defeat of the Allies will not merely mean loss of territory and of wealth; it will mean the loss of civilized happiness. It will bring upon us 'the abomination that maketh desolate', precisely because the enemy's purpose is not merely plunder and destruction, but spiritual domination as well. He is determined to break, and to break for ever, the spirit of the nations he has conquered. This new order is not merely political and economic; it is incompatible with independence of any sort, with individual, no less than national, independence. It means the end of human personality wherever it prevails.

The German new order is further not entirely new. The present war is but the resumption of last. The armistice of 1918 was but a suspension of hostilities. Germany has never accepted this frustration. She has never admitted defeat. She is going on now where she left off last time.

If we examine her new order even in its purely economic aspects, we shall see that it is not as new as it is generally believed to be. If we examine the Treaty of Bucharest which the Germans imposed on the defeated Rumanians in the last war, we shall find the substance of the economic domination which the Germans have established in Rumania now. If we go back to the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, we shall find the substance of the economic domination of Russia and more particularly, of the Ukraine, which Hitler proposed afresh in his book Mein Kampf, a domination which he will, if the signs are not deceptive, try to erect in the near future.

There is one particularly good reason why we must bear in mind this point, that the new order is not entirely new and that the Second World War does not stand by itself but is the resumption, by the Germans of the First World War. I mean this: that what has happened twice can happen a third time, if it is allowed to happen, and that for nothing in the world must it be allowed to happen a third time. The lesson driven home by this point, by the very nature of the new order and of its antecedents, is expressed in two simple words, 'Never again.' The German new order has got to be destroyed for ever, and a very different order has to be put in its place. Now, as I have tried to explain, this German new order is an extension as well as a resumption—and a development—of the order Germany erected in the last war. Every war map indicates the vastness of its extent, a vastness that may, in the near future grow vaster still. It is conterminous with the area held by German troops, just as the new order erected by Napoleon, was conterminous with the area held by his troops. In economic terms it means the complete subjection of trade, industry, and banking in that immense area to German needs. (Its specifically economic character has been outlined in one of the admirable 'Oxford Pamphlets' under the title of 'Germany's New Order', by Dr. Duncan Wilson). But this order is not merely a war-measure. The Germans are determined to make it last. In erecting it, they are convinced that they are laying the foundations of a permanent European order in which they will be the sole beneficiaries and masters. They identify the Europe of the future, indeed the world of the future, with their new order.

WHO INVENTED THE TANK?

I read with interest, says a correspondent in a British newspaper, the claim of Mr. H. G. Wells to have invented and described the tank in 1903. Surely there is a difference between an imaginative conception and an invention. One could hardly say that Jules Verne invented aeroplanes and submarines, though he imagined and described them. Has Mr. Wells, for instance, really invented the means of inter-stellar communication which he imagines and describes in *War of the Worlds*? And has he really invented a 'time-machine?' Is not the position that Mr. Wells imagined a steam tank in 1903, and Major-General E. Swinton invented the tank in 1915?

RIDING THE STORM

A SURVEY

The human spirit is naturally buoyant. It can survive the threat of disaster. It can even forget it when the wind veers to a better quarter. The storm has not yet blown itself out. Its bellowings, indeed, are heard nearer to India than before, and it is still capable of terrible destruction. Yet already the mere miracle of survival may tempt us to forget that a miracle it is, a miracle achieved, under God, by unremitting labour here and elsewhere, by acts of collective and individual heroism far from our shores, and by the slow but at last inexorable logic of a just and necessary cause.

To glance back now at the peril and the glory of a year ago will remind us not only of the deadly menace that was so brilliantly thwarted, but of the stages by which that menace was permitted to grow and approach; not only of the great tasks behind us, but of those that remain and of the means by which they must be carried through.

August the 15th, 1940, was the date on which Hitler had expected to dictate, from London itself, his terms of "peace" to a cowed and broken Europe—terms which would have been so formed as to make impossible any effective resistance to the extension of his power by stages over the whole world. He had the Channel Ports, which British strategy had traditionally striven to keep out of unfriendly hands. He had bases in Norway and Denmark and Holland also, and on the French Atlantic coast. In Napoleon's plans Boulogne had been a pistol pointed at the heart of England. Here was a whole armoury, its lethal power multiplied beyond Napoleon's dreams by the development of the new air arm in which Germany was ahead of British production, not by months but by years.

That was how matters looked from the white cliffs of Dover. But that was not all. The world's greatest and most ruthless war machine had now the spoils of highly industrialized subject states to draw upon, while eastwards the Balkan states and Russia seemed one vast storehouse laid open to the aggressors by diplomatic offensives. In the Mediterranean, jugular vein of her world-wide system, Britain had lost a trusted ally in France, and gained in Italy a formidable enemy, her strength still untested, who at that critical moment had mounted from Libya and East Africa a multiple offensive against vital but thinly held objectives. Athwart the Middle Sea Italy's commanding position made Malta's chances of survival seem small, while her new battle-fleet and her shoals of submarines reversed the whole balance of naval power. In both hemispheres the same tremendous question was asked: "How can Britain stand—and if Britain falls?" In Tokyo a flutter of excitement at the brightening prospects of agression spread its seismic disturbance to Indo-China and the Burma-Road. In New York there was anxiety, admiration for Britain, scepticism, sympathy, indifference—all these by turns, but as yet no united faith that what was worth saving could indeed be saved. In Washington there were far-reaching plans, sagacious counsel, projects of high statesmanship—but Roosevelt, great democrat that he is, was waiting for his people.

Yet Britain stood. On that very fifteenth of August her young fighter pilots and her anti-aircraft gunners destroyed one hundred and eighty of the marauding vultures. It was only the beginning of the titanic test, a portent of valiant survival under an appalling menace. Months later the Prime Minister who had stood up in Parliament as on the quarter-deck of an old ship of the line crying defiantly "Let it rage, let it roar, we shall come through"—could say in simple candour to his people and the world: "See how far we have travelled."

STATISTICS OF WAR

GERMAN PROPAGANDA LIES EXPOSED

Official figures placed before Parliament by Captain Margesson (War Secretary) on August 6 show that the total number of British and Empire troops evacuated from Greece was 44,865.

On May 1, before any accurate check of the numbers could be made, the C.-in-C, Mediterranean Fleet informed Mr. Churchill that approximately 45,000 men had reached safely.

Likewise the number evacuated from Crete, now revealed as 14,580, was immediately estimated as 15,000. The closeness of these figures is a remarkable testimony to British accuracy.

The War Secretary's figures further show that while 82·6 per cent of the Australian soldiers and 86·3 per cent of the New Zealanders were safely evacuated from Greece, the percentage of British troops evacuated was 68·2.

Thus the many and flagrant German declarations that the British were "fighting to the last Australian and New Zealander" are exposed for the ignoble lies they were.

A BALANCE SHEET—1940-41

I. THE AXIS

1940

Hitler breaks out.

(a) *Successes.*

1. Hitler quickly over-runs Poland, but the Allies do not see the danger. Taking advantage of their complacency, Hitler suddenly breaks out. Result—

Norway, Low Countries and France overrun—Britain in grave danger.

2. Italy comes in to share spoils, and Britain evacuates British Somaliland.

3. Russia—neutral, but pro-German. Other neutrals pro-German as they see influence of power politics.

4. Rumania has joined the Axis camp, giving Germany most of her oil. Germany drawing supplies from neutrals in Balkans.

5. Blockade of Britain declared following advantages Germany gained from possession of the French ports.

1941

Sea power tells.

(a) *Pitfalls.*

1. Grave danger to Britain replaced by danger to Germany and her occupied countries from British invasion, and her fear of a war on two fronts. The occupied countries, having been looted, are now economic and military burdens to Germany and a source of constant anxiety.

In all Allied countries determination has replaced complacency.

2. Italy has become an occupied country. In Africa she has lost most of her Empire and a large part of her army and air force, in the Mediterranean a large part of her navy and in Albania, against the gallant Greeks, her last vestige of honour. Italy, through the ambitions of Mussolini, has incurred the contempt of the world and has forfeited the results of years of progress. Today she stands exposed to the threat of increasing British power in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

3. To-day Germany, hemmed in by British sea-power, has thrown her vast military machine against the huge, well equipped armies of Russia. What was a serious leak in the British blockade may well turn out to be the graveyard of Hitler, the Nazi party, the flower of the German manhood and the senseless ambitions for which the nation has chosen to fight.

Neutrals have regained faith in an ultimate British victory. Greece and Yugoslavia fought and will rise again. Turkey, constantly menaced, remains true to her pact with Britain. The Republics of South America have dealt with the Nazi threat from their countries.

4. Rumania with a third of her territory lost to her, and her people starved through the export of food to Germany, has now been drawn into the Nazi war. Her oilfields are bombed by Russia and her national wealth has gone.

Through her campaign in the Balkans and the continued opposition from Greece and Yugoslavia, Germany has lost most of her Balkan supplies. The granary of the Balkans has been turned into a battlefield.

5. The Battle of the Atlantic has been fought and is now being won. Britain's sea routes have never been closed. In the Atlantic Germany has lost most of her U-boats, her finest battleships. What is left of her surface warships have been driven to the shelter of ports.

I. THE AXIS

1940

6. Blitzkreig tactics have taken the world by surprise. German army seems invincible.

7. Germany well ahead in all types of war production.

8. Hitler's Fifth Column tactics have proved a decisive weapon.

(b) *The Future.*

1. German nation convinced of success before winter.

2. Air power seems to have neutralised Britain's great defence—sea power.

3. Power politics and German Panzer divisions seem invincible.
But :—

4. Britain maintains a blockade of Continent.

5. Hitler's peace offer to Britain is spurned.

6. The Luftwaffe has not cleared the way to invasion of Britain, and there is no Fifth Column in Britain.

7. Invasion plans postponed until September 16th.

1941

6. The Blitzkreig has met its match in Russia, where for the first time the Germans have not had the advantage of superior numbers and equipment. Here too, Goebbels' carefully fostered myth of the invincibility of the German soldier has been finally exploded.

7. Germany, despite the use of the armament industries of the occupied countries, has reached her peak in production. While British production still climbs to its peak and is assisted by an increasing stream of deliveries from the United States of America and the countries of the Empire, Nazi reserves are being rapidly depleted in the Russo-German war.

8. The Fifth Column weapon is now blunted, and failed the Nazis badly where they placed great faith in it—in the Ukraine. As the Allied threat to Germany increases, and the occupied countries realize the certainty of an Allied victory, this venomous weapon is likely to react against those who have used it so ruthlessly.

(b) *What has transpired.*

1. The Germans are still convinced of success and their certainty is now "Peace before winter". But it is the hope of despair; no German can say how it can come about.

2. Air power has restricted the effect of sea power in narrow waters, but cannot neutralize it. In the oceans sea power retains its supremacy.

3. Russia has discounted these beliefs, so sedulously fostered by German propaganda.
While :—

4. The blockade continues and tightens as more warships are added to the Royal Navy and aeroplanes to the Coastal Command. In attacking Russia, Hitler was looking to fresh areas to loot, and replenish his dwindling supplies—no longer obtainable from overseas markets.

5. Mr. Churchill has given Britain's final reply to any peace offers when, on June 22, he said:—"We shall never parley, we shall never negotiate with Hitler or any of his gang."

6. The Luftwaffe has had no success against Britain except through indiscriminate bombing at night. Now it is on the defensive and the air front has moved from Britain to North-West France and Germany. No Fifth Columnist can operate in Britain.

7. Invasion plans have never materialised. The threat may still exist, but more important now is the British threat of an invasion of German-occupied territory.

I. THE AXIS

1940

8. Italy has proved a disappointment as the British Navy still controls the Mediterranean and British forces are intact in Egypt.

(c) *General Situation.*

Generally Germany planned a short war, and her plans have been successful except in the case of Britain. Nevertheless, the Axis has all the advantages, and it should be possible to over-run Britain by sheer weight of numbers and machines.

1941

8. Italy has proved a burden to Germany as she was to the Allies in the Great War. Empire Troops now occupy Italian Somaliland, Abyssinia, Eritrea and Syria.

(c) *General Situation.*

German short-term plans have failed. Britain has held out while arming herself. Italy has failed in the Mediterranean and Middle East. The Germans too, have failed in their drive to Suez. Now their armies are struggling on the Russian Front and they face what they dread most of all—the British blockade and a major war on two fronts.

II. BRITAIN

(a) *Britain alone.*

1. No European allies, and Channel ports occupied.

2. B.E.F. has escaped, but without arms. Nation only now aware of its imminent danger and only quarter armed.

3. Continent blockaded, but naval forces seriously deficient—Axis blockading Britain.

4. Invasion expected daily, but Royal Air Force have so far broken up all concentrations of barges.

5. Royal Air Force has established its superiority over the Luftwaffe in quality of men and machines, but is woefully outnumbered in both.

6. America willing to help, but not organized for war production.

(a) *Union is strength.*

1. Allied accessions—Free France, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, Russia, China—all are now united in the fight for freedom. The occupation of the Channel Ports has brought about the Battle of the Atlantic, which Germany is now starting to lose.

2. Britain has held out. The danger remains, but she will soon be fully armed. The danger which was serious in 1940, Britain can take in her stride in 1941, and still despatch troops to other theatres of war.

3. The blockade of the Continent is still maintained, and is now tighter than ever. Its effects in Germany are becoming daily more apparent. The Axis has never blockaded Britain; it has only sunk a portion of the goods coming to Britain. The fighting efficiency of the nation is increasing every day.

4. Invasion has never materialized as, through the constant watch of the Royal Air Force, the enemy has never been able to complete his preparations.

5. The Royal Air Force's superiority over Luftwaffe has been steadily maintained. Now the discrepancy in strength is being rapidly made up, and Germany herself is being subjected to sustained bombing, heavier than anything of which the Luftwaffe have been capable over England. The initiative, in fact, is now with the Royal Air Force.

6. America is now committed to all help to Britain short of war, while President Roosevelt and other leaders have stated their certainty of a British victory. Details of the active help received, are 50 destroyers, President Roosevelt's election, the Atlantic Patrol, and the despatch of troops to Iceland. The great fear of the German nation is now the increasing material support which America is sending to Britain, and the possibility that America herself will enter the war. American industry is now organized for war production.

II. BRITAIN

1940

(b) *The Future.*

1. If Britain can hold out till the Autumn, Hitler's great chance will have gone.

2. People of Britain united as never before, and determined to resist to the end.

3. Entire nation inspired by the heroic exploits of the Royal Air Force.

4. The Empire rapidly mobilizing.

5. Britain still controls the seas, particularly the Mediterranean.

6. Egypt held, and the Italians preparing a multiple offensive in Africa. Loss of British Somaliland regarded as temporary.

(c) *General Situation.*

Judged by German successes in the Low Countries and France, the outlook for Britain seemed bleak. The Nation, however, was confident of its ability to hold out and already the effects of sea power were beginning to hinder Axis plans.

1941

(b) *What has transpired.*

1. Hitler's great chance has gone. He must now face a long war.

2. The people of Britain and of the Empire are united in one great determined effort to kill Nazism and restore freedom to the world. London, always the economic centre of the world, is now the centre of the world-wide fight for freedom.

3. These exploits now inspire all the free peoples of the world. The Royal Air Force is fighting in many theatres of war, and wherever it fights its quality in men and material tells. This has been particularly the case in operations in Africa.

4. The Empire is still mobilizing, and will be fully mobilized by the Spring of 1942.

5. British control of the seas has only been seriously disputed in the Atlantic. There has never been any doubt that despite all the enemy's efforts, this control is supreme.

6. The British offensive in Africa took the Italians by surprise. Despite their inferiority in numbers of one to three; the British forces have overrun Eritrea, Abyssinia, and regained British Somaliland. They have the initiative on the Egyptian frontier. By British action in Syria and the rapid disposal of the revolt in Iraq, the security of India and the Middle East was assured, while Britain's boundaries now adjoin those of her ally Turkey. The British navy is in control throughout the Mediterranean despite the Italian navy and the Axis occupation of the Baltic and Crete.

(c) *General Situation.*

There are critical days ahead in Russia, and the vast Nazi war machine, although now suffering continual blows, is still intact. There will be no peace in Europe until this machine has been destroyed. But British sea power imprisons Hitler in Europe, while the Royal Air Force bombers German towns and industries. Britain still has no place for complacency, but armed as she is to-day, and with Allies fighting in the cause of Freedom, the outlook is no longer bleak; a degree of optimism is even justified.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 4—10, 1941

WHERE TO DRAW THE STALIN LINE

" Declarations made by Moscow about the unbreakable wall of the Stalin Line are forgotten now. Cyril Lakin in a B.B.C. talk declared the Stalin Line comparable to the technical wonders of the Maginot Line."—(*German news in English, August* 10).

The first mention of the Stalin Line in any Russian report occurred on Aug. 9. As for the B.B.C. commentators, Cyril Lakin has been in agreement with his colleagues, Major Hastings (who said on July 10 that the Russians " are not so fatuous as to tie themselves up to the rigid defence of a 1,400 mile inferior Maginot "), and J. B. McGeachy (who said on June 23 and repeated on Aug. 9 that " there is no Stalin Line comparable with France's Maginot Line").

It is the Nazis themselves who attempted to picture the Stalin as a towering obstacle. On July 7 they called it a " modern fortification system, resembling the Siegfried Line " (which Hitler has himself described as " the most gigantic fortress in the world "). On July 13th they claimed to have broken it at decisive points, thus " laying open the roads to Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev."

" Naya Puth, a young Baltic girl, has said : ' I think it is a duty of every civilised man to oppose Bolshevism and save the world from the terrors of Bolshevism '."—(*German news in English, Aug.* 10).

The *Schwarze Korps*, official organ of the Nazi S.S. guards, is more candid. " It is absolutely wrong," it wrote on July 17, " to assume that Germany is fighting Russia to save Europe from Bolshevism. We are not fighting to save culture, or civilization, or democracy, but simply to save Germany."

THE GOEBBELS' GAG

" The Norwegian newspaper *North Telegram Bureau*, commenting on the special communiqués published yesterday, states that the successes attained in the East are of extensive historical importance (*German news in English, Aug.* 7).

Instructions (captured at Lofoten) from the Press Division of the Reichscommissar in Norway are sufficient comment :

" The foremost task of the Press is to be an instrument of political leadership . . . It must consequently publish only such news as is designed to further the policy of the German Reich."

" Editors must give full support to measures taken in Norwegian domestic politics."

" Control of the newspapers must also extend to advertising space."

" The confidence of American correspondents has been grossly misused for British propaganda purposes. . . They have made a laughing stock of themselves. . . In Germany such methods of meddling or misleading foreign journalists are unnecessary. Twice a day they are informed about the situation on various fronts. They have full liberty of movement in Germany, and can enjoy regular tours through the occupied territory."—(*German news in English, Aug.* 6.)

The distinguished American journalist Quentin Reynolds observes : " Most of us have worked in Germany and France. After the rigid tyrannical censorship of these countries, the British Censorship is very mild. We can express any opinions and criticise anyone we want."

HITLER AND ISLAM

" The Mufti of Zagreb states that the Muslim subjects of Herzegovina and Bosnia are happy at their deliverance. In helping the Croats to form a national home, the Germans have proved to the world that Germany really wants to liberate the small states."—(*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 8.)

" The British domination of Syria is a serious drain on the economic resources of the country. The British forces in the country are exploiting its wealth to the extreme."—(*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 8.)

" Have our respected listeners marked the extent of British tyranny and high-handedness in Iraq? This is apparently to crush the Arab spirit of freedom."—(*German news in Persian and Arabic.*)

The Mussalmans of Croatia saw for themselves what Hilter's " liberation " amounts to. " When Hitler let loose his Huns in Yugoslavia," says Mahmoud-el-Hashimi in the Egyptian paper *Wafd-el-Masri*, " Muslim towns and villages were among the worst sufferers. Sarajevo's beautiful mosque was razed to the ground. To-day all is sullen and silent in that Muslim town."

The Egyptian paper *Al Shoola* compares the British entry into Syria, bringing food and supplies for the inhabitants, with the arrival of the German Minister, Grobba, who left Iraq with two sacks of gold.

Have our respected listeners marked that Britain is not ruling in Iraq at all and that the Madfai Government exercises full authority in every sphere of administration? Indian troops passing through Iraq see daily evidence of Iraqi independence which gives the lie to all such Nazi allegations.

SWASTIKA OVER SOUTH AMERICA

NAZI DESIGNS REVEALED

Prompt measures by several states of Central and South Ameria to deal with Nazi attempts to destroy them from within have set an example to all countries threatened by Hitler's fifth column.

They have also caused the Berlin radio to break out in furious denunciations of the precautions taken and in protestations of German innocence.

Established facts prove the guilt of the Nazis. In the following passages they are condemned out of their own mouths :—

" If ever there was a place where democracy is senseless and suicidal, it is in South America. . . We must send our people out to them. . . Audacious youth is what we want "—*Hitler in conversation with an S.A. leader*, 1933, *reported by his former colleague Dr. Rauschnigg, who was present.*—(" *Hitler Speaks,*" *by Hermann Rauschnigg.*)

" We shall create a new Germany in Brazil. . . We shall not land troops like William the Conqueror and gain Brazil by the strength of arms. Our weapons are not visible ones."—*Ibid.*

" The Argentine and Bolivia are in the first line of interest."—*Ibid.*

" If we had Mexico we should solve all our difficulties. . . With the treasure of Mexican soil Germany would be rich and great."—*Hitler to Dr. Rauschnigg in* 1934 (" *Hitler Speaks,*" *by Hermann Rauschnigg*).

" It must be strongly stigmatised that such idiot states should here have the same rights and the same voting powers as Germany and Italy. Just imagine it—Cuba, Uruguay, Bolivia—how should I know all their names These idiots of South Americans. . . What sort or species of humanity have those fellows got, compared with cultured peoples like Germans and Italians? And that creatures like that should have equal rights!"—*Dr. Ley, Nazi Labour Leader, at the International Labour Conference of* 1933, *reported in " Das Neue Tagebuch," Paris,* 1933.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 12th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 6, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on aerodrome near Cherbourg; escorted convoy off Dutch coast (1 merchantman sunk).	1 day fighter. 1 day bomber.	6 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim**; **Frankfurt-am-Main**; **Karlsruhe**; docks at Calais.	1 night fighter. 8 night bombers.	1 night fighter.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on aerodrome in Norway; shipping off Norwegian coast (supply ship sunk).		
	R.A.F. offensive night fighter patrols over N. France, including attacks on aerodromes.		
August 7, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on aerodrome near St. Omer; docks and shipping at Gravelines.	10 day fighters.	7 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on armament factories at **Essen**; railway yards and industrial targets at **Hamm** and **Dortmund**; docks at Boulogne.	4 night bombers.	
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on shipping off Dutch coast (2 merchantmen hit); aerodromes and other targets in Denmark.		
	R.A.F. night bomber-and-fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.		
August 8, Friday.	(No reports of day light operations—bad weather.)		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel** and other objectives in N. W. Germany.	4 night bombers.	
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on two supply ships in Norwegian fjord north of Bergen.		
August 9, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France.	10 day fighters.	18 day fighters.
	(No reports of night operations—bad weather.)		
August 10, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on shipping off French coast (1 supply ship afire).	2 day bombers. 1 day fighter.	1 day fighter.
	(No reports of night operations—bad weather.)		
August 11, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France including attacks on enemy shipping.	3 day fighters.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Krefeld** and **Rheydt** (near Dusseldorf); **Munchen-Gladbach**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Rotterdam.		
	R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France and Holland. **(Fourth night bomber raid on Berlin by Russian Air Force since August 7.)**	..	..

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 12, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on power station near Gosnay (Pas de Calais); railways near St. Omer.	12 day bombers. 8 day fighters.	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. day bomber raids on Quadrath and Knapsack power stations in **Cologne**; docks at Emden; aerodrome at De Kooy.		
	R.A.F. bomber-and-fighter dusk raid on shipbuilding yards at Le Trait.	..	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Berlin**; **Essen**; **Magdeburg**; **Hanover**; Cologne; Kiel; Bremen; Osnabruck; Stettin; Duisburg-Ruhrort; aerodromes in Holland; docks at Le Havre.	13 night bombers.	

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 12th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
August 6	Nil.	2 night bombers.
August 7	Nil.	..
August 8	Nil.	1 day fighter.
August 9	Nil.	..
August 10	Nil.	..
August 11	Nil.	..
August 12	Nil.	..

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

15th Aug.—Over 300 bombers took part in heavy raids by the Royal Air Force on industrial targets and communications at Hanover, Brunswick, and Magdeburg.

Enemy air activity over Britain was slight but an unidentified plane over Dublin was fired on by ground defences.

16th Aug.—"Fortress" aircraft of the Royal Air Force bombed Brest while other planes carried out offensive sweeps over Northern France. A patrol vessel was bombed and set on fire off the coast of Holland. Nineteen enemy planes were shot down.

Single enemy aircraft dropped bombs in North-east Scotland.

17th Aug.—Cologne, Dusseldorf and Duisberg were heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force as also docks at Rotterdam and Ostend.

Slight damage was caused by German raiders in the Midlands area.

18th Aug.—Over a hundred Royal Air Force bombers raided Germany, the chief objectives being the port of Bremen and industrial districts of Duisberg. The town of Lille in Occupied France was also bombed.

The German Radio announced, after the Royal Air Force raid on Bremen, that the Admiral Reich Commissar of Bremen Harbour was killed at sea off that port.

German bombers raided Hull in north-east England.

19th Aug.—Cologne and Duisberg were bombed by the Royal Air Force as also the docks at Dunkirk. Three German patrol vessels were bombed and sunk off the Dutch coast.

Russian planes, operating from the Baltic, raided towns in northern Germany. Berlin was also attacked.

Enemy raids were on a small scale and confined to the east coast of Scotland.

20th Aug.—Kiel and other objectives in north-western Germany were attacked by the Royal Air Force, also an enemy aerodrome in Holland. Coastal shipping off Ostend and a railway yard at Hazebruck were attacked by fighter squadrons.

Only two casualties were caused in a German raid on a south-east coast town in England.

21st Aug.—British bomber and fighter aircraft attacked industrial targets and railway communications in Northern France and Holland. Several enemy fighters were destroyed and a supply ship sunk, also two E-boats.

Soviet planes raided Berlin and caused a number of fires.

A single enemy raider dropped a high-explosive bomb at an East Anglian town. There were no casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

15th Aug.—The Corinth Canal was bombed and rendered unusable by Royal Air Force bombers. The aerodrome at Heraklion (Crete), the submarine base at Augusta (Sicily) the harbour at Syracuse and enemy military depots at Wolchefit (Abyssinia) were also bombed.

Enemy planes raided Cyprus twice, causing a few civilian casualties.

16th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm made highly successful attacks on enemy ships in the Mediterranean. Two ships of 6,000 and 3,000 tons respectively in a convoy as well as an escorting destroyer were sunk. Two enemy ships were also sunk by a Netherlands submarine.

The Italian High Command admitted severe damage in a British air raid on Catania (Sicily).

17th Aug.—An Italian communiqué again admitted very heavy raids by the Royal Air Force on the Sicilian bases of Catania and Syracuse as well as Bardia, Derna and Benghazi in Libya.

18th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm raided Syracuse and Cap Passaro while the South African Air Force bombed the last remaining enemy concentrations in Abyssinia.

Enemy bombing and British patrol activity were reported from Tobruk.

19th Aug.—Half of an enemy convoy—five large merchantships and a tanker, escorted by six destroyers—were sunk in the Mediterranean, beached or set on fire by the Fleet Air Arm.

The Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force bombed Tripoli, Benghazi and objectives in Abyssinia.

Three enemy bombers were shot down while attempting to raid Malta.

Field Marshal Smuts, on his return to South Africa from Egypt, expressed confidence in the successful outcome of the struggle in the Middle East.

20th Aug.—British and Empire Air Forces raided Tripoli and other Libyan bases.

21st Aug.—Enemy planes raided Cyprus and the Suez Canal area, causing a few civilian casualties.

It was reported that Vichy was negotiating a treaty with Germany by which military and naval bases in Africa as well as in France would be available to Germany.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

15th Aug.—The Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration was warmly welcomed by the Dominion and Allied Governments.

16th Aug.—Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, in a talk at New York stated that Britain had no need for United States man-power to win the war.

Mr. Stimson, United States War Secretary, as well as Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, warned their fellow-countrymen against German designs in South America.

President Roosevelt, on landing at Rockland (Maine) from his cruise, said that he and Mr. Churchill had reached complete agreement on all aspects of the war situation. He did not think that United States was any closer towards entering the conflict.

It was revealed that Mr. Churchill had handed over to President Roosevelt a letter from His Majesty the King and had taken a reply.

17th Aug.—President Roosevelt on his return to Washington conferred with Mr. Cordell Hull.

18th Aug.—President Roosevelt conferred with Mr. Cordell Hull for nearly two hours and a half. The President later called into consultation key-men in Congress connected with foreign affairs and was reported to have impressed on them that Russia could hold out indefinitely against the Nazis.

19th Aug.—Mr. Roosevelt announced that delivery of aircraft to the British forces in the Middle East would be speeded up by a "ferry" service to West Africa.

The President signed the Army Service Extension Bill.

Lord Beaverbrook conferred with Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Harry Hopkins (United States Lease and Lend Administrator) on the question of expediting American war supplies.

20th Aug.—The Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mackenzie King, arrived in Britain for discussions with the British Government.

Heavy United States shipments of aviation fuel to Russia were reported in a San Francisco message.

Mr. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labour, said that the Federation was 100 per cent behind President Roosevelt and that Labour had a vital stake in winning the war against the Dictators, viz., the defence of free Trade Unions.

A German twin-engined bomber was chased out by British fighters when it attempted to raid Reykjavik, Iceland's capital.

21st Aug.—President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, reported on his meeting with Mr. Churchill and said that there would be no compromise with Nazism.

Mr. Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, stated that the United States was ready to lend money to Russia to finance war purchases.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

15th Aug.—While the Germans claimed to have encircled the Black Sea port of Odessa, the Russians reported stern resistance to the invader along the whole front from the White Sea to the Black Sea.

M. Stalin accepted the joint proposal put forward by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, that high British and American representatives should meet him in Moscow to discuss the allocation of war supplies to Russia.

A Polish-Russian Military Agreement was signed in Moscow.

16th Aug.—Fighting intensified as the Soviet offered determined resistance to Hitler's all-out effort to force a decision in Russia before winter set in.

While a few Nazi air-raiders managed to reach Moscow, Soviet planes bombed Berlin and Stettin. Many fires and explosions were caused and all Soviet planes returned safe.

17th Aug.—While the Finns claimed the capture of Sorbavalla, north-east of Lake Ladoga, the Germans announced the capture of Nikolayev and Kirovograd in the Ukraine. But it was evident that Marshal Budenny had safely withdrawn his troops towards the Dnieper and also that the Nazi offensive was slowing down owing to fierce resistance by the Russians. Many German regiments were reported to have been annihilated.

An Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement was signed in Moscow, providing for supplies of considerable quantities of British goods to Russia as well as Soviet goods to the United Kingdom.

18th Aug.—On the northern front the Germans resumed their thrust towards Leningrad. In the south the Germans captured the iron-ore centre of Krivoirog, the Russians falling back to the Dnieper. Fierce fighting raged on the entire front and many German regiments were smashed up. The Russians not only broke up a raid on Moscow but also bombed Berlin and Constanza.

19th Aug.—The German High Command claimed to have occupied the entire region west of the Dnieper and to have captured or put

out of action several Russian warships and transport vessels in the Black Sea. The Russians evacuated the town of Kingisepp in the Leningrad sector but both Marshal Voroshilov in the north and Marshal Budenny in the south, while retreating in orderly fashion, exacted a bloody price from the enemy for his territorial advance.

20th Aug.—Stubborn fighting was reported in the directions of Novogorod and Gomel. The Germans attacked bridgeheads on the Dnieper.

21st Aug.—A German communiqué announced the occupation of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper. It was reported that the Russians had blown up the dam over the river at Dniepropetrovsk, releasing tons of swirling water to check the German advance.

Marshal Voroshilov made a dramatic appeal to the people to defend Leningrad to the last man.

Rumanian newspapers wrote significantly of " Transnistria " on the other side of the old frontier with Russia and of " deliverance " for Rumanian nationals in Russia.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, SYRIA, IRAN, ETC.

15th Aug.—A contingent of Allied officer-prisoners taken to France during the Syrian campaign was returned by the French authorities.

17th Aug.—While the Press in Teheran denied reports that certain foreign agents were hatching a plot against the Iranian Government, it was reported in London that the British and Soviet Governments had *made a demarche* to Iran, repeating their recommendation that effective measures should be taken forthwith to reduce the excessively large number of Germans in the country.

18th Aug.—Iraqi army officers, suspected of complicity in the Rashid Ali revolt, were placed on the retired list.

21st Aug.—H. M. the Shah called on the Iranian army to be ready for every sacrifice. He announced that the cadets passing out of the Military Academy at Teheran would not have their usual annual leave.

SHIPPING

15th Aug.—Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, answering a question whether the American Navy had been forced to do any shooting in patrolling the waters between the United States and Iceland, said " Not a shot has been fired, not an Axis flag sighted."

16th Aug.—Speaking at the launching ceremony of the first of 60 freighters for Britain, Rear-Admiral Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, said that the aim of the United States was " Two ships every day for the next two years."

The German steamer *Nordeny* (3,667 tons) and the Italian steamer *Stilla* (4,272 tons) were intercepted by British patrols while carrying valuable war supplies.

19th Aug.—It was officially estimated that the total enemy tonnage lost (captured, sunk or scuttled) up to August 18, was 4,007,000, comprising German 2,321,000, Italian, 1,533,000, Finnish 34,000 and other ships useful to the enemy 1,19,000. The enemy had lost, since 6th June, 796,000 tons.

The Japanese Government decided to exercise state control of shipping.

The Admiralty announced that the British submarine Cachalot was overdue and must be considered lost. It was learnt that the entire crew had been rescued and were prisoners of war.

21st Aug.—It was revealed that the Atlantic was slowly but surely being cleared of German submarines and surface-raiders and that convoys were going to Britain in increasing numbers and in perfect safety. The United States Department of Agriculture announced the purchase of a huge quantity of food-stuffs to be transported to Britain.

THE FAR EAST

16th Aug.—It was disclosed that the Japanese Government had refused to grant clearence papers for the American liner *President Coolidge* if it sought to remove the hundred private citizens now in Japan in addition to American official personnel.

Japanese naval planes again bombed Chungking and other Chinese towns.

The British Minister to Thailand stated that His Majesty's Government had presented no demands of any kind whatsoever to the Thailand Government.

Mr. Cordell Hull declined to comment on the London report that as the result of the Churchill-Roosevelt conference, the United States was expected to become " the chief guardian of the Pacific."

17th Aug.—His Excellency Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, described as " a typical flight of fancy," the Japanese report that he had threatened Thailand with the use of force.

Japan opened new trade talks with the Netherlands East Indies to end the " freezing " war.

Mr. Frank Grady was appointed Special Economic Investigator for President Roosevelt in order to survey south-east Asia and report as to how raw materials from the Orient could be moved to the Democracies and out of the hands of the Axis powers.

18th Aug.—A second detachment of Japanese troops was reported to have embarked at Saigon.

The Thailand Minister in Tokyo interviewed the Japanese Foreign Minister.

The Batavia Radio denied the Japanese report that trade talks were proceeding between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies.

19th Aug.—A spokesman of the Japanese Information Board said that Japan could not remain indifferent to the supply of American war materials to Russia by way of Vladivostock.

An authoritative statement issued in London contradicted rumours of negotiations for a barter trade agreement between Great Britain and Japan.

Cabinet changes were announced in Thailand, Lieut.-Gen. Luang Prom Yothi being made Minister of Defence.

21st Aug.—It was announced that representives of Manchukuo and Mongolia would meet at Harbin on September 22, to sign a final frontier agreement.

VICHY

15th Aug.—General de Gaulle appointed General le Gentilhomme as Commander-in-Chief of the Free French forces in Africa and General de Larminat as Second in Command to General Catroux in Syria and the Lebanon.

16th Aug.—A New decree of the Vichy Government ordered every citizen of France to take the Oath of Allegiance to Marshal Petain and not to France.

Broadcasting from Beirut, General de Gaulle replied to Marshal Petain's plea for collaboration with the Axis and said that Free France would fight on for revenge, greatness and freedom.

A " T for Traitor " campaign was inaugurated by Free French broadcasters in order to enable the population of France to deal severely with Quislings and time-servers.

18th Aug.—Admiral Darlan arrived in Paris for a conversation with the German occupation authorities.

19th Aug.—Marshal Petain, appealing to the Council of State to give him their undivided support, said, " You are either for me or against me."

20th Aug.—The Vichy Ambassador to U.S.A. called on Mr. Cordell Hull " to relieve apprehensions regarding signs of closer collaboration between Vichy and the Nazis."

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

15th Aug.—The Polish Government in London decided to send an Ambassador to Moscow.

16th Aug.—The German authorities decreed that all Netherlands Provinces and Municipalities shall lose their autonomy and function under specially appointed officers.

19th Aug.—The Tass Agency reported a large uprising of Albanian nationalists which greatly alarmed the Italians.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

17th Aug.—The majority group in the Mexican Senate urged the restoration of diplomatic relations with Britain which had been suspended from May 1938 following the dispute over the expropriation of the British-owned oil fields by the Mexican Government.

The Mexican Government were reported to be proceeding with the immediate construction of a railway across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in order to safeguard against the possibility of the Panama Canal being rendered unusable by an enemy.

Slight changes were announced in the Eire Cabinet.

20th Aug.—Mr. Frank McDermott, Eire Senator, said it was essential for the future of Ireland that Britain should not be defeated and indicated that air and naval bases in Eire must be made available to the British.

An unconfirmed report stated that Von Thermann, German Ambassador to Argentina, had been replaced owing to " recent blunders."

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The event of the week is the joint military action taken by Russia and Great Britain in Iran (Persia) owing to the refusal of the Iran Government to eject the Germans who are in key positions in industry and commerce, the resignation of the Ministry, followed by the formation of a new Ministry and the order to "cease fire" issued by the Iranian Government. The two Governments concerned sent their forces into Iran merely as a security measure. They have specifically stated that they will observe the integrity and independence of Iran and they have no territorial aims in that country.

Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador in the United States, has returned to England and he will stay there for about three weeks, during which time he will attend meetings of the War Cabinet of which he is a member.

The war in Russia is proceeding all along the line and Soviet troops are putting up stiff resistance. The threat to Leningrad from the west and the south has been held at Kingisepp near Narva and at Novogorod, the latter of which is reported to have been evacuated. The citizens of Leningrad have been armed and trained for defence and they are ready to meet any adventure on the part of the Nazis. Leningrad is determined not to give way and it is now an armed camp. It is stated that while the Dnieper dam has been blown up, Dniepropetrovsk has been evacuated.

Russia has placed orders in the United States for war materials totalling 200 million pounds, of which 10 per cent will be delivered in the next few weeks. It is clear that Russia is preparing for a long war and there is a plan for transporting tanks by air.

According to Moscow, German losses in the first two months of the Russo-German war were 8,000 tanks, 10,000 guns, 7,200 aeroplanes and 2 million men in killed, wounded and prisoners. The Soviet losses are 5,500 tanks, 7,500 guns, 4,500 aircraft and 700,000 men. The most significant development is that the German advance is likely to be stayed owing to severe rain.

It is revealed that 190 Allied ships are now fighting side by side with the British Navy. As for merchant tonnage which the Allies have brought to the common cause, the following figures are interesting: Dutch, 480 ships (2,250,000 tons); Norwegians, 720 ships (3,250,000 tons); French, 92 ships (4,00,000 tons); Belgians, 54 ships (2,00,000 tons); Greeks, 240 ships (one million tons); Poles, 32 ships (1,00,000 tons).

The month of July has been a favourable one so far as Allied shipping losses are concerned.

A voice delivering an anti-Nazi speech in German broke into Saturday night's musical programme broadcast by the Deutschlandsender station in Germany. The voice said: "Against Hitler stands the greatest industrial power of the world—the United States. Against Hitler stands the greatest sea power in the world—Great Britain. Against Hitler stands the greatest land force in the world—the Soviet Union. How then can Hitler hope to win this war? I tell you, Hitler will bring nothing but sorrow upon you. Then destroy Hitler and make an end of this senseless war."

A Geneva report quoted by the Moscow Radio says that, in order to meet the growing resistance in Belgium, the Germans have

twice proposed that King Leopold should return to the throne, but each time he declined, He has thus refused to become a "Belgian Laval."

The Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the United States has stated that if the Vichy Government permitted German control of Martinique or other French territory in the Western hemisphere, America will seize that island or any such territory and hold it by armed force.

Mr. Roosevelt has decided to send a military mission to China, thus demonstrating how America views Japanese aggression. The move has been warmly welcomed in China.

Striking evidence of the existence of acute discontent in France and of the growing resentment against the Vichy Government is afforded by the fact that shots were fired at Pierre Laval, notorious for his pro-German sympathies, and at Marcel Deat, the socialist leader who broke with M. Blum. Their condition is reported ot be not very serious.

Mr. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister, has resigned because his colleagues had told him that he was unpopular with a large section of the Press and the people. Mr. A. F. Fadden, leader of the Country Party, has been elected Prime Minister.

THE FAR EAST

The situation in the Far East has, to all appearances, not deteriorated. The United States Government have been labouring, as Mr. Churchill announced in his broadcast speech, with infinite patience to arrive at a fair and amicable settlement which will give Japan the utmost reassurance for her legitimate interests and so there is a possibility oi relaxation of the present tension. Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador in Washington has conferred with Mr. Roosevelt after delivering a personal message from the Japanese Premier and it is said that there will be a series of conferences between the representatives of Japan and the United States on all the outstanding questions.

Thailand is alert. Allegations persist in the Japanese radio that Thailand has received demands for bases from Britain and that she has not take any action in connexion with the stationing of British troops in the Thai-Malaya border. Newspapers in Thailand have asked for elucidation as to what really the Japanese want and what the New Order in the Far East means.

Mr. Cordell Hull stated at a Press Conference that the United States views with concern the taking over by Japan of islands in the Pacific to which she is not entitled. America has taken the precautionary measure of mining Manila Bay in the Philippine islands. Meanwhile, British reinforcements have arrived in Malaya. There was a rumour that Great Britain was trying to follow a policy of appeasement towards Japan. This is quite wrong and reports of a barter trade agreement with Japan are evidently Japanese-inspired. The only discussions which are proceeding concern the arrangements for a small clearing account, the main purpose of which is to provide the means of payment to the British consular and diplomatic representatives in Japan. It is a significant fact that, whereas pre-war Anglo-Japanese trade was in the neighbourhood of £17,500,000, the sum now in question is a few thousands. The situation between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies is substantially very similar.

One point worth noticing is that there is increasng suspicion between Japan and Germany and there is increasing recognition of the fact that the Japanese do not want to pull chestnuts out of the fire for Germany. But there is absolutely no relaxation of measures to meet any contingency on the part of Great Britain. The fact is that if Japan wants war in the Pacific she will get it, but neither Britain nor America will provoke it. They are both firm and vigilant and Great Britain is keeping step with America all along the line.

It has been reported that eleven Russian and American tankers have sailed or are about sail with aviation spirit from America to Vladivostock. The reaction of Japan to this step would be a test of Japanese intentions towards Russia, because Japanese spokesmen have stated that cordial relations existed between the two countries. It was recently announced that the demarcation of the 200 miles of disputed frontier between Manchukuo and Outer Mongolia has been accomplished. At the same time one spokesman said that Japan could not remain indifferent to the supply of raw materials to Soviet Russia by way of Vladivostock. If Japan does anything to interrupt the flow of supplies to Vladivostock, that will be a challenge to America as well as to Russia. Russia has told Japan that if she interferes with the flow material to her through Vladivostock so necessary for her campaign against Germany in the West and for her consumption in the East, she would regard that as an unfriendly act. Japan is protesting in spite of the fact that there is a treaty existing and that she has promised to allow Vladivostock to be used by Russia for trade purposes between America and Russia.

AMERICAN HELP

American help is pouring into Great Britain in various directions. As regards the scale of American effort, the following facts may be of interest :—

(1) The President has revealed that America was spending fourteen and a half million pounds a day, almost the equal of Britain's own daily war expenditure, in aid to Britain.

(2) Workers engaged in munitions now number 2,700,000 and this number will swell next summer to 5,800,000.

(3) Machine tools, the importance of which cannot be minimised, are now being produced at the rate of 1,000 a day which is four times the peak figure in the first World War.

(3) The Maritime Commission, which is producing 1,000,000 tons of shipping, plans next year to turn out 5,400,000 tons. This is a higher figure than Britain's losses in 1940 and far greater than American production in 1919 which was 3,580,000 tons.

As regards the volume of help, it may be mentioned that—

(1) aircraft production which last December totalled about 800 is now 1,500 per month;

(2) Britain which received 1,800 aircraft from America throughout 1940, has been receiving this year an average of 500 aircraft per month;

(3) the new Garand rifle is being produced at the rate of one a minute; and

(4) tanks which in June last year were being produced at the rate of 20 per month, have now reached a monthly rate of 390. Production of 26-ton tanks has commenced.

Other measures of assistance are patrols which now extend to more than 1,000 miles from American shores and which have substantially reduced British losses in the Atlantic, the occupation of Iceland, carriage of war materials up the Red Sea and the new African Ferry service just inaugurated which will speed up the delivery of bombers further afield.

There are two factors which should be taken into account in this connexion. The first is that America is still neutral and that the war effort is necessarily tempered by the state of American public opinion. Of course, pure isolationism is not strong, but interventionism is not yet powerful enough to carry the day. There is, however, the fact that a section of opinion which was frankly opposed to President Roosevelt's policy, is now demanding America's immediate entry into the war. The other factor is the American labour situation. There has been some recrudescence of trouble affecting the progressive increase of production. Measures are being taken to stabilize prices and there have been anti-strike agreements which show that both Government and the American public are alive to the need of wise and all-round handling of labour problems.

THE HOUR OF DECISION

Grave and great decisions affecting all parts of the world are about to be made which are likely to transform the range and character of the gigantic struggle now proceeding. This is a war to the death between those who believe in the progressive achievement of happiness and well-being by means of voluntary co-operation on the basis of respect for personality, and those seeking to satisfy the craving inherent in all human beings to perpetuate their own personality by reverting to barbarism. Modern scientific development has placed terrible weapons in the hands of the would-be master race and centrifugal tendencies of the freedom-loving communities have weakened their capacity for corporate advance.

The Germans believe in the possibility of forcing the people of the victimized countries to believe and follow the Nazi ideas. For this purpose Germany desired to break up the Soviet regime within six weeks by marching into Leningrad and Moscow and taking hold of the oil fields and the products of Ukraine. The swift crippling of Russia's industrial power, followed by the renewal of the northern threat to Iraq and Iran, to Suez and India, was the fulcrum of a world-wide operation designed to secure victory before the winter. The situation in Ukraine is somewhat confused, but everywhere else it is under control. The Germans have in no way succeded in breaking Russian resistance. Any possibility of a drive in the Russian left flank by successive landings along the Black Sea coast, culminating in a seaborne invasion of Trans-Caucasia, is not likely to succeed in view of the superior Russian naval forces in the Black Sea. German air ascendancy over that part of the Black Sea is not very sound, because land fronts which are necessary have not been acquired. Neither is Turkey likely to allow Italian warships through the Dardanelles. A seaborne invasion of the Caucasus, preceded by a combined operation against the Crimea, would require certain facilities to be granted by Turkey, particularly the use of Trebizond, but these facilities will not be given by Turkey. Therefore, it is unlikely that operations by way of the Black Sea will materialize in the near future.

A success in the Ukraine at this time would be invaluable to the Germans as a lever to push hesitant Vichy France and hesitant Japan into the world war on Germany's side. Of course, unoccupied France has been systematically Nazified. The police has been reorganized on Gestapo lines and by Gestapo officials. Concentration camps have been set up for foreigners and there is fear of the police everywhere. Of course, one result of this terrible state of things is that resentment is growing and there have been accounts of demonstrations and rioting in Unoccupied France. Whatever Darlan might have agreed to do, Marshal Petain and General Weygand do not desire to wound the susceptibilities of the United States. It is just possible that the Germans might have been allowed the use of Bizerta port which would strengthen the sea line communication between Sicily and Libya and would also open Tunisia to German forces. As Casablanca and Dakar are of importance to America, it is possible

that nothing would be done in the immediate future to hand them over to Germany. So far as Japan is concerned there is still deep suspicion and distrust between Tokyo and Berlin and it may well be that Japan will think not twice but many times before obeying German dictation. All these may be transformed by a German victory in Southern Russia. Germany may use just that point for a German peace offensive, but the Red Army has reserves in that sector and a decisive result which is essential for the German world-wide plans is unlikely. In the meantime, British, American and Soviet co-operation is building an anti-Axsis front which is as extensive in its range and infinitely more solid than the combination of mutually distrustful powers planned in Berlin.

Therefore, the hour of vital decision has come in Washington, Tokyo, Vichy and Ankara. One hopes that, though Russian and British forces have entered Iran, Teheran will realize even at this stage the folly of her ways and send out the German fifth-columnists. This seems probable because H.M. the Shah of Persia has ceased hostilities against Great Britain and Russia.

RAIN IN RUSSIA

Two things have come to pass which are each bound to have an enormous effect on the German campaign in Russia. The first is the entry into the war of Russia's allies—rain and mud. Reuter's Special Correspondent in Moscow says that Russian roads have become bogged in heavy rain and that movements of tanks across country are unlikely for the present, either on the soft soil of the Ukraine or in the marshy country around Leningrad.

The second event of importance is the entry of British and Russian troops into Iran in order to nip German intrigue in the bud. The immediate consequence of the British advance through Iran will ensure the close co-operation of Russia and Great Britain in an extension of the war front and one which is geographically not difficult to maintain. With British controls stretching eastwards from Egypt through Palestine and Syria to Iraq, it goes without saying that a continuous front with Russians will soon be established in Iran and so on into the Caucasus—a front which will support and strengthen Turkey against Nazi threats and Nazi aggression. Moreover, behind this new front will lie secure supply lines up the Red Sea into Syria and Turkey and up the Persian Gulf *via* Baghdad and Mosul to Turkey and also into the Caucasus and Southern Russia from Basrah, Bushire and Bandarappan through Teheran and Tabriz. If Iran had been left under Nazi influence, all these supply lines would have been endangered and possibly, before very long, would have been cut. These vital lines of supply through the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf lead back to supplies not only from India but also from Australia, from the East Indies, and right back to both the Americas. In a word, direct link will soon be established with the Russian Allies and that material assistance which the Russians require can now reasonably be guaranteed.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

And Mr. Churchill, in his memorable broadcast earlier this week, had said, "Now Hitler is striking at Russia with all his might, well knowing the difficulties of geography which stand between Russia and the aid which the Western Democracies are trying to bring. We shall strive our utmost to overcome all difficulties and to bring this aid. No barrier must stand in the way."

Meanwhile, the Germans do not seem to have it all their own way in the military operations on the long front from the Baltic to the Black Sea. In the north, no doubt, the Russians have evacuated Kexholm but only, it seems, after setting fire to and destroying everything likely to be of value to the enemy. The threat to Leningrad from the west and the south appears to have been held at Kingisepp though Novogorod has been evacuated by the Russians. Soviet "pockets" of resistance are reported to be threatening the German lines in the sector between Lake Peipus and Lake Ilmen. And Leningrad itself is now an armed camp, where Marshal Voroshilov is following Mr. Churchill's directions as regards the defence of Britain; every house is to be a fortress, every street a battlefield.

In the central sector, the notable event this week has been the great couner-offensive launched by General Koniev in the Smolensk area. Many enemy positions have been quickly captured, and bloody losses inflicted on the Germans. Marshal Timoshenko has issued a special Order of the Day, congratulating the Red Army units on having "inflicted a major defeat on the enemy." The Russian successes here will have the effect of drawing off a part of the German troops from the other sectors and affording relief especially to Marshal Budenny in the south. Indeed, it is already reported that the Germans have dug in here, much in the fashion that prevailed in the Great War. A big German push is meanwhile under way at Gomel which, if it succeeds in its eastward thrust, may cut in between the Russian Army of the Centre under Marshal Timoshenko and the Russian Army of the south under Marshal Budenny. To counter this threat the Russians are stated to be rushing reinforcements from Orel and Kursk towards Gomel.

In the south, the Germans claim to have captured the bridgehead at Cherkassy as well as the bridgehead and town of Dniepropetrovsk on the Dnieper but all indications are that, while Marshal Budenny has withdrawn his main body safely across the river to defend the

(*Continued on Page* 10)

TWO YEARS OF WAR

BRITAIN'S GROWING STRENGTH

Nearly two years ago, to be precise, on 1st September 1939, in the half-light of early dawn, the German army marched into Poland. To-day, after two years of stupendous events, frontiers have vanished; free nations have been murdered; free peoples have been enslaved; a *blitz* that started in Eastern Europe, in Polish towns with unpronounceable names, has now (in the words of *The New York Times*) brought its trail of fire to the frozen Arctic and the African deserts. "There is no telling how soon it can be checked; how many millions must die in the process; how much destruction to things and institutions it may cause before it is over. Already, the American people can see the flames licking at their comfortable and sheltered world."

Looking back on the situation a year ago, we can understand what Mr. Churchill meant when he said recently, "See how far we have travelled." The fury of the first German attack conquered Poland in 18 days, with a combination of air power and mechanised weapons on land; it crushed Denmark and Norway in the spring of 1940 with a fiendish combination of sea power and air power and treachery planted under the very guns of the British Navy. It struck down Holland and Belgium by a marvellously co-ordinated use of all the weapons at Germany's disposal. In the end even France was crushed by the supreme German effort of all—France, whose army had been thought the best in the world, France, who felt herself so secure behind her western fortresses that she did not trouble to fortify her Belgian frontier or provide herself with more than five mechanized divisions.

HITLER'S PLANS FRUSTRATED.

August 15, 1940, was the date on which Hitler expected to dictate, from London itself, his terms of peace to a broken Europe; yet Britain stood. On that very 15th of August, the Royal Air Force destroyed 180 planes of the raiding German air force and went on to win the titanic Battle of London. Checked in his ambition, Hitler broke into the Balkans. Soon Greece, which had valiantly beaten back Mussolini's hordes, was overrun, no less than Yugoslavia which, under the guidance of young King Peter and his Premier, General Simovitch, decided to resist the German aggression. But Italy soon lost her East African Empire and her armies in Abyssinia and Somaliland were liquidated by the British Imperial Forces. The Red Sea, cleared of enemy shipping, is now a channel for the American supplies for the Middle East. British forces are actively defending the Egyptian frontier. Though Britain has had to yield to the Germans—who had managed to sneak into Libya by hugging the French African coast—much of the Libyan territory conquered from the Italians, owing to diversion of her forces to help Greece, the Germans have been definitely halted at the Egyptian frontier. And Tobruk remains a thorn on the German side. In Iran, Iraq and Syria, Axis attempts to open a way to the Persian Gulf and to India have been frustrated. From the Turko-Syrian to the Egypto-Libyan border, the defence of the Middle East is uninterrupted. And the British Navy commands the Mediterranean, while the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force range the sky above.

Chief among the other changes is, of course, the German campaign in Russia, the economic collaboration between the two countries having given way to a bitter struggle along a 2,000 miles front, from the Arctic to the Black Sea, which, in ten weeks, has neither brought the German armies to any of their main objectives nor disorganized the Russian resistance. It has, on the other hand, brought the Polish and Russian peoples together. The Royal Air Force raids Germany and the occupied countries of Europe not only by night but by day in a mounting offensive, bringing hope of deliverance to the conquered people, while German raids on Britain have for some time been reduced to insignificant proportions.

AMERICAN HELP TO BRITAIN.

Depending for food and raw materials on overseas supplies, Britain has not only held out but increased her war-production, and America has now became the Arsenal of Democracy, to quote the words of the President of the United States who has just met the British Prime Minister in mid-Atlantic and joined in a proclamation of the war and peace aims of the Democracies. The Americans are in Iceland, patrolling the North Atlantic and determined that nothing shall be allowed to interfere with the supply lines to Britain and the Middle East. The Lease and Lend Bill passed by the American Congress puts the United States' sympathy and admiration for Britain in tangible form. During the past several months, aeroplanes running into thousands made in American factories have been flown or shipped across the Atlantic. These range from the largest Boeing four-engined "Fortress" bombers to the fastest fighters. They are in combat now. A vast programme for building thousands of these giants of the air is far advanced and Hitler will not be able to move his factories far enough to the east to escape their devastating power of destruction. America has already sent several hundred tanks throughout the Empire. Many more are on their way, "Ocean-going ships, many of them oil tankers, have been transferred to Britain," said Mr. Harry Hopkins, who is in charge of

the operations under the Lease and Lend Act. "The greatest merchantship building programme ever undertaken is in progress. Night and day the rivetting never ceases. To-day American-made tanks are caterpillaring over the plains of Mid-Eastern Desert. To-day American-made aeroplanes of every description are roaring into combat wherever the Luftwaffe shows its face. To-day the factories of England are in full production. The machine tools sing a joyous song and part of this symphony of industry comes from American-made machine tools."

AXIS SHIPPING LOSSES

Britain's shipping position shows continuous improvement and the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Alexander, has said this week it is the best since May last year. The Axis shipping losses just published for the five weeks July 12 to August 16 reveal a number of interesting facts. The Axis losses of 616,000 tons were greater than any single month of Allied losses since the war began. The highest Allied figure was 581,000 tons last April, and the average is 320,000 tons a month. The Allied losses for June (the last month for which figures were published) were 324,000 tons, from which it can be seen that Axis monthly losses have now surpassed those of the Allies although the Allies have every day 2,000 ships at sea, of which 200 are in the danger zone. The total Axis shipping losses in the war have now passed the four million mark, which means that they have lost more than half the tonnage with which they set out, not counting the ships seized in United States and other American ports or still sheltering in neutral harbours. The efficiency of the Russian Navy is demonstrated in the news that 200,000 tons of Axis shipping has been sunk in the Baltic and Black Sea.

Indeed, the reversal of the position in the year's warfare is shown by the Germans' own fear of invasion. A year ago, they were threatening what they would do to Britain after invading it, but to-day they are anxiously discussing the possibility of a British invasion of the Continent. The German press has been devoting several columns recently to rumours that Britain is planning to establish a new front in Northern Scandinavia; and German bombers, based on Kirkness in Norway, have redoubled their patrol activities!

WILL THE WAR SPREAD?

The war of 1914–18 was rightly called the World War because every continent was involved. Before its conclusion, Canada, the United States and Brazil were combatants in the American continent. Japan and China joined, Russia making the third great Asiatic power, and Asia Minor, North West and East Africa were all scenes of battle. So that what began as a European war spread to all continents. The present war, as far as land fighting is concerned, has been mainly confined to Europe, owing to the fact that Germany had no overseas colonies or bases. The naval war has been conducted in all the oceans of the world, as is always the case with sea fighting. Until the intervention of Italy provided fields of warfare in Africa, it is broadly true to describe the present war as being fought in Europe. It is from European harbours that German surface raiders and U-boats sail to prey on commerce. It is from European aerodromes that long-range bombers fly to attack merchant shipping. With the exception of the abortive German attempts to involve Iran, Syria and Iraq, Asia has not been a combat zone, as far as the Allied and Axis powers are concerned: for the moment, we may leave out of account the five-year-old hostilities between China and Japan which may, however, merge in the European war if Japan does not restrain her ambition. To become a world war in the true sense of the term, fighting must spread to Asia, the Americas and lands in the Pacific. Is this likely to happen and how can it happen?

If the Japanese forces are moved south from Indo-China to Thailand, this is so serious a threat to Burma and the Malay States that the British Empire is certain to resist such encroachment without delay. The Japanese occupation of Indo-China is (as Lord Strabolgi points out) what may be described as a borderline case. The Vichy Government of France have declared themselves satisfied that French sovereignity over Indo-China is not affected. The case of Thailand would be entirely different. The sovereignity of that independent kingdom would be immediately and directly threatened by a forcible occupation of its territories, ports and aerodromes by Japanese forces.

The defence of Australia and New Zealand hinges on the great fortress and naval base of Singapore. Neither Dominion Government could tolerate such a threat to Singapore. The Dutch East Indies is as deeply involved. The Government of the United States have made it abundantly clear that no alteration in the *status quo* in the Pacific will be tolerated. The Indo-China affair went to the very edge of a risk forcing the Government in Washington to become a belligerent.

If the Japanese Government remain content with their strategic gains in Indo-China, they are still capable of causing a great extension of the war by attacking Russia in Asia in the interest of Axis partnership. Were this to happen and the Russian Government to make an active appeal to the British Empire for assistance, it is difficult to conceive how the British Empire would avoid hostilities with Japan. The war would then extend to the whole of Asia and the Pacific and sooner or later the United States would be directly involved.

But, as Mr. Churchill has stated, for more than a year now, Britain has faced the Axis alone. "All alone we have had to guard the treasures of mankind." And she is entitled to take credit for the striking improvement in her position and victory is but her due.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

On Monday morning last, Russian troops in the north and British and Indian troops from the south and west of Persia entered into that country. The British and Indian troops entered Persia at three points with naval and air co-operation and they were Khanaqin, Khorramshahr and Abadan and in the last place there was some slight resistance. Indian troops also secured Bandar-i-Shahpur where two German ships (damaged), three Italian ships (slightly damaged) and two further German ships which had been beached were captured with their crews. The operation has been so rapid that only minimum loss has been inflicted on Iranian personnel. Indian troops have greatly distinguished themselves. British forces have advanced 100 miles. The Soviet troops entered Iran from the north in two directions. It is said they have advanced about 100 miles. Soviet troops have captured Tabriz and other towns. Oil-refineries and installations have been secured without damage and air-borne troops were sent to oilfields to protect the families employed by the oil companies. Tabriz, it will be noted, is on the direct road to Teheran and is connected to the Baku oil-centre and to Tiflis, on the Russian oil pipe-line, by railway.

But a sudden and dramatic, but altogether welcome development has taken place since the Russian and British forces entered Iran. His Majesty the Shah, realizing the futility of resistance and the loss to lives and property involved by it, intervened in time and to good effect. The Ministry headed by Ali Mansur resigned and another, with Ali Farughi as Prime Minister, has taken its place. The news was flashed by the Teheran Radio on Thursday that, the new Prime Minister announced to parliament the formation of the new Cabinet and the order of the Government to all the armed forces to cease resistance. Parliament approved of this decision by a unanimous vote of confidence. The new Prime Minister told Parliament that Iran desired to maintain friendly relations with foreign Powers and her neighbours, that the people and the Government of Iran had always been and were partisans of peace and peaceful relations with the rest of the world and that, in order to avoid bloodshed and disturbance of security, the order to "cease fire" had been issued. In Britain the news has been welcomed, because neither Russia nor Great Britain had any territorial claim on Iran.

Iran is a country of 628,000 square miles and has a population of 15,000,000. Its present ruler who is called the Shah of Iran is Reza Khan Pehlevi. There is compulsory training for military service in that country. Iran is one of the great oil-producing countries in the world and Great Britain holds a substantial interest in the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company which produces more than 10 million tons a year. Soviet Union accounts for 40 per cent of Iran's foreign trade, while Germany, Great Britain and the United States come next. The importance of Iran to Russia, Great Britain and India is that to the north of Persia lies the Caucasus through which Hitler hopes to march his armies, then strike west into Iraq and Syria and south into India.

GERMAN INFILTRATION

For months past, the Iran Government has been allowing a large number of Germans to enter into that country and hold key positions in industries, commerce, communications, etc. Hitler's object is of course to demoralize the people, bring confusion and convert the Government into a slave-state. Already most of Iran's foodstuffs have been taken away and the economic position of Iran is now precarious.

Moreover, according to the Moscow Radio, the Germans who are daily increasing in number, wanted to bring about by force a change in the Government of that country. Further, they had established dumps of arms and ammunition at various points, especially in the northern provinces and in certain places they have prepared over 50 tons of explosives. The German residents have been given military training in order to further their intentions. They had also entered into big industrial concerns as technicians.

WARNING UNHEEDED

On three occasions, June 26, July 19 and August 16, the Soviet Government had warned the Iran Government about the danger represented by the subversive and diversionist activities of German agents and spies. On July 19 and August 16, the British Government also joined in these friendly but firm representations that a greater number of these Germans should be sent out of the country, as otherwise the interests of the two countries apart from the interests of Iran herself, would be in jeopardy. But these representations were unheeded. The Iranian Government, though at one time it seemed to realize the danger, persisted in its folly and refused to send out these German agents on the plea that it knew how to keep them in check.

RUSSIAN AND BRITISH INTERESTS

The Nazis are now attacking Russia and there is a threat to the Caucasus through which Hitler intends to march south into Iran, making it a base for further operations in the west and south. As for the British it is well known that Iran is the only country near the Middle East in which anti-British Arab elements are taking refuge. There is further the oil-production in Iran which is of considerable importance to the Middle East, the R.A.F. and the British Mediterranean Fleet. Further, politically, as General Molesworth stated in his broadcast on Monday last, "Nazi intrigue and organized activity in Iran was not only a danger to Iran itself, but a direct threat to that country's Muslim

neighbours in Iraq, Syria and the Middle East generally, and a dagger pointed at the very throat of India."

THE OBJECT OF THE MILITARY ACTION

Sir Archibald **Wavell, Commander**-in-Chief in India, is in charge of operations in Iran. Great Britain and Russia are not at war with Iran. Regarding the object of this move, General Molesworth said: "Firstly, neither the British nor the Soviet Governments have any territorial designs in Iran or elsewhere. This has been clearly stated in the joint declaration issued by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing the British Government, which was issued to the world on the 15th August last. Secondly, neither Great Britain nor Russia sought any aggrandisement, territorial or other. Thirdly, this military action is designed solely to deny to the Axis any further opportunity to threaten the security of Russia, the countries of the Middle East and India, and to prevent the oil and other resources of Iran from falling into Nazi hands—which Iran herself would be powerless to prevent.

These facts have been clearly explained to the people of Teheran in leaflets thousands of which were dropped by planes. The leaflet runs as follows:—

"Iranians! thousands of Germans are living in your country. By a calculated plan they are holding important positions in industry. When Hitler gives the word they can sabotage the main sources of your revenues. They are organized by the German Legation, and every man has special orders. You know they stirred up trouble in Iraq. They will not hesitate to do the same in Iran.

"This is exactly what happened in many European countries before they were invaded by Germany. Those in authority in Iran have ignored our repeated warnings of the danger of allowing these Germans to stay in your country, a danger not only to you but to British and Russia too.

"We are determined that the Germans must go, and if the Iranians do not throw them out both British and Russia will. Our forces are irresistable.

"Iranians! we have no quarrel with you, nor have we any designs on your country, or your goods. We only wish to drive out these accursed Germans, whose aim is to make your country a seat of war and misery. If you help us now we will help you both now and in the future."

OBJECTS EXPLAINED TO OTHER COUNTRIES

Russia and Great Britain have kept United States informed of the intentions of these Governments in the military action in Iran. Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Afghanistan have also been apprised of these aims. As a matter of fact, Turkey should feel more assured than ever that any threat to her from Nazis would be met by prompt action, thanks to Iran being safe.

General Molesworth, in his broadcast speech stated that steps will be taken to supply the people of Iran with the corn, foodstuffs, and other essentials which the Nazis have stolen. As a matter of fact India has already sent Iran 60,000 tons of wheat.

HELP TO U.S.S.R.

It is surmized that while safeguarding Iranian oil-fields, the military action will also open the line of communication with the Soviet Russia and the Caucasus. It is possible that a direct link will be established with the Russian forces in Caucasus in order to ensure British and American aid to get into Russia through the shortest route.

It should again be emphasized that Russian and British Governments have absolutely no quarrel with the Iranian people. What they want is that, as General Molesworth stated, that the Iran Government which systematically rejected the advice of both these countries against the danger should be brought to its senses. The representatives of Russia and Great Britain are still at Teheran while Iranian representatives are continuing their duties in London and Moscow. What should be remembered is that Iran is the back-door to the British position in the Middle East and India and to Russia *via* the Caucasus. Any danger to the sovereignty of Iran is also a danger to the Middle East, India and Russia. The situation is particularly dangerous now because the Germans have advanced along the north coast of the Black Sea. As this threat intensifies the German agents in Iran have been very busy in strengthening themselves and in inducing the Iranian Government to lend air bases, for instance at Tabriz. From these demands it should have been clear to the Iranian Government that the Germans use unscrupulous methods of warfare which undermine the population of the countries which they desire to reduce to slavery. For instance, the rapid fall of Norway, Holland, Belgium and Yugoslavia were due principally to Nazi organizations set up in these countries, the lack of preparation in the countries despite repeated warnings, and the ruthless German use of their organizations when the countries were invaded. It is notorious how, after using the Quislings for some time, Hitler dismisses them in favour of his own people. In Syria and Iraq, he had no scruples in deserting his own tools. The Iranian Government might well have learnt a lesson by the strong action taken by the South American Republics against Nazi intrigues and infiltrations.

The Press in India, in Great Britain and the Dominions, and in America, are unanimous in welcoming the step that has been taken. As has been rightly pointed out "It is not an invasion but an action intended to help Iran from a threat which the Iran Government would not or could not see."

IRAN AND HER PEOPLE

A FEW FACTS

In view of the military action taken by Russia and Great Britain in Iran, the following information about the country, its communications and defence will be read with interest:

Geographically Iran can be divided into three distinct areas: the Caspian provinces in the north, the high Central Plateau and the Persian Gulf Littoral at the top of the Gulf.

The terrain in the Caspian provinces is low-lying and so abundantly covered by trees and dense undergrowth as to be often impenetrable. The coast is fringed with a chain of sandhills, piled up by the surf and winds, which have forced the rivers and many streams to spread themselves out in wide morasses and lagoons. Temperature and rainfall are always moderate, but excessive humidity from June to September makes conditions very relaxing, and mosquitoes render the lowlands almost uninhabitable. From November to the middle of April the climate is temperate and healthy.

The area of the Central Plateau covers two-thirds of Iran and has a mean altitude of from three to four thousand feet. The greater part consists of mountains which run in numerous parallel ranges, generally from north-west to south-east. Some of these ranges run for over 100 miles at an altitude of 8,000 feet, rising in places to 15,000 feet. In the centre of the plateau is a strip of desert, 800 miles long and from 100 to 300 miles wide, also running from north-west to south-east. The country-side is arid and bare, though heavy snowfall in winter keeps the hillsides green, and affords grazing, while the valleys almost invariably contain streams of clear and fast running water.

There are extreme ranges of temperature, but the atmosphere is clear, dry and invigorating. From December to February snow falls everywhere and lies on the highest mountain ranges until June or July. The changes in season are very sudden and the hottest months are July and August, when the average maximum shade temperature is 105°F. Dust, glare, flies and sandflies are the worst features of the summer. The rainfall is scanty and variable, generally occurring in November.

The terrain in the Persian Gulf Littoral is a flat, alluvial plain, broken in only one place near Ahwaz by a 30-mile range of sandhill rising to 200 feet. The level open plains are mostly barren and sprinkled with desert scrub, though some parts are cultivated. Between the coastal plain and the central plateau is a strip of very mountainous country, the Bakhtiari Range, which is extremely difficult for motor transport to negotiate.

The heat from June to September is intense and the humidity renders the climate particularly trying. In December, January and February it is cold, but freezing point is not reached. The rainfall occurs from November to February and averages 5 inches.

The population of Iran amounts to some ten millions, made up of a number of distinct Iranian races; the Kurds, the Lurs and Bakhtiaris, the Quashgais and the Kurgelus. These still retain their distinctive ethnological and linguistic characteristics. Seventy-five per cent of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits and the remainder form an urban class of artisans and small tradesmen.

The majority of Iranians profess the Shi'a branch of the Mohammedan faith; the Kurds, however, are mostly Sunni. The Shi'a branch of Islam was constituted the State religion of Iran in 1499. Zoroastrianism was the original religion of Iran until the Arab conquest. As a result of the ensuing persecutions many followers fled to India where they are now known as Parsis.

There are only four towns in Iran which have more than 100,000 inhabitants—Teheran, the capital (over 500,000), Tabriz, world famous for its carpets (200,000), Isfahan, the central trade depot, (103,000), and Meshed, the famous Shi'a pilgrim centre (125,000). This city is the only one in the whole of Iran of any special religious significance to the Moslem world in general.

Other important centres are Ahwaz, capital of the south, Resht, through which most of the Caspian Sea trade passes, and the ports mentioned below.

COMMUNICATIONS

The chief Iranian ports on the Persian Gulf are Bandar Shahpur, Khorramshahr, Abadan and Bushire. Bandar Shahpur is situated about 30 miles from the open sea and is the southern terminus of the Trans-Iranian Railway. Khorramshahr is the headquarters of the Iranian Navy. Abadan is the oil port and refinery of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and is as modern, in many respects, as an English industrial town. On the Caspian the chief port is Pahlevi; there are also ports at Naushahr and Bandar Shah, the northern terminus of the Trans-Iranian Railway.

The Trans-Iranian Railway, 868 miles in length, crosses the country from Bandar Shah in the north to Bandar Shahpur in the south. As an engineering feat it represents a considerable achievement, running as it does for a considerable part of its length through very difficult country. It is a single-track line all

the way. From Teheran a branch line runs north-west as far as Zinjan and this will eventually be extended to join the line which runs from the Russian frontier to Tabriz. A branch line to Meshed is also under construction and has reached Shahrud.

The Iranian Government has attached great importance to the development of its roads and, in spite of the difficulties of finance, the great distances to be covered and the mountainous nature of the country, its efforts have met with considerable success and a net-work of roads covers the country and connects all places of importance. The basis of this net-work of roads is the restangle Kazvin-Teheran-Qum-Hamadan, and it will be seen that all roads leading into the country join up with this rectangle. The main routes leading into Iran are :—

FROM TRANS-CASPIA

A railway runs from Mery to Sarakhs, and thence there is a road through Meshed to Teheran. This, however, is a very roundabout way of reaching the important part of the country.

From the Caspian Ports all three ports, Bandar Shah, Naushahr and Pahlevi, are joined up to the rectangle by road, and in the case of the first by rail as well.

Through the Caucasus.—There is a railway and a road from Julfa to Tabriz from which a good road runs to Kazvin and a not-so-good road to Kermanshah and Hamadan. It would also be possible to go by road from Julfa round the western shores of Lake Urmia (Daryacheh-i-Shah), through Haiderabad, to Kermanshah.

From Australia.—There is a difficult road from Erzerum to Maku and thence to Tabriz.

From Iraq.—There are three main roads into the country from Iraq. The most northerly one runs from Rowanduz to Haiderabad, the central one from Khaniqin to Kermanshah and Hamadan, and the third from Basra to Kherramshah and Ahwaz, then northwards to Hamadan and Teheran.

OIL AND ECONOMIC CONDITION

The oil areas in Iran, leased by the Iranian Government to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company until 1993, mostly lie in the plains of Southern Arabistan at the head of the Persian Gulf. There is another small area at Naft-i-Shah, on the Iraqi-Iranian border, north-west of Baghdad. Pipe-lines run from the two oilfields to refineries at Abadan and Kermanshah. The Naft-i-Shah field is also connected to Khaniqin in Iraq.

The importance of the oil industry to Iran is demonstrated by the fact that the oil royalty paid to the Government amounts to some £4,000,000 annually, this being about 10 per cent of the total national revenue. In addition, many Iranians occupy lucrative positions in the Company, and the railways obtain cheap fuel. The output from the Abadan refinery is the largest in the East, and in 1937 amounted to 10,000,000 tons.

The economic situation in Iran has not been satisfactory in recent years. The great efforts of H.I.M. the Shah to develop the resources, industries and communications of his country, which have necessitated the import of large quantities of materials from overseas, have led to a considerable increase in taxation, with a resulting rise in the cost of living. There has recently been a severe food shortage in the provinces, and in 1941 famine conditions were only avoided by importing large quantities of wheat from India. Although the exchange is officially 'pegged' at about Rials 5 to the Rupee, a 'black' market exists in which the rate of exchange is nearer Rials 14 to the Rupee.

DEFENCE

The strength of the Army, which is on a conscript basis, is 126,000 officers and men, organized in 18 divisions and a mechanized brigade. Iran possesses considerable quantities of modern military equipment, but the Army has had little opportunity of using it, and so far not at all against a well-equipped enemy. The Iranian Army, like the Russian Army untill recently, is one about whose fighting value little is known.

The small Air Force has approximately 125 aircraft. Iran also possesses a few small naval vessels stationed at the head of the Persian Gulf. Assistance was given by Italy in the training of Iranian Naval personnel.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

(*Continued from Page* 4)

industrial region of the Ukraine, fighting still goes on well to the west of the Dnieper. The Germans, however, are stated to be threatening the industrial sector of Dniepro-Petrovsk where the Russians now announce that they have blown up a huge dam and hydro-electric works rather than allow them to fall into the hands of the Germans. They must have reached this place either from the north along the bank of the Dnieper or straight from Krinoi Rog on the west. The Ukraine is, thus, menaced from two directions from the north (as stated above) and from the south where the Germans are advancing from Nikolayev.

In the extreme south, the Nazis claim the capture of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper and of Ochakov, a Black Sea port between Odessa and the river mouth. But the Russians have inflicted a heavy defeat on the Rumanians in the Odessa sector; and some Rumanian divisions, in the terse language of the Soviet Communiqué, have ceased to exist as fighting units.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST

MESSAGE OF THE ATLANTIC MEETING

In his broadcast speech to the world on Sunday, the 24th instant, Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, expounded the message of the Atlantic meeting, the lessons which that conference between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill had for the world and the hopes which the nations under the heel of Hitler might well entertain.

A SYMBOLIC MEETING

Mr. Churchill said that the meeting somewhere in the Atlantic between himself and Mr. Roosevelt was bound to be important "because of the enormous forces at present only partially mobilized but steadily mobilizing, which are at the disposal of these two major groupings of the human family, the British Empire and the United States." He said that, "it symbolizes in a form and manner which every one can understand, in every land and every clime, the deep underlying unities which stir, and, at the decisive moment, rule the English-speaking peoples throughout the world." It symbolized further "the marshalling of the good forces of the world against the evil forces which now are so formidable and triumphant and have cast their cruel spell over the whole of Europe and a large part of Asia." "This was a meeting which marks for ever in the pages of history the taking up by the English-speaking nations, amid all this peril, tumult and confusion, of the guidance of the fortunes of the broad, toiling masses in all continents and our loyal effort, without any clog of selfish interest, to lead them forward out of the miseries into which they have been plunged back to the broad, high road of freedom and justice."

HITLER'S NEW ORDER

Speaking of the Nazi terror in Europe, Mr. Churchill said :

"Awful, horrible things are happening these days. The whole of Europe has been wrecked and trampled down by the mechanical weapons and the barbarous fury of the Nazis. The most deadly instruments of war-science have been joined to the extreme refinements of treachery and the most brutal exhibitions of ruthlessness and thus have formed a combine of aggression, the like of which has never been known, before which the rights, traditions characteristics and structures of many ancient and honoured States and peoples have been laid prostrate and now ground down under the heel and terror of the monster. Austrians, Czechs, Poles, Norwegians, Danes, Belgians, Dutch, Greek, Croats, Serbs and, above all, the great French nation have been stunned and pinioned. Italy, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria have bought a shameful respite by becoming the jackals of the tiger. But their true situation is very little different and presently will be indistinguishable from that of his victims. Sweden, Spain and Turkey stand appalled, wondering which will be struck down next. Here then is a vast pit, into which all the most famous States and races of Europe have been flung, from which, unaided, they can never climb."

Speaking of the method to which Hitler had so faithfully adhered, in conquering other countries, the Prime Minister said :

"What is that method? It is a very simple method. 'One by one,' that is his plan : that is his guiding rule : that is the trick by which he has enslaved so large a portion of the world."

And what is his New Order?

"Hitler and his confederates have for some time been adjuring, bullying and beseeching the populations whom they have wronged and injured to bow to their fate, to resign themselves to their servitude and, for the sake of some mitigations and indulgencies, to collaborate—that is the word—in what is called 'the New Order in Europe.' What is this new order which they seek to fasten first upon Europe and, if possible—for their ambitions are boundless—upon all the continents of the Globe?"

"It is the rule of Herrenvolk, the master race, who are to put an end to Democracy, parliaments, fundamental freedoms and the decencies of ordinary men and women, to the historic rights of nations and to give them in exchange the iron rule of Prussia, the universal goose-step and strict and efficient discipline, enforced upon the working classes by the political police, with German concentration camps and firing parties, now so busy in a dozen lands, always handy in the background. Napoleon, in his glory and genius, spread his Empire far and wide. There was a time when only the snows of Russia and the white cliffs of Dover, with their guardian fleets, stood between him and the domination of the world. Napoleon's armies had a theme : they carried with them surges of the French revolution. 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.' That was the cry. There was a sweeping change of outworn, mediaeval systems and aristocratic privilege : land for the people and a new code of laws. Nevertheless, Napoleon's Empire vanished like a dream."

OBJECT OF HITLER'S ATTACK ON RUSSIA

Mr. Churchill went on to say that Hitler made a treaty of non-aggression with Soviet Russia in order to keep her quiet till he was ready to attack her and then, without a vestige of provocation, he hurled millions of soldiers with all their apparatus upon the neighbour he had called friend, with the avowed object of destroying Russia and tearing her to pieces. "Here is a devil," Mr. Churchill went on, "who in a mere spasm of his pride and lust for domination, can condemn two or three millions, perhaps it may be many more, of human beings to a speedy and violent death. 'Let Russia be blotted out—let Russia be destroyed—order the armies to advance'. Such were his decrees."

But Hitler counted without the host. Russian resistance to the aggressor has surprised, staggered and startled him. "For the first time, Nazi blood has flowed in a fearful flood. Perhaps a million and a half, perhaps two million Nazi cannon fodder have bitten the dust of the endless plains of Russia." And Hitler's retaliation is most frightful. He has exterminated scores of thousands of people in cold blood.

HELP TO RUSSIA

The Prime Minister, after referring to the difficulties of geography which stand between Russia and the aid which the Western Democracies are trying to give, said: "We shall strive our utmost to overcome all difficulties and to bring this aid. We have arranged a conference in Moscow between the United States, British and Russian authorities to settle the whole plan. No barrier must stand in the way."

WARNING TO JAPAN

Speaking of Japan, Mr. Churchill said that seeking to emulate the style of Hitler and Mussolini, Japan has been invading and harrying the 500 million inhabitants of China. Japan has brought carnage, ruin and corruption calling it 'the Chinese Incident,' and Japan is stretching a grasping hand into the Southern Seas of China. "She has snatched Indo-China from the wretched Vichy French; she menaces by her movements Siam, Singapore, the British link with Australia and the Philippine islands under the protection of the United States. It is certain this has got to stop. Every effort will be made to secure a peaceful settlement which will give Japan the utmost reassurance for her legitimate interests. We earnestly hope that these negotiations will succeed. But this I must say. If these hopes should fail we shall range ourselves unhesitatingly at the side of the United States."

ATLANTIC CHARTER

The primary objects of the meeting between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill was to give the conquered countries the hope and the conviction that their sufferings and their resistances would not be in vain. "The tunnel may be dark and long but at the end there is light." Addressing the oppressed nations Mr. Churchill said:

> "Do not despair, brave Norwegians: your land shall be cleansed not only from the invader but from the filthy Quislings who are his tools. Be sure of yourselves, Czechs: your independence shall be restored. Poles, the heroism of your people standing up to the cruel oppressors, the courage of your soldiers, sailors and airmen shall not be forgotten. Your country shall live again and resume its rightful path in the new organization of Europe. Lift up your heads, gallant Frenchmen. Not all the infamies of Darlan and Laval shall stand between you and the restoration of your birthright. The tough, stout-hearted Dutch, Belgians and Luxembourgers, the tormented, mishandled and shamefully cast-away peoples of Yugoslavia, glorious Greece now subjected to the crowning insult of the rule of the Italian jackanapes, yield not an inch. Keep your souls clean from all contact with the Nazis. Make them feel even in their fleeting hour of triumph that they are the moral outcasts of mankind.
>
> "Help is coming. Mighty forces are arming in your behalf. Have faith. Have hope. Deliverance is sure. There is a signal which we have flashed across the waters and if it reaches the hearts of those to whom it is sent, they will endure with fortitude and tenacity their present misfortunes in the sure faith that they too are still serving the common cause and their efforts will not be in vain. You will perhaps have noticed that the President of the United States and the British representatives in what is aptly called the Atlantic Charter have jointly pledged their countries to the final destruction of Nazi tyranny.
>
> "That is the solemn, grave undertaking. It must be made good. It will be made good. And, of course, many practical arrangements to fulfil that purpose have been, and are being organized and set in motion."

AIMS IN THE LAST WAR AND IN THE PRESENT WAR

Mr. Churchill said that the President and himself had the idea that without attempting

(*Continued on Page* 15.)

NAZI EXPECTATIONS DISAPPOINTED

FATE OF GERMAN PROPHECIES

"See how far we have travelled" said Mr. Churchill last January—and we have travelled further since then along the hard road to victory.

Milestones along this road are the gravestones of Nazi hopes, boasts and expectations.

Bremen Radio in Flemish on May 17, 1940 prophesied victory over England in a few months. It has not happened.

The N. B. B. S. (Fake Nazi station for Britain) said on July 23, 1940 that Hitler expected the campaign against Britain to be over by September. It has not happened.

Nazi-controlled Radio Kalundberg, in Danish on the following day, gave August 15, 1940 as the date for the overthrow of Britain. It has not happened.

Konigsberg Radio said in Swedish on August 14, 1940 that London would capitulate on September 17. It has not happened.

Rome Radio prophesied in English on August 18, 1940 the total defeat of Britain is a matter of days. It has not happened.

Bremen Radio in English on September 9, 1940 said that "in a few weeks the conflagration would be ended." It has not happened.

In November 1940 Dr. Goebbels said to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin: "In half a year I will talk to you again, and you will see that my prophecy of victory will have been correct." It has not happened.

In March 1941 Dr. Goebbels said to Spanish correspondents in Berlin: "I affirm again that before the year is over Germany will win the war." It has not happened and it will not happen.

Here are some further Nazi declarations to which events have given the lie:

Invasion of Britain

"The German artillery will smash everything to bits, London will become a heap of ruins and the poor wretches waiting for the Nazis will never see them. The remnants of the streets of London will remain quiet for ever".—*German talk in English, July 17, 1940.*

"British military authorities have realized that they are unable to check German invasion".—*German News in Arabic, August 7, 1940.*

The Luftwaffe and the R.A.F.

"If London or any other big English city attempts to defend itself, its destruction would be a matter of a few hours or minutes".—*German broadcast to Portugal, July 1940.*

"During the air raids of the last three days British ports and aerodromes have been destroyed and now Britain has no base from which she could launch any attack".—*German news in English, August 15, 1940.*

"Every German child knows that not a single enemy plane can reach Germany".—*German news in Hindustani, September 22, 1940.*

Blockade and Starvation

"Britain's food stocks will last only a couple of weeks".—*German broadcast, July 19, 1940.*

"Britain has been completely blockaded. She has now only two alternatives—either starvation or collapse".—*German news in Arabic, August 6, 1940.*

"In future there will be only one blockade, a blockade of Britain by Germany.—*German talk in English, August 22, 1940.*

Sea Power

"The sinking and destroying of the whole or British shipping will become a matter of two months.—*German talk in English, August 7, 1490.*

"The British fleet has suffered such heavy damage it is considered wise not to use it any more".—*Italian news in English, August 15, 1940.*

Money for the war

"British economy is on the verge of collapse".—*German broadcast, August 10, 1940.*

"Great Britain is at the end of her financial resources".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

The Free French

"The number of Frenchmen who left their country and joined de Gaulle's party in order to continue the struggle against Germany on foreign soil can be counted on the fingers of one hand".—*German news in English, August 6, 1940.*

American Aid

"Even if the British Government ensures that purchases are made in America, the German forces will ensure that they shall not be delivered".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

"These American aircraft are inferior both to the German and British. They can play no part in Britain's military defences".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

Axis in Africa

"An attack on England will take place in the near future, and later in September, the war will spread to Africa. If all proceeds according to plan, by the end of the year two continents will have been added to the German Reich and the Italian Empire".—*German broadcast to Denmark, July 1940.*

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD

NEW ORDER OF ALLIES AND HITLER

In the left hand column below are the eight points of the joint declaration of policy issued in the name of their Governments and peoples by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt at their historic Atlantic meeting :—

In the right hand column Nazi aims are exposed in quotations from Hitler's own words (as recorded by his former adviser Hermann Rauschnigg in his book " Hitler Speaks ") and from other authentic sources :—

Churchill-Roosevelt

1. " Their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other."

2. " They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned."

3. " They respect the rights of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them."

4. " They will endeavour with due respect to their existing obligations to further the enjoyment by all states great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to the trade and the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity."

5. " They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and serial progress."

6. " After the final destruction of Nazi tyranny they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurances that all the men in all the lands may live out their loves in freedom from fear and want."

(*Continued on page* 18)

Hitler

1. " We must have Europe and its colonies . . . . Germany will spread its might far beyond its borders in the East as well as in the South-East. . . . We have a right to South America. . . . Natural instincts bid all living beings not merely conquer their enemies but destroy them." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

2. " This struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. . . . There will still be the class of subject alien races. We need not hesitate to call them the modern slave class." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

3. " The day of small states is past. . . We do not seek equality but mastery. We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such ideological abortions of sterile democracy." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

4. " After the end of the war Germany must digest the incorporated territories. From the economic point of view this means adjustment to the German economy." (*Voelkischer Beobachter, 20th August 1940.*)

" Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world and will for example cause the United States to have not 7,000,000 but 30–40,000,000 unemployed. Mr. Roosevelt will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw materials at prices which we will dictate." *Nazi Agriculture Minister Darré to party officials, May 1940.*)

5. " All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed among the worthy members of the Party and soldiers who were accorded honours for bravery in this war. . . This German aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery which we must and will introduce. . . Work must be as cheap as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly." (*Darré*).

6. " The world can only be ruled by fear. . . . Terror is the most effective political instrument. . . . I recognize no moral law in politics. . . . There will be no licence, no free space, in which the individual belongs to himself." (*Hitler Speaks*).

BRITAIN AND THE AXIS

1940

The year 1940 was a bleak one. It was bleak not only for Poland, Norway, Denmark, the Low Countries and France, all of which Germany overran with her fifth columns, her parachutists, her mechanised might and the brutality of her occupation policy. It was a year also of grave peril for Britain.

Her European Allies had been struck from her side, and Italy had come in against her in the hope of sharing easy spoils. Russia was neutral but assisting Germany economically. Rumania joined the Axis camp, giving Germany most of her oil. Other neutrals, awed by power-politics, succumbed to various degrees of Axis pressure.

The U. S. A. offered Britain sympathy, admiration, and the beginnings of material aid. But she was not organized for war production.

Heroic exploits of the Royal Air Force forced postponement of German invasion plans, inspired the whole British nation, united as never before, to face out bombing through the autumn and winter. Hitler's great chance dwindled as Britain's confidence grew and the Empire rapidly mobilized.

Despite Germany's declared blockade, Britain retained control of the seas, particularly of the Mediterranean. Italy failed on land as well as sea to shake the fruit from the tree to which she thought the axe had been laid. But Britain knew that the outlook was still charged with peril, demanding every ounce of her will to resist against great odds.

1941

The gravity of Britain's danger has passed. That of Germany has increased as she fights a two-front war, herself invaded in the air and fearing invasion on land. The occupied countries, already looted, are becoming military and economic burdens to Germany. Allied confidence has returned. Though more countries have been overrun by *blitzkrieg* methods, Britain and the Empire, Free France, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, Russia, China, are all united in the fight against the common foe.

The Royal Air Force, always superior in quality, is rapidly making up its discrepancy in strength. Britain has the initiative in the air, and Germany is being bombed more heavily and far more accurately than was Britain last year.

Italy has lost her vast East African Empire and has herself become an occupied country. On the Egyptian frontier the British and Empire forces hold the initiative. Middle East security, gravely imperilled by Axis plots in Iraq, Syria and Iran has been restored by British and Allied action, and British communications with Turkey are directly established.

America is committed to all help to Britain short of war, and takes the risk of war in implementing Roosevelt's promise that material aid shall reach Britain despite enemy efforts. American troops are in Iceland, the North Atlantic is patrolled, and the Churchill-Roosevelt meeting has confirmed the partnership of the two nations.

There are critical days ahead in Russia and elsewhere. The Nazi war machine has suffered sharp blows but is still capable of vast destruction, and there can be no peace until it is eliminated. There is still no room for complacency, but the outlook is no longer bleak. Men's hearts the world over have been uplifted by Britain's survival and the titanic struggle of the last year.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST—(*Continued from Page* 12)

to draw final peace aims and war aims, it was necessary to give the conquered countries " a simple, rough and ready wartime statement of the goal towards which the British Commonwealth mean to take their way." The difference between the attitude in the last war and in the present war is that the United States and Great Britain do not assume that there will be no more wars again. They will disarm the aggressor countries, while keeping themselves prepared. Again, instead of trying to ruin German trade by trade barriers and hindrances as was done after the last war, America and Great Britain have definitely adopted the view that it is not in the interests of the world that any nation should not be prosperous.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 11—17, 1941

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"The economic position of the Indians is getting worse day by day." (*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 12).

"Today the rulers of India at the edge of the sword are freely plundering her wealth and are dispatching her foodstuffs in ships to England, Egypt, Malaya, etc., so much so that some areas in Sind and the Bombay Presidency are threatened with famine. (*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 12).

In one year alone the export of articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India increased by Rs. 33 crores and 63 lakhs. India's export of rubber manufactures increased eleven times, exports of cotton yarns nearly doubled, and the exports of jute manufactures, iron and steel, chemicals and leather goods all registered substantial increases.

It is only rations for Indian troops abroad that are provided from India. Nor is this paid for by the Indian public, for the cost of all rations despatched to war theatres is debitable to the United Kingdom Government. Moreover, since the indigenous items of food sent to Indian troops abroad are the same as would normally be consumed by them in this country, no scarcity, much less famine, is created thereby.

INCAUTIOU COMPARISON

"The battle of Smolensk was a catastrophe for the Bolsheviks similar to the battle of Dunkirk for Britain." (*German News in English, Aug.* 13.)

It was a catastrophe for Dr. Goebbels similar to the battle of Dunkirk, of which he declared (May 28, 1940) "it is now impossible for Britain to withdraw her troops." We could wish Russia nothing better than to be in the same position a year hence as is Britain a year after Dunkirk.

TURKEY AND EGYPT SLANDERED

"The guarantee of the British and the Soviets to Turkey in the event of war has been received with great resentment amongst Turkish diplomatic circles. . . . . The British guarantee has been rejected by Turkey. . . . Turkey could not be duped." (*German News in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 15).

"There has been a strong antagonism between the Egyptian Government and the British military authorities in Egypt." (*Italian news in Hindustani, Aug.* 15).

Half an hour before this Nazi farrago, Ankara Radio quoted in Urdu, Persian and Arabic Deputy Yaltchin's editorial comments in the Turkish paper *Yeni Sabah*, as follows: "These notes have clarified all misconceptions. This move on the part of our friends has created real joy in us. . . . We are pleased to hear words of sympathy from our friends."

"I am particularly sensible of the perfect understanding between the Egyptian and British troops," said the Egyptian Chief of General Staff on Aug. 12 after an inspection of the Egyptian army. Four days earlier Egypt's Under Secretary for Health, Mr. Hasanein Bey, praised the help given by Imperial troops to victims of indiscriminate Axis bombing.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 19th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 13, Wednesday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 14, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on docks at Boulogne; shipping off Frisian Is. (supply ship afire and sinking). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Hanover**; **Brunswick**; **Magdeburg**; docks at Rotterdam and Boulogne.	5 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 12 night bombers.	14 day fighters.
August 15, Friday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 16, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway communications and aerodrome near St. Omer; docks at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst, Gneisenau*; cruiser *Prinz Eugen*); shipping off Dutch coast (patrol vessel afire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Dusseldorf**; **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in Ruhr and Rhineland; docks at Rotterdam and Ostend.	4 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 13 night bombers.	19 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
August 17, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on shipping (tanker torpedoed).	2 day fighters. 1 day bomber (crew of 4, 3 safe).	7 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at **Bremen**; industrial districts of **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in W. and N.-W. Germany.	1 night bomber.	
August 18, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on industrial targets at Lille; aerodrome and troops in N. Brittany; shipping off Dutch coast (3 patrol ships sunk).	3 day fighters.	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; docks at Dunkirk.	8 night bombers.	
	R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols, including attacks on aerodromes.		
August 19, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway yards at Hazebrouck; shipping off Dutch coast; docks and shipping at Ostend (1 vessel sunk, others hit).	14 day fighters (4 pilots safe). 3 day bombers. 2 night bombers.	12 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on **Kiel**	..	
	R.A.F. night bomber-and-fighter attacks on aerodromes in occupied territory.		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 19th August 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
August 13	Nil.	..
August 14	Nil.	..
August 15	Nil.	..
August 16	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 17	Nil.	1 night bomber.
August 18	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 19	Nil.	1 night bomber.

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD—(*Continued from Page* 14)

Churchill—Roosevelt

7. " Such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance."

8. " They believe that all the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their country, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable methods which will lighten for peaceloving peoples the crushing burden of armaments."

Hittler

7. " The German navy will be expanded to a strength worthy of a world power. It will carry the German flag and the German name over the face of the globe." (*Admiral Raeder, 28th January 1941*).

8. " War is eternal. War is universal. War is life." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

" After the war, armament will go on at the present rate, bringing new world power to Germany." (*Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, 2nd September 1940.*)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

23rd Aug.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force attack Western Germany, concentrating attention on the industrial town of Mannheim. Harbours and aerodromes in Occupied France and Belgium are also bombed.

A German raider is shot down over England.

24th Aug.—Royal Air Force fighters attack aerodromes and barracks, troops and gun-positions in Northern France.

25th Aug.—**The Royal Air Force makes a raid** on communications and industrial objectives in Dusseldorf.

Some enemy planes raid Eastern parts of England and Scotland. No casualties are reported and the damage is slight.

26th Aug.—British aircraft raid Mannheim and Karlsruhe, also the Channel Ports.

27th Aug.—A heavy raid on Cologne and successful attacks on enemy convoys off the German, Dutch and French Coasts are the chief Royal Air Force activities.

There is only very slight enemy activity over Britain.

28th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids Mannheim and other targets in Western Germany. Channel Ports are again bombed.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22nd Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombs Benghazi. British artillery is active in Tobruk and on the Libyan frontier.

Slight damage is caused and three people are killed in an enemy air raid on Alexandria.

23rd Aug.—A fierce Royal Air Force raid on Tripoli is the high spot of the day's Middle East communiqué. Twenty-five tons of bombs are dropped. An enemy merchant ship in the harbour is sunk.

British artillery disperse a large number of enemy infantry in the Tobruk sector where enemy dive-bombing attacks on the harbour cause insignificant damage.

24th Aug.—The British shell enemy patrols on the Libyan frontier, compelling them to withdraw.

25th Aug.—Another heavy raid is made by a large force of the Royal Air Force bombers on Tripoli. Twenty tons of bombs are dropped.

British patrols are active in Tobruk and another dive-bombing attack by the enemy does only minor damage.

26th Aug.—Cork forests in Sardinia—an important source of supply for the Axis—are bombed and set on fire by aircraft from H.M.S. Ark Royal.

A new East African (military) Command is created under Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Platt. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Alan Cunningham takes over a command in the Middle East.

27th Aug.—The Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm raid Tripoli, Benghazi and Bardia while the South African Air Force is active over Abyssinia.

It is announced that Gen. Huntziger is to take over the command of Vichy troops in North Africa.

28th Aug.—Fifteen tons of high-explosive bombs are dropped on Tripoli by British air-raiders. Benghazi is also raided. Enemy fighters trying to attack British ships in the Mediterranean are beaten off.

Seven people are killed but only slight damage is caused in an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal area.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

22nd Aug.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, arrives in London for conversations with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, indicates that some arrangement has been made with Japan for the gradual repatriation of American citizens from Japan and the Japanese from the United States.

President Roosevelt, answering critics, reveals that American defence production is on an average up to estimates. He also condemns " appeasers " and would be compromisers.

It is stated in Washington that Soviet Russia has placed orders in the United States totalling £200,000,000.

23rd Aug.—President Roosevelt directs the Navy to take possession of and operate, the strike-bound Kearney Federal ship-building and dry-dock company as the strike jeopardises the construction of vessels essential to the defence of the United States.

24th Aug.—Mr. Churchill in a world broadcast from London, reports on his meeting with President Roosevelt.

American plans for the production in 1942 of army tanks valued at $1,000,000,000 are made public.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, returns to Britain after his talks with the United States Government.

26th Aug.—President Roosevelt announces that an American Military Mission will be sent to China to direct Lease and Lend activities.

Work is resumed in the Kearney shipyard under the American Navy's orders.

27th Aug.—An American " Liberator " bomber flows the Atlantic from Newfoundland to Ireland in seven hours and a half.

President Roosevelt places under export control all military equipment, munitions, etc.

28th Aug.—United States defence measures in support of the Democracies include an order to manufacturers to accept orders for war supplies from the Unted States, Britain, Russia and China even if such acceptance delays or prevents deliveries of civilian goods, and the creation of a Tanker Control Board to co-ordinate the allocation and utilization of tankers.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22nd Aug.—While the Germans claim the capture of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper and a general advance along the entire front, it is made evident that Marshal Budenny has safely withdrawn the Southern Russian Army across the Dnieper river.

Soviet bombers bomb and sink Nazi troop-carrying transports off the Rumanian coast.

M. Lozovsky of the Soviet Information Board contradicts the German story that a Russian battleship and other vessels have been captured at Nikolayev.

The British Military Mission in Russia pays a warm tribute to the skill and morale of the Soviet forces.

23rd Aug.—The Nazi drive to Leningrad is halted while in the south, hard fighting is reported in the fight for the Dnieper bridge-heads. The Soviet High Command declares that Odessa will be defended at all costs.

In the Central Sector, a counter-attack by the Russians under General Koniev captures nine villages in the course of 48 hours.

24th Aug.—The Germans claim the capture of the Dnieper bridge-head at Cherkassy and of the Black Sea port of Ochakov between Odessa and the mouth of the Dnieper. The former claim is not confirmed.

It is revealed that the Russians have completely destroyed Kexholm on the shores of Lake Ladoga before evacuating it.

The Russians rout a Rumanian division in the Odessa region while General Koniev's men in the Central Sector smash a German infantry division, killing at least 3,000 officers and men.

Two German transports are sunk by the Soviet's Northern Fleet.

"No barrier must stand in the way" of help to Russia, says Mr. Churchill in his broadcast talk from London.

25th Aug.—The main fighting in the Battle of the Dnieper continues to be still west of the river in spite of German claims.

Marshal Timoshenko, in a Special Order of the Day, congratulates the Russian Army of the Centre which is triumphantly counter-attacking in the Smolensk-Gomel area.

26th Aug.—The Soviet forces evacuate Novogorod after a bitter struggle. An enemy air raid on Leningrad is beaten off, 101 German planes having been destroyed in 48 hours over the approaches to that city.

27th Aug.—While the Germans claim the capture of Dniepro-Petrovsk and the important railway town of Vellikiye-Luki, it is stated that the Russian forces have launched counter attacks in the region of the lower Dnieper.

In reply to Japanese protests against the sending of American oil and other supplies to Russia through Vladivostock, the Soviet Government tell Japan that they will regard any attempt to hinder trade with the United States *via* Far Eastern Soviet ports as an act inimical to the Soviet Union; and Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, makes it plain at a press conference that America will insist on the freedom of the seas in sending shipments to Russia.

The Moscow Radio announces that Gen. Von Runstedt, Commander-in-Chief of the German army on the southern front in Russia, has been killed by his own officers; but Germany denies the report.

28th Aug.—The Germans claim success in their drive to Baltic ports but the Russians go from success to success in their great counter-attack in the Central Sector. The Russians evacuate Dniepro-Petrovsk after blowing up the huge hydro-electric dam. The Russian Air Force raids Koenigsberg.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAN, IRAQ, SYRIA, ETC

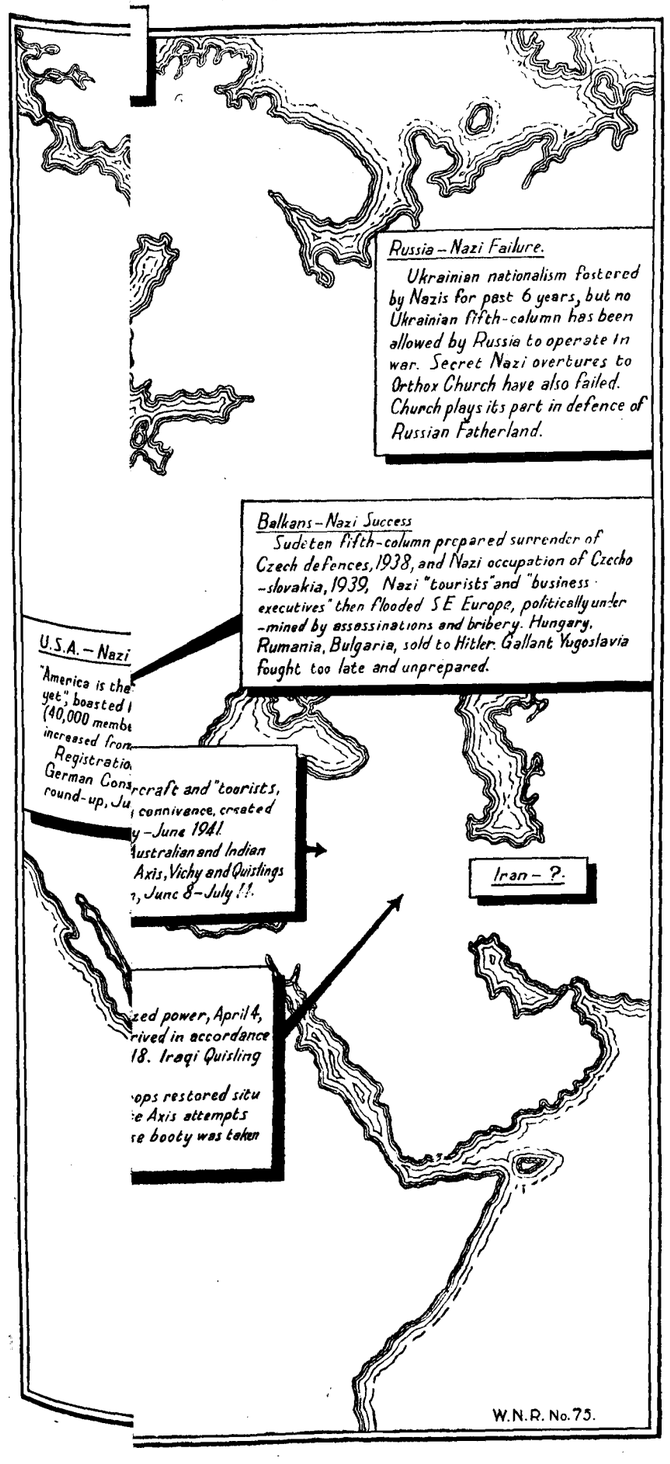
22nd Aug.—The Iran Government hand to the British Minister at Teheran their reply to the British Memorandum of August 16 on the German infiltration in Iran.

Dr. Maniu, Rumanian Peasant Leader, sent a note to the Rumanian Premier, asking him to call off the war against the Soviet Union now that Bessarabia and Bukovina have been recovered; but General Antonescu replies "There are Rumanians as far as the Dnieper who must be liberated."

The Turkish Ambassador at Berlin is reported to have seen Hitler at the latter's headquarters. German troop movements in South Bulgaria and concentration of troop-transports in Bulgarian ports are stated to be part of Germany's "war of nerves" against Turkey.

23rd Aug.—Iran's reply is held to be unsatisfactory in London where a grave view is taken of the situation.

The British Ambassador at Ankara is received by the Turkish Prime Minister. Germany is stated to be sounding Turkey on her attitude in the event of peace in the Near East—particularly Iran—being disturbed.



25th Aug.—It is officially announced that joint military action is taken in Iran by the British and Soviet Governments. The two Governments emphasise that they have no territorial claims on Iran. What they desire are security measures against German intrigues. Iran's independence and integrity will be respected and food will be supplied to the people who are famine-stricken.

British and Indian troops enter Southern Iran from Baluchistan and from the sea; and the Russians enter Iran from the Caucasus There is some resistance which is quickly brushed aside. It is announced that the British and Indian troops will be under the Indian Command (H.E. Sir Archibald Wavell).

The British Government have previously notified Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia of their decision to enter Iran and have given a pledge to Turkey to do nothing that will damage Turkey's interests. The United States Government are also kept informed.

The Iranian Premier tries to justify his Government's attitude at a special session of the Iranian Parliament.

26th Aug.—The Shah of Iran intervenes personally in the Iranian crisis and receives the British and Russian Ambassadors at Teheran.

27th Aug.—The British and Indian troops, it is revealed, have landed at Abadan in Iran and cleared the oil wells area of Iranian forces. Entering Kanaqin from Iraq, they occupy Gilan after slight opposition. A third point of entry is Khorram Shahr; air-borne troops are landed in the Haftkhel area.

The Russian troops advancing from the north occupy Tabriz and Ardebil.

Many Iranian vessels are captured or put out of action by the British, Admiral Bayendor of Iran being killed while attempting to attack the British.

It is reported that while the Shah of Iran has made fresh proposals for a settlement to the British Ambassador, Germany has asked Turkey for facilities for the immediate passage of German women and children from Iran.

28th Aug.—British, Indian and Russian troops make rapid progress in Iran where a new Government, formed by Mr. Farughi, orders Iranian troops to cease fire. The new Prime Minister declares in the Iranian Parliament that he will maintain friendly relations with Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

It is a day of great diplomatic activity at Ankara, the British Ambassador calling on the Turkish President along with the Foreign Minister.

SHIPPING

22nd Aug.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty in a broadcast, says that there are now 190 Allied ships (of which nearly 50 are French) manned by 1,200 officers and 13,000 men, fighting side by side with the British Navy. They are "not merely token forces but strong and welcome reinforcements at a critical time."

23rd Aug.—The First Lord of the Admiralty says that the decrease in British shipping losses in July constitute easily the best news since he went to the Admiralty in May 1940. The Royal Navy has done a grand job.

24th Aug.—An enemy bomber is shot down into the sea by a British trawler when it endeavours to attack the ship.

25th Aug.—The loss of the British submarine *Union* is announced by the Admiralty.

President Roosevelt issues an executive order which will allow British officers and crews to man foreign ships taken over by the United States Maritime Commission and operating under its jurisdiction.

Seven ships out of a convoy of 25 ships are sunk by enemy aircraft and submarines off Cadiz. Survivors are landed at Lisbon.

THE FAR EAST

22nd Aug.—The United States is reported to have taken a firm line during negotiations with Japan.

President Roosevelt issues an executive order declaring Manila Bay, a defensive area and warning ships that they operate there at their own risk.

The Chinese Government are stated to have despatched troops to strengthen the Burma Road defences. It is revealed that 120 Chinese volunteers have been sent to Manila for air training under American experts.

Japanese aircraft raid Chungking in several waves.

23rd Aug.—The Japanese intensify their aerial offensive in Szechuan Province.

The Japanese Ambassador in Washington is received by Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State.

24th Aug.—Chinese fighter planes drive off Japanese bombers which attempt to raid Chentu, the capital of Szechuan.

Mr. Churchill, in the course of his world broadcast, warns Japan that, though every effort will be made to secure a peaceful settlement of her claims, her aggressive policy "has got to stop".

The Tokyo radio broadcasts insinuations against Thailand.

25th Aug.—More reinforcements for the Indian Expeditionary Force in Malaya arrive and disembark at different ports. And the largest single body of the Royal Air Force officers and men to reach Malaya in a year arrives in Singapore.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo-Taichi, welcomes Mr. Churchil's warning to Japan but expresses scepticism whether America will be able to reach any agreement with Japan within the four corners of the Churchill-Roosevelt Declaration.

26th Aug.—The Chief of the Australian General Staff and the Chief of the Australian Air Staff, arrive in Singapore and have a conversation with the British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East (H.E. Sir Robert Brooke-Popham).

While the authorities in Indo-China ban reports of Japanese troop movements in that country, the Prime Minister of Thailand sends a message to Sir Robert Brooke-Popham for the welcome accorded to the two Thai Military officers who visited the Malaya defence zone.

27th Aug.—The Chinese Cabinet meets at Chungking to consider the situation in the Pacific

The Emperor of Japan receives the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister in audience.

Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador at Washington, calls on Mr. Cordell Hull.

28th Aug.—Mr. Cordell Hull announces that the United States and Japan will hold a series of conferences to try and resolve their differences. The Japanese Ambassador delivers to President Roosevelt a personal message from the Prime Minister of Japan.

VICHY

22nd Aug.—The German Commander-in-Chief in Occupied France issues an order, stating that all Frenchmen under arrest in Occupied France "for any cause" are now considered as hostages following the killing of a Nazi soldier in Paris.

23rd Aug.—The French Cabinet meets twice to consider internal policy. The Official Journal publishes a new drastic law, threatening communists with imprisonment and hard labour and in certain cases, with death. A thousand arrests are made in Paris. Nevertheless, sabotage on the railways continues to be reported.

24th Aug.—Mr. Connally, Chairman of the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, declares: "If the Vichy Government permit German control of Martinque or other French territory in the Western hemisphere, we shall seize that island or any such territory and hold it by armed force".

Mr. Pucheux, Vichy's Minister of Interior, threatening dire penalties against Communists and disturbers of the peace, accuses agents of the Comintern of attempts to stir up trouble in Occupied France and thus make difficult the relations between Vichy and Germany.

25th Aug.—The Canadian Government ban the export of coal to the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in order to forestall any possible attempt to use the islands as Axis fuelling bases.

26th Aug.—Many anti-German riots are reported in France. Four Vichy Ministers arrive in Paris to discuss with the local French authorities the question of combating "terrorism" as well as the reorganization of the food position.

27th Aug.—Shots are fired by a young Frenchman at Pierre Laval and Marcel Deat during a ceremony at Versailles marking the departure of French "Volunteers" to fight Russia. Both the ex-Premier (and lover of collaboration with the Axis Powers) and the dissident Socialist leader are carried to hospital.

28th Aug.—The first executions of Communists under the new "terror laws" have taken place in Paris.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

22nd Aug.—Clashes are reported between the Italian troops and the members of the Peasant Party in Croatia.

23rd Aug.—Count Raczynski, Polish Ambassador in London, is appointed Foreign Minister of Poland in succession to M. Zaleski, who resigned from General Sikorski's Cabinet on the signing of the Polish-Soviet Pact.

King Leopold, it is revealed, has twice refused to return to the Belgian Throne and act as a "Belgian Laval."

25th Aug.—Nearly 200 guerilla fighters in the Bosnian Province of Yugoslavia are executed by the German authorities.

26th Aug.—Sabotage is reported to be rife in Belgium

Professor Bartel, former Prime Minister of Poland, is reported to have been shot by the Gestapo.

27th Aug.—Despite mass arrests, the Norwegians continue to wreck German military camps and communications. A particularly violent explosion in a munitions dump is reported from Trondheim.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

23rd Aug.—King Zahir Shah, speaking at the National Independence Festival at Kabul, reaffirms Afghanistan's neutrality.

24th Aug.—The Nazi Party newspaper *Voelkisher Beobachter* makes sharp attacks on Switzerland and Sweden for staying out of "the fight against Bolshevism."

The Mexican Government withdraw recognition of the German Consulate in Mexico in retaliation for the closing down of the Mexican Consulates in Occupied France by the German authorities.

25th Aug.—The Argentine Government acquire 16 Italian ships lying in their ports.

26th Aug.—A German plane crashes in Eire and the crew are interned.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Germany claims to have captured Tallinn, the capital of Estonia and the Finns have got into Viipuri. It is reported that in the Leningrad sector, in the centre and in the south, strong counter-attacks are being made by Russia and that twenty-two villages have been recaptured, the Germans having been hurled back thirty miles, probably in the central sector. The fierce battle for Leningrad is proceeding.

German losses in Russia have been terrible. It would appear that about 171 divisions, comprising 5 million men, of the German army's total strength of seven million men, are now engaged on the Russian front. Two and a half million men, including one million killed, constitute the German casualties, according to Moscow Radio. From August 1st to August 22nd it is said that Germany lost 12 armoured divisions, 37 infantry divisions, 8 motorized divisions, 17 infantry regiments and several Storm Troop divisions.

The Duce and Hitler have again met at the Fuehrer's Headquarters. As usual, the official announcement says that all military and political questions were thoroughly discussed in a spirit of close comradeship and common destiny. On his return to Italy the Duce sent a telegram to the Fuehrer which said: "Fervid days passed together will remain an indelible souvenir in my memory."

Reviewing the second year of war, Mr. Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio, told *Reuter's* Correspondent that, with British striking power increasing with every week and every month that passes, with an unshakeable confidence in their ultimate victory over Nazi tyranny, and with the British front solid and unbroken, Britain had entered upon the third year of the war. He further pointed out that Hitler had failed to win the battle for Britain, had failed to deter the United States from rendering ever-increasing aid to Great Britain, had failed in his designs in Iraq, Syria and Persia and failed again to gain a speedy victory over Russia. Hitler was faced with the third winter of the war.

Lord Woolton, the Food Minister, told *Reuters* that British food plans had been continuously strengthened and improved. British food reserves were larger, they were widely distributed throughout the country to increase self-sufficiency and to diminish the risk of destruction of stocks.

Mr. Alexander, the First Lord of the Admiralty, spoke of the victories of Taranto and Matapan, the evacuation of Greece and Crete, the destruction of the Bismark and the ever-growing attack on enemy submarines in the Atlantic.

According to Mr. Martin Agronsky, Ankara correspondent of the National Broadcasting Company of America, the combined Nazi, Bulgarian and Italian forces near the Turkish frontier amount to 16 divisions, with a further four Nazi divisions in Bulgaria. There are rumours about an attack on Turkey being imminent, but it is stated the forces so far taken to the frontier cannot constitute a threat to Turkey, which is fully prepared to meet any menace.

Is Bulgaria resisting German pressure? According to a report from Ankara, Bulgaria has refused to declare war on Russia or to send troops to the Eastern front owing to the traditional friendship between Bulgaria and Russia.

General Dentz, former Vichy Commander-in-Chief in Syria, has been released and is on his way to France.

Authoritative Nazi circles in Berlin say that Germany is in no way bound to find food for people in Occupied countries, that the occupying power was merely concerned to preserve order and entitled to feed its own army from the resources of occupied countries.

Important Chinese successes are reported in the rich province of Fukien. Advancing along both banks of the Min river they have successively taken hold of Fuching, Lenking, Tungkou and Foochow, the last being the capital of the province. Advance is being made on Namoi, one of the few remaining towns in the hands of the Japanese. Does this withdrawal mean a major move by Japan elsewhere?

A characteristic appeal has been made by Thailand to all countries and to all religious, educational and charitable institutions throughout the world to do all they can to bring about world peace. The Thais are Buddhists and they ardently desire the peace and happiness of the whole world. "The smallness of our country" says the appeal "does not deter us from urging the Great Powers to work for the immediate restoration of peace."

Army pilots of the United States, it is reported, have been permitted to resign from service in order to fly pan-American planes on the new ferry air transport service to Africa, as civilians.

An important step that has been taken to ease the shipping situation is the decision of twenty-one American Republican States to seize armed vessels taking refuge in Western Hemisphere ports. Of course, compensation will be paid to countries whose vessels have been taken over. The number of ships involved is one hundred.

MR. MACKENZIE KING'S CALL TO AMERICA

A very important statement by Mr. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, on Thursday, September 4, at the luncheon at the Mansion House, is being extensively commented on in America. After urging the necessity, in order to thwart Nazi consolidation of occupied countries, for all free peoples of the world to stand together, Mr. King said, referring to Mr. Churchill's declaration that, in the Far East, Britain would stand by the United States, that a similar declaration by the United States as regards Nazi Germany would serve to shorten the War. With reference to this part of Mr. King's speech, Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain said, on the same occasion :—

I am grateful to Mr. Mackenzie King today for having put in terms, perhaps more pointed than I, as a British Minister would use, that over-powering sense we have with, him that the struggle is dire and all free men of the world must stand together in one line if humanity is to be spared a deepening and darkening and widening tragedy which can lead only to something in the nature of an immediate world chaos.

THE MIDDLE EAST

A remarkable tribute has been paid by a senior Artillery Officer to the part played by Indian troops in the Middle East. While British troops, he said, were magnificent in their dogged tenacity, and Australians excelled as shock troops, Indians were the troops he preferred for all-round adaptability. Their sense of discipline, he pointed out, was really wonderful. "If they were told to hold a post, they would hold it to the last man and you would have complete confidence in them".

What is the position in the Middle East in respect of which the Indian troops have done so much? Reuter's Correspondent says that the point to be noted is that the flow of supplies to this area from America is daily increasing, a fact which is making the Germans very uneasy, as can be inferred from their night bombing of the Suez Canal area.

In Syria the military position is very satisfactory. People are having increasing confidence in the Free French and in the British Government. Over 50 former Vichy officials have been relieved of their posts as being of extreme Vichy views. The Free French have handed over control of the police at Damascus to the Syrians which is being gradually extended to other services. A civil aviation school for Syrians and the Lebanese has been opened and recruitment is very satisfactory. Currency is now linked to sterling. As a consequence Syria and the Lebanon will hereafter enjoy all the benefits of countries belonging to the sterling group. Tourists are being welcomed. It is stated that up to 7th August 3,000 Vichy troops had rallied to the Free French, 60 officers coming over in one day. This process is continuing.

The situation in Iraq has been stabilized. Most of the officers and the Regent have great experience and influence and have great confidence in the British Government. The new Iraq Government has boldly asked the Italian Embassy to leave and this means the removal of the centre of intrigues and insidious propaganda. So far as Palestine is concerned the situation is very calm. The Arabs and Jews have forgotten their quarrels for the time being in the midst of stirring events around them. A great effort is being made in regard to war production.

The events in Iran should have an encouraging effect not only on Turkey but on Syria, Iraq and Palestine. The strong action of the Allies has instantly removed to a considerable extent the anxieties felt by Turkey. She may, therefore, be able to withstand the continuous pressure being brought to bear upon her by Germany by diplomatic moves and by way of threats of military action.

TWO NOTABLE SPEECHES

In a speech at Coventry Mr. Anthony Eden spoke of the Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration and said that it was the charter of all free nations to establish the principles which would be equally valid for all nations, both great and small. It excluded all idea of hegemony, of zones of leadership, whether in the East or the West. It was a declaration, he pointed out, that the Allies too had plans for peace as well as strategy for war. The whole world knew now that the choice lay between Hitler's New Order and the New Order of the Allies. Under the latter the whole of Germany would be placed in a condition in which it would be impossible for her to re-arm and renew the struggle for domination over the world. And the economic relations of all countries, including Germany, would be so regulated that no nation would in future be starved out of its proper economic position by autarchic methods of trade.

Mr. Roosevelt's address on Labour Day placed emphasis on the necessity for the preservation of American rights which could be assured only by the end of Hitlerism. That task might be long and arduous, but America was determined. He said that it was dangerous to assume that Hitler had been blocked and halted. When in any war, he pointed out, your enemy seemed to be making slower progress than he did the year before, that was the very moment to strike with redoubled force to end for ever and for all time the menace to the world conquest and thereby end all talk or thought of any peace founded on compromise with evil. On this subject of negotiated peace, President Roosevelt spoke as follows and this ought to hearten those who are engaged in putting down Nazism :—

"There are a few appeasers and Nazi sympathisers who say it cannot be done. They even ask me to negotiate with Hitler—to pray for crumbs from his victorious table. They do, in fact, ask me to become a modern Benedict Arnold and betray all I hold dear—my devotion to our freedom, to our churches, to our country. This course I have rejected. I reject it again. Instead, I know I speak for the conscience and determination of the American people when I say, we shall do everything in our power to crush Hitler and his Nazi forces. American workers, American farmers, American businessmen and American churchmen, all of us together, have the great responsibility and the great privilege of labouring to build a democratic world on enduring foundations. May it be said on some future Labour Day by some future President of the United States that we did our work faithfully and well."

THE FAR EAST

Talks are now proceeding between Japan and America which are of a preliminary character in order to see whether the outstanding questions in dispute between the two countries can possibly be settled by negotiation. In America there is a good deal of difference of opinion as to the possibility of any such settlement, the underlying policies of the two countries being so vastly at variance with each other. There is anxiety in Berlin lest Japan should move away from the Axis. On the other hand, representatives of the Japanese Army egg on Japan to action. The Japanese Army Press Chief said the other day that Japan must break through the American, British, Chinese and Dutch Indian encirclement and if necessary, use force. It would be the height of folly, he said, to sit by idly and await death. It is reported that the civilian members of the Government who want to avoid war are adopting a conciliatory tone.

What is exactly the position? America insists on the maintenance of her rights and interests in the Pacific, strict observation of treaty obligations and modifications of treaties by negotiations and not by force. Is America likely to recede from this position? If Japan adopts a conciliatory attitude, she should move away from China, recognising her independence and integrity. Again, America is determined to help Russia in her struggle against Germany.

British and American firmness is having its influence on Japan. Tankers of aviation spirit have been leaving America for Vladivostock. A Japanese spokesman stated that Japan could not be indifferent to the supply of war materials to Russia by this route, but the Japanese tone has since changed after Mr. Churchill's call that "This has got to stop" and after Mr. Cordell Hull's firm attitude. The course of future events cannot be predicted with any accuracy, but it should not surprise anybody regard being specially had to the increasing suspicion of Germany felt by Japan, if civilian influence in that country is able to put a break on the ambitions of the military junta. The economic situation is further serious and Prince Konoye has asked the country to develop its economic resources to the highest degree, because Japan was facing the 'gravest crisis' in her history. Meanwhile, A.B.C.D. collaboration and co-operation in respect of defence and of checking aggression on the part of any power should have a sobering effect. A large section of the Japanese people would prefer to get as much territory and power as possible without a conflict. What concerns them very much is the danger from bombing Japanese cities.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The second anniversary of the war finds the German and Russian armies locked in a death grapple over the two thousand miles front from the Baltic to the Black Sea. The twelfth week of their campaign in Russia still finds the Germans away from their principal objectives—Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev and Odessa. The German claims to have penetrated the outer defences of Leningrad and to be preparing a final assault on the city should be taken with

(Continued on Page 5)

PRODUCTION, MORE PRODUCTION AND STILL MORE PRODUCTION

WATCHWORD FOR THIRD YEAR OF WAR

The watchword for the third year of the Second Great War which has commenced is increased production of war materials of every kind—guns, tanks, planes, ships. In a war of this magnitude any failure to equip the fighting forces with the most modern weapons and to replace them when they are lost would be to court ignominious defeat. If there is one lesson that has been taught to the Allies by experience during the present struggle, it is this: Provide tools for your fighting men and they will do their job. Mr. Anthony Eden emphasised this point in the speech which he made at Coventry on Saturday last. "To be short of materials in war," he said, "was the most costly method of waging war not only in life but in material. Had Britain and her French and Belgian Allies possessed in France last summer the armoured units and air support that the German armies enjoyed, Germany might to-day be fighting a war on land on two fronts. To be richly supplied in equipment was the best economy in war. British forces have never been so supplied yet. We cannot ourselves be content until our men command in every arm weapons which in design and execution are fully a match for the best that Germany can do. And if our men have the equipment, you may be sure they will make good use of it."

It is sometimes asked whether it is not necessary to afford relief to Russia, which is so gallantly struggling against great armies, by providing a diversion in the West by sending an expeditionary force to some part of the Continent. It is true, of course, that in Great Britain there are three million men under arms, fairly well equipped. It is also true that the forces of the Empire are now face to face with the enemy only on one front, that is Libya. But has the time arrived for taking the offensive on land? For the final stroke preceding a triumphal victory, an attempt of that kind must be made, but, as Lieutenant-General Sir Douglas Brownrigg has stated, "an attempt now to launch an attack by land against Western Europe would be to play right into Hitler's hands." The Allies before they can launch such an offensive must obtain superiority in the air, just that superiority which the Navy now enjoys over the Axis Navy. "British air offensive against Germany," says Sir Douglas, "must be restricted to the maximum which can be spared without interfering with the attainment of the main objective. To increase the strength of our bombing raids on Germany at the expense of our long-term policy of obtaining air superiority over the Luftwaffe would be to make a strategical mistake of the first magnitude." Again, while the Russians are giving their best contribution by putting up a grave and courageous defence, the British people should concentrate on production and on intensive military training, producing in factories all the 'tools' for the final battle and making the land forces alert and ready. Of course, the British are on the offensive in the air. During July, the loss of shipping in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the North Sea inflicted on enemy shipping has amounted to nearly half a million tons and during the same period British airmen and ground defences have destroyed 410 hostile aircraft at a loss to themselves of 285 machines. But until the sinews of war are ready, it would be a capital mistake to take to the offensive. "Time is gained," says Sir Douglas, by the Russian holding the Nazi in his grip and production should be ever increasing. "The population of the British Empire," says this authority, "could not support a force of sufficient size to march and roll alone into the heart of Germany until the Nazi will to win was cracking under the hammer blows of an overpowering air force (possibly provided by the combined air forces of Britain and Russia) and until the peoples of the conquered Continent have taken fresh heart to give active help in sabotage and subversive activities of all kinds behind the enemy's lines."

MR. CHURCHILL'S WARNING

There is the further fact to be remembered that German military organisation in North Africa has been proceeding apace. Dakar on French West Africa is now very strongly defended. Bases in Libya are being strengthened and there is danger of pincer movements across Spain on the one hand and Tunisia on the other. Such a move would have to be met by Great Britain and Mr. Churchill may have alluded to this when he spoke of the possibility of the war extending to other fronts.

That is why we find Mr. Anthony Eden in England and Mr. Roosevelt in America laying such great emphasis for the need for increased production. The Royal Air Force has been given the planes they needed and they have done remarkably well. "Given fair odds," said Mr. Anthony Eden, "the army will do the same." "Production," he continued, "was still the key to victory. The output of war material of Allied and associated Powers, including the contribution of the United States, still fell far short of needs and those needs would grow as the tide of war swept wider until it engulfed the world." The call, therefore, is insistent and that is a call for increased effort in the field of production.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S CALL TO LABOUR

President Roosevelt, in his Labour Day address on September 1, urged the great importance of the part which American labour plays at present. "American Labour," he pointed out "now bears a tremendous responsibility in winning this most brutal and most terrible of all wars. In our factories, shops and arsenals we are building weapons on a scale great in its magnitude." The enemies of Democracy know that the American Navy is gaining in strength and that the army is also similarly increasing in all-round strength. They also realize that American industry, employers and employees, is doing its very best to provide the implements of war to those who are fighting against Hitlerism. "Unless we step up the total of our production," said Mr. Roosevelt, "and more greatly safeguard it on its journeys to the battlefields, these enemies will take heart in pushing their attack in the old fields and in new." Mr. Roosevelt also pointed out what Nazi victory would mean to labour. The principles and standards which have been established for its preservation would be gone for ever. If that calamity happens, trade unionism will be a forbidden philosophy, because it demands full freedom of expression and peaceful assembly which are entirely opposed by Dictators. He concluded by saying: "We have already achieved much. It is imperative that we achieve infinitely more. The single-mindedness and sacrifice with which we jointly dedicate ourselves to the production of weapons of freedom will determine in no small part the length of the ordeal through which humanity must pass. We cannot hesitate, we cannot equivocate in the great task before us."

At the invitation of the British Government, Mr. John D. Biggers, Director of Production in the Office of Production Management in America, will shortly go to England to synchronize British and American production. A joint mission from Britain will visit America to discuss with the American experts the question of increased production. It is stated that the American public will have to go without many things to which they are accustomed in order to provide implements of war in the war theatres. Labour, also, will have to forego some of its standards. There is increasing realization of the fact that only production, more production and still more production will win the war.

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from Page* 3)

considerable reserve as it is now evident that their earlier claims to have cut the Leningrad-Moscow railway were somewhat premature! The Russians have abandoned Tallinn, the Estonian capital, and the smaller naval base of Bastiski and the Red Fleet's main base is now Kronstadt, but the possession of Haugoe, Dagoe and Oesel enables the Russians to command the sea approaches to Leningrad. On the Finnish side, the Russians have not only abandoned Viipuri (Viborg) but are reported to have withdrawn to the "Stalin Line" in the Karelian Isthmus in the hope that the Finnish people will over-rule their military leaders and conclude peace on the basis of the Allied guarantee of their pre-war frontiers. Such a move will spare Finland a costly campaign and also enable the Russians to move large forces from this sector to the defence of Leningrad. The Russians have also developed a strong thrust eastwards beneath Lake Ilmen towards Lake Peipus which, if it succeeds, will leave the Germans in the north round Luga and Novogorod in a nasty position. In the Central sector, the Generals under Marshal Timoshenko have launched a series of attacks on von Bock's German troops, which are holding the front from Smolensk to the northern boundary of the Pripet marshes. A Russian "pincers" movement is developing nicely; the right arm under General Rakovski is striking towards Smolensk and the left under General Koniev is attacking through Rogachev and Zhlobin in the direction of Bobruisk. And General Koniev's troops are already reported to have recaptured Gomel and to have frustrated Germany's own attempt at a "pincers" movement—from Gomel and from across the Dnieper in the south against Kharkov—aimed at encircling the whole of the Ukraine and Marshal Budenny's army. The Marshal, after withdrawing the main body of his forces safely across the river, has now reformed and launched a series of counter-attacks back across the river on its western bank. If he meets with success, he may inflict severe damage on the German armies in the Ukraine "pocket." And Odessa is holding out, despite all German attempts, while the Rumanians are still licking the wounds inflicted on them last week by the Russians. Finally, the Soviet Air Force has been very active, raiding Berlin, Danzig, Memel and Koenigsberg. Truly, Hitler must have given a gloomy picture of the Eastern Front to his junior partner in crime when Mussolini visited him at his headquarters. Possibly, he wanted the latter to fill up the wide gaps created in his ranks by the Russian Army!

SITUATION IN IRAN

POLITICAL INTEGRITY OF PERSIA RESPECTED

The latest news in regard to Iran suggests that no further advance will be made by the Russian troops in view of the negotiations between the Soviet Union and Great Britain on the one hand and Iran on the other. So far Soviet troops have captured Urmia between Lake Urmia and the Turkish border, Maragha, a town east of Lake Urmia and south of Tabriz and Mianeh, still further east on the road from Tabriz to Senjan. The British troops advancing from the south have made contact with the Russian forces. It is also reported that the main principles of understanding between Iran and Great Britain and Russia have been settled, but it has not yet been revealed what they are. Considerable insistence is placed on the necessity for so arranging the terms as to make it impossible hereafter for the Nazis to get any stranglehold of Iran again.

It should be emphasized that neither Russia nor Great Britain has any territorial designs on Iran. There should be absolutely no doubt on this point, especially after Mr. Anthony Eden's statement made at Coventry early this week. After pointing out the circumstances which necessitated joint military action in Iran, Mr. Eden stated: "Let me make plain once again our general attitude. We have no territorial claims against Iran. We covet no square inch of Iranian territory. We have no design nor have our Russian allies any design to annex any part of the areas which our forces have now occupied. The British Government and the Soviet Government repeatedly assured the Iranian Government of their determination to respect the political independence and territorial integrity of Iran. We have repeated that pledge to the Government of our ally, Turkey, and the Governments of neighbouring States. That pledge stands. We shall, as soon as military conditions permit, withdraw our forces from Iranian territory."

He had hopes that out of the troubled events of the last few weeks might grow a closer and more intimate friendship between the Allies and Iran. There was nothing they would like better. They knew that a strong and independent Iran was an essential element in the stability of the Middle East. "We covet neither Iranian lands nor her wealth. Collaboration of friends and not occupation by enemies is the goal we seek in Iran. Food will be sent for our armies and for the people of Iran. All that we can do to ease their lot will be done. Let us hope that in future we can work together."

MILITARY JUSTIFICATION

Persia is the "Clapham Junction" of the defensive system of the whole Middle East, Russia and India. Once established there the Nazis could have spread their tentacles into Afghanistan across the Pamirs—mountains being no barriers in these days of high-flying aircraft—into Tibet and Sinkiang. They could have paralysed Imperial air and sea communications to Australia and New Zealand, and helped themselves to 16,000,000 tons of Iraqi, Persian and Bahrein oil. Slowly, inexorably they were tightening their stranglehold on Persia. One little twist more and the trick was done. India, Iraq, Syria, Transjordinia, Afghanistan and even Arabia would have fallen to pieces. The whole of that part of Asia which is predominantly Muslim would have been overrun by Nazi hordes. With these possibilities staring her in the face what could Britain have done? What did her critics expect her to do? Just look on as a disinterested spectator? And yet these critics have often been heard loudly to denounce Britain for not having gone to the help of Abyssinia and Albania, conveniently forgetting that the only way to render help to a threatened country is to forestall the enemy by military action. Had Britain failed to take the necessary initiative now and had the Germans dug themselves into Persia, Britain's inability to see "the writing on the wall" would have been denounced.

THE MORAL ASPECT

Nazism is a danger to civilization; it aims at a throwback to the primitive days when the few ruthlessly ruled the many and treated them as veritable slaves. The question is whether, if the Nazis win, there will be any moral values left at all. Darre (Reich Minister for Agriculture) has openly said that the conquered peoples shall be the slaves of a "new aristocracy of German heroes." In view of this is it not the moral duty of all those who love freedom and democracy to fight the Nazis on land, sea and air, in every continent or every country where they raise their head? If it is conceded that the Nazis are a danger to mankind—and all are agreed on that—British intervention in Persia is morally justified. That Britain has no axe to grind in Persia is proved by the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration, to which pointed reference was made in the last issue.

Further, British foreign policy in recent years has been one of friendship on a progressive basis of equality with Muslim countries in the Middle East. Persia herself provides a very good example. At the end of the last war she was in no position to oust the British armies from the strategic positions which they had occupied. Yet Britain withdrew every single soldier of her own accord and left Persia to govern herself as she liked.

OTHER MOSLEM COUNTRIES

In Iraq, Britain was in a position to continue to hold the country not only by force of arms but with international sanction behind her. And yet in 1932 she acknowledged Iraq's independence and procured her admission to the League of Nations as a full member. During the period of the mandate, she organized Iraq's administration, trained her army, gave her an extensive irrigation system, developed her oil and other resources, and brought her trade, wealth and prosperity, at considerable expense to the heavily burdened British tax-payer. Even now Empire Engineers are engaged on the construction of a 350-mile road which it is proposed to hand over to the Iraqi Government as a gift.

Recently, Rashid Ali's rebellion which might have had disastrous consequences for Iraq was suppressed with the minimum force, and yet Britain has demanded no more than her bare treaty rights from the Iraqi Government.

Similar treatment has been extended to Transjordan which is ruled by Amir Abdullah on a modified parliamentary basis. In April 1925, a declaration was made that, subject to the approval of the League of Nations, Britain would recognize the existence of an independent government in Transjordan, provided such a government was constitutional. A resultant agreement was signed in Jerusalem on February 20, 1928, and was ratified on October 31, 1929. It was for very good reasons that on the outbreak of the war Amir Abdullah sent a cable to His Majesty King George VI, saying, "My people and I stand fast beside you and I take this opportunity publicly to affirm my support of your just cause." Six months later (March 8, 1940) he said, "If blood must be shed in the defence of our principles and our country, Arab blood should be mingled with that of our friends, the British."

Egypt provides another example of Britain's policy of terminating her controlling powers over dependent states at the earliest possible moment and limiting intervention in their government to an absolute minimum.

Formerly part of the Turkish Empire, a British Protectorate over Egypt was declared on December 18, 1914, the Khedive was deposed and the title of Sultan of Egypt was conferred on Hussein Kamil, eldest living prince of the family of Mohamed Ali. The Protectorate was terminated on February 28, 1922, and Sultan Fuad, brother of the first Sultan, was proclaimed King of Egypt on March 15, 1922.

On August 26, 1936, an Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of Alliance was signed in London to continue for twenty years, whereby the military occupation of Egypt by British forces was terminated. According to the terms of Article 8 of this Treaty, Egypt authorises, without prejudice to her sovereign right, British forces to be stationed in the vicinity of the Suez Canal until such time as the Egyptian Army is in a position to ensure the defence of the canal by its own resources.

The comments in the Arabic Press are a measure of the friendship which Britain's unselfish policy has won in Egypt. Lecturing in Arabic in Cairo recently Hafiz Afifi Pasha, former Egyptian Ambassador in London, said "There is no doubt that Britain's success in achieving such results under the worst possible conditions is mainly due to the fact that she has understood down the ages the true spirit of real democracy and applied it in the best possible way." Hussein Sirry Pasha, Egyptian Premier, said in an interview, "Egypt has a treaty with Britain and she will stick to it. Tell that to the world and leave nobody any illusions about it."

PALESTINE

The admittedly difficult position in Palestine has been repeatedly exploited by all enemies of Anglo-Arab friendship. But it is noteworthy that Germany is directly responsible to a very considerable extent for the dissatisfaction expressed by the Palestine Arabs in the years immediately preceding the war. The normal Jewish immigration to Palestine was not such as to cause any real apprehension in the Arab mind. While immigration had been kept as low as 5,249 in 1929, 4,075 in 1931 and 9,553 in 1933 (first year of the National Socialist Revolution in Germany) it jumped to 42,359 in 1934 and 61,856 in 1935—thanks to the Nazi regime in Germany.

Britain has made repeated efforts, consistent with her responsibilities as a mandatory power, to solve the Palestine problem to the satisfaction of both parties. She has done her best to allay Arab fears. As recently as May 17, 1939, a White Paper approved by the British Parliament said: "His Majesty's Government declare unequivocally that it is not a part of their policy that Palestine should become a Jewish State." The determination of the Government to enforce this policy was demonstrated when on February 7, 1940, Mr. Malcolm Macdonald was asked in the House of Commons whether some 2,000 hapless Jewish refugees, marooned on small barges on the Danube, might be granted special entry into Palestine. Mr. Macdonald replied with a firm 'No.'

Whatever differences and grievances Palestinian Arabs may have had before the war they have unequivocally declared their position in this period of crisis as is evidenced by a vigorous leading article in the *Falastin* which said: "The Arabs now set aside their local issues in order to play their role in this world conflict, cherishing the hope that when justice emerges victorious they will be adequately rewarded for their loyalty."

TWO YEARS OF WAR

ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY'S TRIBUTE TO INDIA

In the course of his broadcast address on Wednesday, 3rd September His Excellency the Viceroy said, after referring to the events of last year :—

" India stands firm. Her young men have come forward to answer the call for service on the sea, on land and in the air; her factories, her mills, her dockyards are working night and day to produce munitions and equipment, the Princes and people have poured their wealth in free will offerings to meet the cost of war; her citizen defenders have enrolled themselves in tens of thousands to protect their homeland and to secure the public peace.

And the world will not forget how, after the darkest hour of the Allied cause, Indian soldiers went into a battle on a December morning in the Western Desert, as the spearhead of a great attack, and won at Sidi Barrani, our first resounding victory.

Today, India is the focus of the nations and territories of the Eastern Group. In Egypt, in the Sudan—whose people have shown their gratitude by a splendid gift—in Eritrea and Ethiopia; in Iraq, Syria and Persia, the armies of India have sought and found glory on many fields. They have dealt faithfully with the Italian Empire, which lies in ruins in East Africa; they have forged new lines in the comradeship of arms and have protected great neighbouring nations against the imminent or actual threat of the invader.

Men and women of India, be proud of your sons and brothers. Not only of your soldiers, sailors and airmen, but of all those others too, who are playing their part, not always spectacular, but none-the-less valuable, in this total war. The merchant seamen of India; the men in the factories and in the fields; the Civil Servants and the Police; the Civic Guards and the A.R.P. Services; the businessmen who cheerfully undertake, each of them, three or four men's work in the interests of national service; the women workers and many others who give of their best whether in money or service. These too are playing their part in this mortal struggle. They have not been privileged to stand in the front line of battle; to their lot has fallen the less exciting but necessary work of war behind the lines; but on their patience and perseverance and on their stout-hearted confidence depends, no less than on our Armed Forces, the ultimate triumph of our efforts to rid the world of the obscene pestilence of Nazism.

There are those amongst us who would like to reap the harvest of victory without having put their hands to the plough.

Others there are who, for one reason or another, are not ashamed, though the nation stands in grave peril, to seek to divide the people, to weaken the war effort, to destroy confidence. But that is not the spirit of India.

Do not, I beg of you, let this insidious Fifth Column eat like dry rot into the fabric of your determination. Be united, stand firm and persevere. It was in this spirit of co-operation that our soldiers scaled the heights of Keren and Amba Alagi, and stormed Damascus; it was in that spirit that they broke through the iron ring at El Mechili, and are continuing the heroic resistance at Tobruk. When the tremendous conflict which we are witnessing passes into history, it will be deeds such as these that will be inscribed, for India's honour, in golden letters on the banners of victory."

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ON THE GREAT INDIAN ARSENAL.

His Excellency Sir Archibald Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief, stated in the course of his broadcast speech on Wednesday, 3rd September :—

" A year ago the battle of Britain was in progress, the greatest air fight than ever there had been, the loss of which might have meant the loss of the war. That great battle was won, and today we carry air warfare into enemy-occupied countries, far into Germany itself.

In the Middle East a year ago, the situation was serious. Today, the Italian African Empire is no more. Of nearly a quarter of a million Italian and native troops in Italian East Africa, only a few thousands remain in one small corner, blockaded and harmless.

Last year, war had not reached the Balkans. Today they have been overrun by the Germans.

A year ago Russia was netural, and sold oil, wheat and other war materials to Germany. Hitler, with a typical act of unheralded aggression, decided to kill the goose which laid the golden eggs. Russia, fighting in heroic fashion, has dealt blows with a weight which Germany has not suffered before. The military situation in certain parts of Russia is serious, but it is by no means desperate, and the rapid collapse, on which Germany

counted, has not occurred. The Russian army is still in being and still fighting with characteristic stubbornness, and the morale of the Russian people is still high.

" A year ago, the German fifth column tactics had taken the world by surprise. Now that they are understood, in Syria and Iraq the Nazi intrigues were anticipated and stopped before ruin and tragedy could overtake those countries. The same is now being done in Iran. Unlike Germany, the British Commonwealth has no territorial designs on those countries.

" This time last year, India was just embarking on a first expansion programme. There were comparatively few Indian troops abroad, though already some had taken part in the gallant defence of British Somaliland, and an Indian division was standing on guard by the Western frontier of Egypt. The first expansion of 100,000 soldiers had not then been completed. Today, there are well over 100,000 Indian troops serving overseas, and the total of India's fighting forces is approaching the mark of one million. You all know how greatly Indian troops have distinguished themselves during the last year in the Western Desert, in Eritrea, in Abyssinia and in Syria.

" The Indian Air Force, the younger brother of the Royal Air Force, is expanding, though not as rapidly as I could wish.

" India has always been a full reservoir of fighting men. Now, she is becoming also a large arsenal of warlike production. Great strides have been made in the last 12 months. A year ago, Indian factories were only just beginning production. Now, they are producing armoured vehicles, guns, ammunition and warlike stores of all kinds, not only for India's armed forces but also for the forces of other members of the Commonwealth.

" India's armed power has thus greatly increased in every way during the last year. It is well since the war has come nearer to India. I must emphasize to you the fact that it is only our soldiers outside India who are protecting this country from the horrors of invasion and bombing."

MESSAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS

In his message to the people of the Madras Presidency, His Excellency the Governor of Madras said :—

Today we enter upon the third year of war,—a war fought by Nazi Germany for the enslavement of the world, by ourselves to ensure that the ideals of freedom and justice shall not perish from the face of the earth.

A year ago Britain was fighting desperately against an imminent threat of invasion, a threat magnificently repulsed by the Royal Air Force. Since then, despite the overwhelming of our gallant Greek and Yugoslav allies, the situation has improved considerably, thanks to the determination of Great Britain, the Dominions and India, and the valour of their fighting forces on land, sea and air. The armies of Italy in Africa have been crushed, and her empire in Abyssinia overthrown. Syria and Iraq have been rescued from Nazi domination. The great nation of Russia, bravely resisting Hitler's sudden and treacherous onslaught, is now ranged solidly on our side. The United States too, with its limitless resources, is now resolved with us to see that tyranny destroyed which Nazism has forced upon Europe and threatens to impose on the whole world.

Momentous happenings are foreshadowed and the unhappy peoples in the conquered countries look with fresh trust and courage towards the day of deliverance, their trust and courage finding expression in the V symbol in its various forms.

This symbol has now spread far beyond the borders of the occupied countries where it signifies not only sympathy with those oppressed peoples, but a determination to rescue them and the world—once and for all—from Nazi brutality and injustice.

It is in this spirit of determination that we adopt this symbol in Madras, whose war effort has been splendid in men and money, making me ever the more proud to be its Governor. I am indeed grateful to all of you who have helped to achieve so much, and I am confident that your efforts will not flag, but on the contrary will become greater and greater, feeling as we all must, that this second anniversary is pre-eminently an occasion for a re-dedication of ourselves and our services to further and even more determined effort. I feel, too, that others will be helped by example to range themselves with us.

We in India—thanks in large measure to the courage and endurance of Indian troops stationed in the outposts of this country's defences—have so far been spared the horrors of war; but the danger is ever present and shows signs of developing in new forms and from new directions.

Let us not fail them, soldiers and sailors and airmen alike, and civilians too, whose lot is cast in the zone of actual hostilities, but let us redouble our efforts so that, when the great Day comes, as come it must, we may truly feel that we, too, have helped in the words of His Excellency the Viceroy—' to spell out the final letters of V for Victory.'

CLIPPING THE EAGLE

I. THE AXIS

1940

STEEL BREAKS THROUGH

(a) Operational.

1. Nazi bombers' "blanket" attack on Polish airfields, before defenders were aware war had started, ensured air superiority for *Luftwaffe* in 1939.

This policy continued with remarkable success, in 1940, in Norway, Holland, Belgium, France.

Murder raids on civilians and sheer weight of metal, plus Russia's *defensive* occupation of Eastern Poland, enabled Hitler to complete conquest in one month and send back a first contingent of 700,000 Polish prisoners to work in German fields and factories.

In 1940 Hitler's conscript army of foreign workers in Germany approaches 3,000,000 mark.

Goering boasts that industrial plant captured in Upper Silesia is well out of range of enemy bombers.

2. Aerial blitz on Rotterdam—Killing 30,000 people and reducing centre of city to rubble in seven-and-a-half minutes—hastens fall of Holland.

Belgium pays dearly for scrupulously observing neutrality. B.E.F. races to rescue, gets no further than Louvain, is hampered by contrary flood of panic-stricken refugees blocking *main roads*.

Dive-bombers blast gap in Allied line, German panzers dash forward to seize Channel ports and encircle 437,000 British troops.

Westward German advance begins May 10; Petain seeks armistice terms June 17. Nazis occupy two-thirds of France, sponsor puppet French Government at Vichy, secure bases for projected invasion of Britain and Battle of Atlantic.

3. German tanks prove instrumental in conquering greater part of Europe.

Speed of advance characterises new-style warfare.

Overwhelming numbers ensure Nazi victory.

1941

SPIRIT BEATS STEEL

(a) Operational.

1. Polish fighter pilots flying with Royal Air Force from bases in Britain have destroyed 250 German planes in past year.

Large contingent of Free Poles, led by General Sikorski, mans defences of Britain, waits impatiently for day of retribution.

Free Polish Government in London concludes agreement with Russia by which 100,000 Polish war prisoners are released and embodied to fight against the Nazis who have murdered their wives and children and enslaved their brothers.

In record long-distance fight (February 16, 1941) Royal Air Force drops leaflets on Cracow and Katowice. Four months later Soviet Air Force and R.A.F. join hands across the Reich; while R.A.F. raids from Petsamo to Pantelleria and Brest to Berlin, S.A.F. spreads fire bombs and high explosives from Stettin to Constanza and Bucharest to Berlin.

2. On July 16, 1941, Dutchmen wave a greeting as British Blenheim bombers put out of action or severely damage 140,000 tons of Axis shipping in single daylight raid on locks at Rotterdam.

Free Belgian Forces co-operate with British troops in Africa. King Leopold refuses to act as Axis stooge, prefers to be treated as war prisoner.

British soldiers evacuated in the "Miracle of Dunkirk"—384,000 of them—form a young, but veteran nucleus of the great army of 4,000,000 that has sprung up almost overnight in the island fortress.

Royal Air Force rout of *Luftwaffe* and battering of invasion bases which thwarted Hitler's plan to live in Buckingham Palace, goes long way toward winning Atlantic Battle.

3. English Channel is biggest tank trap Hitler's armoured divisions have yet had to face; it baffles them.

Britain—birthplace of first metal monster ever conceived—retakes lead in tank design. 'Churchill' and 'Covenanter' are Britain's powerful answer to Nazi panzers.

With steel dreadnoughts, Wavell conquers Cyrenaica, smashes eight Italian divisions, advances 675 miles in two months.

Reckless Nazi offensives deplete manpower. In first 18 months of war Berlin admits 206,086 service casualties, compared with corresponding British figure of 63,502. Since then Hitler's men have fallen in their thousands in the Balkans. Already more than 2,000,000 casualties have been suffered in Russia, where for the first time Hitler meets his match in manpower (cf. Germany's 78,000,000 with Russia's 193,000,000 population).

1940

4. Local air superiority has been an essential feature of every Nazi success.

5. Superior productive capacity ensures Nazi victory in every campaign.

Goering's Four-Year Plan has placed Germany's industry on war footing before outbreak of hostilities. This policy has paid enormous dividends in the shape of territorial and industrial acquisitions.

6. Italy enters war, promises to sweep Royal Navy from *Mare Nostrum*.

7. Hitler depends on Mussolini to keep Britain busy in the Middle East.

8. Axis agents, Grobba, Roser, von Oppenheim and von Hentig active in Arab countries, threaten British positions guarding Suez, western gate to India.

Vichy Government's weakness threatens to jeopardise Freedom Front in Middle East by allowing Syria to fall into Axis hands.

9. Three-Power Axis Pact designed to halt active American aid to Britain and embarrass Britain by opening up Far East front.

1941

4. Royal Air Force mastery of daylight skies over Britain established beyond dispute.

Royal Air Force night fighters, improved anti-aircraft barrage and "other devices" discovered by technical research take increasingly heavy toll of night raiders.

Local air superiority brings further German successes in Balkans and Crete, but loss of 7,300 planes in first two months of Russian campaign helps Royal Air Force to approach air mastery of skies over Continent as well as Britain.

5. In Russia, Germany is opposed for the first time by a nation with equally efficient industrial organisation.

Eight thousand of Hitler's precious panzers are destroyed in two months.

Progress of invasion is slow and punctuated by unexpected hold-ups. Single battle for Smolensk takes as long as the entire campaign in the West last summer.

General Koniev's counter-offensive in Smolensk sector shatters Hitler's dream of a one-way advance, wins Allied praise.

6. Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham carries a whip at the masthead, flays Italian warships at Taranto, Matapan, and in a score of minor engagements, bombards Valona, Genoa, Alghero without opposition: Italian Navy skulks in funkhole harbours, relies on air force to act as substitute. Cunningham proves that there is only one answer to the question: Can Italian bombs beat British battleships?

7. Italian failure on Greco-Albanian front forces Hitler to come to the rescue.

Italian failure on Egyptian-Libyan front forces Hitler to come to the rescue.

Italian failure in the Middle Eastern sky forces Hitler to come to the rescue.

Conquest of East Africa keeps open Red Sea Supply route, which Mussolini was supposed to have closed.

8. Von Hentig stages revolt in Iraq headed by Rashid Ali, but prompt military action restores position.

Hitler's agents flee to Iran, which British and Russian troops enter on August 25, 1941.

Meanwhile, Allied occupation has prevented Syria from becoming base for Axis aggression.

9. Japan's southward expansion drive arrested by economic frost manufactured by A.B.C.D. coalition.

Japan still shivering on the brink as powerful reinforcements arrive in Burma and Malaya.

1940

(b) Surprises

1. Stuka dive-bombers are a menace to shipping and the most fearful weapon front-line troops have ever had to face.

2. Fifth Column, parachutists and swift mechanised thrusts upset all theories of position warfare, teach Hitler's victims a bitter lesson.

3. Magnetic mines had made their first appearance November 10, 1939.

4. Germany uses powerful warships as surface raiders.

(c) Summary

Metal, manpower, productive capacity, surprises, give Axis flying start.

Italy's entry and Three Power Axis Pact promises greater successes still.

1941

(b) Surprises

1. Stukas fail to break Malta's spirit or destroy air bases from which British planes hit back at Sicily and S. Italy.

Stukas raid Tobruk 1,000 times in four months; but the garrison hit back at Rommel's African Corps, forcing him to build 40-mile by-pass road out of range of Tobruk raids and artillery barrage.

Aircraft-carrier *Illustrious* stands up to seven-hours battering by Stukas and sails into port under her own power.

2. Stalin's men are forewarned and forearmed; these three surprises meet their match in Russia.

Britain trains parachutists, stages highly successful small scale parachute raid on Italy.

Home Guard knows how to deal with any parachutists who land in Britain. German spy descends by parachute, is promptly apprehended, tried and shot. Herr Hess, by parachute descent in Scotland, provides one of biggest surprises of the war; but Home Guard takes him into custody.

3. Since December 15, 1939, British ships have been fitted with an effective antidote—the de-gaussing girdle.

4. *Graf Spee* and *Bismarck* lie on ocean bed. *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau* and *Prinz Eugen* lie winged and winded in dock at Brest, care of the Air Ministry, Kingsway, London W. 1.

Allies find counters to Axis assets.

(c) Summary

Allied spirit beats Axis steel.

Italy proves a millstone, gives more trouble to Axis than to Allies.

Japan loth to follow Italy's example.

II. BRITAIN

1940

BACKS TO THE WALL.

(a) Beleaguered Fortress.

Forced to withdraw from the Continent, Britain, with her back to the wall, prepares to meet the coming onslaught against the last temple of man's freedom left standing in Europe.

Churchill has " nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat ".

Goering's bombers are shot out of the sky over Britain by the hundred (2,375 downed in 85 days); but still they come.

In the harbours across the Channel tens of thousands of Hun soldiers man barges for invasion drill.

1941

DYNAMIC DEFENCE.

(a) Powerful Springboard.

Britain " goes to it " with a will, transforms beleaguered island fortress into powerful springboard from which to hit back harder every day.

Portal's bombers and fighters push air front back over France.

With American-built aircraft helping to establish Royal Air Force numerical superiority over *Luftwaffe*, weight of British air offensive against Germany grows steadily.

Luftwaffe attacks on Britain begin to peter out as resources drained on Eastern Front.

Invasion barges smashed. Hitler emulates Napoleon and salves frustration by mad adventure in Russia.

1940

(b) Torpedo and Bomb.

With long-range bombers and U-boats based on Biscay coast, Raider seeks to strangle Britain's life-line across the Atlantic and force capitulation.

Bombs on British ports and mines sown from the air in British harbours have the same objective.

Merchant shipping lost in first 22 months of war :—

British ..	1,078 ships	4,605,132 tons.
Allied ..	334 ships	1,498,047 tons.
Neutral ..	326 ships	1,014,943 tons.
Total ..	1,738 ships	7,118,122 tons.

(c) Economic.

Britain spending £12,000,000 cash daily on war effort; Axis broadcasts say this cannot go on without complete financial breakdown soon.

(d) Summary.

Britain faces invasion, starvation, inflation.

1941

(b) British Blockade.

Shipping losses, though severe, fall far below German expectations and grossly exaggerated claims.

Britain does not starve; supply ships defy German under-sea armada.

British ports keep open; dock workers organized to conserve labour, turn ships around in record time.

Meanwhile, British Blockade proves very effective . . . 212 Axis ships bottled up in neutral ports, 4,007,000 tons of Axis shipping sunk, scuttled or captured.

Royal Navy's task eased by transfer of 50 U.S. destroyers for convoy work plus 196 Allied warships now operating from British bases.

Lost merchant shipping tonnage more than replaced by building programmes and by acquisition of Allied fleet as under :—

Dutch	480 ships	2,250,000 tons.
Norwegian ..	720 ships	3,250,000 tons.
French	92 ships	400,000 tons.
Belgian	54 ships	200,000 tons.
Greek	240 ships	1,000,000 tons.
Polish	32 ships	100,000 tons.
Total ..	1,618 ships	7,200,000 tons.

(c) Economic.

Britain still spending £12,000,000 daily, yet economic position as stable as in peace. No sign of inflation, no excess profits on war supplies, stable wage level.

In contrast Dr. Schacht, former President of *Reichsbank*, warns his countrymen that inflation in Germany means " having plenty of money with which you are unable to buy anything." Such is Hitler's " New order."

Furthermore, in Italy, incalculable price fluctuations lead to frantic rush to buy solid assets—land, furniture, jewels.

(d) Summary.

Invasion postponed indefinitely. With 5,000,000 acres under the plough in Britain and strict measures taken to conserve food supplies, plus sea power's effective defence of the Atlantic supply route, spectre of starvation vanishes. Health of Britain never better, says Lord Horder. Inflation bogey dispelled at home, Britain is able to absorb into sterling bloc recovery programme Middle East countries suffering from considerable Axis-injected privation.

THE ALLIES AND IRAN

OBJECTS OF MILITARY ACTION EXPLAINED

The objects which underline the joint military action of Great Britain and Russia in Iran are clearly set forth in leaflets, thousands of copies of which have been dropped by planes over the principal towns in that country. The following are some of them :—

" Iranians, Britain and Russia have demanded expulsion of German agents in your midst because they are precursors of war. Like you we wish to see peace preserved in Iran. We wish peace for our own sake. You must desire peace for yourself. What does war mean? German agents prepared the way for German armies in Norway, Holland, Belgium, Poland, Rumania, Greece. Then war came and Germans occupied those countries. They had been rich and prosperous. Now they are starving. When German conquest is easy, the Germans prey upon conquered lands, like locusts. Fruits of the soil are reserved for the victors and the vanquished go hungry. Where there is resistance, land is laid waste. Had the Germans had time to secure a hold upon Iran before the arrival of British troops they would, to hinder our advance, have destroyed not only railways and roads built at cost of taxes you have paid, but towns and villages of Iran in which you live. They would have slaughtered your cattle, burnt your crops and turned Iran into a desert. From such a fate we will save you, as we saved Iraq and Syria. We do not want your food. We will bring food for those who need it as we are doing in Syria. We did not want your goods but will open your ports to trade as we are doing in Iraq. We come as friends, armed only against the common enemy."

" Soldiers of Iran, we are marching into Iran as your friends. We are doing nothing against your country's freedom and well-being. All we want is to drive out and keep out the accursed Germans. You have no reason to fight against us and you cannot fight against our tanks, guns, aeroplanes. So do not be killed without reason. Many of you have been forced to leave your homes and join the army against your will. Now since there is no need for war, recruits and reservists can go home again. Those who stop with the colours will have regular pay assured them, officers will retain their rank. When Germans promised help to Rashid Ali in Iraq, they never gave it. One of their conditions was that the Iraqi Army should pass under German control. We make no such demands. The Army of Iran remains the Iranian Army, subject to its own national Government. Soldiers of Iran, we come and our greeting to you is ' Peace be with you.' Let your reply be ' And upon you be peace.' Then all will be well, but if any is so mad as to oppose us, if any helps the accursed Germans, then our airplanes, tanks and guns will answer him and he shall be utterly destroyed."

" To the people of Iran. Iran is short of wheat. Why—when she grows plenty of wheat? Because of no reserves. Why not? Because Germany bought huge quantities of wheat from Iran before the war to build up her own reserve. Germans are now eating your wheat while you go without it. There was a wheat famine in spring. You waited hours for bread that was half barley or rice. At last wheat came from foreign countries, but not from Germany. The British Government sent some from India and the Soviet Government sent some from Russia. Germans are locusts: wherever they go, they seize food for their troops and for their starving people in Germany. Europe is starving because of German plunder of occupied countries. They likewise plunder Iran. Germans in Iran have sent to Germany hundreds of thousands of parcels containing things you need such as flour, tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar. Where do these things come from? From the British Empire and countries allied or friendly to her. We shall bring food to Iran as we have already brought food to starving Syria. Germany never sends food. She only takes it away. Locusts! "

THE WORLD'S NIGHTMARE

BRITAIN AND THE AXIS, 1940

Hitler's dreams, nourished in hate to be realized with cold-blooded precision, became in 1940 the world's nightmare. Making use in neighbour countries of unpreparedness, complacency, fear and treachery, the Nazis reached by successive invasions a position so advantageous that their Fuehrer promised total victory by Christmas, 1940.

Britain was blockading Germany. But blockade is a long-term weapon. With 300 million people under his thrall, 3 million foreign workers forced to labour for him, and the factories and farms of the occupied countries in his power, Hitler had grounds for considering that he could withstand blockade for long enough to strike a mortal blow at Britain and all the nations linked with her.

In Europe, the fall of France left Britain fighting alone. The ocean communications with her overseas commonwealth were gravely threatened by extended Nazi air and submarine warfare, by Mussolini's jackal-spring in the Mediterranean and Africa, by a simmering pot of Axis Quislings in the Middle East.

Hoping to warn off the U.S.A., Germany drew Japan and Italy into the three-power Axis Pact. Cowed by threats and pressure, nervous neutrals (Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria) signed on the same line. Russia, still unprepared, was appeasing the voracious enemy with substantial economic help. South America was marked for seizure by Quisling methods.

BRITAIN AND THE AXIS, 1941.

The ' V ' campaign and the increasing resistance show that " in every country into which the German armies and Nazi police have broken, there has sprung up from the soil a hatred of the German name and a contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory."—(*Churchill*).

With London, battered but defiant, as capital, free governments of the invaded countries form resolute Allied front. Russia is no longer Germany's larder but Germany's strong and bitter foe. America's help pours in by guarded routes to Britain, who stands with her in aid to China and firm Pacific policy. The Atlantic Charter binds Britain, the U.S.A., and Russia to aims which the world welcomes.

Checks to Axis plans in Middle East and Africa, repulse of invasion project in Battle of Britain, immense damage to Axis war machine, staunch struggle by Russia, and thrusting of air-front over Germany, hearten the Allies for the difficulties ahead.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON IRAN

(i) Why have British and Russian forces entered Iran?

To preserve themselves, Iran, and neighbouring countries from the grave and growing threat represented by the German drive towards the Caucasus and the German fifth-column in Iran.

(ii) What is the truth about the fifth-column in Iran?

It is the same story as has been seen not only in Europe, but in Iraq and Syria also—the same story which Hitler revealed when he told Hermann Rauschnigg of his plans several years before the war.

The names of the German agents are known. Their appointed tasks in key positions are known. The imminence of Berlin's signal for action in Iran is known.

(iii) Who brought the Germans into Iran and why?

Hitler sent them there to prepare the German occupation of strategic points and thence of the whole country. The present Iranian Government allowed them to enter in pursuance of an unbalanced and ill-designed policy of industrialisation.

Being financed out of revenue, this policy has brought an intolerable burden of taxation on the people of Iran. It has also meant famine and misery on account of the export of foodstuffs to Germany to pay for machinery.

(iv) Could the danger have been removed without British and Russian action?

The enemy within the gates could have been expelled by the Government of Iran. This would have removed the immediate danger. If subsequent operations, however, brought the enemy to the gates from outside, Iran would still have needed help in defending herself.

(v) What would be the danger to India from German action in Iran?

The danger would be extreme. Iran is nearer to India than any other Middle Eastern country which British, Indian and Empire forces have held against Axis attempts.

Iran has a land-frontier with India. From Iranian airfields German bombers could raid Indian cities directly. Or the airfields could be used as "stepping-stones" from more distant German bases.

(vi) Was the Iranian Government adequately warned?

The Iranian Government was given every chance of appropriate action in its own defence against the German menace. Friendly advice in the matter was offered by both Britain and Russia. Only when the situation grew too dangerous to be tolerated was military action resorted to.

(vii) What is the British and Russian attitude towards the people of Iran?

The Allies, true to the Atlantic Charter, "seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other." They have no quarrel with the people of Iran, but only with the Germans, the world's enemies, and with any friends that Germany has secured in Iran by bribery or terror.

Parallel with the military action that has become painfully necessary, steps will be taken to supply the people of Iran with the corn, foodstuffs and other essentials of which ruthless Axis demands have seriously depleted their country.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 18—24, 1941

SYRIA AND IRAQ—SOUR NAZI GRAPES

"Considerable disquiet is felt in Syria. . . . . Nobody in Syria can really believe British promises to mean anything else but a splendid business opportunity for Britain's friends, the Jews. (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 19).

"The clashes between the Syrian population and the British troops of occupation are continuously increasing." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 22).

"Prices are rising in Syria and have caused a crisis in supplies." (*German news in English, Aug.* 23).

"The Iraqi nationalists who have been compelled to leave their country as the result of British tyranny, state that the British are torturing the Indian soldiers in Iraq." (*German news in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 23).

Opinion in Syria has been openly expressed and not at all in terms that the Nazis like to hear. Jamil Mardan Bey, a former leader of the Syrian Nationalist Bloc, said on August 18 that "the main idea of the new Cabinet must be to strive for one end, namely to further Britain's gigantic war effort and expedite final victory." Similarly Seki Bey Khativ of the Shahbandariste Party appreciated "Britain's act in paving the way for the country's independence," and spoke of assisting "the Allied war effort by loyally co-operating with the new French leaders."

Relations between the Syrians and the British and Indian troops are particularly friendly. The Indian troops in Hassetche, for instance, have been distributing free to the needy large quantities of flour, sugar, coffee, tinned food and other necessaries, imported from considerable distances.

On August 22, it was announced that 5,000 tons of wheat are being sent into Syria, of which 1,000 tons have already arrived. Four thousand tons of rice and 1,000 tons of sugar are also being supplied to the Syrians. The currency of Syria has been stabilised (August 21) in terms of the Palestine pound and ultimately in sterling values.

This fantastic falsehood is clearly exposed by its source—the defeated Iraqi Quislings of whom *Al Iraq* asked on July 4: "Which of their crimes do they want us to overlook? Is it the crime whereby they plunged into the war the gallant army it had taken us so many long years to form and develop? Or the crime whereby they made the world look down on us as a people of bad faith who violate their pledged word and treacherously betray their friend?"

FOOD AGAIN

"The French broadcasting station of Djibuti strongly protested against the British attack on French Somaliland. "For the whole year," the speaker declared, "we have been subjected to a blockade which is in no way justified. This blockade has caused an alarming shortage of food, and more and more people are falling victims of starvation every day." (*German news in English, Aug.* 21).

There has been no British attack on French Somaliland. In July General Wavell's offer to evacuate women and children from the country was ignored by the French Governor of Djibuti. General Auchinleck later made definite arrangements for evacuation, but in the meanwhile a supply of milk for children known to be in French Somaliland was sent over the border.

" Greece had ordered 50,000 tons of cereals stored in Egypt and due to be sent to Greece, when it was confiscated by the British authorities. This inhumane act on the part of the British towards their former ally was counteracted by the representatives of the Axis powers. Everything is being done to ensure a full bread ration for the Greek people." (*German news in English, Aug.* 22).

" It is not within British power to let Europe starve," proclaimed the Berlin radio on August 5, 1940, " it is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties."

The Continent has since got into food difficulties solely on account of German plunder. Bread in Greece is rationed to less than one-sixth of normal. In Athens meat is unobtainable except on a doctor's certificate. Potatoes cost ten times the normal price, and fruit and vegetables in the height of the season are two or three times as costly as usual. Special restaurants, however, have been opened for Germans and Italians exclusively.

THE TRUTH MEANS DEATH

" I believe that even in times of war one must not forget the tradition of news agency work to report the truth and nothing but the truth." (*German talk in English, Aug.* 19).

Dr. Goebbels, however, has decided that truth is Germany's mortal enemy. He wrote recently in *Das Reich* " We introduce the death penalty for listening to the B. B. C., and those who despite all warnings continue to do so deserve beheading."

THE WORLD'S NIGHTMARE

" The world can only be ruled by fear, " said Adolf Hiler, to Hermann Rauschnigg five years before the war, " Terror is the most effective political instrument."

How this basic principle—diametrically opposed to the Churchill-Roosevelt programme of a world free from fear—has been put into operation by the Nazis, recent history abundantly shows.

Far from being ashamed of the ferocious destruction of open cities such as Warsaw, Rotterdam and Belgrade, the Nazis have advertised their atrocities, by films and other instruments of propaganda, in order to frighten into submission other countries on their list.

In the same way the Italians boasted of their " achievements " against the unarmed inhabitants of the Ethiopia that by British arms has now returned to its rightful ruler. Mussolini's own son described his pleasure at the results of bombs on an Abyssinian village that " opened like a rose."

Here is one of the Nazi voices—the bloodthirsty roar;

" Women will look in vain for their children, wives will see the charred bodies of their husbands, mothers will weep over the homesteads lost and people will cry for food."—*German broadcast, 13th August* 1940.

" The noise made by the propellers of the German dive-bombers is so hideous that it upsets the mental and moral equilibrium of Britons."—*German Broadcast, 23rd August* 1940.

" The Boston radio is right so far as it says that Germany's aim is to exterminate her enemies."—*German broadcast, 13th August* 1940.

But there is another voice which the Nazis assume from time to time for the purposes of the now notorious " peace offensives." Here are some examples:

" Germany never wants to subjugate other countries."—*German broadcast, 23rd July* 1940.

" The principles of National Socialists also require them to attain their political demands through non-violence.—" *German broadcast, 6th August* 1940.

" How often have I made peaceful gestures? Immediately after I came to power I declared that I did not feel inclined to rearm."—*Hitler's speech to Berlin armament workers—broadcast, 10th December* 1940.

Such protestations are as much a part of the cynical Nazi technique as are the threats that alternate with empty promises. Hitler remains what Churchill has called him, " the repository and embodiment of soul-destroying hatred."

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 26th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 20, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on aerodrome near Alknaar; patrol ships off Frisian Is.	2 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attack on shipping off Norwegian coast (supply ship hit).	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. offensive night fighter patrols over N. France, including attacks on aerodromes.		
August 21, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France and Holland, including raids on steel foundry at **Ymuiden**; railways and industrial objectives in St. Omer and Bethune areas; shipping off French coast (E-boat exploded, another damaged).	14 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	1 day fighter.
	(No reports of night operations—bad weather).		
August 22, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on aerodrome; shipping (several patrol vessels hit).	Nil.	2 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on railways, inland docks and factories at **Mannheim**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Le Havre, Ostend and Dunkirk.	1 night bomber.	..
August 23, Saturday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 24, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter patrols over N. France, including attacks on hangars, barracks, troops, gun positions.	1 day bomber.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on communications and industries in **Dusseldorf** (bad weather).	3 night bombers.	
August 25, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, Belgium and N. France, including attacks on radio and aerodrome near **Cherbourg** (several enemy bombers and fighters damaged), aerodrome in Belgium; shipping off French and Dutch coasts.	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim** and **Karlsruhe** (bad weather).	6 night bombers.	..
August 26, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on aerodromes; shipping off French, Dutch and German coasts (2 ships sunk, others hit).	4 day fighters. 7 day bomber.	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial quarters of **Cologne**; docks at Le Havre and Boulogne.	3 night bombers.	1 night fighter.
	R.A.F. offensive night fighter patrols over N. France including attacks on aerodromes.		

(*Continued on Page* 21)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

29th Aug.—Royal Air Force bombers attack Duisberg and other targets in the Ruhr as well as the docks at Ostend.

A small number of casualties is reported from an enemy air raid on Eastern England.

30th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids Frankfurt and Mannheim.

31st Aug.—Cherbourg is attacked by the Royal Air Force.

1st Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Essen, Cologne and other objectives in Rhineland and the Ruhr.

Many children are killed in a community shelter when German planes bomb the working-class quarter in Hull.

Soviet planes raid Berlin, Koenigsberg, Danzig and Memel.

2nd Sep.—Cologne is raided by the Royal Air Force, which also makes daylight sweeps over France.

Slight damage is caused by an enemy air raid on an area in North-east England.

3rd Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Berlin, Frankfurt, Mannheim and other towns in Western Germany, also the ports of Ostend and Dunkirk.

Bombs are dropped by enemy planes on East Anglia and North-East England but no casualties have been reported.

4th Sep.—Brest and Rotterdam are raided by the Royal Air Force.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29th Aug.—Mussolini, it is revealed, has met Hitler at the latter's headquarters in Russia.

A heavy attack on Benghazi by the Royal Air Force is reported as well as attacks by the Fleet Air Arm on an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean.

31st Aug.—Heavy raids on Tripoli and other Libyan ports are high-lights of the Royal Air Force Middle East Communiqué.

1st Sep.—Enemy planes raid Alexandria and the Suez Canal area.

2nd Sep.—British patrols from Tobruk capture an enemy position. A dive-bombing attack on the garrison by over 100 enemy planes is practically fruitless.

A Royal Air Force Middle East Communiqué reports raid on targets in Sicily and the mainland of Italy.

3rd Sep.—Heavy raids on Tripoli and Benghazi are reported.

4th Sep.—No casualties are caused when enemy planes raid the Suez Canal area.

The enemy makes fruitless dive-bombing attacks on Tobruk.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

29th Aug.—President Roosevelt receives Admiral Nomura and receives from the Japanese Ambassador a letter from Prince Konoye (Premier of Japan).

Mr. Roosevelt appoints Mr. A. Harriman, to lead the American delegation to the Moscow three-power talks and also Mr. Wallace (Vice-President of the U.S.A.) to head a new Supply Priorities and Allocations Board of seven members. Mr. J. D. Biggers is to go to London to work with Mr. Harriman in the task of facilitating and expediting aid to the British Empire.

30th Aug.—Mr. Roosevelt, addressing an informal gathering at his family estate, says that the dangers which have convulsed the world are " not over yet."

31st Aug.—In a Labour Day message, Mr. Roosevelt reminds Americans that no sacrifice is too great in the defence of freedom.

1st Sep.—Mr. Roosevelt, in a special Labour Day broadcast, urges Americans to greater effort in order " to crush Hitler and his Nazi forces."

2nd Sep.—American Labour leaders pledge full support to peoples fighting the Axis.

American army pilots are to be permitted to resign from service in order, as civilians, to fly Panamerican planes on the new Ferry air transport system to Africa.

Mr. Roosevelt says he will have a new Lease-land programme ready by the end of the week.

4th Sep.—President Roosevelt authorizes the first Lease-Lend aid to the Polish Government.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29th Aug.—The Germans claim Tallinn and the Finns Viborg.

30th Aug.—The Germans claim to have advanced beyond Gomel.

A big naval action is reported in the Gulf of Finland between the Russian and German forces.

Fierce battles are reported round Odessa and in the Central Sector, General Koniev's forces have pierced the second line of German defence.

The N.B.C. Commentator at Ankara reports that the Germans have moved towards the Russian front numerous poison-gas containers together with men especially trained in the use of gas.

31st Aug.—Fierce fighting is reported around Leningrad while the German drive east of Smolensk has been completely checked. Heavy rain is falling in the Central Sector.

1st Sep.—The enemy admits counter-attacks by the Russians under Marshal Budenny in the region south of Kiev. The Russians rout a Finnish regiment and thwart German attempts to construct pontoon bridges over the Dnieper.

Finns deny reports that they are negotiating peace with Russia in view of their re-capture of most of the territory lost last year to Russia.

The Moscow Radio says that German casualties in Russia total two million and a half, including one million killed.

2nd Sep.—The Germans claim that a final assault on Leningrad is imminent and that they have captured positions on the outskirts of Odessa. But the Russians are counter-attacking fiercely in the Central Sector and are firmly holding the " Stalin Line " across the Karelian Isthmus in the North.

British planes are on their way through Iran to the Soviet Union.

3rd Sep.—Renter cables that thert is no basis for the German claim to be within fifteen miles from Leningrad.

In counter-attacks in the Centre the Russians recapture twenty-two villages.

In the South Marshal Budeuny is launching a series of attacks on the west bank of the Dnieper.

It is confirmed in London that Lord Beaverbrook is to head the British Delegation to the Moscow talks.

Mr. Cordell Hull discounts rumours of United States mediation between Russia and Finland.

A Soviet Military Mission has arrived in Alaska on its way to Washington.

4th Sep.—A Military Council of six under Marshal Voroshilov is formed to defend Leningrad.

Briansk is still in Russian hands, the German claim to have captured it being merely a " radio victory ".

A United States oil tanker has arrived in Vladivostok with fuel for Russia.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 19)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 26th August 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 20	Nil.	..
August 21	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 22	Nil.	1 day bomber. 1 night bomber.
August 23	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 24	Nil.	..
August 25	Nil.	..
August 26	Nil.	1 night bomber.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

29th Aug.—Soviet and British forces continue to make methodical progress in their occupation of key-posts in Iran.

Berlin claims that a new Serbian Government has been formed in Belgrade by General Neditch.

30th Aug.—Mr. Eden, speaking in the Commons, emphasises that Britain and Russia covet neither Iran's lands nor her territory.

The Soviet forces have occupied the entire Caspian Coast in Iran. Martial law and curfew are imposed in Teheran.

The N.B.C. commentator at Ankara says that a joint Anglo-Soviet command will be set up in Iran.

General Auchinleek, the British Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, arrives in Damascus on a visit of inspection.

31st Aug.—The Iran Premier, addressing the Iranian Parliament, warns the people against believing false rumours such as the one that the Shah and the family have left Teheran.

It is stated in well-informed circles in Simla that the Iranian Government will be asked to facilitate the transit of supplies and war material through Iran to Russia.

Italian troops are reported to be concentrating on the Greek-Turkish and the Bulgarian-Turkish frontiers.

1st Sep.—The C.B.S. broadcaster in Ankara declares that British and Soviet Ministers in Teheran have presented proposals to the Iran Government for "the efficient but discreet occupation of strategic points in Iran". The Iranian Premier says that negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily.

Moscow issues a warning that Hitler is preparing a treacherous attack on Turkey.

2nd Sep.—The N.B.C. commentator in Ankara says that reports are circulating there that an Axis attack on Turkey is imminent.

It is stated authoritatively in London that agreement has been reached on broad principles between Iran on the one side and Britain and Russia on the other.

3rd Sep.—The German Ambassador to Turkey, Von Papen, has gone to Vienna to report to the German Government.

The Iranian Government have handed their reply to the Anglo-Soviet armistice proposals.

The Soviet and British Commanders in Iran meet at Kazvin.

4th Sep.—While the Bulgarian Premier reaffirms friendship with the Axis and has submitted an Anti-Communist Bill to Parliament, it is reported that his Government have informed the Germans that they cannot declare war on Russia or send troops to the Eastern Front.

SHIPPING

31st Aug.—Submarines of the British Mediterranean Fleet (it is revealed) have attacked an Italian squadron and also sunk several enemy supply ships in convoy.

30th Aug.—The Royal Air Force attacks enemy shipping off the coasts of Norway, France and Belgium.

2nd Sep.—An enemy supply ship in convoy is attacked and set on fire by British bombers off Dunkirk.

3rd Sep.—Two schooners in an enemy convoy have been sunk in the Mediterranean.

4th Sep.—Four enemy ships proceeding in a convoy off Sardinia are successfully attacked by the Fleet Air Arm.

The Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission reveals that American shipping programme is ahead of schedule.

The British cruiser Hermione has rammed and sunk an Italian submarine.

FAR EAST

29th Aug.—French troops are reported to have crossed the Indo-China border into China. The Chinese Government have launched a protest.

Large-scale raids by Chinese forces on Japanese occupied territory in China are reported.

30th Aug.—A Tokyo broadcast says that American oil supplies sent to Vladivostok "are not worth serious attention".

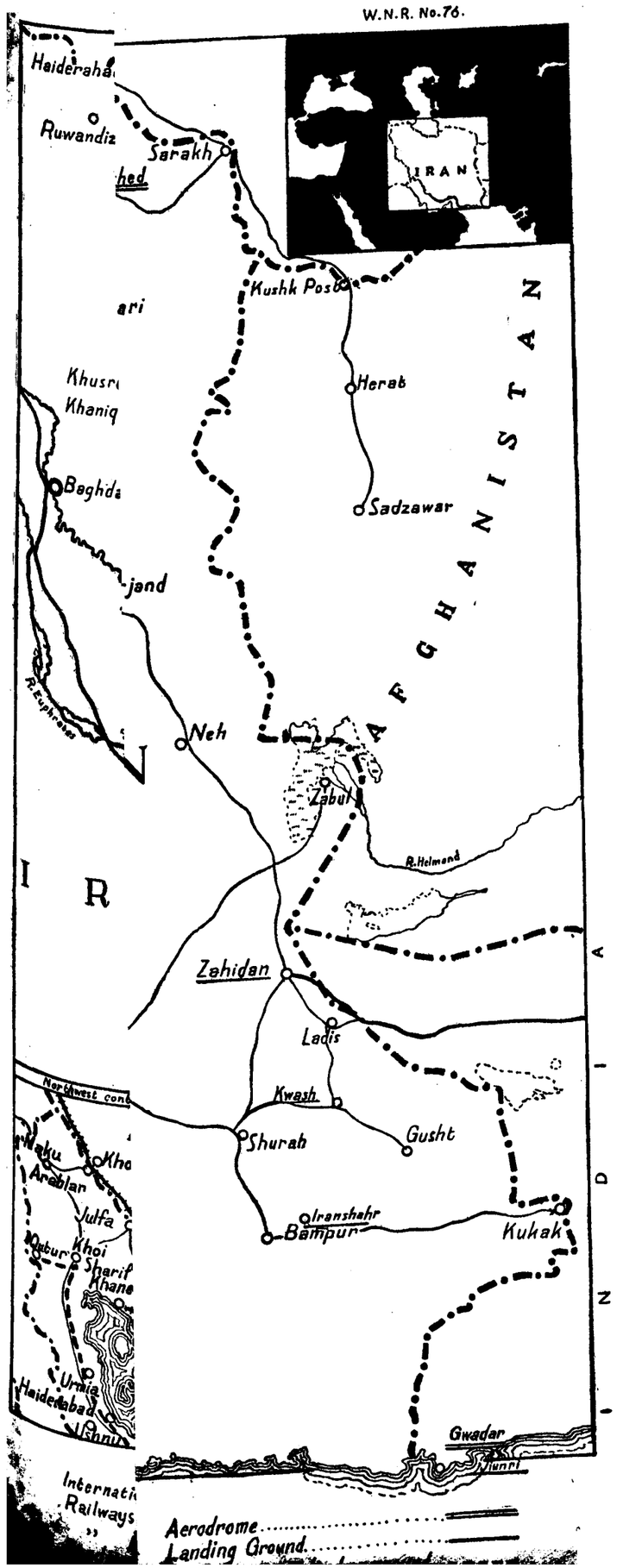
31st Aug.—Japanese planes raid Chungking and Chengtu.

The Thailand Government contradict the Japanese report that Britain has threatened economic pressure against Thailand unless the latters stops trade relations with Japan.

1st Sep.—Japanese plane drop bombs in hills some distance to the west of Chungking.

2nd Sep.—The Thailand Government, in a 2000-word manifesto, appeal to the belligerent as well as neutral countries and to religious, educational and charitable institutions throughout the world to do all they can to bring about world peace.

3rd Sep.—There is no confirmation in Washington of the report that Prince Konoye has invited President Roosevelt to a meeting on the high-seas.



Shanghai reports speak of an impending Cabinet crisis in Japan.

Considerable Indian reinforcements have arrived in Singapore.

4th Sep.—The Japanese Emperor grants one of the longest audiences of recent times to the Foreign Minister.

The Chinese occupy the city of Foochow, the capital of Fukien Province, the Japanese having withdrawn from the same.

Hundreds of United States pilots are on their way to China to join the Chinese Air Force.

VICHY

30th Aug.—Five Frenchmen are executed by a military court in Paris for participating in a Communist demonstration and two Frenchmen and one Dutchman for espionage.

2nd Sep.—Marshal Petain is reported to be negotiating a final peace with Italy and Germany.

3rd Sep.—It is revealed that Vichy has made a formal request to Germany for a final peace treaty and that the Germans are reluctant to agree.

Vichy Army and Navy personnel continue to go over to Free France.

General Dentz and other Vichy Officers in Syria are being released but two are detained pending the return of two British Officers who have not yet reached Syria from France.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

30th Aug.—The Polish Prime Minister, General Sikorski, confers with Mr. Eden.

31st Aug.—Pestilence and famine are reported from the Balkan countries. Sabotage is reported to be rife in Bulgaria while Serbian guerillas have damaged the Sarajevo-Brod railway.

1st Sep.—Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, in a broadcast to her people on the morrow of her birthday, says that " the entire realm will fight until victory is achieved."

The Chinese Government have accorded full recognition to the Czechoslovak Government in London.

3rd Sep.—Many Hungarian youths have been sentenced in Budapest for alleged sabotage in the state railway system.

Several persons have been sentenced in Denmark for insulting German Officers.

4th Sep.—Fifty " Communists " have been executed by the German authorities in Serbia as a reprisal for the murder of a German soldier.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

2nd Sep.—President Camacho, speaking in the Mexican Congress, condemns German aggression and announces Mexico's determination not to recognise conquests carried out by force.

3rd Sep.—The United States is to make a large loan to Mexico under an agreement providing for co-operation in the economic and military defence of the Western Hemisphere.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The news of the week is, of course, the unsuccessful attack by a German submarine on the *Greer*, a United States ship which was proceeding to Iceland with mails. Serious repercussions affecting the future policy of the United States *vis-a-vis* Germany are expected. Another incident is the sinking of *Steel Seafarer* in the Red Sea on Sunday by an aeroplane suspected to be German. The sinking of *Sessa*, 300 miles off Iceland, on August 17, has been announced. This ship flew the Panamanian flag.

A noteworthy development in the week is the landing in Spitzbergen, an island in the Arctic, of an Allied force consisting of British, Canadians and Norwegians. The main purpose of the landing was to prevent the enemy from utilizing the rich coal mines of Spitzbergen. The expedition has returned to Great Britain and it is stated that nothing of any use to the enemy remains in that place. A number of Norwegian miners and their families has now arrived in Great Britain. In America, the news has created a sensation and the British newspaper *Yorkshire Post* says that this expedition may be a prelude to further steps with a much more important bearing on the future course of the war.

Briefly, the position in Russia is as follows: The situation in Leningrad is serious and there is a fresh move to Murmansk, but remarkable Russian resistance justifies an attitude of cautious optimism. Leningrad has not been encircled, according to Moscow. Remarkable Russian successes are reported in the Central Sector as a result of vigorous counter-attacks. One hundred thousand Germans have been accounted for and the remnants are retreating in a western direction from Yelnya near Smolensk. Yelnya has been captured and numerous villages have been retaken. Odessa still holds out and the progress of the Rumanian army in that sector has been definitely checked.

An example of the frightful methods followed by Germany in occupied countries is the shooting of three French hostages as a reprisal for attempted assassinations of Germans. The reason was that an enquiry established that the guilty person could not be other than a Communist, and as a reprisal this step was taken.

In a Gallup-Poll in America, the question was asked: "Do you think the United States should now take steps to keep Japan from becoming more powerful, even if this means risking war with her?" Seventy per cent replied in the affirmative, 18 per cent in the negative, 12 per cent were uncertain.

A White Paper has been issued containing the correspondence between the British and United States Governments regarding the assurances given by Great Britain respecting the use of materials received under the Lease and Lend Act. Exports from Great Britain will be reduced so that they may not compete with American products. England will maintain two-thirds of her normal exports to secure essential dollar exchange. Trade with Argentine and Venezula will be maintained in order that Great Britain may be able to secure foodstuffs and oil respectively.

Mr. Churchill revealed in the House of Commons on Thursday that hundreds of fighter aircraft have already been sent to Russia and more were being sent. Assistance of every kind was being given, such aid, in some instances, being half the available stocks.

A German raider has sunk a Danish ship sailing for America carrying rubber, tin and palm oil.

British propaganda in enemy occupied-country is to be intensified.

Aggravation of political tension is stated to be the reason for the creation of a General Staff for the defence of Japan proper, Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin. Japan will be divided into four military districts.

SERIOUS AXIS SHIPPING LOSSES

The Battle of the Atlantic has not been won, but as Mr. Churchill pointed out in the House of Commons on Tuesday, there has been a great falling off in the sinkings of British and Allied shipping, with a corresponding increase in the tonnage of invaluable cargoes safely landed in British shores. The safe arrival recently in England of one of the biggest convoys without any loss whatsoever has been reported. There has been an extraordinary rise during the last three months in the destruction of German and Italian shipping. The sinkings of Allied ships by enemy action in July and August have been very low, despite the fact that the number of U-boats operating against British shipping has not decreased.

The losses of the enemies have been very heavy. The Fleet Air Arm has been responsible in the last few days for attacking convoys, especially in the Mediterranean. An enemy destroyer, a submarine and two other ships have been sunk or destroyed in the Mediterranean. British submarines have been responsible for sinking an Italian liner and another vessel, an Italian schooner and a tanker in the same area. The sinking by a submarine of the Italian ship *Maya* in the Aegean Sea has been reported. In the Atlantic, a destroyer has sunk two submarines. The Navy operating near Murmansk has sunk a German destroyer, a trawler and another vessel. In the Norwegian waters, a German artillery training ship has been sunk and the Navy has been further responsible for sending to the bottom of the sea, two supply ships in the English Channel. These are remarkable successes.

The sinking of British and Allied ships in July and August, it is said, did not amount to more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by Allied aircraft and submarines.

THE "GREER" INCIDENT AND AFTER

What promises to become an event of major importance is the attack made by a submarine on the United States destroyer *Greer* which was proceeding to Iceland with mail. This occurred on the 4th September 1941, after day-light, when visibility was very clear. The *Greer* had a normal complement of 122 officers and men and a tonnage of 1,090. The attack took place on the American side of the Atlantic Ocean and according to President Roosevelt, the *Greer* carried her identification number and the United States flag. The torpedoes missed their mark and the *Greer* counter-attacked with depth charges and it is believed that the submarine was hit.

According to the German official version it was the *Greer* which attacked first with depth charges to which the submarine replied with torpedoes which missed their mark. The torpedoes had to be fired in "justifiable self-defence," according to the German version. The official German account also insinuated that President Roosevelt had ordered American destroyers not only to report the location of German submarines, which was in itself a breach of neutrality, but had also ordered them to attack. The aggressive act on the part of the *Greer* was therefore an attempt to provoke an incident to incite the American nation to war against Germany. The Navy Department at Washington has issued a categorical denial of this German version. The initial attack, according to this statement, was made by the submarine on the *Greer*. It was then, not until then, that the *Greer* counter-attacked. It may be recalled in this connection that *Robin Moor*, an American ship, was attacked by a German submarine on 10th June 1941 and it provoked in America very strong feelings against Germany.

President Roosevelt told the Press Conference that, if the submarine was found, it would be eliminated. The meaning of this is crystal clear. The British press states that the question whether it is a major incident which will lead America into war, is one for the United States to solve. The American press is inclined to view the incident in a serious fashion and comment is made that, if any direct action is taken by the United States, it would be not so much on behalf of Great Britain as in the interests of the United States and in defence of the principle of freedom of the seas. There can be no doubt, according to the American press, that the incident was provocative.

Close on the heels of this incident is published a report that *Steel Seafarer*, an American freighter, has been sunk by an aeroplane bomb in the Red Sea on Sunday. German long distance bombers, it is said, have been operating at night far south of the Suez, perhaps from bases in the Dodecanese Islands. What effect these incidents will have on the international situation remains to be seen.

Again, the news has been released of the sinking of *Sessa*, a former Danish ship, taken over by the American Maritime Commission. It was attacked without warning on August 17, torpedoed and sunk. There were only three survivors. The cargo did not include any war materials.

President Roosevelt, in his long-expected broadcast speech on Friday morning uttered a solemn warning to the Axis Powers that if their ships sailed in the defensive waters of the United States, they would do so at their peril. The United States had no desire for 'shooting' war. But if the Axis craft interfered with United States ships while on legitimate business, the United States Navy had definite orders to deal with such interference. The "Greer" incident was not an isolated one, the President went on to say. It was piracy legally and morally. The Axis craft were rattle-snakes which were set adrift to get control over the seas and then threaten America. The time for active defence was now. The United States Navy was invincible so long as the British Navy was safe.

RUSSIANS HIT BACK

Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev and Odessa continue to elude the Germans. Nothing is gained by minimizing the danger to Leningrad but the Russian defenders, personally directed by Marshal Voroshilov, have been hitting back to such effect that, in spite of the German claim to have encircled the city, it can be stated definitely that the Russians have recovered much of the lost ground. And Leningrad maintains full railway communications with Moscow and other centres. The Germans announce the capture of Schlusselburg, 25 miles east of the city, and the Finns claim to have reached the river Svir between Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga. These thrusts are undoubtedly full of danger but the Russians have evidently made their offensive and defensive preparations to meet all exigencies and express the utmost confidence in their ability to beat off the Germans from "the City of Lenin."

And in the Central Sector, they have definitely taken the offensive. What started as a Russian attempt to feel for weak spots in the enemy's advanced line has developed into a strong counter-offensive, threatening the Germans under Marshal von Block who have been holding a line approximately from Smolensk to the north of the Pripet Marshes. The Russians' pincers movement, of which we spoke last week, aiming simultaneously at Smolensk and Bobruisk, is meeting with such success that the German drive to Moscow has been definitely checked. The Russians have retaken Yelnya near Smolensk and also over fifty villages in the Central Sector. The Cossack troops especially, true to their Great War traditions, have worked wonders, and ten German divisions in all have been annihilated in the Central Sector and a German General killed.

The Russian successes in the centre have also had the effect of administering a setback to any hope that von Block might have entertained of advancing from Gomel through Kharkov and on to the south to menace the rear of Marchal Budenny's forces holding the lower Dnieper. All the German attempts to throw pontoon bridges across the Dnieper have thus far been frustrated by the skill and gallantry of Russian airmen and gunners. In the extreme south Odessa is holding out and the Rumanians have been brought to a standstill by the strength of its defences.

Finally, to complete this picture of the Eastern Front in the twelfth week of the German campaign, we must not forget that the Russians have carried out two air raids on Berlin this week and the Russian Navy continues to take toll of enemy transports in the Baltic. And they will be heartened by the knowledge that British supplies are coming through in large quantities; that American tankers have reached Vladivostok with fuel for the Soviet; that the British Navy is operating off Murmansk in the Arctic regions and has just sunk a German destroyer, an armoured trawler and another vessel; that, thanks to the Allied expedition to the Island of Spitzbergen, Germany has been deprived of valuable coal supplies; and, finally, that the Royal Air Force is carrying out a systematic campaign against Germany on the Western Front, Berlin being subjected this week to the heaviest raid ever.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

RUSSO-BRITISH TERMS ACCEPTED

Naturally the delay in the settlement of the terms with Iran about the temporary joint British and Russian occupation of that country gave rise to some anxiety. There was no doubt, however, that the final outcome of the negotiations would be quite satisfactory to the Allied cause. The British and Soviet representatives in Teheran asked for the expulsion or internment of the Germans and other Axis nationals in Iran and the note further demanded the closure of the Axis Legations in Teheran. At a special session of the Iranian Parliament held on Tuesday (9th September 1941) the Iranian Premier announced that the Government had accepted all the Anglo-Russian demands, although the occupation of certain towns was still being questioned. The German, Italian, Hungarian and Rumanian Legations would be closed and Axis subjects would be handed over to the British and Russian forces. There was some delay in handing over, and Germans are now being rounded up by Allied forces. The Iranian troops would be withdrawn from certain specified areas but under the Armistice terms they will be permitted to retain arms and equipment.

DISPOSITION OF ALLIED FORCES

The British have advanced Indian troops to Sultanabad which has important oil wells. This town lies on the Trans-Persian railway and its control, which is now complete, is important because it is a link between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. The Allied troops are in occupation of strategic areas in the north and west of Iran though no British or Russian troops are stationed in the capital.

Russian troops have occupied Meshed, as also other positions along the Meshed-Teheran Trunk Road and ports on the southern shore of the Caspian Sea. Other Russian forces operating from the Caucasus have occupied the 250 miles wide neck of land between Turkey's eastern frontier and the western shore of the Caspian Sea, advancing as far as Kuzvin where contact has been established with the British forces. There is now no means of escape for the Germans in Iran and so it is stated that they have given up all attempts to try to escape.

NAZI ATTEMPTS FRUSTRATED

It is perfectly obvious that Britain and Russia could have taken no other steps than the ones they have taken, if Hitler should be prevented from securing control over the Middle East. It would have been a stupendous folly, with the example of Norway, Holland and Belgium before them, if Britain and Russia had awaited to take action until Hitler had completed his plans and struck. It is impossible that Iran, even if she was willing to resist, could have resisted effectively alone.

Syria, Iraq and Iran constitute the block of territory which links India with the Mediterranean and the Caspian Sea with the Persian Gulf and the open highways. If the Nazis had taken hold of this vast territory they could have struck north against the heart of Russia, to the east against India and to the south against Suez and Egypt. Further the Germans would have taken control of one of the most important sources of the world's oil supply. If the military action which has been taken had not been taken, then all these countries would have by now been within the grasp of Germany. For, Syria was on the point of being handed over by Vichy, just as Indo-China was handed over practically to Japanese hands. Rashid Ali had taken the reins of Government in Iraq and had planned full collaboration with the Axis Powers. In Iran itself Germans had taken control of the principal industries and key positions and what happened in the Balkans would have also happened in Iran. A dangerous situation arose when the Germans had taken hold of Greece, Crete and the Greek islands and reached the western frontier of Egypt. But then Tobruk was strongly held and the Turks were obstinate and would not allow arms either from Germany or from Vichy France to pass through their country. It was at this stage that the British advanced into Iraq, as a result of which Rashid Ali and his associates fled from Baghdad to Iran. Syria was then taken hold of and the German intruder was eliminated. The problem of Iran had then to be dealt with. For over a year, German technicians and political agents had penetrated into strategic posts and friendly representations were made to the Shah to put a stop to this infiltration. Germany invaded Russia and it was the ambition of the Nazis to take hold of the Ukraine and the oil-fields of Trans-Caucasia and Iran, in which case Iran would have had no other option but to follow the ignominious example of Rumania and Bulgaria.

INTERESTS OF ALLIES

A Nazified Iran would have been a menace which neither Russia nor Britain could afford to ignore because it vitally affected the Anglo-Soviet front stretching from Archangel to Tobruk and it cut off the Russians from access to the British and American supplies by way of the Persian Gulf if and when it became necessary. A reference to Mr. Churchill's speech on Tuesday in the House of Commons will also reveal the fact that Russia and Great Britain attach the greatest possible importance to the necessity of sending aid to Russia from the Persian Gulf and Persia on to the Caucasus. But the Iran Government would

(Continued on page 11)

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

REVIEW OF THE MILITARY SITUATION

In his survey of the military situation on the various fronts, Mr. Churchill made many points in his speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday, the 9th September. His conclusion was that, while a year ago, the British position looked forlorn and well-nigh desperate to all eyes but the British, today they may say before an awe-struck world: "We are masters of our fate and captains of our souls."

The following are the points which he made. At the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting, four questions were discussed. They were:—

(1) The Eight-point Declaration of broad principles and aims which guide and govern the action of the British and United States Governments and their peoples;

(2) The measures to be taken to help Russia to resist the hideous onslaught of Hitler;

(3) The policy to be pursued towards Japan in order, if possible, to stop further encroachments in the Far East which endanger the safety of the interests of Great Britain or the United States;

(4) Numerous technical matters. Close personal relations were established between the High Naval, Military and Air Commands of both the countries.

THE EIGHT-POINT DECLARATION

Mr. Churchill said that the eight-point statement was a united declaration and set up a milestone or a monument which needed only the stroke of victory to become a permanent part of the history of human progress. The declaration did not try to explain how the principles would be applied to each and every case as they would have to be dealt with when the war ends. It did not qualify in any way the various statements of policy made from time to time about the development of Constitutional Government in India, Burma or other parts of the world.

INDIA AND THE DECLARATION

About Indian policy, Mr. Churchill stated:

'The Joint Declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional government in India, Burma or other parts of the British Empire.'

'We have pledged, by the Declaration of August 1940, to help India to obtain free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth with ourselves, subject, of course, to the fulfilment of the obligations arising from our long connexion with India and our responsibilities to its many creeds, races and interests.'

'Burma also is covered by our considered policy of establishing Burma's self-government and by measures already in progress.'

'At the Atlantic meeting, we had in mind primarily the extension of the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the States and nations of Europe now under the Nazi yoke and the principles which should govern any alterations in the territorial boundaries of countries which may have to be made. That is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in regions whose peoples owe allegiance to the British Crown. We have made declarations on these matters which are complete in themselves, free from ambiguity and related to the conditions and circumstances of the territories and peoples affected. They will be found to be entirely in harmony with the conception of freedom and justice which inspired the Joint Declaration.'

THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC.

Mr. Churchill said that there was a great falling off in the sinkings of British and Allied shipping in the last few weeks, while there was an increase in the tonnage of invaluable cargoes safely landed in British shores. During the last three months, there had been a great improvement in the sinkings of German and Italian shippings largely due to the brilliant tactics of the Coastal Command and the R.A.F. bombing squadrons. The sinkings of Allied ships did not amount to much more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by British aircraft and submarines. It was also remarkable, considering the fact that British shipping presented ten or twenty times the target to hostile attack upon the seas that was presented to the British by the enemy shipping.

Paying a tribute to the British submarine service, Mr. Churchill said: British submarines have sunk or seriously damaged 17 enemy warships and some of them were U-boats. One hundred and five supply ships have been sunk by the torpedoes of the British submarines, making an average of 15 ships monthly or one ship in every two days, and they included quite a large number of laden troop transports, and tankers.

Almost every night thirty or forty enemy aeroplanes are casting destructive mines at the most likely spots to catch British shipping. A new menace is the acoustic mine, but the resources of British scientists have helped greatly to counter-act these menaces.

THE MIDDLE EAST.

Iraq.—Mr. Churchill revealed that 4,000 German specialist troops intended to march across Syria to Iraq were killed in the action in Crete and large numbers of aircraft carriers were also destroyed. This was the explanation of the German failure to bring succour to Iraq. The Treaty of Iraq was being loyally observed by both sides and though there were still dangers in that country, there was no cause for major anxiety.

Syria.—Surveying the operations in Syria and the final result, Mr. Churchill said that Syria would be handed over to Syrians who will assume at the earliest possible moment their independent sovereign rights. This would not wait till the end of the war and it was contemplated that Syria would take an increasing share in the administration. French interests in Syria were akin to British interests in Egypt and they were special.

Egypt.—Mr. Churchill said that he felt considerable confidence that the British would be able to defend Egypt successfully from German invasion across the Western Desert, because the position, both on the western and the eastern flank of the Nile Valley, had been greatly improved.

Iran.—The operations in Iran had three objects: (1) The surrender into British hands of all Germans and Italians who were in that country, (2) the expulsion of the German and Italian legations and (3) the unquestioned control and maintenance of through communications from Basrah to the Caspian Sea. Mr. Churchill said that he attached great importance to the opening of the shortest route to Russia and every effort would be made to improve railway communications and expand the volume of supplies which could be transported over the existing British gauge railway which had been recently completed.

RUSSIA.

Mr. Churchill, after paying a tribute to the magnificent resistance by the Russian army to the German invaders and the skill displayed by them in making defence arrangements, said that the Germans in the last three months had lost more blood than in any single year of the last war, and the Russians were certain of maintaining their armies through the Russian winter from the Arctic to the Black Sea. The question of help to Russia was being actively discussed and while disclosure of military projects which had been examined would be harmful, there was recognition of the need for urgent help. There were formidable difficulties, such as time, distance, geography, limitations of transport and shipping facilities. Of the three routes, the Arctic route by way of Archangel may be hampered by winter ice, the far eastern route *via* Vladivostok which was scowled upon by the Japanese was very round about, but the route across Persia which stretched from the Persian Gulf into the great inland sea, the Caspian, would be fully utilized and supplies were already on their way. Great sacrifices would be made to assist Russia in time.

A COMPARISON.

When the French fell, Mr. Churchill said, "We had in those parts about eighty to one hundred thousand men, starved of munitions and equipment which had been sent to the French front—always the first to claim the best we had. We had lost our means of safe communication through the Mediterranean and almost all the main bases on which we relied. We were anxiously concerned for our defence of Nairobi, Khartoum, British Somaliland and above all of the Nile Valley and Palestine, including the famous cities of Cairo and Jerusalem. Now after a little more than a year, we have managed to gather very large and well-equipped armies which already begin to approach 750,000, supplied with masses of equipment of all kinds. We have developed our air force almost as large as we had in Britain when the war began and it is rapidly expanding. We have conquered the whole Italian Empire in Abyssinia and Eritrea and killed or taken prisoner the Italian armies of over 400,000 men by which these regions were defended. We have defended the frontiers of Egypt against any Italian attack. We have consolidated our position in Palestine and Iraq. We have taken effective control of Syria and provided for the security of Cyprus. Finally, by a swift and vigorous campaign in Persia, we have joined hands with our Russian Allies and stand in a line to bar the further progress of the enemy. Whatever the future may contain, these are achievements which will earn the respect of history."

INDIA'S DANGER AND OPPORTUNITY

I. THE AXIS

1940

DICTATORS' DESIGNS

1. In the British Commonwealth's darkest hour, with North-West Europe overrun and Britain gravely menaced, Italy, delivers stab in the back.

2. Defence of Egypt and Suez, India's vital western gateway, is huge new problem with French defection and Italian hostility.

Nationalist editor of Cairo weekly *Al Mussawar* tells Duce in open letter (Aug. 4) that "Egypt would never think of replacing the alliance with Great Britain by a bond with any other power, least of all with the country which had proclaimed her intention of including Egypt and the Sudan in a re-established Roman Empire, to whose record in Libya Egyptians are not blind."

Meanwhile Graziani masses well-equipped legions on Egyptian frontier. "We shall very soon have plenty of work to do," says Wavell (Aug. 21). On September 15, promised date for German invasion of Britain, Italians cross border. Reaching Sidi Barrani, Graziani prophesies fall of Alexandria.

3. Large forces in Italy's East African Empire were ready to march into British Somaliland, Kenya, Sudan. British evacuation of Somaliland in August after delaying action brings Italy 460 miles of Indian Ocean coastline, prompts German boast (August 21): "The British route from India has now gone out of British hands."

Says Churchill (August 20): "We intend to do our best."

1941

DICTATORS FRUSTRATED

1. The challenge was met. Italy was brought to the choice of surrender to Britain or surrender to Germany. Mussolini chose the latter, and his country became "that subject, abject province of Germany."

Now British and Indian troops face the Duce's rescuer with equal resolution.

2. January and February 1941 saw dramatic events in African theatre. Bardia, vaunted Fascist bastion, fell to Wavell on January 4, Tobruk on January 23, Derna on January 30, Cyrene on February 3, Benghazi on February 6, while from Rome Ansaldo cried "Woe!" Graziani had lost two-thirds of his forces and mountains of material.

Indian troops, starting the Italian rout by brilliant Sidi Barrani action, "won golden opinions everywhere," says Commander-in-Chief Auchinleck (February 9). Public holidays in India marked outstanding feats, and leading men sent congratulations.

3. March and April witness mortal blows at Italian East Africa. Epic of Keren seals doom of Eritrea and covers Indian troops with glory.

"British Indian divisions," says Churchill (May 20), "have gained fresh laurels in the fighting from Kassala, and all the way from Kassala and Keren up to the final events."

First troops to land at Berbera for recapture of Somaliland are carried in H.M.I.S. *Parvati* and *Nelravati*.

Cleared by Imperial and Allied forces, Abyssinia welcomes back Haile Selassie, first Axis victim and first to return to his heritage. Heavy Axis price is at least 213,000 casualties in first Western Desert Campaign, Sudan and Eritrea alone. Indian casualties total 6,427, proportion of killed to wounded being 1 to 5·7. In Mesopotamian campaign of last Great War, Indian Army suffered 13,812 casualties, with killed to wounded as 1 to 3·2.

1940	1941
4. Italy's entry into the war brought large, untried and hostile naval forces to replace Britain's French ally. Bulk of British shipping to India had to be diverted to Cape Route. Berlin tells Persian radio listeners (October 23): "British power in the Red Sea and the Mediterranean has come to an end." Rome fakes photo of Italian flag at Aden for Balkan circulation. Axis raiders and radio menace shipping in Indian ocean. Sinking of R.I.N. sloop *Pathan* (June 24) shows proximity of danger.	4. Taranto, Matapan and daily work of Navy and Royal Air Force destroy nearly half Italy's cruiser, destroyer and submarine strength, sink one capital ship and damage others. Red Sea, swept of enemy, becomes United States supply route for Middle East. First enemy to reach Aden are crew of Italian submarine captured and towed in by British trawler. German raider sunk in Indian Ocean by H.M.S. *Cornwall* (May 9) demonstrates control of Indian sea-routes by Royal Navy and Royal Indian Navy.
5. Italy has over 2,000 first-line planes and nearest Axis bases to India. Propaganda raid on Bahrein (October) is hailed in Rome as long-distance record threatening.	5. Itlay admits 3,565 airmen lost. Her advanced bases are smoked out.
6. Meanwhile Axis agents prepare the sapping of India's Middle Eastern defences from within, aided by Quislings and Vichy weakness. Conscious of the real nature of Hitlerism, India knows that if the Axis junior partner fails in one quarter, danger will rise elsewhere. Mahatma Gandhi gives clear definition (June 22): "Whatever Hitlerism may ultimately prove to be, we know what Hitlerism has come to mean. It means naked, ruthless force reduced to an exact science and worked with scientific precision."	6. Scientific precision of Axis plans in Arab countries is upset just in time by British and Allied action. In Iraq Rashid Ali, in Axis pay, seizes power and attacks British troops, thus threatening India's defences and communications. British and Indian soldiers, with the Royal Air Force and Indian civil aviators, eradicate danger and force Rashid Ali to flight while Britain restores Iraqi sovereignty retaining only treaty rights. From Syrian aerodromes Germany offers Rashid Ali belated and ineffectual help, then provokes fractricidal conflict in Syria to regain Middle Eastern position. British, Indian, Australian and Allied troops remove Syrian peril in hard and well-fought campaign. Iran is next field for Hitler's agents. Indians again play notable part in brief British cleansing action necessitated, in concert with Russia, after failure of warnings to Tehran. Thus closest bombing-threat to India is dealt with.
7. Hitler's plan is to threaten India's eastern gate at Singapore at the same time as the drive to Suez and the attack on Britain. Detailed for this work, Japan joins Germany and Italy in Triple Pact (September). Thai-Indo-China conflict gives Tokyo chance for extending influence towards Malaya, where strength of India's eastern bastion is still untried. Burma Road for supplies to China, temporarily closed in July at moment of extreme peril is reopened by Britain, October 17.	7. Danger and tension remain. But the eastern gate has been steadily strengthened. Manned by increasing numbers of British, Indian and Australian troops, defences are extended through Malaya and Burma. Under Commander-in-Chief Sir R. Brooke-Popham, Singapore is regarded as world's strongest base, with largest 18-inch coastal guns, planes, anti-aircraft and secret defences. Cautious Japanese aggression gives her bases in Indo-China, but united A.B.C.D. front replies with economic sanctions, is ready for military action if necessary. "This has got to stop", says Churchill (August 24) of Japanese aggression.

II. INDIA

1940	1941
1. Armed Forces Indian Army strength before the war was about 57,000 British (due to be reduced) and 157,000 Indian regulars, with the A.F.(I.) at 24,000, I.T.F. of 19,000, I.A.R. of 35,400 and the Indian States Forces of 47,000. Recruits came forward readily, but the necessary speed-up in mechanisation involved big problems, and training of officers and men takes time. Animal Transport Companies served in France and shared glory of Dunkirk, while an Indian division stood guard on Egypt's frontier, and Indians helped in Somaliland defence. But the expansion scheme necessitated by Axis advances had not completed by first war-anniversary its first 100,000 soldiers.	**1. Armed Forces** "To-day there are well over 100,000 Indian troops serving overseas, and the total of India's fighting forces is approaching the mark of one million."—Commander-in-Chief Wavell, September 3, 1941. "The output of trained drivers has grown to 40 times what it was in 1939."—Sir J. Raisman, February 29. The year ended April 1941 saw 4 cavalry regiments, 5 batteries and 1 section of artillery, 4 companies and 1 section of sappers and miners, 23 battalions of infantry, 1 camel corps unit and 3 animal transport companies leaving the Indian States for service under the Crown. "During the last year the R.I.N. has made an expansion unprecedented in India's history", said Gen. Wavell on September 3, "and will soon form an impressive and most valuable fleet." Nine training centres are equipped and working to produce mechanics for the expanding Air Force.
2. Finance and Trade Indian Defence Savings Movement to finance strengthening of defence services announced in June. India's imports in April, May and June are of the value of Rs. 45 crores.	**2. Finance and Trade** Grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans up to August 23 is Rs. 81,36,12,000. Completion of sterling repatriation (announced February) reduces India's sterling obligations by over Rs. 220 crores since 1935. Reserve Bank's "net profits during the year", says Sir J. Taylor, August 11, "have increased very largely, amounting to Rs. 279 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29 lakhs for the half year ending in 1940." As a result Reserve Bank can pay Rs. 262 lakhs to Central Government. Viceroy's War Purposes Fund reaches Rs. 4,65,38,000 (July 15). With India's sea-routes held open, imports in April, May and June total Rs. 52 crores.
3. Industrial Expansion Eastern Group Conference meets in New Delhi (October 25) to promote trade between the Commonwealth countries east of Suez, stimulate production and ensure joint economic policy with common object of winning war. "In defence of our common freedom," says Churchill, "you are indeed building up a new world of armed strength to redress the balance of the old." Exported articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India were of the total value in 1938–39 of Rs. 47,61,00,000.	**3. Industrial Expansion** India has gone a long way towards becoming the Eastern Arsenal of the war effort. Sir M. Zafrullah Khan said on July 17 that Indian Ordnance Factories are being assisted by 250 "trade" workshops and 23 railway workshops, which have undertaken the production of 700 items of munitions supply involving 20,000,000 individual articles. Fifty-four Indian firms are now making machine-tools. The output of filled shells is already 24 times the pre-war figure and is expected to rise in two stages to 96 times. Benefit to India's general trade is shown by increase of export value of articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India to Rs. 81,24,00,000 in 1940–41.

IRAN AND HER NEIGHBOURS

FACTS . . . AND A CONTRAST

From time to time the Germans have confessed to the designs on Iran and the Middle East which have been frustrated by British and Allied action in Iraq, Syria and Iran, as well as by the defence of Egypt and Suez and the clearance of the Italians from East Africa.

"In the East we must have the mastery as far as the Caucasus and Iran," said Hitler to Hermann Rauschnigg soon after he came to power in 1933.

"Two regions are of manifest importance to us, i.e., Turkey-Egypt and Iran," declared the authors of a German memorandum on the Middle East in 1934.

BRITAIN

Warnings to Iran

Friendly warnings of Iran's danger from Germany were given at Teheran through accepted diplomatic channels over several months, culminating in July and August 1941. Only when the danger was acute and the Iranian Government took no action did Britain act in concert with her Russian ally.

Aircraft drop Leaflets

The Royal Air Force dropped leaflets over Iran explaining to the people the reasons for British action. Military aerodromes were attacked, but the German allegation of the bombing of open towns is an open lie.

Bringing Food

Food-trucks follow the British forces into Iran, as they did into Syria, to replenish the stocks which had been seriously depleted by German demands.

"The British adventure in the Balkans," crowed the German radio on May 5, 1941, "might lead to Germany reaching the oil zones of Iraq and Iran, as well as to the liquidation of Britain's position in Egypt."

Checked at so many points, the Nazis furiously accuse Britain and her Allies of "criminal aggression" and the "destruction of Moslem States." From such a source nothing would be believed by anyone with full access to the truth. But truth is the Nazis' first victim.

To view in their proper light the reports, rumours and infamous accusations circulated by the Axis, compare the following records of established fact:

GERMANY

Deceiving her Victims

Non-aggression pacts and public declarations of peaceful intentions preceded ferocious German invasions of Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium and the Balkan countries.

Three hours after German troops had marched into the Low Countries and German aircraft had bombed Dutch and Belgian towns, the German radio was still denying any thought of invasion.

Aerial Terror Tactics

To compel the Dutch to lay down arms, 30,000 people in undefended Rotterdam were killed in 7½ minutes by German bombers. The first targets in the German attack on Yugoslavia were the civilians of the open city of Belgrade.

The Belgian Government stated last May: "All the civilians, the thousands of Belgian civilians, who have been killed met their deaths from German bombs, German bullets, German aeroplanes, which with cold-blooded cruelty committed numberless acts of butchery on roads that were swarming with refugees."

Taking Food Away

Food-trucks roll back to Germany as her forces invade other countries. "It might be argued," says the *Financial News*, "that after all a country can only be plundered once. That, however, is precisely where the superiority of Hitler's methods over those of Chengis Khan is most apparent."

BRITAIN

Sovereignty

After entering Iran in the last war for a similar purpose, Britain withdrew all her troops and left Iran to develop in her own way.

Though supported as a mandatory power by international sanction, Britain secured Iraq's independence and League membership in 1932 after organizing her administration, training her forces, developing her resources and bringing her prosperity. The Nazi-sponsored Rashid Ali rebellion was suppressed with the minimum necessary force, and Britain then demanded from Iraq no more than her treaty rights.

Britain agreed in 1928 to Transjordan's constitutional independence. In 1936 she signed the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of alliance by which the present Premier, Hussein Sirry Pasha, has declared Egypt abides. Though Syria was previously under French mandate, Britain is strongly supporting the Free French pledge of Syrian self-government.

GERMANY

Domination

Only one sovereign remains in the German occupied countries and he (King Albert of the Belgians) is a prisoner of war.

Ancient constitutional rights have been set aside, popular institutions such as the Trade Unions have been disbanded and their funds confiscated. Government is by Nazi Gauleiters or subservient Quislings. The Press is censored by German officers even to headlines and advertisements, and listening to foreign radios involves imprisonment or death.

In certain territories, notably in Poland, a deliberate attempt to destroy a whole nation by mass execution, starvation and sterilizing has been set in motion. Here and in Czechoslovakia all national schools, libraries and other cultural institutions have been confiscated or closed, and national monuments destroyed or defaced.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN—(*Continued from Page* 4)

not heed to the advice and gave evasive answers which almost amounted to refusal. The combined military action of the Allied Governments became therefore necessary and Hitler has been anticipated and so the Middle East and India have been saved from imminent danger besides which Iran has also been protected from the possibility of German occupation. The real extent to which Iran has been benefited does not seem yet to have been appreciated. The Iranians will now be fed instead of being despoiled and their national integrity and political, economic and social interests safeguarded.

DANGER TO INDIA ELIMINATED.

The real danger to India which has been eliminated by the action in Iran deserves to be appreciated better than it is. German strategy has always insisted on taking hold of all air fields in the countries which Hitler wanted to occupy. This plan was carried out in Holland. Similarly, Syrian air-fields were in the hands of Germans and some assistance was rendered to Rashid Ali therefrom. In Iran German experts and agents were busy preparing facilities for the occupation of air-fields at a given signal. That signal was evident as can be seen from the German advance in the Ukraine. It is well to remember that there are landing grounds at Kwash and Iranshahr in Eastern Iran which are 45 miles and 135 miles respectively from Baluchistan. Baluchistan, the North-West Frontier Province, Sind, Kathiawar and Rajputana, the Punjab, Delhi and the Bombay Province as far as Poona and Satara are all within 1,000 miles bombing radius of these air-fields.

A section of the Press and the radio in Turkey, desiring perhaps to placate Germany, has been criticising this military action in Iran. Of course, affairs in Iraq and Syria afford these neutral people pleasure and relief and perhaps the incursion of Germany into Russia also may do likewise because these two Powers, waging a fierce war against each other, would, they may think, exhaust themselves and leave them in peace. But the Turks feared that the Anglo-Soviet action in Iran might result in a German countermove through the Muslim neutral territory. Of course, the German press and the German radio are warning Turkey that she is being encircled by Russia and Great Britain and the only method of escaping from it is to walk into the Axis parlour. There is the important question of the passage of Axis warships through the Straits and one may well believe that the Turks are being pressed hard to break the Montreaux Convention by permitting such a passage. There is, however, absolutely no evidence that Turkey is yielding to this pressure and that is a great point.

AXIS BROADCASTS AND FACTS

Two years of warfare have seen a dozen ferocious Nazi invasions of European countries. Nowhere in Europe have they seen the popular acceptance of Nazi tyranny which Hitler counted on securing by one means or another.

German victories have not meant a German victory. German failures, and there have been many of them, are pointers to ultimate German defeat.

From the day when the German radio exultantly claimed that the British Expeditionary Force was doomed to annihilation at Dunkirk, the enemy's broadcasts have continued to provide a significant commentary on his operational failures.

Not only do they show clearly what Hitler aimed at and where he has been frustrated. They offer pointers also to the utter unreliability of Axis " news ".

Dunkirk

" It is now impossible for Great Britain to withdraw her troops."—*German broadcast in English, 28th May* 1940.

" The British and French troops in the area in which they are encircled by the German forces are faced with annihilation."—*German broadcast in English, 30th May* 1940.

Battle of Britain

" Britain has now only a few airmen left."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 10th September* 1940.

" London lies utterly destroyed."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 11th September* 1940.

Gibraltar

" Spain is about to declare war on Britain. Her first attack will be on Gibraltar."—*German-controlled Dutch broadcast, 23rd September* 1940, *quoting ' Popolo D'Italia.'*

" Gibraltar is a sort of door between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. The British will have to leave this place because their naval power is weakened."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 31st May* 1941.

Alexandria

" While it is difficult for England to concentrate her naval forces, the Italian air force can be used to control the whole of the Mediterranean. As soon as Britain loses Alexandria, she has lost her last chance."—*German broadcast in English, 29th August* 1940.

" Alexandria is no longer able to offer resistance and Mr. Churchill is preparing the people for still another glorious retreat."—*German broadcast in English, 31st August* 1940.

" The harbour of Alexandria has been completely paralysed."—*German broadcast in English, 25th September* 1940.

" With the Italian attacks on Mersa Matruh the way to Alexandria has been opened."—*Italian broadcast in Hindustani, 27th September* 1940.

Crete

" Germany can use Crete as a base for all possible military operations."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 3rd June* 1941.

" The Japanese Press features the great victory of the German armed forces in Crete and says that the complete collapse of the British Empire is unavoidable."—*German broadcast in English, 4th June* 1941.

" The capture of Crete from the British hands is the first great step towards Britain's expulsion from Tobruk, Alexandria and the Suez Canal."—*German broadcast in Persian, 15th June* 1941.

Tobruk

" The position of the last British troops at Tobruk is hopeless."—*German broadcast in English, 17th April* 1941.

" The German troops are tightening their iron ring round Tobruk. . . . It is improbable that the enemy will be able to escape."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 27th April* 1941.

" The Italian and German forces launched a heavy attack on Tobruk and occupied certain parts of it. The British troops are in a fix. It seems that either they will surrender or reach the lowest point of the depths of Hell. To the east of Sollum warfare has begun. It seems that Alexandria is going to be akin to Dunkirk for the English heroes. But whither will they flee this time?—*Axis broadcast in Hindustani (Himalaya Station), 8th May* 1941.

" The siege of Tobruk is being intensified and the fall of the town is no longer in doubt."—*Italian broadcast in English, 4th May* 1941.

Iraq, Syria, Iran

" Britain's real aim in the Balkans had been to disorganise the German transport system to Eastern Europe. . . . Instead of this the British adventure might lead to Germany reaching the oil zones of Iraq and Iran, as well as the liquidation of Britain's position in Egypt."—*German broadcast in English, 2nd May* 1941.

" That the British shall be defeated in Syria is quite certain."—*Axis broadcast in Hindustani (Himalaya Station), 10th June* 1941.

" British military activities in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq have been everywhere slowed down by German air raids . . . Britain's efforts in all these battlefields will fail, if Germany continues her activities."—*German broadcast in Persian, 15th June* 1941.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 25–31, 1941

IRAN WEEK

" This morning Iran was invaded by the British and Russian forces. Iran is determined to fight for her freedom and independence. Mr. Churchill, who is never tired of propagating that the British are fighting for the liberty of small nations, is responsible for the invasion of the Muslim country of Iran." (*German news in Arabic and Persian, Aug.* 25.)

" The Anglo-Soviet invasion of a neutral Muslim country is one of the greatest crimes of world-history. This is obviously the result of the vicious meeting of Churchill and Roosevelt. . . . the British deprived Muslim countries like Syria, Lebanon and Iraq of their independence. Germany will soon defeat these enemies of humanity and give them their due." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 26.)

The military action in Iran has been necessitated by the German intrigues in that country and is designed solely to prevent the Axis from menacing the security of Muslim countries in the Middle East, of India and of Russia. Action was taken only after repeated diplomatic warnings at Teheran had failed to produce Iranian defence measures against the German danger.

Similar action had to be taken in the last Great War for similar reasons, and at the close of the war every British soldier was withdrawn from Iran. The joint Anglo-American declaration of August 14 makes it clear that the Allies have no territorial designs in Iran or elsewhere.

It may be recalled that in September 1940 Berlin said of General de Gaulle's operations at Dakar: " Churchill has committed the biggest crime in the history of the world." Previous " biggest crimes in history " of which Germany has accused Mr. Churchill were the sinking of the British ships *Athenia* and *City of Benares*, the Munich beerhall explosion, and—believe it or not—the bombing of Buckingham Palace.

After dealing with the Quisling rebels in Iraq, Britain restored the sovereignty and independence previously enjoyed by Iraq as a result of British policy. Over Syria and Lebanon Britain never exercised authority, but she has strongly supported the Free French promise of Syrian independence.

FRUSTRATED FLOUNDERINGS

" The British Government have announced the complete blockade of the Muslim country Iran." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 27.)

Blockade has not been declared, but trade with Iran is to be carried on under the licence system so that goods destined for Iran do not reach the hands of the Nazis. The export of wheat and other foodstuffs to Germany to pay for the " industralization " of Iran with Nazis at key-posts has already caused misery and starvation among the people of Iran. The British operations, unlike every military expedition the Germans have undertaken, are followed by food-trucks entering, not leaving the country.

" It is said that immense satisfaction is expressed in Jewish circles in Palestine at the Anglo-Soviet move in Iran. Who is not aware of the Jewish attitude towards Islam? How could they feel otherwise? " (*Italian news in Arabic, Aug.* 27.)

" The decision of the new Iranian Government to suspend hostilities can be well compared with the attitude of someone who, being unarmed, is suddenly faced by two armed burglars in his house." (*German news in English, Aug.* 29.)

This is the ingenious method adopted by the Italian " Protector of Islam " for surmounting the difficult hurdle presented by the Palestine Arab newspaper, *Falastin*, which writes:

" The Allied march represents resolute, prompt and timely action. The Anglo-Soviet drive is not designed to undermine the sovereignty of Iran."

The new Iranian Government having announced its desire for a satisfactory settlement on the basis of co-operation with Britain and Russia, its attitude can still better be compared with someone who, having failed to penetrate the disguise of the burglars in his house, has recognized the uniform of the police who have entered in pursuit of them.

FASHIONS IN AIR ACTIVITY

" The British army made an attack on Iran, and British aircraft began to bomb the cities of Iran. It is officially known by the Iranian Government that the number of the killed soldiers and citizens is 3,000 approximately." (*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 30.)

In notable contrast to the Nazis, whose first " approach " to the Yugoslav people was a mass bombing attack on the undefended city of Belgrade, British air activity in the Iran operations has been confined to the dropping of leaflets and the strafing of aerodromes. There has been no bombing of towns.

Casualties among the military have not yet been announced. The lumping together of civilian and military casualties to produce their own figure is typical of Nazi ideas of warfare.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 2nd September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 27, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, Belgium and N. France, including attacks on aerodromes.	8 day fighters.	10 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Ostend; Dunkirk; Boulogne.	Nil.	..
August 28, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, Holland and N. France, including raid on docks and shipping at **Rotterdam.**	7 day bombers. 5 day fighters.	...
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives at **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Ostend.	9 night bombers.	..
August 29, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, low countries and N. France.	10 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	10 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial districts of **Frankfurt-am-Main** and **Mannheim**; docks and railways at Le Havre.	5 night bombers.	.
August 30, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel, French and Belgian coasts, including attack on shipping (two flak-ships afire).	3 day bombers.	.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on shipping off Norwegian coast (one ship hit).		.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on docks at Cherbourg	Nil.	.
August 31, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on industrial targets in Lille; aerodrome at Lamion; ship building yards at Le Trait.	2 day fighters.	.
	R.A.F. single day bomber stratosphere raid on Bremen.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Essen**; **Cologne**; other targets in Ruhr and Rhineland.	Nil.	.
September 1, Monday.	(No reports of day operations).		
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on Cologne	1 night bomber.	.
September 2, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attack on escorted supply ship off Dunkirk (ship hit, E-boat a fire).	2 day bombers.	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber raid on convoy off Norwegian coast (large ship and escort vessel torpedoed).		
	R.A.F. single day bomber stratosphere raid on Bremen.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Berlin**; **Frankfurt-am-Main**; **Mannheim**: invasion bases at Ostend and Dunkirk.	9 night bombers.	

(*Continued on Page* 17)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

5th Sep.—In sweeps over the Channel and France, the Royal Air Force accounts for an enemy tanker and bombs a factory at La Pallice.

Slight enemy activity is reported over North-east Scotland.

Soviet planes raid Berlin.

6th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks enemy shipping at Oslo.

7th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks targets in Rhineland and the Ruhr and makes offensive sweeps over France.

An escort vessel is blown up and a supply ship set on fire by British bombers off the Dutch coast.

Slight enemy activity is reported over south-west and eastern England.

8th Sep.—Berlin suffers the heaviest raid ever at the hands of the Royal Air Force. Numerous fires are caused by high-explosives dropped by hundreds of planes. Shipyard in Kiel and the docks at Boulogne are also attacked. A German flak vessel is sunk off Ostend.

A few German raiders dive-bomb a cinema, a school and some private houses in a town on the south-east coast of England.

9th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids the important industrial centre of Kassel, Munster and other objectives in Western Germany, as well as the docks at Cherbourg. High-explosives are dropped in Norwegian coastal areas.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5th Sep.—A British submarine torpedoes an enemy cruiser of over 10,000 tons off the Straits of Messina.

Other successes scored by British submarines in the Mediterranean are an Italian liner of over 20,000 tons torpedoed and sunk; a large heavily laden tanker also sunk; an Italian supply ship of 5,000 tons severely damaged; and, a supply ship of 8,000 tons torpedoed and sunk.

5th Sep.—British submarine have accounted for an Italian liner of over 11,000 tons sailing in a convoy off Tripoli and also another ship of over 4,000 tons in the Central Mediterranean.

Some casualties are caused when enemy planes raid Alexandria and the Suez Canal area.

The Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm attack industrial and military targets in Libya and South Italy.

7th Sep.—Mussolini reviews fresh divisions of Italian troops going to Russia.

The Royal Air Force destroys a number of enemy aircraft on the ground in the course of raids on Libyan centres.

An alert is sounded in Rome and anti-aircraft batteries open fire.

8th Sep.—An enemy convoy is attacked in the Mediterranean by the Royal Air Force and two ships severely damaged. Enemy bombing attacks on Tobruk cause negligible damage.

9th Sep.—The United States freighter *Steel Seafarer*, carrying American war supplies, is bombed and sunk in the Red Sea.

A British submarine torpedoes and sinks a large Italian schooner in Central Mediterranean. And another British submarine torpedoes and sinks an Italian tanker, sailing in a convoy in the Aegean Sea outside Turkish territorial waters.

Heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force attack Palermo in Sicily. Libyan bases are also raided.

10th Sep.—British bombers make a heavy raid on the Corinth Canal. Aerodromes and landing-grounds in Libya are attacked.

11th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Genoa and Turin in North Italy as well as Messina and other Sicilian and Libyan bases.

An Italian ship of 4,000 tons is sunk in the Aegean Sea by a British submarine.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

5th Sep.—The United States destroyer *Green en route* to Iceland is torpedoed by a German submarine, which however misses its mark. President Roosevelt announces that he is looking into the matter.

6th Sep.—Britih submarine have account-Greer incident says that the German submarine was the first to be attacked and had to defend itself with a torpedo.

7th Sep.—The United States Navy Department categorically contradicts the German account of the Greer incident. Mr. Wendell Willkie, broadcasting from New York, urges President Roosevelt to take up the Nazi challenge.

9th Sep.—The former Danish ship Sessa, operated by the United States Maritime Commission, is sunk 300 miles south-west of Iceland.

10th Sep.—The British Government, in a communication to the United States Government, remove misconceptions regarding the use of Lease-Lend material obtained from America.

11th Sep.—Major-General Brett, the Chief of the United States Air Corps, arrives in Cairo on a tour of inspection of the Middle East. He is a member of the United States War Supplies Mission to Moscow.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5th Sep.—The German High Command claims progress in the Leningrad sector but it is evident that fierce fighting is going on on the Northern, Central and Southern Fronts. German attempts to cross the Dnieper are repulsed and enemy transports are sunk in the Baltic.

6th Sep.—A Soviet Communiqué announces that two German battalions have been completely annihilated by Cossacks behind the German lines. A German General is killed and many prisoners taken.

Germany is reported to be sending grain to Finland in order to induce the Finns to continue the struggle against Russia.

7th Sep.—German bombers raid the town and harbour of Odessa. The Germans have sustained heavy losses of men and material in the Central Sector and have been driven out from advanced positions in the Leningrad area. The Rome Radio announces that British planes are being used by Russians at Leningrad.

8th Sep.—The Germans claim the capture of Schlusselburg, 25 miles east of Leningrad, and the Finns to have reached the river Svir between Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga. But Leningrad is far from being encircled and the Russians in their counter-attacks in the Central Sector have routed seven German divisions and retaken Yelnya, 40 miles south of Smolensk.

It is officially stated that British supplies are reaching Russia on a considerable scale. In order to foil Germans' attempts to augment their coal supplies, an Allied force, consisting of British, Canadians and Norwegians, is reported to have occupied the Island of Spitzbergen in the Arctic Ocean and taken control of the coal mines in the area.

9th Sep.—The Russians re-capture over 50 villages in the Central Sector, where the Germans are retreating. A German air raid on Moscow is frustrated. In the South, Rumanian troops have been brought to a standstill by the strength of the Odessa defences.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page 15*)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 2nd September 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
August 27	Nil.	
August 28	Nil.	
August 29	Nil.	1 night bomber.
August 30	Nil.	
August 31	Nil.	1 night bomber.
September 1	Nil.	
September 2	Nil.	

10th Sep.—The Russian advance continues in the Central Sector, the Germans sustaining huge losses.

11th Sep.—The Germans have developed two thrusts—one in the direction of Velikie Lukie, 125 miles north-east of Smolensk, and the other in the area north of Kiev.

The Russian counter-offensive launched by Marshal Timoshenko in the Central Sector is making headway.

The Italians get the worst of an air battle with the Russians in the Dnieper region.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

5th Sep.—It is reported that Bulgaria has refused to fight Russia in spite of German pressure.

All is quiet in Iran, rebel bands having been dispersed.

6th Sep.—The British and Soviet Governments have handed a second note to the Iran Government.

7th Sep.—Indian troops, advancing to the town of Sultanabad, have brought the important oil wells of Iran under British protection.

A German delegation has arrived in Turkey for trade talks.

8th Sep.—The Iranian Government accept the Allied terms: all Axis Legations in the country are to be closed and German nationals to be handed over.

10th Sep.—The Iran Government have already stopped cypher facilities for Axis Legations for communicating with Germany or Italy.

Marshal Von Brauchitch, the German Commander-in-Chief, is in Sofia on a tour of inspection of the German troops now massing in Bulgaria.

11th Sep.—German nationals in Iran are being surrendered to the British and Russian authorities. Meanwhile Japan is looking after Italian interests in Iran.

The Soviet has warned Bulgaria that her conduct in allowing Germany to use her territory in order to forward the campaign in Russia does not conform with normal diplomatic usage.

SHIPPING

5th Sep.—The German High Command admits in a radio broadcast that less British tonnage has been sunk by German U-boats in the last two months than in the months from February to June.

The Danish ship *Malaya* has been sunk in the Atlantic.

6th Sep.—A 2000-ton Vichy supply ship has been captured by a British destroyer off the French coast.

The new United States cruiser *Atlanta* is launched.

7th Sep.—Two enemy submarines are sunk in the Atlantic in one night by a British destroyer.

8th Sep.—It is revealed that seven million out of the thirteen million tons of shipping belonging to the Allied countries under German occupation have been rescued by the British.

A German U-boat surrenders to a British Coastal Command aircraft and is taken in tow by the Royal Navy.

9th Sep.—The British Navy sinks a German destroyer, an armoured trawler and another vessel off Murmansk.

The German High Command admits the sinking of an artillery training ship of 14,000 tons by the British Navy in Norwegian waters.

British naval patrols sink two enemy supply ships and an E-boat in the English Channel.

Reuter learns that the sinking of British and Allied ships in July and August did not amount to much more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by Allied aircraft and submarines.

Mr. Churchill reveals that British scientists have largely mastered Germany's latest secret weapon, the 'acoustic mine'.

10th Sep.—An enemy supply ship in a convoy off the Norwegian coast is topedoed by Royal Air Force coastal command aircraft.

11th Sep.—It is reported that a German raider has sunk a Dutch motorship in the Pacific, about a thousand miles west of Panama.

FAR EAST

5th Sep.—The Japanese Cabinet approves of a plan to cut down still further the private use of all Japanese means of transport.

6th Sep.—The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, assures the Chinese Ambassador in Washington that China need feel no anxiety over the American-Japanese exploratory talks.

7th Sep.—The Chinese are making preparations to recapture the islands lying off the Fukien coast.

Gurkha troops have arrived in Malaya to strengthen its defence.

Japanese censorship has stopped reports in all Japanese newspapers of the arrival of two American tankers at Vladivostok with oil for Russia.

9th Sep.—It is learnt in London that no materials that could be used for munitions have been exported from Britain to Japan for three months past.

Mr. Duff Cooper arrives in Singapore on his special mission.

11th Sep.—The creation of a new General Staff for the defence of Japan proper, Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin is announced.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

5th Sep.—It is stated in Washington that M. Henri Haye, Vichy's Ambassador to the United States, will leave America for good.

6th Sep.—Three French hostages are shot by the German authorities in occupied France as a reprisal for the attempted assassination of a German soldier.

8th Sep.—Russians, whether Communists or not, are being rounded up in France at the behest of the German authorities.

10th Sep.—Vichy's negotiations with the Germans for a reduction in the occupation charges have reached a deadlock.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5th Sep.—The Germans have fined the Archibishop of the Netherlands 500 guilders for failing to obey a German police order.

8th Sep.—Italy is taking special precautions in Croatia against surprise attacks from the sea.

10th Sep.—A State of Emergency is proclaimed in Norway by the German Commissar, who threatens drastic steps against trade unionists. A leading Norwegian lawyer is executed for "plotting a general strike" of workers.

Great Britain agrees to lift the blockade in order to feed the starving Greek people.

11th Sep.—A spirit of revolt is smouldering throughout Rumania, it is reported.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5th Sep.—United States is arranging a stabilization loan to Mexico, simultaneously with a settlement of the dispute between the Mexican Government and the American oil companies.

7th Sep.—The Stockholm Radio sharply warns Major Quisling to mind his own business and not to trouble himself about Swedish policy.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Great Britain is to supply Russia with a week's production of tanks. A wing of the Royal Air Force has proceeded to Russia in addition to the planes which have already been sent. A month ago a ten million dollar advance was given to Russia by the U.S. Government. The Three-Power Conference at Moscow in order to discuss supply problems is to meet very soon on Russian territory. These measures have naturally brought encouragement to the Russian Army which is still resisting the Nazi pressure and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Yartsevo, north-east of Smolensk, has been recaptured and the road to Moscow closed.

The Soviet Government have warned the Bulgarian Government that during the last few months they have been not only affording assistance to Germany in various ways, but also providing generally a jumping-off ground for the Nazis. The Bulgarian Government have, however, denied these charges, a denial which ill-accords with facts and which has been rejected by Russia.

Another frightful massacre has taken place in Occupied France. Ten more French hostages have been shot as a reprisal for aggression against members of the German Army.

The Germans have seized all the property of Queen Wilhelmina of Holland in the Netherlands. All property belonging to living members of the House of Orange Nassau has been seized.

It has been announced in Washington that American ships will be allowed to carry arms, ammunition and passengers to some areas of the British Empire. They may not go to the United Kingdom, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa and other areas included in the "combat zones" delineated by the President. But they can carry such arms and munitions to British East Africa, Sudan, Malaya, British North Borneo, Burma, Sarawak, Fiji and the Pacific Islands under the British flag and Bermuda, Falkland Islands, British Guiana, Honduras, British West Indies, Newfoundland and Labrador.

General Catroux, Commander-in-Chief of the Free French Forces in the Levant has restored the Syrian Republic, vesting it with authority. It is stated that the Government will be formed on constitutional lines.

President Roosevelt reported to Congress that the exports of American war supplies to nations fighting the Axis under the Lease and Lend programme totalled 190,447,670 dollars up to August 31st. Defence articles transferred, including some still awaiting shipment, amounted to an additional 35,946,701 dollars while the repairing of warships came to an additional 78,169,377 dollars. More expenditures for articles for services not yet finished amounted approximately to 162,000,000 dollars. President Roosevelt said that planes, tanks, guns and ships had begun to flow from American factories and yards and the flow would accelerate from day to day until the stream became a river and the river a torrent, engulfing the totalitarian tyranny which seeked to dominate the world.

President Roosevelt has asked congress for an additional 5,985 million dollars for Lease and Lend purposes, in addition to the original 7,000 million dollars voted in March last, of which 6,280 million dollars had been allocated.

Of the new amount, which will remain available until June 30, 1943, 1,875 million dollars are for agricultural, industrial and other commodities, 1,190 million for ordnance and ordnance stores, 685 million for aeroplanes and aeronautical material, 385 million for tanks, armoured cars, etc., 850 millions for various kinds of watercraft, 155 million for miscellaneous military and naval equipment, and 375 million for various other purposes.

Emperor Haile Selassie has abolished slavery in Abyssinia. The measure will be introduced gradually.

Chiang Kai-Shek, stated on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Mukden incident that China was determined to fight on till she secured her territorial and administrative integrity and till international justice was recognised so far as she was concerned. This means that she will not lay down her arms till North-Eastern Provinces, that is, Manchuria, Liaoling, Kirin, Heilingkian and Jehol are recovered.

Compulsory military training in Russia for all men between the ages of 16 and 50 has been ordered. The training will take place outside working hours without taking the men from their normal work in factories, collective farms, etc.

Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, in a broadcast speech on Thursday, paid a tribute to Indian war effort. He said :—

"Indian reinforcements were, at the very beginning of the war, hurried to Egypt, Aden and Singapore. Since then Indian troops have played a decisive part in the conquest of Eritrea, Abyssinia and Syria. Their prompt arrival at Basara checked the German designs upon Iraq, as their action in Iran has more recently forestalled a similar German enterprise and opened a line of communication by which British and American help can be sent to Russia. A powerful Indian force stands side by side with British and Australian troops in Malaya, ready to defend against all possible attack the great Naval Base at Singapore. Indian troops have won renown in many wars of the past. In the present war, they have shown how to adapt their traditional valour to conditions of modern warfare and their skill and heroism have won the admiration of all who have fought alongside them or against them. In less than two years, a peace time Indian Army of some 200,000 men has been increased to nearly a million. Every one of these men is a volunter, for there is no conscription in India and recruits are still coming into depots at the rate of a thousand a day, as fast as they can be equipped."

Mr. Amery concluded by stating that India to-day was a great arsenal of war and over 250 factories were turning out munitions. Over three and a half million pounds had been subscribed through the Viceroy's Fund for war relief and over three million pounds by the Indian states and the provinces and by Burma for the provision of Fighter Squadrons for the Royal Air Force.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

The situation in Iran has again become fluid. The Shah of Iran has abdicated and left his capital for Isfahan. This is reported to be due to his ill-health. In his abdication message he said that there was very little energy left in him and that the affairs of the country required fresher energy and a younger constitution. The new Shah has not so far gained the respect and goodwill of the people whose reactions to the new regime have not yet been made clear. He has taken the oath of allegiance and has promised co-operation with the Allies. It will be remembered that the Crown Prince married Princes Fawzieh, the eldest sister of the King of Egypt in 1939. Two different policies have been followed by the previous Shah and the Government, the former being pro-Nazi and the latter, pro-Ally. The Iranian Parliament has voted confidence in the new Government in accordance with traditional usage. They also seem to be anxious to abide by the terms of the agreement entered into with Great Britain and Russia. Only the ex-Shah was rather lukewarm and it is reported that he inspired an article in the Iranian newspaper *Ettelant* suggesting that the Axis Powers should remain at their present posts and that political relations between the Axis and Iran should continue. That paper has since been suppressed by the Iranian Government. There appears to be also considerable discontent in Iran regarding the internal conditions. People seem to be desirous of securing constitutional reforms which the ex-Shah was unwilling to concede. As political conditions remain unsteady and in order to clear up the situation Russian and British troops have felt themselves obliged to proceed to Teheran which has been entered. The Iranian Prime Minister, referring to this move, told Parliament that if the Allied force entered Teheran, they had no hostile intentions. There is yet no ground for any apprehension about the attitude of the Iran Government and the people, though pro-Nazi elements are still to be found here and there fomenting trouble. Whatever may happen, the Allied Governments are firm in their resolve to rid Iran of the German pest in order to gain their objective, namely, freeing Iran from German parasites who have drained the country of its food, making Iranian oil fields safe for the Allies and safeguarding the lines of communication from the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea in order to allow passage for the uninterrupted flow of supplies to Russia from Great Britain and America.

The Allied treatment of Iran provides a parallel with the British policy towards Iraq after military action had restored the peace broken by Rashid Ali's treachery. In Iraq Great Britain promised Iraqi sovereignty and in accordance with the promise she restored the rightful ruler and entrusted in Iraqi hands all the powers of administration and justice and even responsibility for the trial and punishment of the rebels. On the other hand, Germany has trampled upon the rights and liberties of peoples of the invaded countries, made deliberate attempts on the lives of legitimate sovereigns and members of Government, suppressed constitutional rights, ruled the countries by decree, robbed them of food and used the countries for further acts of aggression. Where Britain has required merely the internment of active enemy agents, Germany has seized hostages for purposes of political pressure, impressed thousands of labourers for her own war-machine and sent the Gestapo into occupied countries to find victims for her infamous concentration camps.

JAPAN

The Vichy News Agency thinks that a Japanese-American agreement has been reached though the announcement of the agreement has been postponed owing to difficulties which have arisen. But this rumour has not been confirmed in Washington. Some newspapers in Tokyo are inclined to believe that the talks are continuing in a friendly atmosphere which may be regarded as a certain sign that the relations between Japan and the United States have definitely veered away from the dangerous reefs to which they had been for some time drifting. Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, has stated that the talks are only exploratory. On the other hand, a Japanese spokesman, leader of a newly revived political party, has forecast an early Japanese-American war. He warned Japan against prolongation of the Washington negotiations that would lessen her chance of a southward drive. What Japan needed most urgently was oil and if oil was not forthcoming, Japanese planes would be grounded. Meanwhile diplomatic activities are proceeding. Great Britain is prepared for all eventualities and Sir Robert Brooke Popham, Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, has been conferring with Dutch Army and Navy officials and with the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands East Indies, in Batavia. Naturally, China which is also deeply concerned in the matter is anxious about the conduct of these talks. She feels confident that America will not let her down, especially because America has been helping the Chungking Government in the war. If America is able to secure a just peace nothing would please China better, for, she has accepted the Churchill-Roosevelt declaration and the principles of the Nine-Power Pact.

It is interesting, in this connexion, to note that Mr. Duff Cooper, who is now in the Far East, has described the condition of Japan as an isolated power facing overwhelming superiority in the Pacific. He does not believe that Japan wants to bring down on her head the concentrated wrath and fury of all the Allied powers that stand united. The position now is very different from that of last year. The whole situation, he said, has undergone a complete change. "There can be no doubt what the result would be when so many great nations are united and ready for whatever may come."

FINLAND AND THE WAR

Reports from Stockholm and Washington persist in asserting that Finland is not only eager for peace, now that she has regained her 1939 frontiers, but that Germany has withdrawn her objection to a separate Finnish-Russian peace. True, German propaganda recently indulged in the most fulsome flattery of the Finns and Germany announced that she would give large quantities of grain to Finland, evidently as an inducement to her to carry on the war. But the Finnish Press has markedly ignored Hitler's message of greetings to President Ryti as well as the presentation of a bar to the Iron Cross with which Germany had already decorated Marshal Mannerheim. While the latter not long ago declared that the time had not yet come "to turn Finnish swords into plough-shares," it is significant that he has—following the Russians' deliberate withdrawal of their forces on the Finnish front to the old frontier in the Karelian Isthmus—transferred most of his troops from the Isthmus to other fronts, manifesting an apparent indifference to the German campaign in the Leningrad sector. Whether this is a peace gesture or an indication that the Finns' new objective is the conquest of Soviet Karelia (as stated in a Vichy report) is not yet clear though Berlin still announces Finnish successes in the Leningrad area. The Finnish Government, in a Blue-and-White Paper, blame Russia for her past attitude to the Finns and M. Tanner, Finland's Minister for Trade and Industry, rather equivocally says "We shall not continue the war longer than our interests demand." It is, however, significant (to say the least) that the Finnish Government make no efforts to prevent reports of peace negotiations emanating from Helsinki. And there have been clear indications of growing friction between the Germans and the Finns. The latter are bitterly aware that they have been left to bear the brunt of the fighting and to this has been added scorn for their German allies who were badly mauled by the Russians in the Salla sector and proved themselves quite incompetent in fighting under Arctic conditions. And Great Britain and the United States have indicated unmistakably that they will hold Finland to account if she continues military operations after regaining the old territory lost to Russia. There is, thus, no reason to disbelieve the reports of Finland's readiness to negotiate with Russia though it remains to be seen how far the New York *World Telegram* is justified in reporting that the United States is trying to arrange a Russo-Finnish armistice.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA.

The Germans have renewed their offensive on the wide front from Murmansk to the Black Sea. The drive to Murmansk is made from the Norwegian side and is probably to counter-attack any possible British move here. The Russians are reported to be counter-attacking 200 miles to the south where the Finnish forces were reported some time ago to be trying to cut the railway from Murmansk to Leningrad. And the British Fleet Air Arm has also been busy in the Arctic, breaking up German attempts to land reinforcements in the northern sector. Round Leningrad itself, a fierce and bloody struggle is raging both on land and in the air while the Russian Baltic Fleet has made short work of German troop-ships and destroyers trying to land more troops in the neighbourhood. German attempts to seize the Island of Oesel at the entrance to Riga Bay, commanding the gulf of Finland, have been frustrated. The German Commander, in an Order of the Day, has stated that the city should be captured at all costs within the next few days, this hurry being due to a possible threat to the German line of communications if the Russians succeed in their counter-offensive at Velikiye Luki towards the west and to a fear that weather conditions may soon make mobile warfare impossible in the north. But Leningrad continues firm in her defence and its citizens have just broadcast a message to the citizens of London, expressing the utmost confidence in victory. In the Central sector, the Russian counter-offensive and the German "wedge" seem to be moving on parallel lines, though in opposing directions! Marshal Timoshenko is pressing hard after capturing Yelna and his troops are now in a position to invest Smolensk. And the Russians have taken Yartsevo, 35 miles north-east of Smolensk, on the high road to Moscow, after a battle in which the Germans lost 10,000 men and an immense quantity of material. The Germans' drive at Gomel itself has been checked but they have pushed farther to the south where the Russians have evacuated Chernigov. This advance intensifies the threat to the key city of Kiev. In the Lower Dnieper region, the Germans have crossed to the east of the river with a view probably to drive to the river and launched a drive to the Perekop Isthmus over the Crimea, where German dive-bombers have been busy. The Germans have also captured Kremenchug on the east bank of the river and claim to be advancing eastward "on a broad front" but their claim appears to be a trifle premature like the grandiose one to have completely encircled Leningrad and to have pierced its outer defences! The Russians seem not only to have stabilized the position near Kremenchug after evacuating it; they have also forced the Dnieper at four points and captured two villages on the western side. The Germans further south are preparing for a new move and have concentrated naval vessels at the Bulgarian ports of Varna and Burgas on the Black Sea; and the Soviet Government have warned Bulgaria against collaboration with Germany. Meanwhile, Odessa continues to resist all the attempts of the Rumanians and the Germans to take it by storm; and it is revealed that 20,000 Rumanians were killed in this sector in the first ten days of this month. The German air force is showing signs of strain and revealing big gaps while a wing of the Royal Air Force has arrived in Russia to reinforce the defence.

MR. ROOSEVELT WARNS GERMANY

UNITED STATES NAVY TO SHOOT GERMAN RATTLE-SNAKES IN DEFENCE WATERS

Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States, has uttered a solemn warning to Germany in regard to the Battle of the Atlantic. As Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army and Navy, he has issued orders to carry out a new policy. That policy, he stated, will be as follows: "In waters we deem necessary to our defence, American naval vessels and American planes will no longer wait until Axis submarines, lurking under the water, or Axis raiders on the surface of the sea strike their deadly blow first. Upon our Naval and Air Patrol—now operating in large numbers over the vast expanse of the Atlantic Ocean—falls the duty of maintaining the American policy of freedom of the seas. That means very simply and clearly now that our patrolling vessels and planes will protect all merchant ships—not only American ships but ships of any flag—engaged in commerce in our defensive waters. They will protect them from submarines and they will protect them from surface raiders." This means that Axis planes, Axis submarines and Axis raiders will be attacked if they are found anywhere in American defensive waters.

THE PROVOCATION.

Why has President Roosevelt taken this important, decisive and historic step? In his broadcast speech, he set out his reasons: They are:—

1. A few months ago, the *Robin Moor*, an American merchant-ship flying the American flag, was sunk by a Nazi submarine in the middle of the South Atlantic in violation of long-established international law and every principle of humanity. The passengers and the crew were forced into open boats hundred of miles from land in direct violation of an international agreement signed by all nations, including the Government of Germany. No apology, no allegation of mistake, no offer of reparations have come from the Nazi Government.
2. In July 1941, an American battleship was followed by a submarine which tried to manoeuvre itself into a position of attack. There was no excuse for it; no British or American submarines were within hundreds of miles of this spot.
3. Near Greenland, on August 17th, an American-owned ship *Sessa* was torpedoed without warning while carrying civilian supplies to Iceland. Many of the crew were drowned.
4. In the second week of September, the *Steel Seafarer* was sunk by a German aircraft in the Red Sea, 230 miles south of the Suez.
5. On September 4, the United States Destroyer *Greer* was torpedoed in full daylight, south of Greenland. She was carrying American mails to Iceland, flying the American flag. The attack failed but it was a deliberate one.
6. and 7. Two incidents have happened since the President spoke. It has been revealed that *Montana* flying the Pan-American flag was torpedoed and sunk on the 11th September. The steamer *Arkansan* flying the American flag was struck and damaged by shell fragments in a raid on the town of Suez on Thursday, September 11.

Why has Germany been doing all these acts? They constitute, according to the President, piracy, morally and legally. These incidents are not isolated, but part of a general plan, and these acts of international lawlessness are manifestations of a Nazi design to abolish freedom of the seas and acquire absolute control and domination of the seas for themselves. With the control of the seas, the way will be clear for Germany's next step—domination of the United States and the Western Hemisphere by force of arms.

There has been still further provocation. There have been Nazi plots throughout the Western Hemisphere for the achievement of the same purpose. Hitler's advance guards and American dupes have assisted him in his plots, machinations and attempts of sabotage. Last year, a plot to seize the Government of Uruguay was smashed. In Argentine the Government had carefully and wisely blocked similar attempts at every point. In Bolivia the same thing has happened. In Colombia a discovery has been made of secret air landing fields within easy reach of the Panama Canal.

THE REASONS FOR AMERICAN ACTION

The reasons for American action were three:—

(1) Mr. Roosevelt stated very clearly that for the protection of the United States, the British Navy was necessary and only if it survived, would the United States Navy be invincible. That was simple arithmetic.

(2) America attaches the greatest importance to the freedom of the seas. That policy is basic and fundamental. No nation has

the right to make the broad oceans of the world, at great distances from any actual theatre of land war, unsafe for the commerce of others, and Hitler has been breaking all international laws and all vestiges of humanity for the purpose of carrying out his designs for domination of the Western Hemisphere.

(3) There was the inescapable fact that the American line of supply of materials to the enemies of Hitler should be maintained. Mr. Roosevelt stated: "No matter what it takes, no matter what it costs, we will keep open the line of legitimate commerce in these defensive waters. We have sought no shooting war with Hitler. We do not seek it now. But neither do we want peace so much that we are willing to pay for it by permitting him to attack our naval and merchant ships while they are on their legitimate business . . . When you see a rattle-snake poised to strike you, you do not wait until he has struck, before you crush him. These Nazi submarines and raiders are the rattle-snakes of the pathways of the high seas. They are challengers to our sovereignty."

GERMANY'S WORLD ORDER

The German attempt, said Mr. Roosevelt, to create a Nazi New Order throughout the world must be crushed. The Nazis attempt to create a permanent world system was based on force, terror and murder. "Nazi danger to our Western World has long ceased to be a possibility. The danger is here and now, not only from a military enemy, but from an enemy of all law, all liberty, all morality and all religion. The time has come for saying to these inhuman unrestrained seekers of world conquest and permanent world domination by the sword: 'You seek to throw our children and our children's children into your form of terrorism and slavery. You have now attacked our own safety. You shall go no further.'"

The President said that there will be no shooting unless and until Germany sought it and he concluded by saying: "I have no illusions about the gravity of this step. I have not taken it hurriedly nor lightly. It is the result of months and months of constant thought, anxiety and prayer. In the protection of your nation and mine it cannot be avoided."

WHAT ARE DEFENSIVE WATERS?

There is a good deal of speculation as to what the "defensive waters" are to which President Roosevelt referred. Mr. Cordull Hull said that Germany's action would determine what areas United States will consider "defensive waters in which American warships will shoot first," but the President's words are stated to be a plain warning that attacks anywhere in the globe held possibilities of American retaliation. The safety line between the American sea ports and Iceland comes most certianly under the term "defensive waters.' It is stated that "defensive waters" include those waters where the United States have now established bases. Colonel Knox has since announced that the United States Navy was now convoying ships taking Lease and Lend goods to Britain. He added: "Escort of convoys by combatant vessels is only one of the many methods that can be and are being used."

REACTION IN GERMANY

President Roosevelt has clearly stated that further action in furtherance of the policy now enunciated by him depended upon Germany, which now accuses the President of breaking the Neutrality Act and trying to put the whole blame on Germany. The German radio said that there was nothing new in the announcement because he had already given in the middle of July the order to strike; Mr. Roosevelt was intent upon launching his country into the war.

Seignor Gayda commenting upon President Roosevelt's speech said that while Italy and Germany had tried to circumscribe the conflict, the Washington Government had taken special care not to define the geographical limits of the defensive waters.

The question as to what Germany will do is not quite clear. It has been said that if she did not attack American ships, she would lose the Battle of the Atlantic. On the other hand, if she attacked American ships she would be drawing America into the war. No one can predict what Germany will do, but it is stated she may wait till she is assured that Japan would assist her by an act of aggression in the Pacific. But will Japan do so? According to the Tripartite Pact she is not bound to assist Germany because America has not attacked Germany. Japan herself would prefer to wait on events in the East of Europe. If Russia succumbs, then she might show her fangs in the Far East, but that does not seem to be a possibility just at present.

HOW THE WORLD HAS RECEIVED MR. ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH

In America, the isolationists fear that the order to shoot given by President Roosevelt will have the effect of drawing the United States nearer the war than ever. Some of these people have gone to the extent of saying that it was an unauthorized declaration of war. On the other hand, Mr. Wendell Willkie has warmly welcomed the new policy. He is convinced that President Roosevelt could not yield on such a fundamental right whatever the consequences. Had the President been less firm, a disastrous war would have become inevitable. The American Press is on the whole in favour of President Roosevelt's declaration of policy. They recognize that this might incolve war with Germany, but then it

(Continued on Page 15.)

"HITLER'S NEW ORDER"

A PLAY IN 3 ACTS.

Prologue.—"To guarantee to the Greater German Reich a maximum of economic security and to the German people a maximum of consumption", is, according to Dr. Funk, the Reich Minister of Economics, the object of the "New Order". European economics are to be directed to this end, and the weapons to be used are: economic exploitation, plunder and loot. The German race is to be the *Herren-Klasse* (the master-men), and the rest of Europe is to be reduced to serfdom. The German "elect" will be the masters of all industrial activity, and will live like parasites on the agricultural resources of Europe.

ACT I

THE PLOT IS UNFOLDED

Synopsis:—Europe is TRICKED into slavery; and the FOUNDATIONS of the "New Order" are laid.

Characters:—Hitler and his satellite Mussolini; Dupes and Quislings; Treachery and Deceit.

AXIS PROMISES	HOW THEY WERE BROKEN
Austria.—(a) "Germany neither intended nor wishes to interfere in the internal affairs of Austria, to annex Austria, or to conclude an *Anschluss.—Hitler, May* 1935.	Nineteen days after his Reichstag speech Hitler sent his armies into Austria and occupied the whole country.
(b) On February 20, 1938, Hitler addressing the Reichstag, said that misunderstanding with Austria had been removed.	
Czechoslovakia.—"The Sudetenland is the last territorial claim which I have to make in Europe. . . I shall not be interested in the Czech state any more and I can guarantee it. We don't want any Czechs at all."—*Hitler, September* 26, 1938.	Six months later Hitler occupied Prague and annexed the whole of what was left of Czechoslovakia.
Poland.—There was a German-Polish Treaty of 1934 which laid down that both parties would base their policy on the principles of the Kellog Pact.	On September 1, 1939, Hitler suddenly invaded Poland, shattered her armies and occupied the rich industrial regions of the country.
"A nation of 33 millions would always strive for an outlet to the sea. . . We recognize that the German and Polish peoples must live side by side. . . We have no interest in breaking the peace."—*Hitler, September* 1938.	
Norway and Denmark.—These two countries were asked to accept "German protection" against the Allies, and while the demands were being presented, German troops occupied the capitals. On the next day, the Bremen radio said, "Germany's action in Scandinavia indicates her genuine desire to maintain the neutrality of the neutrals, and her determination not to infringe the territorial integrity and the political independence of Norway and Denmark now or in the future."	Notwithstanding the promises made, Hitler began the offensive against Norway when her King refused to appoint a ministry under Major Quisling—a German agent. Weak and unprepared Denmark submitted to the Germans under protest.
Holland and Belgium.—"The Reich Government declares that Germany has no intention of touching the Sovereignty and Kingdom of the Netherlands or Belgium, either with regard to their European or Colonial possessions, now or in the future."—*German Govt. Memorandum, May* 9, 1940.	Exactly one day after this solemn pledge, Holland and Belgium were invaded by large German armies, and two gallant little nations lost their independence.

AXIS PROMISES

Luxembourg.—On August 26, 1939, Hitler pledged himself to respect the neutrality of Luxembourg.

France.—(*a*) "We want nothing from France. We have guaranteed France's frontiers for ever."—*Marshal Goering, September 9, 1939.*

(*b*) "We finally renounce Alsace-Lorraine."—*Hitler.*

Egypt, Greece and Yugoslavia.—On May 16, 1940, Mussolini said, "I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag other peoples who are her neighbours into this conflict. Let Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Egypt and Greece take note of these words of mine."

Rumania.—Cajolery and threats are applied and Rumania joins the Axis Pact in hope of reward from the master.

Hungary.—Adheres to the Axis Pact on November 20, 1940, to save her skin.

Bulgaria.—Germany assures Bulgaria of her eternal friendship and makes her sign the Axis Pact in March 1941.

HOW THEY WERE BROKEN

On May 10, 1940, Hitler's armies occupied Luxembourg.

(*a*) In July 1940 France was plundered and dismembered.

(*b*) In November 1940, Alsace-Lorraine was annexed to the Reich and French inhabitants were deported.

On September 16, 1940, Mussolini's armies tried to invade Egypt.

On October 28, 1940, Mussolini's armies tried to invade Greece.

One month later, Italian troops occupied the whole of Greece, and large tracts of Yugoslav territory were annexed to Italy.

Rumania is forced to cede Southern Dobruja to Bulgaria and Transylvania to Hungary.

Is forcibly compelled to send her armies to fight German's war against Russia.

Bulgaria's signature to the Axis Pact is followed by German occupation of her territories.

ACT II

THE PLOT THICKENS

Synopsis :—The SLAVES are EXPLOITED; and the "New Order" is set in operation.

Characters :—Himmler and the Gestapo; Dr. Ley and Dr. Funk; and jugglers in high finance.

PRINCIPLES OF EXPLOITATION

1. The Forced Transfer of Labour from the Occupied Countries is to feed the war-machine of the Reich.

2. Labour standards in the occupied countries are to be lowered.

HOW THEY HAVE BEEN PRACTISED

Foreign labourers forced to work in the Reich had reached the following totals at the end of 1940 :—

Poland	400,000
Bohemia and Moravia	107,000
Slovakia	80,000
Denmark	100,000
Belgium	80,000
Luxembourg	2,500
Netherlands	94,000
France	135,000
Italy	300,000

Besides this number, there are more than a million war prisoners working in Germany, making a grand total of 2 million imported labourers.

2. *The Daily Mail* of July 25, 1940, stated that in a certain factory in Paris, workers formerly earning 5 francs per hour have been reduced to 1 franc.

In Denmark the Germans have abolished the relation between living costs and wages which had been achieved by the Danish Trade Unions.

In Norway the wage level has been lowered by at least 20 per cent. In all occupied countries the Trade Unions have been abolished, the 'corporative system' introduced, and wages reduced to mere subsistence level.

PRINCIPLES OF EXPLOITATION

3. Taxes and occupation costs are to be levied in the occupied countries in order to crush them financially.

4. "All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and will be distributed primarily among working members of the Party. . ."—*Ernest Darré, in a speech to Nazi officials in May* 1940.

5. Exchange rates are to be manipulated in order to drain away labour and goods from the occupied countries.

6. The occupied countries are forced to lend to Germany amounts which will never be repaid.

HOW THEY HAVE BEEN PRACTISED

3. Following are the figures of annual occupation charges for some of the occupied countries :—

	The Charges. (*million Rm.*)	*Per head of the Population.* (*Rm.*)
Norway	660	226
Denmark	276	73
Netherlands	443	51
Belgium	443	49
France	7,300	174
Total	9,122	

(*Sunday Times*, Jan. 5, 1941.)

Rm. 15 being equal to £1, the total bill is equivalent to some £600 million per year, but as the currencies of the occupied countries are under valued, the true value of the occupation charges is nearer to £800 or £900 million a year, or about £12 per head on the average. Under the Dawes Plan of 1924, Germany's reparations were barely £2 per head.

Besides these charges, Germany also levies taxes, forced loans, etc., which may be placed at a liberal estimate of £300 million a year.

4. Seizures of Jewish property, confiscation of State properties in the occupied countries, control of banks, factories, and industrial plants—all form part of the Nazi loot. The value of these confiscations cannot be accurately estimated, but it is certain that the loot is to be counted in thousands of million pounds.

5. By these measures the price which Germany pays for her purchases from the occupied countries is from 15 per cent to 40 per cent below that which would prevail in a free market. Even so upwards of £200 million worth of the purchases are on credit which she forces the sellers to grant.

6. By accumulating clearing balances in favour of the occupied territories and issuing new currency which the Central Banks of the occupied countries are forced to accept, the Germans have obtained some £100—£150 million worth of goods and services from the western occupied countries, or in other words, they have borrowed at the rate of perhaps £170—£250 million per year.

In the East, the Germans have withdrawn currency from circulation in an incorporated region to purchase goods in an area still unincorporated in the Reich. Thus the kc: 1,600 million withdrawn in the Sudetenland after Munich were later used to purchase goods from Czechoslovakia, yielding some £13 million worth for nothing.

Similarly, some 600 million Zloty (about £30 million) withdrawn in annexed Poland have been spent in the "gouvernement Generale."

ACT III

THE NEMESIS OR HOW THE PLOT FIZZLES

Synopsis :—The SLAVES saw through their shackles; and the jerry-built structure of the "New Order" begins to TOTTER.

Characters :—LEADERS of the FREEDOM FRONT and the FREE GOVERNMENTS in London; partisans and patriots; guerillas and saboteurs.

THE CHALLENGE

Czechoslovakia.—50,000 Gestapo and 300,000 soldiers are thrust upon the people: Czech culture is destroyed, teachers and professors are interned and 520 publications are suppressed. Czech industry passes into German control.

Poland.—The Second Polish White Paper tells the world how the Germans are seeking to effect "biological destruction of Poland". In February 1940, General Goering decrees the wholesale confiscation of all factories, farms and forests in annexed Poland. Poles are executed for storing arms.

Norway.—A state of general seige is declared; land is confiscated for building new aerodromes and compulsory labour is decreed. Mass arrests and executions take place to curb the rising resistance.

Denmark.—The Quisling Thuns Jacobsen, under the Danish Fuehrer, Fritz Clausen paves the way for German penetration into the country's agriculture and industry. Danes are imprisoned for "incorrect behaviour" and the Nazis muzzle the press and impose Nazi culture.

Holland.—Quisling Mussert tyrannises over the people and martial law prevails in Northern Holland. All Dutch municipalities and provinces lose their autonomy; education is Nazified, and the people are ordered to eat raw food. Three to nine years hard labour is decreed for listening to B.B.C. Broadcasts.

HOW IT HAS BEEN MET

Czech patriots burn oil depots, blow up ammunition dumps, and wreck military trains. One hundred and sixteen workers were executed in one month because the guns they had been forced to make, burst after a few rounds; 3,000 tons of steel was spoiled when workers added sulphur and zinc to the molten metal which went into 7,000 guns sent all over Europe. "No one will re-educate us into becoming Greater Germans, even though they promise us the Alps", wrote a secret Czech paper on October 28, 1940.

Partisans operate behind the German lines; an irregular cavalry unit kills 200 German men and officers and seizes 180 horses and booty. The casualty figure amongst Storm Troopers rises. Sabotage in factories and railway sheds increases.

Strikes and sabotage slow down production in factories. Norwegian pilots escape to join the Royal Air Force and seamen cross the sea in fishing smacks to join the British *trawler fleet*. Eighteen provincial governors resign rather than obey the puppet government. The local Quisling Ferboven complains, "large sections of Norwegians appear to suffer from English sickness."

"We in this country hate Hitler. . . I would prefer 504,000 unemployed persons in Denmark to Denmark joining the 'New Europe' under Germany"—*an extract from a Danish letter*. "Blind hatred of Germany's Fuehrer and troops of occupation prevails in the leading commercial, political and military circles", complains the *Nordschleswigsche Zeitung*. "It is tragic that the Danish students, who have every possibility of understanding National Socialism refuse to understand it", reports the leader Fritz Clausen.

The Essener National Zeitung denounces the "degenerate" Dutch for cheering British bombers. The Dutch blow up machine-building factories and set fire to existing stock of material. Shots are fired from roofs and tiles rain down on Nazi patrols in the streets. A Nazi publicist bewails that "the saner Dutchmen who refuse to give to the Winter Help Fund because it is reported as being a Nazi institution, gladly gives a guilder to any street musician if he plays national tunes before the house of a Nazi."

THE CHALLENGE

Belgium.—Nazis plunder food stores, conscript railway trucks and lorries, muzzle the press and prohibit listening to foreign broadcasts. Farmers are fined for hiding their crops, and innumerable workers are carried off to perform military labour. Belgian textiles pass into German control.

France.—Alsace and Lorraine are annexed to the Reich. French commerce, industry, banking and exchange passes into German hands. Death penalties are instituted for listening in to the B.B.C. and guillotines are set up to terrorise the populace.

Greece.—Starvation and disease stalk the land as Germans and Italians tyrannize and exploit the people. Religious persecuting breaks out, and the population is forcibly conscripted for military labour.

Yugoslavia.—Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro are dismembered from the parent State. The Quisling Pavelitch and his gang, the Ustachi mercilessly persecute the patriots. In southern Serbia a general massacre of priests, teachers and mayors takes place in order to exterminate popular resistance. Seven hundred thousand boys and girls are rounded up in schools and colleges and are taken to Germany. The heavy mining industry is taken over by the Nazis.

Rumania.—German exploitation results in general famine and disease. Rumanians are forced to fight Germany's war against Russia. Jews are forced into military labour. The Orthodox Church is persecuted. Forty thousand tons of food are taken away every week.

Hungary and Bulgaria, who had joined the Axis in hopes of new favours from Hitler, are disillusioned as Germany uses Hungarian troops to fight Russia and Bulgarian troops to threaten Turkey.

HOW IT HAS BEEN MET

Notorious Quislings are attacked. Shipyards with large stocks of timber are set on fire. The secret newspaper, the *Libre Belgique* prints a hundred thousand copies. "Sabotage, passive resistance, and thinly disguised hostility paralyse the adaptation of Belgian economy and more particularly of the people's mentality to the 'New Order'" says *Le Noveau Journal*.

Popular unrest grows in France, anti-German demonstrations in Paris are followed by shooting of Laval, Deat, Gitton and many German officers. Sabotage and wrecking of military trains becomes common. Workers participate in anti-Nazi demonstrations in Pontoise. In addition to the 7,000,000 authorized ration books issued in the Greater Paris region, there are 5,000,000 forged copies in circulation. The French use their great weapon of ridicule to irritate the German soldiery.

Starving Greeks burn the harvest in Thrace rather than see it fall to the Germans. German military supplies are burnt, and guerillas harass the German troops from their mountain fastnesses.

Serbian guerillas damage the Sarjevo-Brod Railway; and Montenegro, Novi Bazaar, and Herzegovinia are held by patriot and irregulars who destroy the harvest and wreck the railway tracks. Impotent in the face of such resolute resistance, the Germans try to form a puppet government under General Neditch in order to enlist popular support. They also intend to organize a Serbian army and decree compulsory labour in order to prevent able-bodied men from forming increasing guerilla bands.

Thirteen Rumanian generals are arrested or shot for refusing to lead their men against Russia. Dr. Maniu, the leader of the Peasant Party, asks Antonescu to call off the war. Goering complains of acts of sabotage behind German lines, and Antonescu calls for German reinforcements to maintain internal order and peace.

Soldiers desert the Hungarian army rather than fight Russia. Sabotage takes place behind the lines, and the Criminal Court at Budapest sentences boys between the ages of six and sixteen on charge of damaging the state railways.

Unrest grows in Bulgaria, where King Boris is still trying to stave off German pressure. A secret radio station is discovered at Varna "working in the interests of Soviet Russia."

Epilogue :—"We shall draw from the heart of suffering itself the means of inspiration and survival and of a victory won, not only for ourselves, but for all—a victory won, not only for our own time, but for the long and better days that are to come."

—WINSTON CHURCHILL.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE IN THE AIR

In its great offensive over enemy territory the Royal Air Force is now losing more planes than the German defenders.

Last year the *Luftwaffe* in its vain attempt to batter Britain into collapse or submission lost more planes than the Royal Air Force.

The difference—one difference—is that Britain admits her losses whereas Germany did not.

ROYAL AIR FORCE LOSSES IN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

Sept.—Dec. 1939	26
Jan.—Dec. 1940	349
Jan.—Aug. 1941	959

These figures tell their own tale of vastly increasing operations and British aircraft production steadily expanding after surviving the Nazi attempt to blast both industry and aerodromes to destruction.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN AND BATTLE OF GERMANY

To bomb Berlin British planes have to fly a total of some 1,200 miles. For at least five-sixths of the time they are in the air they are exposed to enemy fighter attack and anti-aircraft fire. For at least three-quarters of the time (owing to the restricted range of fighters) there can be no fighter escort.

To bomb London German planes have to fly a total of little more than 200 miles. They are exposed to attack for a much shorter period and they enjoy continuous fighter support.

The defenders in each case have, moreover, the advantage that parachute descents and forced landings of their own men and aircraft on their own soil do not mean loss.

Now look at the ratio of losses for the Battle of Britain and the Battle of Germany.

In the week ended September 2, 1941, the Royal Air Force lost 61 aircraft (1 pilot safe), and the *Luftwaffe* 25.

In the week ended September 7, 1940, the Royal Air Force lost 52 aircraft (31 pilots safe), and the *Luftwaffe* 365.

	German or Axis Losses.	British Losses.
German attacks on Britain, 1940..	3,038	847
British attacks on Germany and Occupied Territory in Northern Europe, first 8 months of 1941.	625	959
Middle East operations, since Italy's entry into war.	2,087	383

ROYAL AIR FORCE'S GREAT RECORD

Bomber Command

Growing weight of the bomber offensive is reflected in the figures released *via* the British Embassy in Ankara on Aug. 28.

In January of this year the Bomber Command effected 1,100 sorties, dropping 800 tons of bombs.

In July the corresponding figures were 3,900 and 4,400 tons of bombs.

Bomb-loads have been increased by about 100 per cent since war began. Attacking strength is also increasing sometimes to more than 300 aircraft in one night's operations.

Fighter Command

The fighters, which saved Britain last autumn, made in the spring of this year a weekly average of 200 sorties. The corresponding figure now is 1,500.

Their attacks over the Channel Coast have forced Germany to keep a considerable fighter force in the West. Fighter protection for German bombers on the Russian front is thereby reduced. A conservative estimate of *Luftwaffe* losses in Russia to date is 4,000 planes.

Daylight sweeps over Northern France from June 16 to September 2 cost the Royal Air Force 266 planes. But 480 German fighters were destroyed.

A single British fighter squadron has destroyed 175 enemy aircraft since the war began.

Coastal Command

Keeping constant watch over 600,000 square miles of sea, Coastal Command aircraft have:

Flown 40 Million miles so far.

Escorted 7,500 convoys carrying food and munitions to Britain.

Launched 256 attacks on U-boats and 710 attacks on enemy naval units and supply ships.

Sunk or seriously damaged 240,000 tons of enemy merchant shipping. This is in addition to 300,000 tons sunk and about the same amount damaged by the Bomber Command.

Fleet Air Arm

Taranto, Matapan and the destruction of the *Bismarck* are among the Fleet Air Arm's battle honours.

So steady and successful is the air war on Axis supply ships in the Mediterranean that one enemy destroyer is necessary to escort every merchant-ship in the Sicilian Channel. And even that does not save General Rommel's vital supplies.

THE NAZI DREAM

"Bread and circuses" was a Roman Emperor's scornful phrase for the bare necessities of secure government. Allow the people the material minimum of sustenance, with popular entertainments at regular intervals, and all would be well. The practical ideal of government as something more than an insurance of the rulers against rebellion is comparatively new. It was too new for the Nazis, whose fundamental contempt for everyone but themselves was fortified by each success in the original plan for the conquest of Germany.

With Germany tricked, bound and drugged, the demagogues and street-fighters who now occupied the seats of government had to put their own interpretation on the Roman Emperor's formula. The enormous weight of arbitrary legislation which followed might deceive the hasty into imagining that Government had indeed enlarged its primitive responsibilities into a paternal system for the detailed care of the people's lives and happiness. It was in fact deliberately dressed up to have that appearance. But examination reveals, as bitter experience has revealed to the Germans, that the whole bent and purpose of these innumerable decrees was for the strengthening of the hands that had seized power. The welfare of the governed was still comprehended in the minimum of bread and circuses. The circuses ranged from the sport of Jew-baiting to the little less barbaric party Rallies at Nuremburg. The bread was provided for a hungry and unselective nation by rapidly expanding employment on armaments, by mass conscription for the armed forces, and by the scramble to join the growing legions of petty officials and party executives. It was the bread of death, for the machine was geared to one purpose only—war and then more war.

That was the first of Hitler's new orders. It could only survive bankruptcy and dissolution by the bloody path that led to a second new order, the new order for captive countries in Europe. And to preserve the second new order a third becomes necessary, the new order for the world that is at the heart of the crazy Nazi dream. After that, what remains for tyranny to seize upon? The question is academic, for the world is resolved that at whatever sacrifice the third new order shall not come into being. And the defeat of Germany in this ultimate attempt will lead to the successive collapse of the dominations already imposed.

In point of benefit to the peoples concerned, it may be noted, these new orders are planned to operate in a descending scale. The German nation, Hitler's first victims, were given bread—of a kind. Many of them may have thought it was worth the loss of other amenities such as common justice, or individual security, or religious freedom. But the conquered peoples of Europe are given nothing. It is a question of how much of their own bread they are allowed to keep, and the answer is very little. The Nazi attitude to the starving populations under their heel must constitute the first historical instance of a government publicly renouncing all responsibility for feeding the people under its control.

And for the third new order, the one that is designed to follow success against Russia, penetration into Asia, invasion of Britain and paralysis of America—for this we have the monstrous blue-print in all Hitler's race-theories. "Never," as Churchill has said, "did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of mortal man."

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD

AIMS OF THE DEMOCRACIES AND THE AXIS

THE EIGHT-POINT PLAN AND HITLER'S NEW ORDER

Below are the eight points of the joint declaration of policy issued in the name of their Governments and peoples by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt at their historic Atlantic meeting and the Nazi aims in quotations from Hitler's own words (as recorded by his former adviser Hermann Rauschnigg in his book "Hitler Speaks") and from other authentic sources.—

CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT	HITLER
1. "Their countries seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other."	1. "We must have Europe and its colonies. Germany will spread its might far beyond its borders in the east as well as in the south-east. We have a right to South America. Natural instincts bid all living beings not merely conquer their enemies but destroy them." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
2. "They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned."	2. "This struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. There will still be the class of subject alien races. We need not hesitate to call them the modern slave class." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
3. "They respect the rights of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them."	3. "The day of small states is past. We do not seek equality but mastery. We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such ideological abortions of sterile democracy. (*Hitler Speaks.*)
4. "They will endeavour with due respect to their existing obligations to further the enjoyment by all states, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to the trade and the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity."	4. "After the end of the war, Germany must digest the incorporated territories. From the economic point of view this means adjustment to the German economy." (*Voelkischer Beobachter*, 20th August 1940.) "Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world and will for example cause the United States to have not 7,000,000 but 30-40,000,000 unemployed. Mr. Roosevelt will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw materials at prices which we will dictate." (Nazi Agriculture Minister Darre to party officials, May 1940.)
5. "They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social progress."	5. "All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed among the worthy members of the party and soldiers who were accorded honours for bravery in this war. This German aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery which we must and will introduce. Work must be as cheap as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly." (Darre.)

CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT	HITLER
6. "After the final destruction of Nazi tyranny they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in saftey within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurances that all the men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want."	6. "The world can only be ruled by fear. Terror is the most effective political instrument. I recognize no moral law in politics. There will be no licence, no free space, in which the individual belongs to himself." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
7. "Such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance."	7. "The German navy will be expanded to a strength worthy of a world power. It will carry the German flag and the German name over the face of the Globe." (Admiral Raeder, 28th January 1941).
8. "They believe that all the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their country, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable methods which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armaments."	8. "War is eternal. War is universal. War is life." (*Hitler Speaks.*) "After the war, armament will go on at the present rate bringing new world power to Germany." (*Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung*, 2nd September 1940.)

MR. ROOSEVELT WARNS GERMANY—(*Continued from Page 6*)

will be for Germany to choose. One journal writes: "This is the first day of America's shooting war at long last. Our backing, our moving sideways, our progressing towards a fixed point by following a curve—these things are at an end."

In Great Britain and the Dominions, Mr. Roosevelt's policy is taken to be a challenge to Hitler. America is taking all risks but she is determined to do it as much in her own defence as in the defence of freedom throughout the world. The most appropriate description of Mr. Roosevelt's speech was by Mr. Curtin, Labour Leader of Australia, who said that it was a great speech, by a great man, on behalf of a great country. The distinction between non-belligerency and belligerency of the United States has vanished at last and now America has taken a decisive step forward which has gone far beyond the demand for American convoys of munitions to the theatres of war. The policy enunciated by Mr. Roosevelt means a great help to the British Navy which can now, by leaving the work of safe convoying of munitions of war in the West Atlantic to America, confine its attention to safeguarding the passage of ships in the Eastern Atlantic.

ACTION TAKEN BY AMERICA

Swift action has followed the promises made by Mr. Roosevelt in his speech. Beginning from the 16th September, the United States' Navy has been ordered to protect the Lease and Lend cargoes traversing the sea between the American continent and the waters adjacent to Iceland. "To capture or destroy" is the direction given and every Axis surface or sub-surface raider that may be encountered will share that fate. Hitler threw out a challenge that he will sink every ship that his vessels may encounter on the routes leading from the United States to British ports. That challenge has been taken up and Hitler has been placed in a dilemma. For, according to Col. Knox, if Hitler and his Nazis did not take swiftly successful measures to break down the bridge of ships carrying supplies to Britain, the defeat of England would become impossible. On the other hand, if they did make such an all-out effort, they would add the United States Navy to their numerous foes. The Assistant Secretary of the United States Navy, commenting upon the events of the last few days, said that war might be forced on the United States. The United States Atlantic Fleet has been stripped for action and the work it has been entrusted to do includes convoying. More than 125 American vessels are ready to do this job.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1—7, 1941

TWO VOICES

" Germany does not have the least intention to attack India." (*German news in Hindustani, Sept.* 6.)

" Wait for the arrival of the Nazis at the Indian borders." (*Italian news in Hindustani, Sept.* 4.)

NAZIS ON THE DEFENSIVE

" On Sept. 4, at 12-30 p.m., a German submarine was attacked by depth-charges at 62 degrees 31 minutes north and 27 degrees 6 minutes west, i.e., within the German blockade zone. The German submarine was not able to ascertain the nationality of the attacking destroyer, which continued the pursuit. At 12-39 p.m. the submarine defended herself by firing two torpedoes which missed their mark." (*German news in English, Persian and Arabic, Sept.* 7.)

" Germany has not allowed Mr. Churchill or his younger brother Stalin even to take reconnaissance flights across her territories. . . . During August the British lost 431 aircraft while Germany lost only 37 planes." (*German news in Hindustani, Sept.* 5.)

The Nazi version of the *Greer* incident finds an equally grotesque parallel in the German broadcast in Hindustani of Sept. 3, which declared :

" When Poland attacked Germany all other nations were dragged into the flames of war."

The Nazi announcer himself must have taken cover thrice in the preceding five nights because British or Soviet bombers were over Berlin.

Royal Air Force losses in offensive operations during August were 259 machines, while the *Luftwaffe* lost 125—a ratio of 2 to 1 which the Berlin radio cheerfully steps up to 12 to 1. It is perfectly natural that the British attackers should lose more planes on the average than the German defenders, and the frankness of the official British figures speaks for itself. The Nazis have never admitted losing more planes than their opponents, even during their offensive against Britain last year when they were losing 4 times as many aircraft as the defenders.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

" Did Germany ever think of occupying any Muslim State? Did Germany ever desecrate any sacred Muslim institution?" (*German news in Persian and Arabic, September* 4.)

" In the East we must have the mastery as far as the Caucasus and Iran."—*Hitler*, 1933.

" To conquer the whole of the Eastern world, from the Danube to the Bay of Basrah would be to break the chains by which Europe has fettered our arms."—*German Near East Memorandum*, 1934.

" Arabs and Muslims! The policy of these Dictators does not recognize respect for Din or consideration for Sheikhs and Elders. In Albania and Yugoslavia there was a large number of mosques and Madrassahs; the hands of the Fascists and Nazis have done away with them all."—*Al Arab, July* 17, 1941.

" In 1781 the British dealt in slaves. Innumerable British ships shifted slaves from West-Africa to Jamaica, where they were sold." (*German news in Hindustani, September* 2.)

In 1834 the British Parliament led the world in abolishing slavery throughout the Empire at a cost of £20,000,000 to British taxpayers.

In 1941 Germany deals in slaves. " Please do not interpret the word ' slaves ' as a parable or rhetorical term," said Nazi Agriculture Minister Darre in May 1940. " We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery which we must and will introduce."

INDIA AND THE AXIS

Hitler's notorious principle that " in the big lie there is a certain force of credibility " has been followed with especial care in German broadcasts to Asia, notably in vernacular languages.

" It is a crime against the Creator," wrote Hitler in *Mein Kampf*, " to train the dark races for intellectual careers "; and possibly he hopes that that " crime " has not been carried far enough in India to permit detection of the flagrant falsehoods of Geobbels.

NAZI NUGGETS

Thus it is to India that such absurdities as these have been announced over the Nazi radio :

" All British industrial factories have been built with Indian capital." (*May* 6, 1940.)

" British paper currency has lost its value in India." (*June* 7, 1940.)

" Wheat can hardly be procured in India." (*August* 5, 1940.)

" The British are in a confused plight and are planning to evacuate India by air." (*March* 26, 1941.)

" Britain has now only a few airmen left." (*Sept.* 10, 1940.)

" London lies utterly destroyed." (*Sept.* 11, 1940.)

" The British Government is preparing to leave London." (*Sept* 14, 1940.)

After such samples it is not really surprising to hear the Nazis announcing, as they did in Hindustani on September 3 last, that it was Poland that attacked Germany in September 1939.

PROMISES AND THREATS

Many nations have learned to their cost that a Nazi promise is a Nazi threat. As a rule Axis broadcasters seek to give the impression that in the plan for world domination India will somehow miraculously escape the fate of others, if only she will cease to defend herself.

But now and then, amongst the soft and sly appeals, the Axis shows its face of ugly aggression. The Italian injunction to its Hindustani listeners on Sept. 2 last to " wait for the arrival of the Nazis at the Indian borders " is by no means the first of its kind.

On Nov. 11, 1940 the Italians also said that India might be invaded, and in the previous month a review of three phases of the war as seen by the optimistic Italian Press was quoted by the Ankara paper *Ulus*. They were :—

(i) " The complete defeat of France."

(ii) " The ousting of Britain from the Mediterranean and Africa."

(iii) " The invasion of India."

AXIS CARVE-UP

In the short-lived exultation of September 1940, when the Axis Powers promised themselves an invasion of Britain, an advance to Suez, and a Japanese threat to Singapore all at the same time, Dr. Goebbels informed India that " the three great powers of the world, namely Germany, Italy and Japan, have divided the old world into four divisions—Europe, East Asia, India and Africa ".

The problem of Russia, he declared somewhat prematurely, " has been solved. . . . Only the problem of India remains. . . . It is the duty of Indians to scrutinize all the events and learn a lesson from them. . . . They have to think for themselves and decide as to what position India will occupy in the coming New Order."

On any question of a Nazi-Japanese " New Order " India certainly knows how to decide.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 9th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 3, Wednesday.	(No reports of day operations).		
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on Brest	Nil.	..
September 4, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on industrial plant at Mazingarbe, near **Bethune**; docks at Cherbourg.	7 day fighters. 1 day bomber.	11 day fighters.
	R.A.F. single day bomber stratosphere raid on docks at Rotterdam.		
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on factory at La Pallice; shipping off Breton coast (300-foot tanker hit).	Nil.	...
September 5, Friday.	(No reports of day or night operations)	Nil.	..
September 6, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber stratosphere raid on Oslo	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on synthetic rubber factory at **Huls** (Rhineland), other targets in the Ruhr.	8 night bombers.	..
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on fish oil factory at Bergso (Norway).	..	..
September 7, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on shipping off Dutch coast (supply ship afire, escort vessel exploded).	3 day fighters.	2 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **BERLIN**; shipbuilding yards at **Kiel**; other targets in N. W. Germany; invasion base at **Boulogne**.	20 night bombers. 1 night fighter.	4 night fighters
	R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes from Holland to Brittany.		
September 8, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter attacks on shipping off Belgian coast (flag-ship sunk) and in English Channel (Two small ships hit).	2 day bombers (Flying Fortresses on long distance reconnaissance).	--
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives in **Kassel**; Munster; other targets in Central and W. Germany; docks at Cherbourg.	Nil.	..
September 9, Tuesday.	(No reports of day or night operations)	Nil.	..

(*Continued on Page* 20)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

12th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Kiel and Boulogne and also the aerodrome at Stavanger. Enemy shipping off the Norwegian and Dutch coasts is attacked.

13th Sep.—Industrial objectives in Frankfurt are bombed by the Royal Air Force, as also the docks at Cherbourg and the port of St. Nazaire. An enemy supply ship is sunk off the Frisian Islands.

A slight German air raid on an area in North-east England is reported.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security, announces the creation of a National Fire-Fighting Service in time for a second winter of "the Battle of the Flames."

14th Sep.—British bombers attack the docks at Brest and at Le Havre.

15th Sep.—German airmen raid a North-east town in England.

It is revealed that air raid civilian casualties in England during August were only 169 killed or missing (and believed killed); and 136 injured and detained in hospital.

16th Sep.—A force of over 200 Royal Air Force bombers attacks Hamburg, Cuxhaven, Wilhelmshaven and the docks at Le Havre.

17th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks objectives in Karlsruhe and docks at Le Havre. A power plant at Mazingarbe near Bethune is also bombed.

18th Sep.—In offensive sweeps over enemy-occupied country, the Royal Air Force destroys 16 German fighters in addition to the 25 shot down on the two previous days. Enemy supply ships and anti-aircraft vessels are sunk or damaged off the Belgian and Dutch coasts.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12th Sep.—Palermo in the Island of Sicily is again raided by the Royal Air Force, which continues its nightly hammering of Benghazi and other Libyan bases. Two enemy ships are also accounted for in the Mediterranean.

Military property or shipping suffers no damage when enemy planes attempt a raid on the Suez Canal area.

13th Sep.—The Royal Air Force Middle East Communique reports the sinking of three Axis supply ships in a convoy in Central Mediterranean as well as the bombing of Palermo, Benghazi, etc.

The British destroy a German patrol in the Tobruk area.

A huge fire is reported in Turin (Italy) where a hundred motor-cars are destroyed as well as large quantities of other goods.

14th Sep.—The British garrison at Cyprus is strongly reinforced. No casualties are reported as a result of an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal zone.

Continuous enemy bombing of Tobruk causes no casualties. An extension of patrol activities in the Libyan frontier area is also reported.

Landing grounds at Heraklion and Maleme in the Island of Crete as also enemy bases in Cyrenaica are bombed by British and South African aircraft. The enemy convoy bombed on the previous day is again attacked in the approaches to Tripoli and all the ships are damaged.

15th Sep.—The tempo of warfare both in the Libyan frontier and in the Tobruk sector increases, two enemy columns that try to advance in the former area being repelled and pursued by the British. Many Axis tanks and prisoners are captured. The South African Air Force is particularly active.

16th Sep.—Thirty-nine persons are killed and 33 injured in an enemy air raid on the Cairo area.

17th Sep.—Benghazi is raided for the second night in succession by the Royal Air Force, which also attacks Tripoli and Bardia.

The Egyptian Government protest to Berlin and Rome against the bombing of Cairo.

18th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Benghazi and Tripoli.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

12th Sep.—The whole world rings with the words of President Roosevelt who, in a broadcast, warns the Axis that their warships enter American defensive waters at their own peril. Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, says that Germany's action will determine what areas the United States will consider "defensive waters in which American warships will shoot first."

It is revealed that the American-owned steamship Montana is torpedoed and sunk on the way to Iceland.

13th Sep.—Washington reports speak of an imminent move by the President to arm American merchant ships but Mr. Cordell Hull says "Not at present."

The State Department announces that the steamer, *Arkansan* flying the American flag is struck and damaged by shell fragments in a raid on the town of Suez.

15th Sep.—President Roosevelt, reporting to Congress on the working of the Lease and Lend Act, emphasizes once again America's stake in the war.

Col. Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, announces that from September 16th the United States Fleet has orders " to capture or destroy " every Axis surface or subsurface raider that is encountered in the sea " between the American continent and the waters adjacent to Iceland."

It is reported that Mr. Roosevelt has conferred with Congressional leaders on the question of revising the Neutrality Act.

Mr. Harriman and other members of the American Mission to Russia arrive in London on their way to Moscow.

16th Sep.—As the United States Fleet strips for action, ready to protect Lease-Lend deliveries to Britain, Mr. Roosevelt rebukes amateur strategists who assume that convoys are the only means of doing so. Mr. Ralph Baird, Assistant Secretary of the United States Navy, says that war may be forced on the United States.

The United States State Department announces that American ships can carry arms, ammunition and passengers to certain specified areas of the British Empire.

17th Sep.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, confirms that the American Fleet is using all methods, including convoys, to ensure the arrival of Lease and Lend goods in Britain.

The American Legion (of World War veterans) demands the removal of Geographical limitations on the use of American troops.

18th Sep.—President Roosevelt calls upon Congress to make fresh appropriations of 5,985 million dollars under the Lease and Lend Act.

Mr. Morgenthau, United States Secretary of the Treasury, reveals that America has already rendered financial help to Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12th Sep.—Fierce fighting in the Leningrad sector is reported. The Russians re-cross the lower Dnieper westwards to launch a series of counter-attacks. The Russian offensive in the central sector is also progressing.

13th Sep.—The Russians, who are using armoured trains to guard the railway approaches to Leningrad, are counter-attacking about 100 miles south and south-west of the city. A German air raid on Leningrad is beaten off. The Russians are also striking hard in the central sector. Two parallel thrusts—in opposite directions—by the Russians and the Germans in the Gomel area are reported, the Russians deciding to evacuate Chernigov. Two similar movements in the opposite directions are reported over the Dnieper.

14th Sep.—The Soviet Air Force bombs Bucharest, and the Baltic Fleet Air Arm takes heavy toll of German tanks on the approaches to Leningrad. Over 20,000 Rumanians are reported to have been killed in the Odessa sector. The German High Command announce the death in action of General von Schobert.

A wing of the Royal Air Force has arrived in Russia to reinforce the Soviet Air Force.

Marshal Mannerheim has transferred most of the Finnish troops from the Karelian Isthmus, north-west of Leningrad, to other fronts. A Vichy report says that the Finns' new objective is the conquest of Soviet Karelia.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 18)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 9th September 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
September 3	Nil.	..
September 4	Nil.	..
September 5	Nil.	..
September 6	Nil.	..
September 7	Nil.	..
September 8	Nil.	1 night bomber.
September 9	Nil.	..

15th Sep.—The Russian forces are reported to be only 12 miles from Smolensk. The Russian Baltic Fleet sinks two German destroyers carrying troops to the Leningrad sector. Germans sustain heavy losses in the air and their attempt to raid Moscow is beaten off. In the south the Russians evacuate Kremenchug on the east bank of the Dnieper which the Germans take only after a bloody struggle.

M. Tanner, Finnish Minister for Trade and Industry, says " We shall not continue the war longer than our interests demand " and the Finnish Government, in an official publication, blame Russia for the conflict between the two States.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, announces that all tanks produced next week will go straight to Russian battlefields and appeals to workers for the maximum output.

16th Sep.—The Russian Air Force bombs Galatz and Sulina and the Russian Navy sinks an enemy troop-ship and convoy vessel off Petsamo. The Germans put up claims of success in the Ukraine and in the Leningrad sector.

A Washington report says that the United States of America is trying to arrange a Russo-Finnish armistice.

17th Sep.—While the Nazis claim an advance in the Ukraine and successful dive-bombing of objectives in Crimea, the Russians capture Yartsevo, a city on the highway to Moscow. The Soviet are now in a position to invest Smolensk. They also throw back, in a resolute counter-attack, Axis troops attacking Odessa.

18th Sep.—The German claim to have cut off the Crimean Peninsula is not confirmed. Bitter fighting is raging in the Leningrad sector where Russian counter-attacks have driven back the Germans nine miles at a particular point.

M. Molotov is chosen to lead the Russian delegation to the Moscow Three Power Talks.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAN, SYRIA, IRAQ, ETC.

12th Sep.—The Iranian Parliamen votes confidence in the Faroughi Government.

13th Sep.—Eighty Germans in Iran are handed over to the Allies after a good deal of evasion by the Legation authorities.

14th Sep.—While the Turks are reported to feel no perturbation at the Nazi activities in Bulgaria, the Bulgarian Council of Ministers decides to put the country's defences on a war-time footing.

The staffs of Axis and Axis-controlled Legations in Teheran are ordered to leave. The British and Soviet Governments demand the complete severance of relations between Iran and the Axis powers.

Members of the Iranian Parliament decide to wait on the Shah, demanding domestic reforms.

15th Sep.—A further batch of 241 Germans is handed over to the Allied authorities in Iran. It is revealed that the Iranian Government's attitude has been most helpful but that the Shah's is puzzling.

16th Sep.—The Shah of Iran abdicates and leaves Teheran for Isfahan. The Prime Minister announces in the Iranian Parliament that the Crown Prince will succeed to the throne. British and Russian forces are marching on Teheran.

General Catroux, the Free French Commander-in-Chief in the Levant, restores the Syrian Republic, vesting it with authority.

17th Sep.—British and Russian staff officers enter Teheran while Allied mechanised forces surround the Iranian capital. The Iran Premier announces in Parliament that he has been authorized by the new Shah to say that he will rule as a completely constitutional monarch.

Reports from Rome say that the Axis is exerting pressure on Bulgaria to join the war against Russia.

Sheikh Taj Eddin Al Hassani is invited by General Catroux to form a new Syrian Administration.

18th Sep.—The new Shah of Iran takes the Oath. The Allied troops enter Teheran.

SHIPPING

12th Sep.—The British destroyer Vimiera shoots down a German bomber when the latter attempts to attack a convoy in the North Sea.

13th Sep.—A Netherlands submarine sinks an enemy supply ship of about 6,000 tons in the Mediterranean.

14th Sep.—British Naval aircraft make a successful attack on enemy shipping in the Bodo area, off the Norwegian coast.

Mr. A. V. Alexander, the First Lord of the Admiralty, says that American policy, as announced by Mr. Roosevelt in his broadcast, will be " of untold help to the Royal Navy."

15th Sep.—An Axis raider is reported to be operating off Ecuador.

British planes, in an attack on an enemy convoy off the Frisian Islands, sink one ship and damage another.

16th Sep.—It is announced that British submarines and aircraft have sunk 10,000 tons of enemy shipping in the Mediterranean in the first half of this month, the total Axis shipping losses for August having exceeded 168,000 tons.

18th Sep.—Some Axis vessels, seized in United States ports, are put into the Trans-Atlantic srvice to carry Lease and Lend goods to Britain.

THE FAR EAST

12th Sep.—A Japanese troop-train is reported to have been mined and wrecked by Chinese guerilla-fighters in Suiyan Province.

13th Sep.—The Japanese offensive in Northern Hunan is repulsed and the Chinese regain possession of the Tayunshan mountains.

Mr. Seigo Nakano, leader of Japan's only revived political party, in the course of a provocative speech, forecasts an early Japanese-American war.

Mr. Cordell Hull emphasizes at Washington that the United States-Japan talks now going on are merely exploratory.

14th Sep.—The 18th Group Army (Chinese Communists) holding the mountains on the Shansi-Hopei border quickly mop up the para-troops dropped—for the first time in the Sino-Japanese War—by the Japanese.

15th Sep.—Mr. Duff Cooper, British Minister on a Special Mission to the Far East, emphasizes the isolation of Japan in the Pacific.

The Dutch Indies People's Council makes further provision for defence.

Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese Foreign Minister, expresses China's confidence that the United States of America will not arrange a Far Eastern "Munich" in the course of the negotiations with Japan.

16th Sep.—Tokyo newspaper reports persist in saying that the United States of America and Japan have reached an agreement on basic points.

18th Sep.—Japan protests to Russia against alleged mining of the Sea of Japan leading to casualties among the crew of fishing craft.

Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek declares that China will fight till she has got back Manchuria and the lost Provinces.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

12th Sep.—The Court-Marshal at Clermont Ferrand passes sentences on several communists for attempting to revive the Communist Party at Chateau Roux. Two receive death sentences.

13th Sep.—Vichy maintains silence on the reports that British planes have bombed Cannes and other towns in Southern France.

A copy of the text of Mr. Roosevelt's broadcast is handed over to Marshal Petain by the American Ambassador.

Sabotage continues to be reported in Unoccupied and Occupied France.

14th Sep.—The German authorities ban the retention of firearms by the civilian population of Occupied France.

15th Sep.—Laval declares his intention to continue his policy of "reconciliation with Germany."

16th Sep.—Ten French hostages are shot by the German authorities in Occupied France as reprisal for "acts of aggression against members of the German army."

General de Gaulle, Leader of Free France, returns to London.

17th Sep.—Attempts to kill German soldiers in Occupied France continue to be reported.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

12th Sep.—Sabotage in the Greek harbour of Salonika and guerilla activities in Albania are reported.

13th Sep.—Mr. Paul Hartmann, the Burgomaster of Oslo, has been given a seat in the Free Norwegian Cabinet in London.

The "New Order" of Teutonic tyranny is in full swing in Norway where repression is rampant. The curfew has been imposed in all cities.

15th Sep.—Serbian patriots destroy two stretches of the railway system and the "Quisling" Premier, General Neditch, in a speech, hints at a punitive expedition being sent to the country if sabotage continues.

The Central Post office at Zagreb in Croatia is wrecked by a bomb-explosion.

The Czechs decide on a temporary boycott of all German-controlled newspapers.

16th Sep.—A number of mysterious "accidents" are reported in Czechoslovakia; a German munitions train is blown up.

Pavelitch, the Croatian Quisling, appeals to Mussolini for help against "insurgents" in the new puppet State.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

13th Sep.—The German Ambassador in Argentine is charged with fifth-column activities by several members in the Chamber of Deputies at Buenos Aires.

15th Sep.—The Argentine Federal Court orders the police to board the Japanese liner Nana and seize packages consigned to the German Embassy.

16th Sep.—The Argentine Chamber of Deputies passes a resolution, censuring the German Ambassador for abusing his diplomatic privileges.

The Government of Panama have decided to protest to Germany against the sinking of the steam-ships Montana and Sessa and demand indemnity.

17th Sep.—The Argentine Chamber of Deputies demands the dissolution of the German "cultural centres" in Argentine.

Three Swedish destroyers are sunk owing to a series of accidental explosions while in their moorings off Stockholm. There are a number of casualties.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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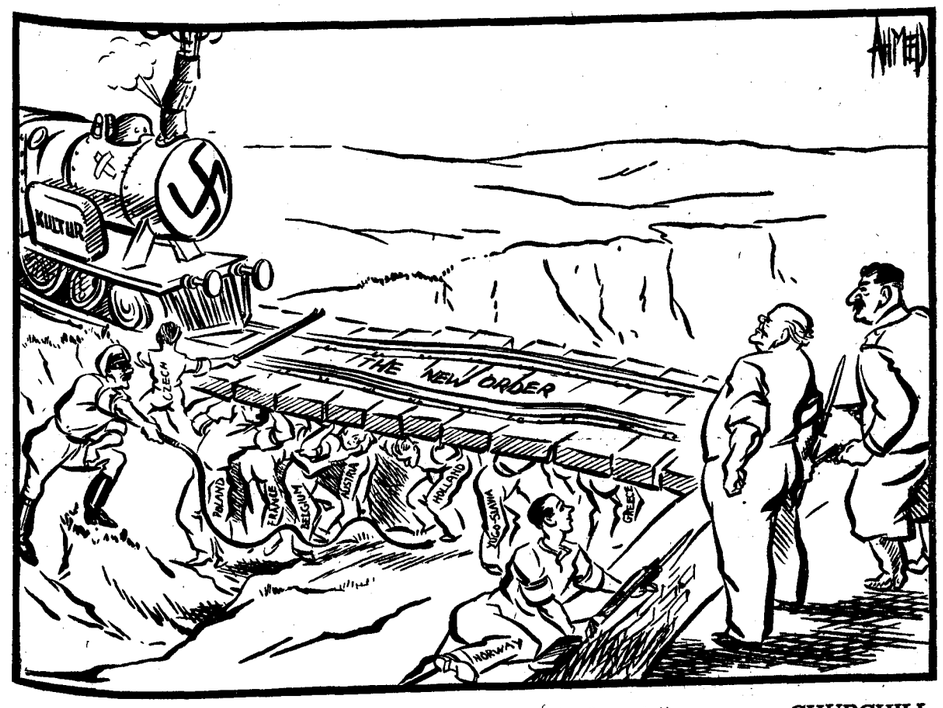
HITLER'S NEW ORDER



'Never did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of man" . . . CHURCHILL.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Pink Star, an American-owned ship, has been sunk near Iceland. It left New York with a general cargo. It is the fourth United States ship sunk by German action. President Roosevelt has announced that the Administration is considering the question of arming United States merchantmen.

A new Free French National Committee has been formed in London by General de Gaulle. The Committee would consist of eight or nine competent French representatives throughout the world. The new Committee will act as trustees for France until such time as they can hand over to a constitutionally representative French Government. The policy of the Committee will be the liberation of French territory.

The situation in the Russian front, especially in the south, continues to be serious. Russians have evacuated Kiev. The industrial resources of Russia are, of course,

affected, but there appears to be reason for sober confidence in view of the increasing Allied help to Russia, the high morale of Russian troops and the efficiency of the Russian military organization and communications. Large territories have been lost but the armies are more or less intact after inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Germany cannot now hope for an early victory and its aim to destroy the Russian armies is not destined to be fulfilled.

Some importance attaches to the observations made by Mr. Ede, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education, in regard to the suggestion made in some quarters that Great Britain should take offensive action somewhere in order to afford relief to Russia which is being hard-pressed by Germany. Mr. Ede told a British audience that such action, taken too soon without full preparation, would be far worse than waiting to deliver a blow when it would be most effective. He added that he knew enough of Mr. Churchill to realize that the moment it was possible to take offensive action in support of an ally, he would take it.

The shooting of hostages is proceeding in German-occupied France. Germany has threatened Belgium with similar action if German soldiers are shot.

Dr. Wellington Koo broadcast on Sunday last that fifty months of sacrifice, suffering, blood and tears had not cooled China's ardent spirit of resistance. The military situation in that country to-day was better than could have been expected two years ago. It was Japan that was feeling anxious to end the war and feeling desparate. He asked for larger supplies to China and pleaded for greater restrictions on imports to Japan, which was still getting oil from Mexico and South American Republics.

Mr. Duff Cooper stated the other day that Great Britain would not stand by if the Netherlands East Indies were molested. The intentions of Japan in regard to aggression are still yet not clear. One report says that reinforcements are being sent up to the Mongolian frontier to attack Russia if her plight becomes serious in her titanic struggle with Germany. In Thailand, however, there appears to be some nervousness in official quarters about impending developments. Meanwhile, exploratory talks between America and Japan do not seem to be making any headway.

It is officially stated in London that "in view of the commercial agreement recently signed between Switzerland and Germany, the British Government are no longer able to continue the limited facilities hitherto accorded for passage through the blockade and across enemy territory of materials for Swiss industry. The Government, however, appreciate the difficulties of Switzerland's position and will continue to give facilities within reasonable limits for import into Switzerland of foodstuffs and fodder and of certain other goods exclusively destined for domestic consumption." The move is not an act of retaliation but simply a recognition of a state of affairs which exists through no fault of Switzerland or of Great Britain. It is believed that the Swiss understand the position.

Great Britain has warned Finland that if the latter invaded purely Russian territory, she would be treated as an enemy. If Finland ceased fighting, Britain would see what could be done to improve Russo-Finnish relations.

General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, who flew to London, has returned to India after consultations with Mr. Churchill and members of the Imperial General Staff. He also met General Auchinleck on his way back.

IRAN

Striking developments have taken place in Iran after the British and Russian forces entered Teheran. Feeling against the ex-Shah's administration has become strong. Parliament has demanded his trial. Perhaps in anticipation of trouble, the ex-Shah has ceded to his son all his properties which means that these will become national property hereafter. The Minister of Justice has already announced that a new era in Iranian affairs in almost all departments of State would be brought about. The policy to be followed by the new Iranian Government has been outlined. It is stated that the Government have decided (1) to observe entirely the interests of the country and undertake to collaborate closely with the Governments whose interests are associated with their own, (2) to reform laws, to insure judicial security, (3) to revise the organization of the Army and Police, (4) to carry out economic and financial reforms, (5) to pay particular attention to the development of agriculture, (6) to develop the national industries in accordance with the principle that factories and workshops shall be controlled by non-governmental companies, (7) to complete roads and railways within the limits of the financial capacity of the State, (8) to complete and develop national educational institutions, and (9) to develop a health organization with particular attention to public health. The Allies' demand that diplomatic relations between Iran and the Axis countries should be severed is already being carried out.

The internal situation cannot yet be stated to be stable. It can reasonably be asserted, however, that the people of Iran are beginning to appreciate the motives which inspired British and Russian military action in that country. What happened to certain European countries under Nazi domination cannot have escaped their notice, nor can they fail to note the beneficent intentions of the British Government in Syria and Iraq. Syria has already attained independence and Iraq's sovereignty and integrity have been respected.

Events in Iran since the entry of Allied troops in that country on August 25, and the reasons for such action have been well described in a broadcast speech by Major-General G. N. Molesworth, Deputy Chief of the General Staff, on 20th September which is reproduced elsewhere.

THE ATLANTIC CHARTER AND THE ALLIED COUNCIL

A step of far-reaching importance to the future of international relations was taken at the second meeting of the Allied Council held on September 23, 1941. The Atlantic Charter was accepted and other resolutions of great import were adopted. The following is the text of the resolution on the Atlantic Charter :—

"The Governments of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Yugoslavia and the representatives of General de Gaulle, leader of the Free Frenchmen, having taken note of the declaration recently drawn up by the President of the United States of America and by the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, on behalf of His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom, now make known their adherence to the common principles of policy set forth in the declaration and their intention to co-operate to the best of their ability in giving effect to them."

In announcing Russia's acceptance of the Charter, M. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador in London, said : "The Soviet Government proclaimed their acceptance of the fundamental principles of the declaration of Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt—principles which were so important in the present international circumstances. The consistent application of these principles would secure the most energetic support on the part of the Government and people of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union was willing to render all possible assistance to the peoples becoming victims of aggression and fighting for the independence of their native land. Russia had also consistently advocated general disarmament."

The resolution regarding the supply of food and other articles to countries released from Nazi oppression, which was also adopted, runs as follows :—

(1) That it is their common aim to secure that supplies of food, raw materials and articles of prime necessity should be made available for the post-war needs of countries liberated from Nazi oppression.

(2) That while each of the Allied Governments and authorities will be primarily responsible for making provision for the economic needs of its own peoples, their respective plans should be co-ordinated in a spirit of inter-Allied collaboration for the successful achievement of the common aim.

(3) That they welcome the preparatory measures which had already been undertaken for this purpose and express their readiness to collaborate to the fullest extent of their power in pursuing action required.

(4) That accordingly each of the Allied Governments and authorities should prepare estimates of kinds and amounts of foodstuffs, raw materials and articles of prime necessity required and indicate the order of priority in which it is desired the supplies should be delivered.

THE CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

Nearly three months after the German army claimed that the road to Kiev lay open, as the Russian army in the south had been annihilated, that city has, indeed, fallen to the invaders. The loss of Kiev is serious enough for the Russians since, heroically defended for many weeks, it served as a bastion protecting northern Ukraine. There is however, no need to take too tragic a view of this; its loss was considered inevitable from the time that Marshal Budenny withdrew his forces in good order, leaving it to defend itself as best as it could. It was attacked from the front and encircled from both flanks and on Saturday last the Germans announced they were actually in the city. The Russians have now to be on guard against a greater danger—a pincers movement, one claw of which is formed by the German troops advancing from Chernigov, north of Kiev, and the other by the forces that crossed the Dnieper at Kremenchug and reached Poltava, both aiming at the capture of Kharkov, which is really the most important city of the Ukraine. Germany has already put forth her claims in the usual manner, one of them being that half a million men are entrapped in the area behind Kiev and that over three hundred thousand have been taken prisoner. It is difficult to believe this. The fact that nothing but "scorched earth" has been left behind by the Russians at Kiev (as the Germans have been forced to admit rather ruefully) and that Russian rear-guards are fighting magnificently immediately east of Kiev shows that the evacuation of the city has been arranged systematically, that any troops left behind will have incalculable effect in harassing the German flank and rear and that Marshal Budenny has safely withdrawn his main forces to the Donetz River, where he will no doubt defend the approaches to the industrial regions. And Odessa defies all attempts of the Germans and Rumanians to take it, inflicting heavy losses on them.

In the Central Sector, powerful Russian counter-attacks continue under the leadership of Marshal Timoshenko while, in the north, Marshal Voroshilov is defending Leningrad with magnificent valour and skill. Even the Germans admit withdrawal at certain places in the Leningrad sector, following powerful counter-attacks by the Russians, including a bayonet charge. It is claimed that the Finns in the far north have scored successes and have captured some islands in the northern part of Lake Ladoga, as have the Germans in the Gulf of Riga; but it is equally clear that the Russians are generally holding out and have inflicted very heavy losses on the enemy. German losses in officers have been formidable just round Leningrad and the Russians continue to report the annihilation or rout of several German regiments. That Germany has paid dearly for her successes is revealed by M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador to Britain. He says that, at a moderate estimate, German losses on the Eastern Front are three million (killed, wounded or missing), that over 8,500 German planes have been destroyed and that one-third of the whole German army is now *hors de combat*.

Meanwhile the flow of help to Russia is pouring in a regular stream from Great Britain, America and also India. Such help was not waiting on the Moscow Conference. Unlike Germany, which is unable to give Japan any help by any route, Great Britain has been pouring in supplies because of her command of communications over vast distances. At a rough calculation one-third of the Russian demands have already been met by Great Britain. Russia has her own highly developed munition factories and she requires raw materials which include rubber, boots, wool, woollen cloth, hides, lead, jute, shellac, cobalt and industrial diamonds, which are being sent in large quantities. Even before the beginning of September 15 million pounds worth of goods had been sent to Russia. Naval help is also given, as announced by Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty. In the week ending September 28, the whole output of British tank factories is being sent to Russia. America has given Russia a credit of 100,000,000 dollars. Two tanks with oil for Russia have already reached Vladivostok and nine other ships are on their way. It has been recently announced that 200 American fighter aircraft intended for Britain under the Lease and Lend Act have been diverted to Russia with Great Britain's consent.

NAZI DESIGNS IN MIDDLE EAST

It is generally believed that the German General staff will soon launch a big offensive against the Crimean Peninsula by land, sea and air and try to push further east to the Don basin and reach the oil-producing regions of the Caucasus before winter sets in. As an alternative, they may start a drive eastwards through Asia Minor with the object of cutting the Suez Canal and threatening the very gates of India. Thanks to the swift action taken by the British in Iraq, then in Syria with the assistance of the Free French and finally in Iran with the help of the Russian army moving in from the north, these plans can be developed only by involving Bulgaria and Turkey in the war. The *Times'* correspondent reports that two opinions seem to exist in high German quarters: first, that of the German General Staff, according to which, in view of the tremendous risks run by the German armies advancing along the Russian coast to the Caucasus, Germany must feel safe that no danger whatever threatens her from Turkey and must obtain additional conclusive guarantees to that effect. The other opinion, of which Von Papen, the German Ambassador at Ankara, is the chief exponent, is that a satisfied Turkey can be trusted to remain out of the war and that, therefore, no peril menaces Germany from that quarter. In Papen's opinion additional guarantees, such as the repudiation of the Turkish alliance with Britain for instance, are unnecessary and dangerous because if German demands were made which were incompatible with her dignity and independence, Turkey might react to them in a sense opposite to that which Germany wishes. Acting on the assumption that the capture of Leningrad is now a foregone conclusion, the correspondent says, German military experts are now concentrating their attention almost entirely on the new offensives designed to acquire possession of the whole of the Ukraine. King Boris is expected to visit Hitler's headquarters and the Bulgarian Minister in Berlin, M. Draganov, has returned home presumably to accompany the King. Von Papen has just returned from Berlin after a discussion of the Dardanelles question and above all, of ways and means of persuading Turkey to allow Italian naval units to enter the Black Sea. Turkey as guardian of the Dardanelles might become the most troublesome obstacle to the realization of Axis plans. The fundamental principle of Turkish policy, as laid down by the late great Kamal Ataturk, is non-attachment to any great single Power or group of Powers. Hitherto Turkey has scrupulously observed the Treaty of Montreux which requires her not to allow the passage of any war vessels through the Straits during a conflict. Berlin fears that Turkey will resist all efforts to induce her to change this attitude. This would completely frustrate Axis operations which are essential to the success of the advance on the Caucasus. For months past the Germans have been sending overland to the Black Sea speed-boat and submarine parts, to be assembled at Bulgarian ports.

And Todt, the Nazi communications expert, recently began at top speed to improve railroad traffic to the Balkans. However, until Germany possesses bases at the other end of

the Black Sea, Germany could not, with such light craft, attack the powerful Russian Black Sea Fleet which guards the sea routes to Crimea. But if Germany controlled the Black Sea and the Dardanelles, Rumanian oil and Donetz coal could pass by the Mediterranean or the Adriatic and thence to all occupied Europe. This would relieve the Central European railway system at a moment when the freezing up of rivers, notably the Danube, and of canals makes inland waterways unusable.

TURKEY

If Turkey could be persuaded to join the Axis, Germany would have a still quicker way to strike across at Iran and Syria. There is also direct rail communication from Austria through the Balkans and by way of Istanbul and Ankara to the Russian frontier and Tiflis, the capital of Transcaucasia. On the other hand, if she joined the Allies and thus made it possible for the British Fleet to use the Black Sea, major German plans could be effectually thwarted. If the Turks decide to resist by force of arms, the combined Turkish and Russian Back Sea fleets would be stronger than any force that Italy could send to the assistance of the German arms in these waters. Nevertheless, Turkey is in a difficult situation. Her frontiers in Europe are well fortified, especially along the line of the Meritza river which divides her territory from Greece; and Adrianople, commanding the frontier with Bulgaria, is a first-class fortress. German and Italian forces, however, hold the former Greek islands off her coasts and the threat of landing would be serious. Since the German capture of Crete and the establishment of strong German and Italian air forces working from Greek aerodromes, it is not easy for naval help to be sent by the British Mediterranean fleet. The Germans hold Lemnos Island, commanding the entrance to the Dardanelles; and Mytilene, commanding the entrance to Smyrna, the second most important commercial city and naval port of Turkey; while the Italians in Dodecanese Islands, and particularly Rhodes, are in a position to launch attacks by sea and air on many points on the Turkish coast. Such landings, if they are successful, would threaten the rear of the Turkish armies holding Turkish territory in Europe north of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. With heavy air support, seaborne expeditions might also be sent from the Bulgarian ports of Varna and Burgos to attempt landings on the Black Sea coast. The success of such expeditions would depend on whether air concentration was strong enough to neutralise counter-action by the Turkish and Russian fleets in the Black Sea.

What help could Turkey expect (asks the well-kown naval expert, Lord Strabolgi, better known to India as Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy)? The British and Russian Governments have promised all possible assistance if Turkey is attacked and defends herself. British help can be sent by sea to the port of Alexandretta and by good railway communications *via* Damascus and Aleppo. There the railway line joins the main Turkish system. British help can also be sent overland by fairly good road communications from Mosul. Aerial reinforcements can be flown from India, using a series of aerodromes through South Persia and Iraq. These air routes to Ankara were in regular commercial use before the present war. India has a vast reservoir of man power and is becoming a great arsenal for the production of munitions. The Russians could send help by sea from their Black Sea ports of Novorossisk, Poti and Batum to the good Turkish harbours at Trebizond and Samsun. Both these latter ports have good railway communications with the main Turkish system. As already mentioned, there is a main railway line from Tiflis *via* Leninakan, Erzerum, Sivas and Ankara. There is fairly good road communication possible for modern motorized traffic through the Turkish fortress of Kars, and there is also aerodrome communication from Transcaucasia right through Turkey. Since the Turkish capital was moved from Constantinople to Ankara, the country is less vulnerable and less open to pressure from Europe. The Turkish winter is severe in the mountains, and serious campaigning would have to be over by November. The next six weeks are likely to be the most critical in Turkey's long history.

BULGARIA.

As for Bulgaria, King Boris is really on the horns of a dilemma. Germany is reported to have confronted Bulgaria with a virtual ultimatum, demanding her prompt entry in the war against the Soviet Union. But the Bulgarian Ruler and his Government know that there will be an uprising in the country where pro-Soviet sympathy is strong, though there may not be any great unrest if Turkey is to be declared Bulgaria's enemy. A State of Emergency has already been proclaimed in Bulgaria while her rulers decide what to do in the face of the German ultimatum. In spite of the bland disclaimer by the Bulgarian Minister of the Interior of any aggressive intentions on the part of his Government, ominous troop movements are reported. Soviet Russia, however, in two stiff notes, has warned Bulgaria against lining up behind the Axis. And it is thought that she will not remain a passive spectator when Bulgarian territory and ports are being used as bases for attack against the Russian coast. The fear of Russian reprisal may possibly act as a deterrent on Bulgarian ambitions.

A peep into Bulgarian history shows that Russia aided the revival of her national spirit in the latter half of the 19th century. The relations between Bulgaria and Russia continued to be friendly up to the outbreak of the

(*Continued on Page* 16.)

AMERICAN NEUTRALITY ACT

MR. CORDELL HULL'S TIMELY LEAD

A very important declaration of policy regarding America's relations with foreign countries has now been made by Mr. Cordell Hull. It is of great significance because if his suggestion is adopted, it will prove to be almost a turning point in the gigantic struggle which is now going on between Hitler and those powers who are out to put an end to Hitlerism. The American Secretary of State has publicly announced that he favours a revision of the Neutrality Act. In his view, the present Neutrality Act is as likely to get the United States into war as keep the United States out of war. The Act, though it has no arms embargo in it, is still, in his view, an obstacle to provide all the aid that Great Britain and those who are fighting aggression need at this crucial moment.

Col. Knox, Secretary of the Navy, has followed up Mr. Hull's statement by frankly and openly demanding the total repeal of the Neutrality Act, because " there should be no handicap on those trying to keep the war away from these shores (America)." Mr. John Green, President of the Industrial Union of Maritime Shipping Workers of America has supported this move which has further been urged by influential American newspapers. The President himself has stated that the matter was definitely undergoing study and that there would be some decision on this subject next week.

There has been, since the war began, a tremendous upheaval in American foreign policy. In the early months of the war, America was, more or less, isolationist. The familiar view that the ' United States did not pull chestnuts out of the fire for either of the belligerents' was in vogue, and there was deep-rooted suspicion and distrust of Great Britain's foreign policy, especially of Mr. Chamberlain's appeasement of Germany. But with the fall of the Low Countries and of France, there came a decided change in American public opinion. It was realized that Hitler's *blitzkrieg* was not an isolated act but was part of a plan for the domination of the world and that if England fell, then it would be America's turn next.

Mr. Roosevelt, backed in this respect by his opponent Mr. Wendell Wilkie, favoured the utmost possible aid to Great Britain and those who were struggling against Nazism. The result was that the United States became neutral neither in thought, word nor deed. The Lease and Lend Act was passed to enable Great Britain and her Allies to get whatever munitions of war they wanted in their struggle against Germany. The first appropriation of 7,000 million dollars has since been followed by a demand for a further appropriation of 5,985 million dollars. Active aid is now being given not only to the Allies but also to Russia of ships, planes, tanks and war materials of every kind. It has been declared by President Roosevelt that he had ordered as Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces the shooting of any surface-raider, aeroplane or submarine found in the Atlantic right up to Iceland. These measures, far-reaching in their scope, have been taken, firstly, because America abhors quite as much as other democratic countries the evils arising from the Nazi doctrine of racial hatred; secondly because America desires to put an end to the Nazi ambition of world domination; and thirdly because it is believed that consistently with the existence of the Neutrality Act, America would be helping her own defence by providing all the war material of which Great Britain and the Allies may be in need.

And what is this Neutrality Act? Between the years 1933 and 1937 the American Neutrality Act underwent four changes. Under the Act of 1937, Americans were forbidden to participate in a number of activities considered undesirable from a national point of view. For instance, they could not export arms, munitions and implements of war to any belligerents or to any neutral State for transhipment to a belligerent. They could not deal in the securities of any belligerents, though ordinarily commercial credits might be granted. Further American ships could not carry arms to any belligerent State or any neutral State for transhipment thereto, nor could they be armed. It was unlawful for American citizens to travel aboard belligerent vessels. At the end of 1939, however, President Roosevelt asked Congress to lift the embargo on arms and munitions. It was argued that under the then Neutrality Act with the arms embargo, Germany might receive munitions transhipped through Italy, the Soviet Union or some other neutral country while Britain, surrounded by water, could not do so. The revised measure was carried and the Neutrality Act, as it stands today, contains five important provisions. They are summarized by the *Foreign Policy Reports* of New York.

Proclamation of State of War: Whenever the President, " or the Congress by concurrent resolution, shall find that there exists a state of war between foreign states, and that it is necessary to promote the security or preserve the peace of the United States or to protect the lives of citizens of the United States," the President shall issue a proclamation naming the states involved. Other states are added as they become involved in the war. Th arms embargo provisions of the 1937 Act, applying to both war and civil strife, are eliminated.

The qualifying phraseology of this section now permits the open recognition of a state of war abroad without the necessity for applying the Act. Such a situation might occur in the case of a local land war between two small and distant states, or even in such an instance as the Sino-Japanese or Soviet-Finnish ' war ', where invocation of the Act may be deemed contrary to American interests. On the other hand, Congress now shares responsibility with the President for bringing the Act into operation. Whether a President can be forced by Congressional resolution to act in a matter of foreign affairs, however, is a moot question in constitutional law.

Combat areas: Should the President thereafter find " that the protection of citizens of the United States so requires, " he shall proclaim combat areas into or through which no American citizen or vessel may proceed. These areas may apply to surface vessels, aircraft or both. Violation of this provision is punishable by fine and imprisonment. Combat areas may be altered or abolished at the President's discretion.

Full discretion to proclaim combat areas was vested in the President because of general agreement that only the executive possesses the knowledge and the power of quick action needed to demarcate danger zones.

Commerce with States engaged in armed conflict: Once the Act is invoked, it is unlawful " for any American vessel to carry any passengers or any articles or materials to any belligerent "—with certain exceptions listed in the following paragraphs. It is likewise illegal—with exceptions—to export or transport to any belligerent, on any vessel, " any articles or materials (except copyrighted articles or materials) until all right, title, and interest therein shall have been transferred " to a foreign organization or national. Losses in connexion with the sale or transfer of title of such articles or materials shall not be made the basis of a claim put forward by the United States Government. This provision precludes American diplomatic representations on behalf of Americans who extend credit to belligerent nationals.

By special exemptions embodied in the law, trade with certain areas presumed to be relatively safe may continue in American vessels and without prior transfer of title, except for munitions, American vessels may carry passengers or goods still owned by Americans " on or over lakes, rivers, and inland waters bordering on the United States." Thus, normal trade relations—except for the munitions traffic—continue in most respects unchanged between the United States and Canadian citizens and private enterprises not acting on behalf of a belligerent government. They are also maintained with persons in belligerent as well as neutral territory over most of the rest of the earth's surface. American and neutral vessels may carry articles other than munitions without previous transfer of title, as well as mail and passengers, to any Atlantic port, and to any port on the Pacific or Indian Oceans or their dependent waters. But American vessels may not enter a combat area under any circumstances.

In the North Atlantic, outside the combat area and in the Mediterranean, normal trade may in general be carried on with neutrals such as Spain. American vessels, however, may not carry cargo or passengers to belligerent territory situated in this region.

Financial transactions: While a state of war is declared to exist Americans may not " purchase, sell or exchange bonds, securities, or other obligations of the Government of any state named in such proclamation ", or of any political subdivision or person acting in its behalf, if the obligations are issued after the date of such proclamation. Nor may they " make any loan or extend any credit " (except for communications charges) to any such government, political subdivision, or person. Renewal or adjustment of existing indebtedness is, however, specifically permitted. This section permits unlimited extension of credit to private individuals or enterprises in belligerent states provided they are not acting on behalf of their governments; but a specific prohibition prevents the sale on credit of arms, ammunition and implements of war to any person whatever in a belligerent state.

Unlawful use of the American Flag: It is declared unlawful for foreign vessels to use the American flag or distinctive American markings. An offending vessel is barred from American territorial waters for three months except in case of *force majeure*. This provision is intended to discourage the systematic misuse of the American flag by belligerent merchantmen—a practice adopted by belligerents in the World War, and one which made it difficult for German submarine commanders to spare American vessels. It is doubtful whether the penalty enacted is sufficiently severe to put an end to abuse of the neutral flag. A more effective measure might be to forbid offending merchantmen to enter American ports for the duration of the war or, if the misuse of neutral flags were authorized or permitted by a belligerent, to bar American ports to all the vessels of that belligerent. One difficulty here is the impossibility of directly preventing any action committed outside the jurisdiction of the United States.

The object of this Neutrality Act is of course, in one sense, to prevent America from being dragged into the war, but that in practice is impossible because a belligerent may, by its repeated violation of the international law, force America into the war. Strict neutrality under any condition would involve repeated surrender of rights which would obviously humiliate America and prove in the end to be her own undoing. The American

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IRAN AND THE ALLIES

PRESENT SITUATION REVIEWED

Major-General G. N. Molesworth, Deputy Chief of the General Staff, spoke as follows in a broadcast on 20th September:

Since the sudden entry of Allied troops into Iran on August the 25th, which was necessitated by the grave situation which had arisen owing to the vacillations of the Iranian Government the rapid turn of events has not been easy to follow and may have led to some confusion of thought in many people's minds. You may therefore be interested in a chronological account of the events and considerations which led to that action, and of subsequent developments which have included the abdication of the Shah, Riza Khan Pahlevi, and the advance of British, Indian and Russian troops beyond the boundaries of penetration originally intended into the neighbourhood of the Iranian capital of Teheran.

A cloud of Axis propaganda has combined with an element of normal human speculation and ignorance of conditions in a country which has been a closed book to the outer world for many years, to confuse the issues and to render apparently complicated what is in reality a clear-cut situation. Some weeks before the German attack on Russia, the Allies, and most directly Britain and India, had been becoming increasingly concerned about Axis activity in Iran. Not only had we had experience, of a sharp and menacing kind, of German and Italian attempts to sabotage Iraq and gain control of Syria, but when, with British and Indian help, the constitutional Government of Iraq was re-established and Syria was saved from betrayal by the Vichy authorities, the bulk of those Axis agents and hirelings who were responsible for upsetting the stability of these Muslim States took refuge in Iran.

Already in Iran there were over two thousand German nationals carefully distributed in the key departments, industries and communications of the country. With what was regarded as an unfriendly neglect of their obligations under the Saadabad Pact, Iran then took no steps to prevent Axis agents, like Rashid Ali from Iraq, pursuing their subversive activities against their own country and continuing their intrigues with their employers.

ALLIED ATTEMPTS TO NEGOTIATE.

Repeated requests were made to Iran both by His Majesty's Government and by the Iraq Government on this point, particularly asking that people like Rashid Ali should, if given the hospitality of Iran, be placed in residence somewhere well away from any possibility of making further mischief. The attention of the Iran Government was also drawn to the grave possibilities involved in allowing so many German nationals to remain not only in their country but in such vital positions. The Iranian Government, which was in fact the Shah himself, paid no heed to these representations. Nevertheless we contented ourselves with reiterations of our feelings on the matter. An affair, however, which might have been regarded as merely an annoyance, resolved into a serious threat following the German attack on Russia. It then became clear that these Axis intrigues in Iraq and Iran were not merely designed to create anti-Allied feeling and discomfort in these areas, but were part of a deep-laid plot in a long-range plan for a drive to the East. Thus Russia too became intimately and seriously concerned with the threat to the rear of her Caucasian front from these Germans in Iran.

His Majesty's Government and India, and the Muslim States in the Middle East, were no less made abruptly aware of what German designs on Iran foreshadowed. From a mere propaganda campaign they had evolved into a direct military threat to the security of India and Iraq. This could not be countenanced for a moment. No time was therefore lost in making joint representations to Iran, pointing out the dangers, and making the comparatively mild request that for Iran's own safety and security, as much as in the interests of her neighbours, the numbers of Axis nationals in that country should at least be reduced immediately to reasonable proportions.

These representations and arguments were repeated time and again both by His Majesty's Minister and the Soviet representative. They were all in vain, and it became increasingly clear that the Shah's private financial arrangements with Germany, whereby he exchanged his country's products for industrial machinery to fit out his own properties, were much too profitable to his personal pocket for him to consider either the hardship he thus imposed on his people or the dangers to which such relations exposed his country.

DECISION TAKEN FOR OCCUPATION

When it finally became clear that the Shah was bent on procrastination, and was either unwilling or unable to see the fate that might be in store for Iran if the German drive to the Black Sea and the Caucasus continued, the Allied Governments decided to take action. British, Indian and Russian troops therefore entered Iran on August 25th and rapidly pushed forward along certain lines. Their purpose was threefold. First and foremost, to bring about the expulsion of the Axis population in Iran. Secondly, to safeguard and ensure the adequate protection of Iran's vital oil areas. Thirdly, to secure the integrity of the lines of communication running down from the Caucasus into Northern Iran. The last two points were almost entirely linked to the first and had the Axis elements been expelled, could have been secured by mutual arrangements without interfering in Iran in any way, a method which would have obviously been to everyone's advantage and which would have economised in the use of Allied troops.

On the entry of our troops, it became immediately obvious to our Commanders, that the people of Iran by no means regarded the invasion as a blight. On the contrary, the civil population gave our soldiers a spontaneous and in many ways a remarkable welcome. They also showed an immediate desire to co-operate. Even the Iranian Army, which was under the direct command of the Shah and was his own personal creation, displayed little inclination to resist.

The Shah's order to cease fire brought about an immediate halt to the Allied advance, subject only to completing the garrisoning of the oil areas and establishing contact between the Russians from the north and the British and Indian forces in the south.

The Shah thereupon summoned new Ministers to his assistance and the Allied terms were immediately presented. These terms outlined a limit to the geographical areas in which Allied troops would remain for the duration of the crisis and categorically guaranteed the withdrawal of these forces when the war situation permitted. They asked further for the immediate surrender of the Axis nationals in Iran and for the expulsion of Axis and pro-Axis Legations. Finally they required of Iran satisfactory arrangements for transit facilities and the use of the communications across their country with Russia.

EX-SHAH'S OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS

These terms were readily accepted by the Shah's Ministers who were fully aware that barring the actual entry of troops, these terms were in fact what the Allies had attempted and could have achieved by negotiation. But while the Shah's Ministers undertook to implement these requests, the Shah himself not only gave little support to their efforts but actually and directly obstructed. Whatever his motives, this situation was thoroughly exploited by the Axis diplomatic representatives in Teheran and by the German nationals who still remained at liberty. Meanwhile from Iran's own point of view this situation gave little sign of the more liberal Government the Iranians hoped would now result. The Ministers were almost powerless against the Shah's autocratic opposition, and the very administration of the country was in danger of disintegration because of the confusion at the head.

In view of the apparent inability of the Iranian Government to secure the surrender of the Axis nationals and the expulsion of the Legations, the Allies therefore dicided to move troops to Teheran itself. Meanwhile, however, the impossible situation between the Shah and his own Ministers resulted in the Ruler's abdication in favour of the Crown Prince. In a country where personal rule had been so absolute and so entirely comprehensive, the switch over to a new form of Government was beset with difficulties for the Iranians themselves, particularly in the peculiar circumstances where the conscript army of Iran was tending to disintegrate. It was therefore decided that the abdication should not affect the advance of token Allied forces to Teheran, where they would be in a position to give any necessary support to the Iranian authorities, and prevent the Axis elements from delibrately creating and encouraging confusion as they had been doing.

Such is the present position and the steps in its developments. It now remains to be seen to what extent the new Government in Iran will be able to fulfil their obligations both to the Allies and the Iranian people and maintain the administration of the country.

AMERICAN NEUTRALITY ACT—*(Continued from page 7)*

Neutrality Act was designed to avoid local controversies in regard to maritime warfare, the growth of an unhealthy boom resulting from unregulated supplies to countries at war and intimate financial relations with belligerents. It is an anomaly that, while the American Navy can protect British and other foreign ships crossing the Atlantic, can shoot at German warcraft on sight, it cannot escort American merchant men in those same to send American-owned and operated ships waters. It is an absurdity to send American-owned and operated ships to places like Iceland under the flag of Panama while they should be sailing under their own colours. Though there are loopholes in the Act which may enable the Government to evade its provisions, the existence of the legislation, in Mr. Cordell Hull's opinion, is a formidable obstacle to rush aid of all kinds to the Allies including Russia. Vital changes in the Act would, one may hope, provide for carrying arms and ammunitions in American ships convoyed by American warships. The impediments to close financial relations with the Allies would also disappear. Further progress of the idea formulated by Mr. Cordell Hull will be followed with anxious interest by all those who realize the gravity of the present war situation, which requires that American help should be rushed to Great Britain and Russia with ever-increasing speed and in quantities sufficient to give superiority to those engaged in mortal combat with Nazism.

"THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME"

I.—THE BRITISH SOCIAL REVOLUTION

PROBLEMS, 1940

" Bad towns are an invisible burden on every citizen damaging his health, his pocket, his enjoyment of life. And bad towns are unnecessary." *Maxwell Fry.*

Houses are " modern machines for living in," and factories are "20 acres of chaos;"

" Housing Acts " lay down certain minimum standards of space and light, heating, etc. These are fine amenities. In fact, however, their cost is too high for the quality of building, plan, and equipment for the average middle class pocket. The pleasures of comfortable living existed in the colourful realm of advertisement only and were duly conveyed in posters and picture magazines, providing what social psychologists called " substitute satisfaction."

England still had Disraeli's " two nations "; G.B.S. railed against " those with dinners and no appetites and those with appetites and no dinners." Art was regarded as an esoteric luxury, and pleasure for the masses meant an orgy of mechanical passive enjoyment.

There is :—

Speculation in land values; Jerry built houses, the tyranny of " instalment " and ever " deferred " comforts, and the danger of the little man being caught up in the false glamour of security in a " system."

Illness, except when grave, was a luxury which the average man could ill afford. The specialist attended only to the very rich or the very poor. The ordinary practitioner had not the resources to tackle complex diagnosis and treatment. The general death rate was 12·8 per 1,000, and infant mortality 62 per 1,000, which compared unfavourably with United States of America, Germany, Norway, Holland.

In Education there are still two systems—one for the rich, one for the poor; education ends too early for the poor; the excessive specialization of our higher secondary and university education is producing " uneconomic intelligentsia."

The " Means Test " scarred British Industry. The ideal of " the economic man " had yet to give place to " the social man." Housing and rent subsidies were not adjusted to family needs.

Aggressive appetite abroad was fed with appeasement. The profits of precarious peace were preferred to realizing the hardship of immediate social reconstruction.

THE VOICE AND FACE OF BRITAIN
1941

" I admit the existence of riches and poverty cheek by jowl. I admit that housing conditions here are in many places indefensible. The fundamental point of difference between us and Hitler is that we have fought our way out of feudalism towards freedom, whilst he wishes to impose a new feudalism. We must help in the creation of conditions under which nations will be able to work out their own salvation without let or hindrance by others. The task of creating new conditions must be a great and continuing co-operation effort, in which all who are willing will play their part. We are planning to get rid of ugliness in our towns and to build a fairer Britain."

Rt. Hon. Arthur Greenwood, 13th Jan. 1941.

" The last war left the social life of Britain largely untouched. This is a totalitarian war, in which there is no distinction between soldier and civilian, women and children. We oppose hate and lies with truth and sympathy.

" In the fraternity of arms, in the comradeship of the Home Guard, in the fellowship of fire fighting, artificial differences have melted in the fires of war."

W. I. Brown, 2nd February, 1941.

Lord Reith heads a committee " for the reconstruction of town and country." A central planning committee is devised to avoid speculation and make possible suitable plans for compensation. War brings into vivid reality the difference between " the masses " and " the people," the former the dupes of dictators, the latter the vital principle of democracies. Five hundred million pounds is being spent annually on social services—even in war time.

Donald Tyrman states on 15th June 1941. The objective of economic plan is now " abundance value " and not " scarcity value." There is to be a socially approved national minimum in necessities and comforts for all.

Master of Balliol, A. D. Lindsay says (Jan. 1941) " The same kind of education for all up to the age of 13; up to the age of 18 there must be an 'educative control;' public schools should be brought into the general system; curriculum of universities must be overhauled."

Lord Elton, on 10th March 1941, observed that evacuation, communal kitchens, war taxation, clinics in country mansions have all gone towards liberalization of education in the widest sense. The manufacturer forgets his profits; the worker his trade union restrictions; the consumer foregoes his luxuries; all help to finance expenditure from which no material return is expected.

" In facing common danger," says Mallory Browne of America, " the people have learned common consideration. With all the grimness of battle, I believe there is more kindliness in Britain to-day than in all its history."

II.—THE COMMONWEALTH UNITED

ANSWERING THE CALL
1940

The Statute of Westminster was thought by many to have made the Empire a brittle confederation. " In a crisis," said the croakers, " the Empire countries would all be casualties."

The war came. It found them unprepared but sturdily loyal to Commonwealth values. Every unit began to set its house in order and with solemn resolution to make up the leeway in war production.

Separate declarations of war showed Hitler with how many foes he had to reckon. Convoyed by the Royal Navy, Commonwealth contingents crossed the oceans to danger points without the loss of a man. Canada became hostess for the great Empire Air Training Scheme.

But for months the war seemed far away and there were prophets of stalemate. When the grim events of Summer 1940 showed the world's peril, few Empire units had smelt battle. Their opportunity and their glory were yet to come.

WEATHERING THE STORM
1941

Mr. Mackenzie King of Canada regards London as the ultimate citadel of freedom and co-operation, with England as the first necessity of civilization.

Smuts of Africa, the first dominion-born Field Marshal, repeatedly affirms his faith in victory as the logical consequence of the justness of the Allied cause.

Mr. Menzies of Australia finds " a steel strand in the fibre of English character " and in it the sheet anchor of freedom.

Mr. Fadden of Australia knows " Australia's destiny is in unity."

Mr. Peter Fraser of New Zealand finds inspiration for his countrymen in the unquenchable spirit of freedom in England.

" India needs Britain more than Britain needs her " says Sir Mirza Ismail, Empire Statesman and celebrated administrator of a State in India.

Canada spends between 8 and 9 hundred million dollars in aid to Britain. One in four Australians are engaged in war activity. The public expenditure in war now is equal to the total peace budget in South Africa. New Zealand sends an uninterrupted stream of agricultural commodities and has over 300,000 men engaged in war and allied production.

III.—THE ISSUE FOR EUROPE

DUNGEON OF DESPAIR

Hitler's war aim is the extinction of England and the establishment of universal serfdom. The " people " he seeks to establish as sovereigns are himself and his satellites who, in the mental blackout of the world, are to wield their sceptre in sterile isolation.

" The German nation has had in the last 100 years Bismarck and Moltke; The Emperor Wilhelm II and Ludendorf; Hitler, Goering and Himmler; No Lincoln like America; No Gambetta like France; No Gladstone like England. That is why she is exclusively responsible for this war. This lack of political education should not express itself in Germany again."

President Benes.

FORTRESS OF FREEDOM

" We are fighting to free all European nations, and this includes Germany, from tyranny."

Commander King-Hall, 6th Feb. 1941.

" Just as the liberty of the individual must have regard to the needs of the community, so must every nation in future accept its obligations to the general family of nations and be ready in both the political and economic sphere to consider the welfare of its neighbours.

" Our aim will be prosperity justly shared. Our two peoples will appreciate the immense responsibility that will jointly rest on them."

Lord Halifax, 26th March 1941.
Pilgrim Society, New York.

" There is a good chance of preserving the democracies if the democratic powers win, and none if Germany wins."

Bertrand Russell in the " New York Times."

" The requirements of security are more likely to be met by fitting a liberated Germany into a wider and stronger frame-work for the world."

The " London Times," 1st August 1941.

III.—THE ISSUE FOR EUROPE

DUNGEON OF DESPAIR

France

Offer of radical Anglo-French Union made by Mr. Churchill in 1940 a few days before her tragic crash was rejected. The Treaty of Compiégne followed. Alsace and Lorraine were annexed to the Reich. French commerce, industry, banking were linked to German needs. The home of Voltaire becomes the prey of Vichy.

Liberty is corroded by Laval, and the guillotine is set up again, this time to do the work of foreign tyrants.

Czechoslovakia

Fifty thousand Gestapo, 300,000 soldiers attempt to strike terror into the hearts of the people, pervert their economic life and rob them of their culture.

Poland

Seventy thousand civilians are executed; 150,000 are deported: Poles are made the helots of the Nazi hierarchy. A second Polish White Paper reveals the problem the Nazis have set themselves: "the biological destruction of Poland."

Norway

Trade dislocated, the press muzzled, government reduced to a Quisling mockery, tottering on its rickety props of mass arrests and murders.

Denmark

Jacobsen, under his imitation Fuehrer Clausen, plays the Nazi game and helps in his nefarious ways the insidious penetration of Germans.

FORTRESS OF FREEDOM

France

De Gaulle goes from strength to strength. He and his 60,000 men affirm "the war is not lost, the country is not dead, hope is not extinct." In August 1940 Great Britain lifted the blockade from Free French colonies. The spirit of France rises in angry protest in Paris and attains critical expression in the shots that failed to attain their deadly purpose in their attack on Laval, Giffon and many German officers. Four hundred thousand tons of French mercantile shipping serve the Allied cause.

Czechoslovakia

The Czech Provisional Government in England avers its faith in Allied victory and the need to rebuild Europe by collaboration on democratic principles. Diplomatic relations with Poland and Russia are resumed. A Czech unit is raised in Russia and Czech pilots serve in the Royal Air Force.

Poland

President Rackzkirwiez's free Polish Government in London carries on its co-operative work with England. In the words of M. Zaleski (August 5) "Poland with the British Commonwealth defends freedom and civilization." On July 30, 1941, "a turning point in history" occurred: the agreement with Russia: 120,000 Poles on Soviet soil join Russia in her heroic struggle against Germany: 100,000 tons of shipping add their quota of strength to Allied shipping. Polish airmen gain honour and distinction in the Royal Air Force.

Norway

Prof. Koht said in Europe's capital, London, on May 5: "We say now, as our fathers said in 1814, no Norwegian shall be a slave."

To which King Haakon (May 7) adds: "I and my Government firmly resolve to hold out until the country is liberated. The fight is for the future of Norway." Norwegians of military age serve in the free Norwegian forces and 3,250,000 tons of shipping serve the Allies.

Denmark

The Danish Council, formed on October 10, 1940, in London, has never ceased in its continuous practical support for those principles of co-operative government for which a pre-war Denmark had become justly celebrated.

III.—THE ISSUE FOR EUROPE

DUNGEON OF DESPAIR

Holland

To-day Musret attempts to mutilate the spirit of Holland with martial law, and its body with raw food.

Belgium

Food is plundered by the Nazis; railway trucks are stolen to bolster up the creaking transport structure in the East; Silence is imposed on all public organs of expression.

Greece

The price of Nazi rule is perversion, persecution and plunder and Greece pays them. The Greeks who deny the rule in sullen silence are rewarded with conscript labour.

Yugoslavia

Pavelitch and his gang of thugs, the *Ustashi*, help Hitler and his jackal in creating the arena for dictatorship—the desert. In disunity is Nazi strength and accordingly Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro suffer dismemberment.

Rumania

Fraud follows famine and famine follows fraud. Rumanians are forced to fight against Russians and yield territory to Hungary and Bulgaria. Jews are tortured into accepting military labour.

Hungary and **Bulgaria**

Duped by Nazi promises they discover that each is used as a catspaw in the Nazi game—Bulgaria against Turkey and Hungary against Russia.

Russia

A vast country with almost unlimited resources was chained by political pressure to Germany's war machine, yet marked down to be Hitler's prize victim.

FORTRESS OF FREEDOM

Holland

"The Netherlands Union", the nucleus of unquenchable independence, gains a membership of over one million. Pilots of the D.E.I. man planes that are the gift of free Dutchmen from all over the world. Van Kleffens places the rich and varied resources of the Dutch colonies at the Commonwealth's disposal. A rich and stout hearted naval tradition makes amends for the "Medway incursion" of the 17th century by providing the Allies with over 2 million tons of shipping.

Belgium

King Leopold refuses to return to the throne as a Nazi puppet. "The Libre Belgique" and the "V" campaign vivify the drooping spirit. A Belgian brigade helps to blast the last shreds of Italian Imperialistic vanity in Africa. A million tons of Belgian shipping help to fight 'the mocking fantasy" of Hitlerian manufacture.

Greece

Greek guerillas operate from mountain fastnesses, burn harvests in Thrace and wreck military trains. One hundred thousand tons of Greek shipping eludes the greed-drunk Nazi eye and joins the Allies.

Yugoslavia

Serbian guerillas damage the Sarajevo-Brod railway and patriot irregulars wreak their righteous vengeance in Montenegro, Sanyak, Herzegovina, etc. King Peter places in Allied hands 120,000 tons of shipping.

Rumania

Thirteen Rumanian Generals shot or arrested for refusing to lead their men against Russia. Dr. Maniu, leader of the Peasant Party, boldly voices the opinion of the inarticulate and asks Antonescu to call off the war.

Hungary and **Bulgaria**

Desertion in the Hungarian army, sabotage in Bulgaria give the unmistakable answer to Nazi pressure.

Russia

Germany herself broke the chains by a treacherous invasion. Contrary to Nazi expectations the Russian people realize what they are fighting for and fight for it magnificently. Burying all ideological hatchets, Britain, Russia and the U.S.A. begin to build a new front against Hitler.

IV.—AMERICAN AWAKENING

SYMPATHY AND SCEPTICISM, 1940

In June 1940 American opinion was aloof and pessimistic. In August, when the U. S. A. secured the use of British bases in the Western hemisphere and released 50 destroyers for Britain, Churchill said of Anglo-American co-operation : " Let it roll ".

But it was only just beginning. Roosevelt was not yet re-elected, and Germany was determined that he should not be. There was sympathy for Britain, hatred for Hitler, but no clear realization of America's own danger.

Not till Dec. 17 was the phrase " Lease and Lend " heard. Wendell Willkie, Republican candidate for the Presidency, did not falter on the issue of aid to Britain, and backed Roosevelt's scheme " with modifications".

AID AND ACTION, 1941

Re-elected Third Term President to Nazi dismay, Roosevelt declared in inaugural speech (Jan. 20) : " We shall not retreat; we are not prepared to stand still". Two days later Willkie left for smash-hit tour of embattled Britain.

While America's huge peacetime production geared itself slowly to the needs of defence against world-domination, Roosevelt kept his finger on the sensitive pulse of his people's opinion, till Halifax could declare, visiting Britain (Sep. 17) : " They've made up their minds about Hitler just as we have."

American milestones towards consolidation of anti-Axis front are :

MARCH 11 :
Lease-Lend Bill becomes law.

MARCH 15 :
" Britain needs ships, planes and food. From America she will get ships, planes and food ".—*Roosevelt.*
China also to be helped.

MARCH 24 :
First Lease-Lend appropriation for 7,000 million dollars.

APRIL 9 :
United States to have air bases in Greenland.

APRIL 20 :
Mackenzie King meets Roosevelt for joint mobilisation of Canadian and United States resources.

MAY 27 :
Roosevelt declares state of unlimited national emergency, assumes important powers and declares : " We do not accept and will not permit the Nazi shape of things to come".

JUNE 14 :
Axis assets in United States frozen.

JUNE 17 :
German consular offices in United States to be closed.

JUNE 25 :
Roosevelt follows Churchill with announcement of " all possible aid to Russia".

JULY 8 :
United States forces in Iceland. Sea route to be guarded.

JULY 26 :
United States takes lead in economic action against aggressive Japan.

JULY 14 :
Churchill-Roosevelt meeting revealed.

SEP. 1 :
" We shall do everything in our power to crush Hitler and his Nazi forces "—*Roosevelt.*

SEP. 11 :
United States ships will get their blow in first at any U-boat or raider in American defence waters.

V.—THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD

In the left hand column below are the eight points of the joint declaration of policy issued in the name of their Governments and peoples by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt at their historic Atlantic meeting.

In the right hand column Nazi aims are exposed in quotations from Hitler's own words (as recorded by his former adviser Hermann Rauschnigg in his book " Hitler Speaks ") and from other authentic sources.

CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT	HITLER
1. " Their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other."	1. " We must have Europe and its colonies . . . . Germany will spread its might far beyond its borders in the East as well as in the South-East. . . . We have a right to South America. . . . Natural instincts bid all living beings not merely conquer their enemies but destroy them." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
2. " They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned."	2. " This struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. . . . There will still be the class of subject alien races. We need not hesitate to call them the modern slave class." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
3. " They respect the rights of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them."	3. " The day of small states is past. . . . We do not seek equality but mastery. We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such ideological abortions of sterile democracy." (*Hitler Speaks.*)
4. " They will endeavour with due respect to their existing obligations to further the enjoyment by all states, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to the trade and the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity."	4. " After the end of the war Germany must digest the incorporated territories. From the economic point of view this means adjustment to the German economy." (*Voelkischer Beobachter*, 20–8–40.) " Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world and will for example cause the United States to have not 7,000,000 but 30-40,000,000 unemployed. Mr. Roosevelt will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw materials at prices which we will dictate." (*Nazi Agriculture Minister Darré to party officials, May* 1940.)
5. " They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social progress."	5. " All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed among the worthy members of the Party and soldiers who were accorded honours for bravery in this war. . . . This German aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery which we must and will introduce. . . . Work must be as cheap as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly." (*Darré.*)
6. " After the final destruction of Nazi tyranny they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurances that all the men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want."	6. " The world can only be ruled by fear. . . . Terror is the most effective political instrument. . . . I recognize no moral law in politics. . . . There will be no licence, no free space, in which the individual belongs to himself." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

V.—THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT

7. " Such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance."

8. " They believe that all the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their country, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable methods which will lighten for peaceloving peoples the crushing burden of armaments.

HITLER

7. " The German navy will be expanded to a strength worthy of a world power. It will carry the German flag and the German name over the face of the globe." (*Admiral Raeder, 28th January* 1941.)

8. " War is eternal. War is universal. War is life." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

" After the war, armament will go on at the present rate, bringing new world power to Germany." (*Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung,* 2-9-40.)

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from Page* 5)

First Balkan war in 1912. In the Great War of 1914–18, Bulgaria joined the Central Powers. The peasants after the war resumed their pro-Russian attitude. After a good deal of hesitation and wavering, Bulgaria joined the Balkan Entente, formed in 1934. Axis pressure, however, increased so much after the beginning of the present war that in March 1941 she signed the Axis Pact. Germany has not so far felt it necessary to drag Bulgaria into war, especially because of the pro-Slav and pro-Russian sentiment of the peasant population. However, the Axis Powers have taken care to satisfy Bulgarian ambitions by carving out for her territory in Yugoslavia, Greece and Rumania but this has so far not been able to induce the Bulgarian people to give up their pro-Russian sympathy. The Government of Bulgaria under King Boris are between the devil and the deep sea. It remains to be seen whether they will succumb to the Nazi pressure and declare war on Russia.

HITLER'S "NEW ORDER"

THREE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

What is the object of Hitler's " New Order "?

" The object of the ' New Order ' is to guarantee to the Greater German Reich a maximum of economic security and to the German people a maximum of consumption "—

Walther Funk, Nazi Economics Minister

What is the method by which this " New Order " will be achieved?

" All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and will be distributed primarily among working members of the (Nazi) Party."—

Herr Ernest Darré, Nazi Agriculture Minister

What blessing does the " New Order " bring which the " Old Order " failed to provide?

" Please do not interpret the word ' slave ' as a parable or rhetorical term. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery."—

Herr Ernest Darré

Hitler's purpose is clear. The fantastic theory expounded by Dr. Alfred Rosenberg is to be put into practice. Rosenburg in his *Mythus*, claimed that a new mythical faith was arising, " a mythical faith of blood," a faith " supported by the most exact science, by which it is established that Nordic blood represents that Mystery which has taken the place of and superseded the ancient sacraments." Addressing Nazi Party leaders in Bremen on August 25, 1941, Rosenburg declared, " What we are fighting for is a Germanic Europe."

Hitler proposes to establish the German race as the *Herrenvolk* (Mastermen) of Europe. Non-Germans will be condemned for a thousand years (Hitler's own estimate) to the slavery of another Dark Age; they will be serfs receiving a mere pittance for their toil, while the master men live as wealthy parasites. The *Herrenvolk* will control all industrial activity ensuring the maximum of return for the minimum of effort and safeguarding the new regime against armed revolt, while the outcasts feed them.

A YEAR OF PRACTICE

For a year we have seen the " New Order " in action. How does the machinery work? Apart from war prisoners, 15 lakhs of labourers have been forced to work in Germany under threat of starvation if they refuse. This slave gang is recruited from Italy (classed as an occupied country by *Das Reich*), France, the Low Countries, Denmark, Poland, Norway, Czechoslovakia and the Balkan States. In many cases they are obliged to accept one-fifth of the wages they would receive under the " Old Order."

Under the " New Order," the wealth of Europe gravitates towards Berlin. For the privilege of being plundered and bludgeoned and dismembered, the Occupied Countries pay Germany a total of Rs. 120 crores, or Rs. 160 per head of the population, annually. Another Rs. 40 crores a year finds its way into the vaults of the *Reichsbank* in the form of taxes and forced loans. The price Germany pays for her purchases in the Occupied Countries is from 15 per cent to 40 per cent below that which would prevail in a free market. By accumulating clearing balances in favour of the Occupied Countries and issuing new currency which the Central Banks of the Victim States are forced to accept, the Nazis have borrowed at an average rate of Rs. 28 crores a year.

How appreciative are the subjugated peoples of these blessings which Hitler has showered on them?

In a broadcast to the people of Spain recently, the German radio said, " Hitler's ' New Order ' promises men a life of freedom, as inheritors of the benefits of their own toil." But it is a piecrust promise. If it had not been broken, Signor Ansaldo would have had no cause to say, in a broadcast from Rome (August 31, 1941), " In all occupied territories and especially in France, there are people who are kicking desperately against the idea of continental collaboration."

In Norway, 18 Provincial Governors have resigned rather than obey the original Quisling; the local Nazi *gauleiter*, Herr Terboven, complains that, " Large sections of Norwegians appear to suffer from the English sickness."

In Denmark, Fritz Clausen reports that students refuse to understand National Socialism and the *Nordschleswigsche Zeitung* admits that " Blind hatred of Germany's Fuehrer and troops of occupation prevails in the leading commercial, political and military circles."

In Czechoslovakia, 116 munitions factory workers are executed in a single month for spoiling 3,000 tons of steel by the addition of sulphur and zinc to the molten metal which went into 7,000 guns which proved useless in action.

In Holland, British planes are cheered as they bomb Nazi targets and a German publicist bewails the fact that, " The saner Dutchmen who refuse to give to the Winter Help Fund because it is reported as being a Nazi

(*Continued on page* 19)

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 8—14, 1941

MIDDLE EAST MENDACITIES

" Since the time the British have occupied Iraq its financial position has become very bad.

" In Egypt the British have to perpetrate even more atrocities. The Ministry of Egyptian Foodstuffs has announced a little more decrease in the rationing of foodstuffs. All this is due to the British having withheld Egyptian imports and exports.

" Reports from Beirut say that bread has gone scarce there. One does not get flour in Syrian cities." (*German news in Arabic and Persian, Sept.* 10.)

Here are some Baghdad Press opinions :— " There is none but Great Britain on whose alliance and word we can rely, because we find that other great powers attach no value whatever to the treaties they enter into with smaller powers."—*Al Zaman, July* 1941.

" Germany is well known for her Machiavellian policy—a policy which is not bound by any international convention or treaty. In pursuance of this policy Germany is out to attain her object by any means fair or foul." —*Alamul Arabi, July* 1941.

The Turkish Prime Minister Dr. Saydam said on July 5 : " British moderation and foresight in handling the Iraqi situation and her guarantee of Iraqi independence are worthy of Turkish praise and congratulation."

THE R.A.F. AND DR. GOEBBELS

" Needless to say the damage caused by the raid on Berlin is of no consequence whatever to the German war effort, the civilian morale is very high.' (*German news in English, Sept.* 9.)

" From June 22 to Sept. 9, Britain lost over 1,200 planes, while the Luftwaffe itself suffered insignificant losses." (*German news in Persian, Arabic and Hindustani, Sept.* 11.)

" The British Government intend to make sham concessions in connection with a complaint raised by Australia and New Zealand that they had to bear the chief losses in men." (*German news in English, Sept.* 10.)

Capt. Wolffblei, the spokesman of the German Air Ministry said recently :—

" Needless to say the British air raids on Germany are indeed a bitter affair for many : . . . . The English are a very tough people, so do not get frightened by enemy air raids. Be tough, Germans."

Germany's air losses amount to two-thirds of the British losses and this in spite of their increased reliance on anti-aircraft guns. The R.A.F. carried out 57 heavy night raids in July and 46 in August. In July the R.A.F. dropped 5½ times the weight of bombs dropped in January.

In Greece British losses were 75,658 men, Australian 2,968 and New Zealand 2,266. In Crete British losses were 6,870, Australian 3,560 and New Zealand 2,540. In neither case do the combined Dominion losses amount to those of Britain. Every Dominion Premier without exception has consistently declared his Government's desire to take an increasing part in the war against Germany.

"HITLER'S NEW ORDER"

" Never did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of man."—Winston Churchill.

The " New Order " which Germany proposes to offer as the panacea for the world's ill is the " Old Tyranny." Here are some of its principles stated by its protagonists :

" We Germans are born to be masters of Europe and must conduct ourselves accordingly."—*Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung,* 7—10—1940.

" Our people are destined to be the pivot and leaders of Europe's new era, and they must always fight against the temptation to devote their energies for the good of others." —*Das Reich,* 6—10—1940.

" In the new European economy the nations will be free to develop their own resources and to trade with one another, but only according to German principles and methods."—*Dr. Funk,* 1—9—1940.

The Legend

" It is impossible to build a durable life in common in Europe, between nations which do not enjoy equal rights."—*Hitler, Berlin,* 24—10—1933.

" The new Europe is being built by the love and faith of the Fuehrer."—*Berliner Zwoelf Uhr Blatt,* 19—6—1940.

" The occupied territories are being systematically linked up with German economics, which are based on the principle that each inhabitant must have sufficient food."—*German broadcast to Yugoslavia,* 9—11—1940.

" Within a few months Germany has, in fact given freedom to this continent."—*Hitler at Munich,* 8—11—1940.

And for India Dr. Ley offers the advice :

" A lower race needs less clothes, less food, and less culture, than a higher race."

If Germany is to be the Protector of Europe how much does it cost to-day?

France pays 400 million francs a day.
Denmark pays 1½ million crowns a day.
Norway pays 3-4 million crowns a day.
Belgium pays 2,400,000 Rm. per day.
Holland pays 1,200,000 Rm. per day.
Rumania pays 1,750,000 Rm. per day.

The dairy herds of Denmark are slaughtered and sent to Germany; Norwegians export all their catch of fresh fish, Holland exports more vegetables to Germany in three months than she did to all countries during the same period in previous years. France gives 58 per cent of her livestock at Germany's bidding.

The Bitter Truth

" In the higher administration no Poles are employed. The Pole is only used for the lesser jobs."—*Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung,* 6—10—1940.

The German authorities are issuing yellow supplementary ration cards for sugar, fats, and meat to the German nationals in France.—*Radio Paris,* 20—12—1940.

" The German race needs more dwelling space and better living conditions than the Poles or Jews. The answer to the question : " By what right ', is ' By the right of self-determination ' ".—*Ley, Cracow, Nov.* 8—11—1940.

" Sabotage, passive resistance and thinly disguised hostility paralyse the adaptation of the Belgian economy."—*Le Noveau Journal, Brussels,* 1—1—1941.

" Degenerate Dutch are imprisoned for cheering British airmen."—*Essen National Zeitung.*

Men of Cologne imprisoned for listening to B.B.C.—*Kolnische Zeitung.*

Food scarcity, sabotage, train-wrecking, and " scorched earth " greet Hitler wherever he sets his foot.

HITLER'S NEW ORDER—(*Continued from page* 17)

institution, gladly give a guilder to any street musician if he plays national tunes before the house of a Nazi."

In Belgium, " Sabotage, passive resistance and thinly disguised hostility paralyse the adaptation of Belgian economy and, more particularly, of the people's mentality to the ' New-Order ' ", says *Le Nouveau Journal.*

In France, shots are fired at traitors Laval, Déat and Gitton. Ration books are forged by the million to embarrass the occupation authorities.

In Greece, the starving populace burn the harvest rather than reap it to feed Nazi mouths.

In Yugoslavia and Poland, the exploits of guerilla bands provide an eloquent commentary on the " life of freedom " promised by the " New Order."

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 16th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 10, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on gun positions in N.W. France and shipping in North Sea. R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on convoy off Norwegian coast (supply ship torpedoed).	1 day fighter.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Royal Arsenal, factories and railways in **Turin**; other targets in N. Italy.	4 night bombers.	..
September 11, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France, Belgium and Holland.	Nil.	...
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; **Rostock**; docks at Le Havre and Boulogne. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on docks at Haugesund (Norway); aerodrome near Stavanger; shipping off Norwegian coast (supply ship hit); convoy off Dutch coast (supply ship and barge hit).	3 night bombers.	..
September 12, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and Dutch coast. R.A.F. day bomber attack on convoy off Dutch coast (large ship afire). Fleet Air Arm day bomber attack on shipping off Norwegian coast (2,000-ton supply ship sunk; other vessels damaged)	1 day fighter.	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on industrial objectives in **Frankfurt-am-Main**; other targets in the Rhineland; docks at Cherbourg. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on submarine base at St. Nazaire; shipping off Frisian Islands (supply ship hit).	2 night bombers.	..
September 13, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter patrols over English Channel and occupied territory.	Nil.	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Brest** (battleship *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*); docks at Le Havre. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in N. France.	Nil.	1 night bomber.
September 14, Sunday.	(No reports of day or night operations)	Nil.	..
September 15, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping at Haugesund (Norway) and nearby factory; convoy off Frisian Islands (one ship sunk, another damaged).	1 day fighter, 1 day bomber.	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on shipyards, factories and railways at **Hamburg**; Bremen; Cuxhaven; Wilhelmshaven; docks at **LeHavre**. R.A.F. night fighter attacks on aerodromes in occupied territory.	9 night bombers.	..
September 16, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. day bomber attacks on shipping off Dutch coast (patrol vessel sunk).	2 day fighters, 1 day bomber.	7 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Karlsruhe**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Le Havre.	Nil.	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 16th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
September 10	Nil.	..
September 11	Nil.	I night bomber.
September 12	Nil.	2 night bombers.
September 13	Nil.	..
September 14	Nil.	1 day bomber.
September 15	Nil.	1 day bomber.
September 16	Nil.	1 night bomber.

AIRCRAFT LOSSES SINCE BEGINNING OF WAR.

Since the beginning of war, the Axis Powers have lost 8,012 aircraft (apart from 4,000 estimated to have been destroyed during the Russian campaign), against 3,089 lost by the R.A.F. Here is an officially compiled list:—

	Year.	Axis.	R.A.F.
Over and around Britain	1939	23	..
	1940	3,030	847
	1941	568	37
Total ..		3,621	884
At Sea	1939	6	1
	1940	27	36
	1941	5	17
Total ..		38	54
Western Front	1939	14	5
	1940	943	374
Total ..		957	379
Scandinavian campaign	1940	56	55
Over Germany and occupied Territory.	1939	20	26
	1940	45	349
	1941	625	959
Total ..		690	1,334
Middle East	1940	421	78
	1941	1,666	305
Total ..		2,087	383
By Royal Navy	1939	3	..
	1940	241	..
	1941	319	..
Total ..		563	..
Grand total ..		8,012	3,089

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

19th Sep.—In offensive sweeps over the continent the Royal Air Force brings down 16 German planes and sinks four German ships. The docks at Le Havre are bombed.

20th Sep.—Berlin is bombed by the Soviet Air Force.

In the greatest daylight offensive of the war, the Royal Air Force strikes at the Nazis in Germany, in Norway and in France and sets on fire four enemy ships in a convoy off the Dutch Coast.

21st Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Berlin and Frankfurt. Twenty-four enemy aircraft are destroyed during sweeps over France where a power station and railway objectives are bombed.

23rd Sep.—The Royal Air Force bombs Boulogne and damages a large enemy supply ship off the Norwegian Coast.

German airmen drop a few bombs on East Anglia but there are no casualties and only slight damage.

24th Sep.—The Royal Air Force bombs a large enemy supply ship off Norway and an enemy mine-sweeper off Dunkirk.

25th Sep.—It is announced in Simla that several Indian pilots have taken part in raids over Germany.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19th Sep.—A Netherlands submarine sinks two Italian ships in the Mediterranean.

Shipping off Tripoli and Benghazi, the harbour at Bardia and the aerodrome at Gambut are bombed by the Royal Air Force, the Fleet Air Arm and the South African Air Force.

20th Sep.—Italy admits the loss of two escorted troop transports, torpedoed off Tripoli, where the Royal Air Force also successfully attacks an enemy destroyer.

21st Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Benghazi.

22nd Sep.—Slightly increased shelling activity is reported from Libya.

British submarines destroy two Italian liners of about 25,000 tons each, sailing in a convoy in the Mediterranean, and damage a third of the same tonnage.

23rd Sep.—Enemy planes raid shipping in Gibraltar but only one hulk is sunk.

24th Sep.—British submarines successfully attack an Italian mine-layer in Central Mediterranean, also an enemy supply ship and a transport.

The Royal Air Force makes wide spread attacks on enemy ships in Central Mediterranean and off Libyan ports.

25th Sep.—It is officially denied in London that the British have attacked a French post near Djibouti.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

20th Sep.—Mr. Harriman, Head of the United States Mission to Russia, assures the Russians that the flow of American supplies will steadily increase.

President Roosevelt signs the biggest Tax Bill in American history—3,553,400,000 dollars—designed to help defray the costs of national defence and the Lease and Lend Programme.

22nd Sep.—Mr. Roosevelt confers with Congressional Leaders on the question of expediting the passage of the new Lease and Lend legislation.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, indicates that he favours a revision of the Neutrality Act.

23rd Sep.—The United States State department reveals the sinking of another American ship, *Pink Star*, in the waters near Iceland.

Both Col. Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, and Mr. John Green, President of the Industrial Union of Marine Shipping Workers of America, demand the repeal of the Neutrality Act.

25th Sep.—Senator McKellar introduces in the United States Senate a resolution to repeal the Neutrality Act.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19th Sep.—The German High Command claims that German troops have entered Kiev. A bitter battle rages in the Leningrad sector where the Germans try their usual dive-bombing attacks. In a counter-attack, Marshal Voroshilov's troops destroy 40 German tanks and capture many others, driving back an enemy tank division.

German and Rumanian troops are mauled by the defenders of Odessa. And in the Murmansk region, many German regiments are decimated.

20th Sep.—Mr. Lozovsky the Soviet Spokesman, refutes Finland's charge (of aggression) against Russia.

The Nazis claim they have bombed Odessa and Moscow but the Soviet say that only one German plane got through to the capital, causing insignificant damage.

Lord Beaverbrook, Head of the British Mission, leaves for Russia, after appealing to workers to speed up the production of planes for the Soviet.

21st Sep.—The Germans claim the surrender of the entire garrison at Kiev, which the Russians admit having evacuated after a bloody struggle.

The Germans also say they have reached the Sea of Azov. In the north they claim the capture of the Islands of Worms, Moon and Oesel in the Bay of Riga.

The defenders of Leningrad throw back the Germans at many points. In the Central Sector, Marshal Timoshenko's forces are maintaining their pressure on the Germans. In the south, the Russians re-occupy the Island of Horitza in the Dnieper; and a Russian submarine sinks an enemy transport (8,000 tons) in the Black Sea.

22nd Sep.—The Germans claim successes in naval engagements in the Black Sea and the Baltic but admit that the Russians have left nothing but scorched earth in Kiev—thus indicating that Marshal Budenny has safely withdrawn his main forces to the Donetz River.

M. Maisky, the Soviet Ambassador, visits British factories working 66½ hours a week to rush tanks to Russia.

The British and American Missions for the Three-Power Talks arrive in Moscow.

Mr. Cordell Hull deprecates pessimism with regard to the fighting in Russia.

23rd Sep.—Successful Russian counter-attacks are reported in the Leningrad sector, also near Odessa. Heavy fighting continues east of Kiev.

24th Sep.—Bitter fighting is reported both in the approaches to Leningrad and round Odessa. The Germans have been thrown on the defensive in the Central Sector and thrown back in the Murmansk region. M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, ridicules the German claim to have encircled vast Russian armies in the Kiev region. Enemy planes attempting a raid on Moscow are dispersed.

Britain warns Finland against invading pure Russian territory and promises to promote a Finnish-Russian settlement if the Finns cease further fighting.

The Soviet Government pledge their support to the Atlantic Charter at the Allied Council's meeting in London.

The Air Ministry announces that the Royal Air Force has been in action in Russia, destroying several German planes.

25th Sep.—The German claim to have entered the suburbs of Leningrad is not confirmed by the Moscow Radio which says that a strong German infantry and tank attack has been repulsed. An attack on Crimea by four Nazi divisions is developing but enemy divisions attacking Odessa have met with serious reverses.

It is revealed that squadrons of British planes are participating in the defence of Leningrad. Tanks are rolling out of British factories in enormous numbers for Russia.

Heavy movements of Soviet troops to the Siberian frontiers are reported.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAN, IRAQ, SYRIA, ETC.

19th Sep.—Sweden is to take charge of German interests in Iran.

20th Sep.—A State of Emergency is proclaimed in Bulgaria where the police report the arrest of a number of Soviet parachutists.

21st Sep.—The Iranian Premier presents his new Cabinet to Parliament, which demands the trial of the ex-Shah. The latter is asked to relinquish his properties to the State.

A new Syrian Ministry is formed with Hassan Hakim as Premier.

German pressure on Turkey to hand over control of the Straits and on Bulgaria to join the war is reported. King Boris of Bulgaria is stated to be *en route* to a conference with Hitler and the German Army and Navy Chiefs.

22nd Sep.—The Iranian State, by official decree, takes over the ex-Shah's property.

A Simla communiqué says that the Allied troops have not yet occupied Teheran; they are still encamped outside the city.

The Moscow Radio contradicts the Bulgarian report regarding the dropping of Soviet parachutists in Bulgaria.

The Columbia Broadcasting System's correspondent reports growing unrest in Bulgaria, including dynamiting, shooting and anti-Government demonstrations.

23rd Sep.—The Germans (it is revealed) confront Bulgaria with a virtual ultimatum, demanding her prompt entry in the war against Russia.

The Iranian Government recall their diplomatic representatives from Germany, Italy and Rumania.

24th Sep.—General Wavell, it is announced, has returned to India from a flying visit to London to discuss Middle East strategic problems with Mr. Churchill and Sir John Dill.

The Bulgarian Minister of the Interior disclaims any aggressive intentions on the part of his Government.

25th Sep.—It is learnt that about 600 refugees from the German Legation at Teheran have crossed the Turkish frontier.

The Chief of United States Air Corps and other Staff Officers have arrived in Jerusalem.

SHIPPING

19th Sep.—It is revealed that millions of cubic feet of shipping space have been released as a result of military salvage work in the Middle East.

The United States Navy Department announces that twelve British warships and eleven other craft are now in American ports for repairs.

21st Sep.—Two German E-boats are sunk in the North Sea while attempting to attack a British convoy.

23rd Sep.—President Roosevelt announces that the Administration is studying the question of arming American merchantships.

24th Sep.—Britain, says *The New York Times*, has promised to give reciprocal facilities for re-fitting American warships at Singapore.

THE FAR EAST

19th Sep.—More than 50 members of the staff of the Russian Embassy in Tokyo, with their wives, leave for Russia.

Mr. A. Duff Cooper, British Minister on a special mission to the Far East, who is on a flying visit to Batavia, declares that Britain will not sit by and allow the Dutch East Indies to be attacked.

20th Sep.—Fighting flares up in the Sino-Japanese war north-east of Canton.

Admiral Toyoda, Japanese Foreign Minister, reports to the Emperor on the international situation.

21st Sep.—Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to Britain, in a broadcast appeals for increased help to China.

The United States-Japan negotiations are at a stand still, America insisting that Japan shall have no special status in East Asia.

Persistent border incidents are reported between Japanese and Russian troops.

22nd Sep.—A skilful Chinese counter-attack halts the Japanese drive to Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province, and causes heavy casualties in the ranks of the Japanese.

The British Ambassador to China arrives in Singapore to confer with Mr. Duff Cooper.

The Japanese admit mutiny by the puppet "Chinese Pacification Corps" in North Hunan.

Large Japanese troop movements are reported in Manchukuo and Korea.

Mr. Cordell Hull says that he has no information as to whether Prince Konoye, Japan's Premier, has sent a second letter to President Roosevelt.

25th Sep.—Japanese blue-jackets capture Yingtien in northern Hunan. Chungking is again bombed. The Chinese forces are threatening the Japanese flank in the battle of the Milo River.

A further batch of Indian troops have arrived in Singapore.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

19th Sep.—General de Gaulle, Leader of Free France, in a broadcast to the French people denounces the sinister manoeuvres of the Vichy clique. Two Frenchmen are shot by the Germans "for aiding the enemy through communist propaganda."

20th Sep.—A big clash is reported in Paris in which five Frenchmen are killed and several German soldiers wounded. The Germans arrest seventeen Frenchmen and shoot seven "hostages."

It is reported but not confirmed that Vichy is to have in the United States a new pro-British Ambassador, M. Charles Rist.

21st Sep.—Marshal Petain in a broadcast calls on Frenchmen in the occupied zone not to indulge in isolated attacks on the German army.

22nd Sep.—Two hundred arrests are reported in Paris where four theatres cancel their performances as a protest against the imposition of the curfew.

A Vichy report says that armoured cars and machine guns are to be used to quell the rising side of disorder in occupied France.

The Vichy Cabinet approves of a new plan for the defence of Dakar from whatever quarter an attack may come.

23rd Sep.—General de Gaulle announces the the formation of a new Free French Committee who will act as trustees for France till such time as they can hand over to a constitutionally representative French Government.

25th Sep.—The Vichy authorities sentence (*in absentia*) to death General Le Gentilhomme, the Free French leader, and confiscate his property.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

21st Sep.—The German authorities in Norway ban the issue of any funds to Quisling and his henchmen by the Bank of Norway.

22nd Sep.—It is revealed that an important munitions works at Vlasin in Southern Bohemia and a power station at Trebenice have been wrecked in an explosion.

King George of Greece arrives in London to take up his headquarters there.

23rd Sep.—The Germans hold 25 Belgians as hostages for the killing of two German policemen.

25th Sep.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, declares that Germany is directly responsible for feeding the people of German-occupied Europe.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19th Sep.—Spain and Manchukuo have signed a treaty of Commerce, Friendship and Navigation.

20th Sep.—The Swedish Premier emphasises his Government's resolve to stay neutral.

The German Press and Radio start a campaign against the Argentine Government.

24th Sep.—The Argentine Government crush a threatened military plot.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The situation in the southern sector in Russia continues to be grave. Another section of the Royal Air Force is now operating in the Eastern Front and has already begun its work of destruction of enemy machines. The initiative in the north where Germany is rushing reinforcements, and the central sectors is still with the Russians. The Russian army is nimble and its morale is as high as ever. The Three-Power Conference at Moscow to consider the question of supplies to Russia has concluded its work speedily and satisfactorily.

The joint statement issued by representatives of the three Powers says that there was perfect unanimity and co-operation at the Moscow Conference. M. Stalin has thanked U.S.A. and Great Britain "for their bountiful supplies of raw materials, machine tools and munitions of war." Mr. Harriman and Lord Beaverbrook acknowledged ample supplies of raw materials from the Soviet Government which greatly aid the output of weapons of war. In a separate statement, Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman state that it has now been decided to place at the disposal of the Soviet Government practically every requirement for which the Soviet military and civil authorities have asked. Transportation facilities have been fully examined and plans have been made to increase the volume of traffic in all directions. Mr. Harriman said of M. Stalin: "He works with great speed, exactitude and realism and also patience."

An important convoy has reached its destination after passing through the Central Mediterranean. Enemy air force attacked the convoy and one ship had to be sunk, but all the others were quite safe and undamaged. There were no casualties. One of the escorting warships received some damage, but her fighting efficiency was unimpaired.

General Wavell, after his talks in Teheran with the Russian commander and with General Auchinleck at Baghdad, is returning to India.

The anniversary of Japanese partnership with the Axis has been celebrated in Tokyo. Prince Konoye, the Japanese Prime Minister, exchanged messages with Hitler and Mussolini. Hitler stated in his message to Mussolini "The Three-Power Pact has proved to be the foundation of the future New Order to which many other young rising peoples have in the meantime declared their adherence." He also stated that it was the determination of the nations united in the Three-Power Pact that had saved the world from the mortal danger of Bolshevism.

It is stated that Bulgaria has been given an ultimatum to send her army to fight the Russians. King Boris is stated to be considering the demand and finding means to evade it. Pressure is still being brought indirectly to bear on Turkey, but Turkey is firm. She has refused to sell chrome to Germany and her trade agreement with Great Britain has been renewed. Hitler is asking for further reinforcements from his vassal countries to fight the Russians. He is asking for 500,000 men from Italy, 150,000 men from Hungary, 150,000 men from Bulgaria, 100,000 men from Rumania and 100,000 men from Slovakia.

Sir Samuel Hoare, who has arrived in England, stated that though he did not want to be optimistic or complacent, he should say

that the position of Great Britain *vis-a-vis* Spain was immeasurably better than what it was fifteen months ago when he reached Spain. It looked as if they were entering a new chapter. They had a lot of friends in Spain.

Field Marshal Smuts, opening a war fund carnival at Johannesburg, stated that he had no doubt whatever that the time was near when America would be in this war. The immeasurable resources of the United States were being marshalled behind the Allies. Hitler had taken an enormous additional liability in attacking Russia. The Allied position had greatly improved and they had pulled through the worst dangers and turned the most cruel corners. The whole of Europe was bristling with hatred for Hitler and his works and the cause of liberty was bound to triumph.

The Italian garrison at Wolchefit (Abyssinia) has been ordered by the Italian High Command to cease fire. The number of prisoners captured is 3,000, besides the Italian Commander and his staff.

Another American merchant ship flying the Panama flag has been sunk in the Atlantic. She is *The Trinidad* and was sunk by gunfire from a U-boat. Ten survivors have been landed at a Spanish port.

Mr. Verhon Bartlett, M.P., the famous author, journalist and B.B.C. Commentator, is now in Moscow, temporarily acting as Press Attache, discussing propaganda matters. Sir Walter Monckton, Director-General of the Ministry of Information, will shortly proceed to Moscow in this connexion.

It is reported that some 50,000 Japanese troops have been surrounded to the north of Changshi, capital of Hunan Province. It is stated in Chinese quarters that this success will prove to be the turning point in the Sino-Japanese War.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, has returned to his post from England.

General Wavell during his brief stay in Cairo *en route* to India, told war correspondents that India would shortly have more than a million fighting soldiers fully equipped. Recruiting in India, he said, was good and India's war effort was very impressive. War material of all sorts was being produced from factories throughout the country. Discussing big Army and Royal Air Force manoeuvres in India, General Wavell said : " These exercises are intended to test out the North-West Frontier defences. With Russia now a friend and ally and the Germans moving eastwards, the entire military situation has changed strategically. For these reasons India is also bringing up her air-raid precautions standard to the level of other countries and introducing black-outs and air defence, particularly in towns in the North-West." Discussing Russia, General Wavell said : " I have always admired the Russion soldiers, they are fine fighters," adding quietly " I hope to contact them soon." Asked whether he expected the Persian campaign to be completed so decisively and quickly, General Wavell said : " We had planned and hoped for this and were very pleased at the result." Before taking farewell of war correspondents, General Wavell, who looked very fit, said : " I enjoyed my stay in England where all is very quiet. During my thirteen days' stay, I did not hear a single air-raid alert. The visit was most satisfactory and enabled me to discuss matters of supreme importance with the War Cabinet."

" When we have defeated Hitler, we here in America must lead the way to peace ", said Colonel Knox, Secretary of the Navy, addressing the American Bar Association. " Some time, somewhere, an international order may emerge which need not rely on force, but in the interim, a justly conducted peace-loving force must intervene to save the world from self-destruction." Col. Knox said that the foundation of such a force must be control of the seas by the United States and Britain. " We are sweeping German pirates from the North Atlantic and bringing to England the products of the arsenal we have set up here," added Col. Knox. " We shall keep the sea lines open and eventually lock Germany up in the iron ring of sea-power within which she will perish." After Hitler had been defeated, " we must set up condition that will prevent the rise of new Hitlers." Declaring that the defeat of totalitarian powers was now " part of our national policy " Col. Knox said that the United States would proceed " to bring defeat to the legions of Hitler and his satellites in Italy and Japan." Col. Knox indicated that he felt that more naval bases were needed if the safety of the hemisphere was to be protected as far as South America.

Great Britain was now spending nearly £13 million sterling every day.

The reign of terror in Bohemia has commenced. President Hacha, it is expected, will be dismissed from office. General Alois Elias, Czech Premier, has been condemned to death by a Peoples' Court at Prague. Numerous executions have already taken place.

ITALY

It is reported that there is considerable perturbation in Italy owing to the effective air raids by the Royal Air Force on industrial targets in that country and the serious interference to ships taking supplies to Libya. In the last few days, the Royal Air Force has been busy bombing and machine-gunning targets in Sardinia, Sicily, Taranto, Agrigento, Bardia and Mersa Lukk, besides bases and aerodromes in different places. Considerable damage has also been done in Tripoli and Benghazi. Besides, the seaplane bases in Rhodes, the Royal Arsenal at Turin and munition factories in Sicily have been bombed. Palermo has had similar treatment. Italian morale cannot but be affected by these smashing blows. The Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force have also been seriously disturbing the supply line that leads across the narrow Sicilian Channel. General Romel's forces in Libya depend upon supplies from Italy and the Sicilian Channel is the only route by which reinforcements and supplies can reach them.

In the first fortnight of September, British and Dutch submarines sank 100,000 tons of enemy shipping in that seaway. Two of three 25,000 ton Italian liners carrying troops to Tripoli were sunk on September 18. Attacks by sea and air on the Libyan life-line are proceeding regularly. The Italians have therefore had to strengthen their convoys; for instance, a convoy attacked by the Fleet Air Arm on September 18, comprised two merchantmen and five escort vessels. Thus British bombs and torpedoes are compelling the Italian Navy to consume more fuel than they can conveniently spare. It should be remembered that an escort vessel does not carry food, munitions or soldiers, the three things that General Romel is most in need of.

The situation in Libya is causing further anxiety to Mussolini, and a recent report which is published in the papers that Great Britain intends to launch an offensive against Libya has only added to his nervousness. If Hitler's refusal to send troops to Libya is true, then Mussolini's cup of misery and humiliation will be very full indeed.

To add to these worries, Italy is now on the verge of inflation. Crooked finance has landed Italy in an economic dilemma, which is described as due to " turning Fascism into a joint stock company." There is a mad race to find markets in land and houses, industrial property and jewels. Self-sufficiency has been achieved to some extent, but the cost of living has risen by 36 per cent and real wages have dropped by 16 per cent. The high price levels are making the poor poorer and war-weariness is spreading fast. Open revolts are only being prevented by the Gestapo which is busy everywhere to the disgust of Italians. Italian peasant colonists in Libya are badly financed, not to speak of the sad plight of the original inhabitants of the territory. This is due to the faulty financial backing of Italian Imperialism. Uncontrolled expenditure on armaments, on the organization of Fascist discipline and on Imperial shows have swelled the budget deficit in six years from two milliards of lire to 28 milliards. The topsy-turvy economic condition of Italy is attributed to organized looting under high-sounding names.

IRAN

Mr. Churchill, in his review of the war situation in the House of Commons on September 30, referred to recent events in Persia. He said that the Persian episode, so far as it had gone, would seem to be one of the most successful and well-conducted affairs in which the Foreign Office was ever concerned. He rejected the complaints that the Government had acted feebly and hesitatingly in Persia. This surprised him very much because he did not know of any job that had been better done than that. With hardly any loss of life, he said, with surprising rapidity and in close contact with our Russian ally, the Allies had rooted out the malignant elements in Teheran, chased the dictator into exile and installed a constitutional sovereign pledged to a whole catalogue of long-delayed and sorely hedged reforms and reparations. The Government hoped soon to present to the House " a new loyal alliance made by Britain and Russia with the ancient Persian State and the people which will ratify the somewhat abrupt steps we were forced to take and will associate the Persian people with us, not only in the liberation but in the future movement of the war."

These results are attributed to successful British diplomacy, especially on the part of Sir Reader Bullard, the British Minister in Iran. According to the Ankara commentator of the *New York Times*, Mr. Ray Brock, the British Minister was in almost continuous conference with Premier Farughi and other Government leaders. Counselling, advising, directing, while seemingly oblivious to criticism, Mr. Bullard finished his job. When Premier Farughi led his delegation of ministers to the Shah's Palace on September 15, the outcome was certain.

The country was seriously discontented at the monopolies and excesses of the ex-Shah. According to an account, at the time when the British and Russian troops had halted in the south and north-west of Iran and when the ex-Shah had apparently re-established himself, revolt was beginning among Iranian tribes and the Iranian capital and the Provinces were near a civil war. The British Minister was bitterly criticised for lack of courage and initiative, but suddenly the ex-Shah abdicated and fled to Ispahan and then came a succession of events which have altered the whole situation in Iran. So the policy of quiet strength has succeeded. If Allied leniency towards Iran was an error, it was an error on the right side.

GERMAN AND BRITISH STRATEGY

Vigorous public discussions are proceeding in Great Britain, the Dominions and America regarding the future of British strategy, especially in relation to the Russo-German war. Russia is putting up the most splendid resistance to aggression. It has lost much territory and much material. Though the losses on the German side have been heavier, the German military strength is still formidable. It is being argued, therefore, that in order to force Germany into a war on two fronts, there should be some military action on the part of

Great Britain calculated to draw away some portion of the German forces now operating on Russian soil so as to afford much needed relief to Russia. Various suggestions have been made. Why not attack Norway? If this is not possible, effect a landing in France. If the Government is nervous about such an adventure, then why should not General Sir Claude Auchinleck be asked to advance into Libya with troops which have been considerably strengthened in recent weeks? There is a fourth method, and that is sending British troops and equipment to the Cacausus through Iran to relieve the Russians. Mr. Churchill, in the course of his speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, showed no sign of irritation at this kind of talk, but welcomed these suggestions. He admitted that these questions had occurred to those responsible for the conduct of war several times, but he pointed out that if he were to throw out dark hints of some great designs, nobody would have any advantage but the enemy. If, on the other hand, he were to see any cogent reasons which could be reached on the other side, he would be giving an altogether gratutious reassurance to Hitler. Hitler himself, said the Prime Minister, was completely silent as to his further moves. Nobody knew whether he intended to penetrate the vast lands of Soviet Russia or how long his people would endure their own calamitous losses, or again whether he would decide to stand on the defensive and exploit the territory of immense value which he had conquered. It was not known further whether he would turn a portion of his vast army south-west towards the Valley of the Nile or whether he would attempt to make his way through Spain into North-West Africa, or whether, using the great continental railways of Europe and the immense chains of airfields which were in his power, he would shift his weight to the west and assemble an extensive army with all the special craft that he had constructed for an attempted invasion of the British Isles. The enemy's only shortage was in the air and that was a very serious shortage indeed. On this point Mr. Churchill concluded by saying: "If he does not tell us his plans, I do not see why we should tell him ours, but I can assure the House that we study and ponder over these dangers and possibilities and on how best to dispose our resources to meet them, every working day—and all days are working days from dawn to far past midnight. We have also the advantage of following very closely all arguments which are used about it in the public press and of considering every helpful suggestion which reaches us from any quarter."

NO NEGOTIATED PEACE

M. Molotov, in the course of his speech at the Moscow Conference, expressed the determination of Russia to put down Hitlerism once for all. The collaboration of Russia, Great Britain and America was very close in the historic struggle against "the robber Power of Hitlerite Germany, which lives from sanguinary subjugation and on robberish annexation of foreign territories." After referring to the fact that Bulgaria had been made into a base for attack against Russia, M. Molotov said:—

"Our Conference will go down in history in connexion with the glorious destruction of Hitler, the enslaver of peoples. It is not sufficient to hate these Goerings, Hitlers and Ribbentrops, but it is necessary to finish for ever this criminal band of enslavers and annexationists at the head of which stands the curse of mankind. Hitler has never before had to deal with such a powerful coalition of Governments. He has not yet had time to experience the counterstroke of such might. We don't doubt that the anti-Hitler Front will rapidly grow stronger and that there is no power that can defeat it. We are bearing the heaviest blows but this is becoming more and more recognized by the nations of the entire world. Our will has not been broken but strengthened. Our Army remains a great and overpowering force which will stand its ground and win the struggle."

In the course of an article in *Collier's Magazine*, President Roosevelt has again reiterated his stern opposition to a negotiated peace with Hitler. He says:—

"The only peace possible with Hitler is the peace that comes from complete surrender. How can one speak of a negotiated peace in this war, when the peace treaty would be as binding upon the Nazis as a bond on gangsters and outlaws. A vast majority of the American people, revised their opinions of neutrality when they realized what a Hitler victory would mean. It is now apparent that for the first time the physical safety and independence of the United States is being threatened and it is also clear that democracy itself as an institution and way of life is in the same danger."

THE BATTLE FOR RUSSIA

BRITISH AND AMERICAN AID

The fifteenth week of the war on the Eastern Front still sees the Soviet forces exposed to the full weight of the German military machine. Along a front of over 2,000 miles, German 'Panzer' divisions and Stuka dive-bombers, with infantry support, have been ceaselessly busy. Millions of soldiers are engaged in this titanic struggle. Yet although the Russians have lost ground and have suffered grievous loss in men and material, at no point of their far-flung battle line has their front been pierced, nor is there any sign of a weakening of their power of resistance.

But it would be foolish to overlook the increasing gravity of the situation facing the Russian leaders. The Germans are making a terrific effort to cripple the Soviet before winter comes. It is a race against time, all the more so since it is reported that Berlin is perturbed by the receipt of weather forecasts predicting winter conditions at an unusually early date this year. It is also a race against wastage. Apart from the high rate of replacement caused by the fearful losses in actual fighting, the wear and tear of vehicles and consumption of fuel in maintaining the flow of supplies across some 500 miles of "scorched earth" must be enormous. Lives, equipment and supplies are being expended by the Germans at a rate which no military machine on earth can keep up for an extended period without endangering its existence by exhaustion. This colossal wastage is being deliberately ignored in order to inflict greater and permanent wastage upon the Russians by depriving them of their chief coal and oilfields and their industrial areas. Indeed, the Germans have no option in the matter. It is neck or nothing. If they fail, or only partially succeed in laying waste the war resources of the Soviet Union, they will be in the dangerous position of seeing their own rate of wastage (particularly in petrol) continuing through the Russian winter without tangible result. In that event the prospects for a spring campaign against the Soviet Army, powerfully reinforced from its human reservoir and re-equipped with American, British and Russian factories, would be grim.

MILITARY SITUATION

How near are the Germans to their goal? The outstanding fact which cannot be overlooked is that the third wave of their offensive has not yet lost its momentum. Until it is halted either by Russian counter-attacks, or by winter conditions—and here it is well to recall the warning of M. Maisky that modern war equipment has done much to rob winter, even a Russian winter, of its terrors—or by both, the strain on the Soviet Army will increase. The Battle for Russia is so gigantic in its dimensions and so confused as to details—which in all previous campaigns would have been regarded as major engagement—that any summary of the situation is in danger of being misleading.

Certain facts, however, emerge clearly enough. Leningrad is not only holding out strongly but Marshal Voroshilov's troops, in and outside the city, are counter-attacking strongly, especially south of Lake Ilmen where a German thrust appears to have been beaten off. Nor have the Finns, obviously war-weary, scored any decisive successes in the north in spite of claims repeated at regular intervals. The defence of Leningrad and, therefore, of the Russian position in the Baltic Sea, has already become one of the great epics of military history. It seems very doubtful whether the city can be taken by direct assault and its vast supplies would enable it to withstand a considerable siege. Its fate will probably be decided by developments elsewhere.

In the Central Sector, Marshal Timoshenko's counter-offensive continues to register progress and the Russians have recaptured a number of positions near Yelnya. But it is too soon to predict whether the Russians in this sector can deploy the mass of troops necessary to convert this tactical into a major strategic triumph.

GERMAN DRIVE TO CAUCASUS

It is in the south, however, that the situation is really serious for the Russians, on whom the loss of the bastion of Kiev is beginning to tell. The Germans advancing south-east from Gomel and east from Kiev have now no important physical obstacle between themselves and the city of Kharkov, nerve-centre of the Ukraine "granary." The German advance from the Lower Dnieper at several points appears to be the prelude to a determined drive for the possession of Eastern Ukraine, the rich industrial Donetz Basin and the Crimea, the gateway to the Caucasian oilfields. Marshal Budenny appears, in spite of tall German claims to have annihilated his troops east of Kiev, to have regrouped his forces before Kharkov and may yet prevent any further German advance. The Russians have now evacuated Poltava, 80 miles south-west of Kharkov. But Odessa is defying all the combined attempts of Germans and Rumanians to take it by storm and its garrison has severely mauled enemy divisions attempting the assault.

But the Germans, as stated before, are in a desperate hurry. Their dive-bombers are pounding the Russian rear in the Crimean Peninsula though their infantry is being fiercely resisted in the Isthmus of Perekop and not a single German soldier has yet set foot on Crimean soil. There are unmistakable signs that Germany is planning a major offensive across the Black Sea against the Caucasus. Such an attack would be primarily aimed at depriving Russia of her oil supplies while replenishing Germany's own depleted resources and would also seek to offset the loss of prestige which has resulted from Germany's failure to follow up her preliminary intrigues in Iraq, Syria and Iran. A third motive would be to draw off the British Empire forces from the Libyan front at a time when seasonal conditions make major operations in that region possible once more. The attack upon the Caucasus would be a dangerous operation so long as Budenny's army remained intact upon the German flank. Hence the weight of the German thrust across and behind the Lower Dnieper and the Nazi anxiety to get possession of, or, at any rate, to neutralise, the great Russian Naval Base of Sebastopol in the Crimea. As General Wavell has pointed out, the Germans cannot push round the shores of the Black Sea while the Russian Navy is still active and " the Russian Fleet can be knocked out only by taking all its bases or by sending the Italian Navy to the Black Sea, in which event the Italian Navy would have to force a passage through the Dardanelles or obtain Turkish consent to its passage—and there is certainly no sign that Turkey would consent."

The Germans are bringing great pressure to bear on the Turks. They are straining every nerve to compel Bulgaria to send an army corps to fight the Russians on land and are enlarging and fortifying the Bulgarian Black Sea ports of Varna and Burgos. If Turkey stands by the Treaty of Montreux and refuses passage to Italian ships through the Dardanelles, the Germans (it is stated) will try the ruse of " selling " Italian ships to Bulgaria and demanding passage for them as belonging to a non-belligerent. But the Turkish Government will not be taken in by such a childish trick and, in any case, Great Britain and the Soviet Union have indicated that Bulgaria is not to be considered non-belligerent any more. And Turkey may now consider herself in a good position to defy any German challenge; for she is no longer isolated and has British and Russian troops on all three of her frontiers who would come to Turkey's assistance directly and at short notice.

MOSCOW CONFERENCE

Mr. Churchill has declared unmistakably in the House of Commons this week that " the veriest simpleton can see how great is our interest, to put it no higher, in sustaining Russia by every possible means." Popular disappointment at the month that had elapsed since the announcement that high British, American and Russian officials would confer at Moscow for arranging speedy aid to Russia and the popular clamour for a diversionist offensive in the west must now be silenced by the fact that the Three-Power Talks have just concluded in Moscow after doing valuable work with remarkable despatch. Also by Mr. Churchill's statement that " the interval which has passed since President Roosevelt and I sent our message from the Atlantic to Premier Stalin has been used in ceaseless activity on both sides of the ocean. The whole ground has been surveyed in the light of new events and many important supplies have already been despatched. Our representatives and their American colleagues have gone to Moscow with a clear and full knowledge of what they are able to give to Russia, month by month, from now onwards. The Soviet Government have a right to know what monthly quotas of weapons and supplies we can send and they can count upon. It is only when they know what we can guarantee to send, subject, of course, to the hazards of war, that they themselves can use their vast resources and reserves to the best possible advantage. It is only thus that they can best fill the gap between the very heavy losses which they have sustained and the diminution of arms-making power which they have suffered on the one hand and the arrival of really effective quantities of British and American supplies on the other."

After all, much valuable help has already gone to Russia—oil for planes; tanks, of which a record number were produced by British workers during the " Tanks for Russia Week "; a whole Wing of the Royal Air Force, which has already made itself felt over Russian battle-fields. Money does not matter so far as England and America are concerned and they are prepared to see that money does not stand in the way of helping Russia. And in Moscow the Three-Power Conference has arrived at decisions as regards supplies and aid for immediate use as well as for use later and as regards ensuring the delivery of such supplies to Russia. And here we may take heart from the fact that not only has the northern Russian port of Murmansk defied so far all enemy attempts to isolate it but British and American supplies can now be rushed through Iran straight to the Russian front as well as through Vladivastok.

GENERAL WAVELL'S TOUR

General Wavell, our Commander-in-Chief, has just had conversations with the British Cabinet and military chiefs in London, also (on his way back) with the Russian Commander in Iran and General Auchinleck, the

(*Continued on page* 8)

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

SHIPPING POSITION

In the course of his speech in the House of Commons on September 30, Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, reviewed the war situation. His statements on Persia, aid to Russia and future British strategy are referred to elsewhere. On the question of the Battle of the Atlantic and of shipping losses generally, Mr. Churchill was able to give a very satisfactory account to the House. He said that losses by enemy action of British, Allied and neutral merchant ships during the quarter of July, August and September, had been only a third of the losses during the quarter of April, May and June. He added that during the same period British sinking of German and Italian ships had increased to one and a half of what it was in the previous three months. It is worthy of note that very few ships carrying munitions had been lost on the way. Another satisfactory feature was that the food position in Great Britain had never been better. There will soon be appreciable improvements in the basic rations in the whole country, improvement in the quantities and varieties of meals for the heavy worker during the coming winter and better Christmas dinners than last year and " more justification behind those dinners." There was, however, no reason for complacency in regard to these matters because Germany would intensify her own measures, though he said that there would be a corresponding intensification of British measures and also to put it very plainly, " of that assistance which we are receiving in an increasing degree from other quarters."

NO LONGER ALONE

Mr. Churchill derived great satisfaction from the fact that Great Britain was no longer alone. He said :—

" Whether we look to the east or the west, we are no longer alone. Whether we look at the devoted battle-line of the Russian armies or to the majestic momentum of the United States resolve and action, we may derive comfort and good cheer in our struggle which, nevertheless, even if alone, we should carry on, inflexibly, unweafingly and with steadily increasing resources."

After uttering a word of caution in regard to Ministerial utterances, Mr. Churchill proceeded to say :

" We have climbed from the pit of peril on to a fairly broad plateau. We can see before us the difficult and dangerous onward path which we must tread. We can also feel a parallel movement or convergence of the two mighty nations I mentioned, Russia and the United States. We feel around us the up-surge of the slave countries of Europe. We see how they defy Hitler's firing parties. Away in the east, we see the faithful, patient and inexhaustible spirit of the Chinese race who too are battling for their home and freedom. We are marching in company with the vast majority of mankind, all treading, bearing and forging steadily towards the final goal which, though distant, can already be plainly seen."

THE BRITISH ARMY

Mr. Churchill also referred to the great care and toil and time that had been spent in creating a medium-sized but very good army which was hardened, nimble and alert. It was on this army, supported by two million armed and uniformed Home Guards, that Great Britain relied to destroy or hurl into the sea any invader. This army, it was obvious, should be highly mechanised and armoured and for this purpose there should be a steady flow of skilled tradesmen and technicians. Here again, there was no room for complacency. The Prime Minister concluded by saying that he could not give the House any flattering hopes, still less any guarantee. On the contrary, the coming winter afforded no assurance, as the Russian Ambassador had shrewdly pointed out, that the German pressure upon Russia would be relaxed. Nor did the winter give any assurance that the danger of invasion would be entirely lifted from Great Britain. The winter fog had dangers of its own and the enemy had ample time for technical preparation."

" We must certainly expect that in the spring, whatever happens meanwhile, very heavy fighting, heavier than any we have yet experienced in this war, will develop in the east and also that the menace to this island of invasion will present itself in a very grave and sharp form. Only the most strenuous exertions and perfect unity of purpose, added to our traditional unrelenting tenacity, will enable us to act our part worthily in the prodigious world drama in which we are now plunged. Let us make sure that these virtues are forthcoming."

SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

BRITAIN—OLD AND NEW

War is not all gloom, bereavement, devastation. The sombre arena of mortal strife is not a desolate wilderness, unrelieved by any shaft of hopeful sunlight. As he walks through the valley of the shadow of death, man's eyes are opened and from the ashes of his crumbled castles arises a vision of better things to come.

Before this war set Europe ablaze and the hot blast of the flames was felt across the great oceans of the world, the peace-hungry people of Britain were, in Churchill's words (April, 1933), "paralysed by their own theoretical doctrines or plunged into the stupor of after-war exhaustion." Britain—and, in fact, the whole world (Germany, Italy and Japan excepted)—had abandoned aggressive nationalism and was groping its way along the previously untravelled path that led to effective internationalism.

This desire to build a better world by peaceful international co-operation revealed itself in a thousand ways. The League of Nations averted hostilities in some half-dozen cases, reconstructed Austria and Hungary, repatriated hundreds of thousands of refugees, supervised the mandatory administration of the former colonial possessions of Germany and Turkey and exercised a certain influence over the government of minority populations totalling some 30 millions. Measures designed to remove the impediments to international trade, to stamp out the drug and white slave traffics and to improve health and labour conditions were actively undertaken. World Conferences on Economic Reconstruction and Disarmament were convened.

But, for all its noble inspiration, it was a pale negative adherence to the principles of international co-operation. The theory of collective security did not stand up to the crucial test when the Axis Powers began to display a militant nationalism in arms and, by subtle propaganda, to foster timid doubts in the too-forgiving, too-impartial minds of the crusaders against aggression, who had swopped their swords for pens and foolishly expected Germany, Italy and Japan to do likewise.

The fire of war has tempered the mild steel of peaceful aspirations. "Peace at any price" has given way for ever to "Peace, enforced, if necessary." Collective security theorists, who previously jibbed at the hurdle of military sanctions against the aggressor, will be ready to put their theories into effective practice. They have learned the lesson that to be unwilling to defend the peace by all possible means is not to deserve it.

Isolationism, individually and collectively, is one of the casualties of the present conflict. Arbitrary social barriers and the every-man-for-himself creed of pre-war years have been swept away. "In facing common danger," says Mallory Browne, an American observer, "the people have learned common consideration. With all the grimness of battle, I believe there is more kindliness in Britain today than in all its history." Different ideologies find a common denominator which unites Britain, Russia and the United States of America in collaboration to meet and defeat the common enemy.

In the hour of extreme danger, men's minds penetrate to the heart of things. In the flash of bursting bombs they see a clear-cut vision of the eternally precious things of life. In the furnace of war a new spirit is being forged, a spirit that will provide the dynamic for the construction of a new and better world.

THE BATTLE FOR RUSSIA

(*Continued from page* 6)

British Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East. Popular opinion ardently desires that a British Expeditionary Force should go to Transcaucasia to reinforce the Russians on the Southern Front. But our High Command knows its business and will count the risks and hazards of a too hasty attempt at diversion, without the full preparation needed for it. Supplies, however, can be speeded up through the Persian Gulf and Iran, especially now that Mr. Churchill has announced that by a new alliance made by Britain and Russia with Iran, the Persian people will be associated with us in the future movement of the war. Doubtless General Wavell and General Auchinleck have chalked out detailed plans for speedy and effective aid to Russia.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 15—21, 1941

DR. GOEBBELS' MIDDLE EAST MENDACITIES

Egypt

"Egyptians have not got necessary seeds for the next crop. The responsibility for this plight rests upon the shoulders of the British. . . . . the British have intensified their atrocities upon Egyptian patriots." (*German News in Arabic, Sept. 10.*)

"Egypt has become a victim of British Imperialism, the future of which is quite uncertain." (*German News in English, Sept. 11.*)

"The Egyptian Press again attacked the British authorities regarding food problems." (*German News in English, Sept. 16.*)

"Reuter reports from Egypt that the prices of food-stuffs have risen considerably. Consequently great restlessness prevails among the Egyptians. . . . . Misery of the British occupation is clear." (*German News in Arabic & Persian, Sept. 17.*)

"The Egyptian Government has requested the British military authorities to restrict their purchases for the army. . . . . the Egyptian market is empty. . . . . prices have reached fantastic heights." (*German News in German, Sept. 19.*)

Iran

"According to Arabian papers, the British troops in Iran are not only confiscating the stores of grain but also other food-stuffs. Iran is threatened by famine. In spite of all this the blame was being put on Germany's shoulders." (*German Talk in English, Sept. 17.*)

"The Teheran Radio announced that the Iranian Prime Minister called a special meeting of the Cabinet yesterday and said that the British and Soviet occupation of the major portion of Iran had greatly aggravated her distress." (*German News in Hindustani, Sept. 18.*)

Berlin assumes that if a lie is repeated a number of times, people may begin to believe it. Here is what Hazez Afifi Pasha, *Director of the Bank Misar* and an Ex-Ambassador in London, said in an interview in Jerusalem recently:—"The Egyptians are born democrats. We aspire to a full share of democratic rule. It is our earnest hope the democracies will win.

While the British are sending food into Syria and Iran, countries from which the Nazis had robbed supplies, Axis propagandists are trying to allege that the British forces have heavily drawn on Egyptian supplies. Published figures reveal that the British authorities, at Egyptian request, purchased last year, when there was a surplus. But percentage of the total crops locally purchased by the British Army last semester are: wheat and flour two per cent, maize half per cent, and barley one per cent. Arrangements were made by the British to import cereal requirements from abroad whenever there was no surplus available in Egypt. This provides a striking contrast with the Nazi plundering of their Balkan 'allies'."

The Governments of the U. S. S. R. and Great Britain are exporting wheat and sugar to Iran. Soviet vessels are carrying, to Iranian ports on the Caspian, flour, sugar, and cotton piece-goods. The British supplied 700 tons of flour to the oil areas on September 12.

The first consignment of 43,000 tons of sugar ordered from the Dutch East Indies through British and Dutch interests has left for Iran.

The Iranian Premier, addressing the Majlis on September 17, announced the approach of the Allied forces and said: "Members should be easy in their minds, for they have no hostile intentions. They have assured us of this and we are certain we can rely on this promise."

" The treatment of the British and the Soviet of the inhabitants of Teheran was very inhuman. Chaos and confusion is now sweeping the whole country." (*German News in Hindustani, Sept. 19.*)

" We welcome the British, and that is why there was no real resistance. . . . . The Russian invasion caused panic in the north and especially in Teheran itself. But that has been quickly dissipated. The stories of Red Army shooting and looting are vastly exaggerated by German agents. . . . . The British Indian command did a splendid job with as little bloodshed as seemed humanly possible." A prominent Teheran business man, quoted by Ray Brock, *New York Times* correspondent in Ankara, Sept. 15.

" An English Committee of experts is to examine and estimate the value of the Iran Crown jewels. . . preliminary work for securing them. . . . Every country which has become the victim of Britain's war expansion has lost its gold reserves and its crown jewels." (*German News in German, Sept. 19.*)

The Committee which is to inspect the crown jewels is an Iranian Parliamentary Committee consisting of and appointed by Iranians. The attempt of Rashid Ali to convey loot out of Iraq is a near enough example to justify this Iranian precaution.

The only wealth lost by countries which have become " the victims of Britain's war expansion " (Berlin's phrase for armed invasion by Germany), is that which remained for the Nazis to plunder. Wherever national assets have been removed out of reach of the German robbers they remain in the possession of the country concerned (e.g., Holland and Norway) through its legitimate representatives, the temporarily exiled sovereign and his ministers.

Syria

" The Syrians and the Arabs have fully realized that the British are the enemies of Islam and the Arabs, and it is they who are responsible for all their misfortunes." (*German News in Arabic and Persian, Sept. 10.*)

On Sept. 9 Mr. Churchill said in Parliament " our policy, to which our Free French allies have subscribed, is that Syria shall be handed back to the Syrians who will assume at the earliest possible moment their independent sovereign rights."

" The British make promises never to fulfil them. No more can they deceive the world in general and the Arabs in particular." (*German News in Persian and Arabic, Sept. 11.*)

On Sept. 16, General Catroux, C-in-C. of the Free French forces in the Levant, acting in the name of the Allies, restored the Syrian republic, vesting it with authority. Sheikh Taj Eddin al Hassani, the new President declared " We have entered to-day into the circle of the great allied democracies."

" In Syria demonstrations are being carried out against the Cabinet. . . . the Syrians have learnt that the British are trying to change her into a dependency." (*Italian News in Arabic, Sept. 19.*)

The Arab Press featured Mr. Churchill's references prominently. The *Falastin* in an editorial said : "Britain's solicitude for Syria's future deserves the appreciation of all Arab peoples." *Al Diffa* said : " Mr. Churchill's Syria-Lebanon declaration will have far-reaching effects. . . . . .it manifests good intentions."

THE THINGS WHICH MUST NOT COME

The Velvet Glove

" Hitler's New Order promises men a life of freedom as inheritors of the benefits of their own toil."—*Nazi broadcast to Spain, July 25, 1941.*

" National Socialist freedom is national freedom for all nations. "—*German broadcast to Holland, Aug. 5.*

" In the New Europe culture will remain on the highest level."—*German broadcast to Germany, Aug. 18, 1941.*

" Hitler, speaking for Europe as a whole, has proclaimed the doctrine of Europe for the Europeans, and America for the Americans. The new Europe respects the Monroe Doctrine."—*Berlin-Rome-Tokyo radio, July 3, 1940.*

The Mailed Fist

" The Fuehrer has said it is the will of the creator that the earth should be a field of battle. It is the deepest conviction of Hitler that fighting is the fulfilment of divine law."—*German broadcast, July 1940.*

" Experience has taught us that the peace of Europe requires strong leadership and hegemony by a country which is capable of keeping order. This is Germany's due."—*Nazi controlled Finnish radio, Aug. 17, 1941.*

" In this New Order leadership will naturally enough be in the hands of the German people who are a nation of organic thinkers."—*Hilversum Radio, Nov. 9, 1940.*

" Transfer 80,000,000 Germans to America and they would make that land a paradise."—*Hamburger Fremdenblatt, March 20, 1941.*

Correction.—**The British losses in Greece were 7,658 men and *not* 75,658 men as stated in the last paragraph of the second column of " Axis Speaks " September 8—14, 1941 on page 18 of the Madras War Review, dated 26th September 1941.**

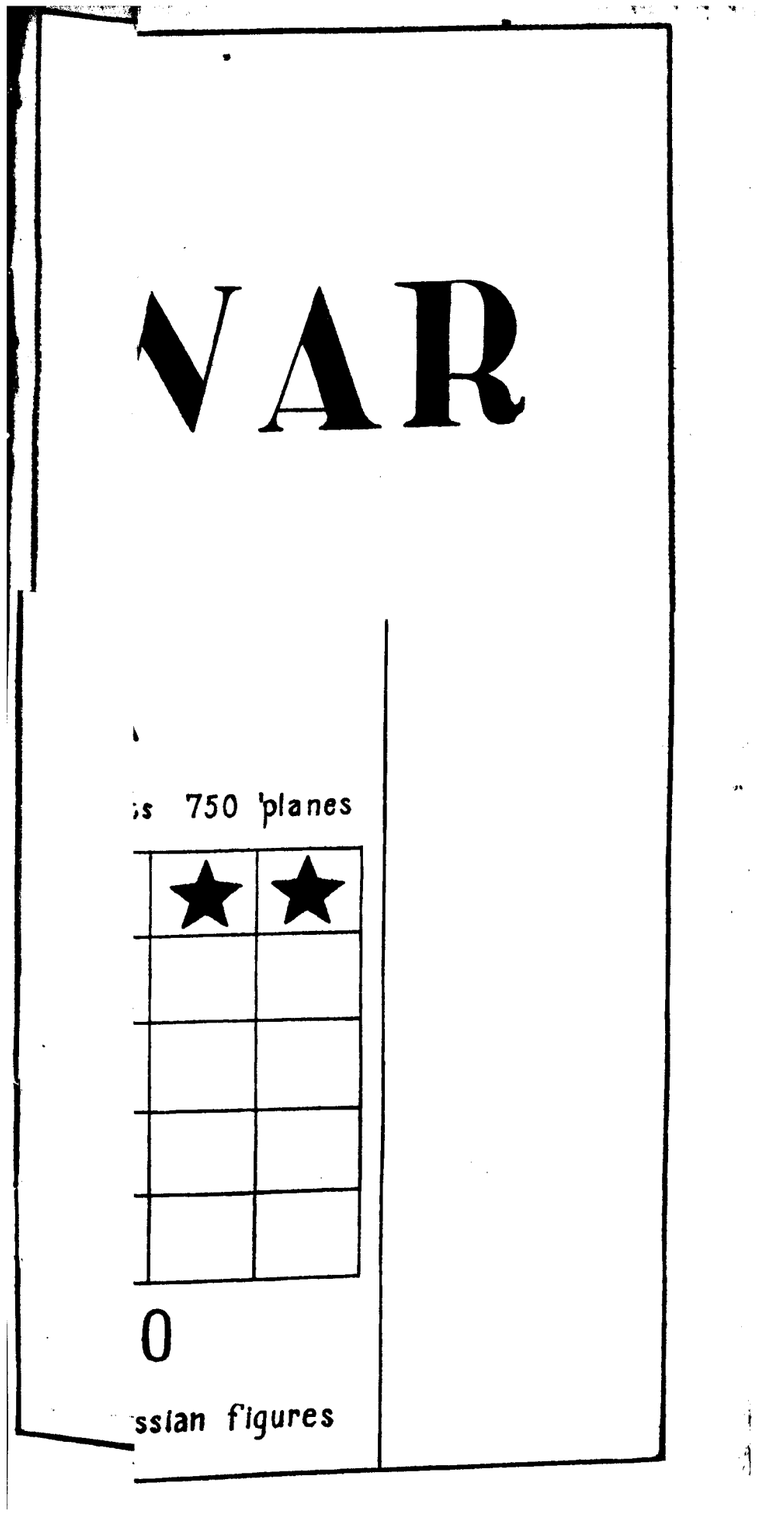
WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 23rd September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 17, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attack on power plant at Mazingarbe, near Bethune. R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on supply ship off Norwegian coast.	13 day fighters, (4 pilots safe). 1 day bomber.	12 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Karlsruhe**; other targets in S. W. Germany. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on submarine base at St. Nazaire.	1 night bomber.	..
September 18, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on shipping off Belgian coast (4 minesweepers and 2 flag-ships sunk, large supply ship damaged); shipping off Dutch coast (motor vessel damaged); power station near Rouen.	9 day fighters (2 pilots safe). 2 day bombers.	17 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on invasion base at Le Havre ..	Nil.	..
September 19, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter patrols over English Channel and occupied territory, including attacks on supply trains, troops and patrol ships. R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on supply ship in Bay of Biscay.	1 day fighter.	2 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on docks, warehouses and railway yards at **Stettin**. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on objectives near Nantes.	2 night bombers.	..
September 20, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on railway centres at Hazebrouck and Abbeville; ship-building yards at Le Trait; two convoys off the Dutch coast (4 ships afire, a 5th sunk, 5,000-ton supply ship afire, 7,000-ton supply ship, large tanker and flag-ship hit); docks at Cherbourg.	7 day fighters. 3 day bombers.	16 day fighters.
	R.A.F. day bomber stratosphere raid on Emden. R.A.F. day bomber raid on fish-oil factory on Norwegian coast.	..	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Frankfurt; Berlin; other objectives in S. W. Germany; docks at Ostend.	4 night bombers (1 crew safe).	..
September 21, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English channel and N. France, including attacks on power station at Gosnay, near Bethune; railways at Lille.	13 day fighters (2 pilots safe).	24 day fighters.
	(No reports of night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
September 22, Monday.	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on 5,000-ton supply ship off Norwegian coast.	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on docks at Boulogne ..	Nil.	..
September 23, Tuesday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..

(*Continued on page* 15)



DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

26th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks invasion ports, damages two enemy mine-sweepers and two anti-aircraft vessels off Dunkirk and sinks a patrol ship off Cherbourg.

27th Sep.—The official German News Agency admits British raids on South-West Germany and the coastal area. Calais and Dunkirk are again raided by the Royal Air Force, also the railway station at Amiens. Twenty-one enemy planes are shot down in the course of these offensive sweeps; 13 British planes are lost.

28th Sep.—While Britain is raid-free, the Royal Air Force successfully attacks an enemy supply ship in France.

29th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Frankfurt and attacks barges and boats off the Belgian and French coasts.

Enemy planes cause slight damage in a South Wales area.

30th Sep.—Targets in Stettin and Hamburg are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

A town in North-East Scotland is raided by enemy aircraft.

1st Oct.—For the second night in succession, the Royal Air Force bombs Hamburg and Stettin as well as enemy shipping and invasion ports.

Enemy planes raid a North-east coastal area of England.

2nd Oct.—The Royal Air Force raids Stuttgart and other objectives the Western and South-Western Germany. Invasion ports in France are also attacked.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

27th Sep.—The Italian Cabinet orders the rationing of bread.

The Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm raid Tripoli, Benghazi and other Libyan bases.

28th Sep.—The Italian garrison at Wolchefit in Abyssinia surrenders to the British, who take 3,000 prisoners and a considerable quantity of equipment.

A South African patrol captures an enemy staff-car containing four Italian officers in the Libyan frontier area.

29th Sep.—British patrols score a number of successes in the Tobruk area.

The Royal Air Force bombs objectives at Genoa, Turin and other places in North Italy as well as in the Islands of Rhodes and Sicily.

The Admiralty announces the successful passage of an important British convoy through the Central Mediterranean. Only one merchant ship is lost and the battleship *Nelson* very slightly damaged. The latter is able to proceed on her own steam. Three British Naval fighter aircraft are lost but Italy loses no fewer than 13 warplanes, including 10 torpedo bombers.

Fascist leaders and newspapers reveal growing concern at Italy's food and financial stringency.

30th Sep.—Great diplomatic activity is reported from the Vatican, following the visit of Mr. Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's Special Envoy.

1st Oct.—The Royal Air Force raids Tripoli and Benghazi and Italian bases in Sicily (where anti-Fascist demonstrations are reported after the successful British bombing).

2nd Oct.—Tripoli is again bombed by the Royal Air Force.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

27th Sep.—Two new American destroyers are launched in New Jersey.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, inspects the American naval base at Bermuda and says that the Neutrality Act should be wiped off the statute book.

28th Sep.—The American merchantship, *Trinidad*, flying the Panama flag, is torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic.

29th Sep.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, says that he favours a modification rather than the repeal of the Neutrality Act.

Senator Connally, Chairman of the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, says that America should deliver arms "to points where they can be effectively employed" against Hitler.

Col. Knox again stresses the necessity of maintaining dominant sea power.

Mr. Claude Wickard, United States Secretary for Agriculture, outlining plans for supplying food to England, says that soon "the seas will be completely free."

30th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie lends his support to opponents of the Neutrality Act.

1st Oct.—Col. Knox declares, in an address to the American Bar Association, that the defeat of the Totalitarian Powers (Germany, Japan and Italy) was "part of our national policy."

An American freighter is reported to have torpedoed in the Atlantic.

2nd Oct.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, returns to New York.

President Roosevelt reiterates that there can be no negotiated peace with Hitler.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26th Sep.—The Russians beat off attacks on Leningrad from three directions. The Germans launch a drive towards the Crimea. In the far North the Russians defending Murmansk and the Royal Air Force fling back the Germans across River Litsa.

M. Litvinov and Gen. Golikkov are added to the Russian delegation to the Three-Power Talks.

27th Sep.—A Stockholm report says that Genl. Wavell is organizing a strong expeditionary force for service in the Caucasus. The Russians put up a stiff defence in the Battle for Crimea and also in the Odessa sector. Rainfall is reported in the Ukraine where the situation, despite German claims is confused. In the North the Russians still hold part of the Island of Oesel and have beaten back the German thrust south of Lake Ilmen. Four thousand Germans are killed in the approaches to Leningrad but the Finns claim the capture of Kandalaksha, also the isolation of Murmansk.

The British Government, in a note to Finland, warn her against continuing the war with Russia.

28th Sep.—The Russian Army of the Centre captures ten more villages near Yelnya.

The British and American delegations for the Three-Power Talks arrive in Moscow, and M. Stalin receives Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman.

M. Lozovsky, Soviet Information Chief, contradicts the German claims to have captured the approaches to Leningrad and encircled the Russian troops in the Kiev sector. He says that no German soldier has set foot in the Crimea.

29th Sep.—The Three-Power Talks open in Moscow. M. Molotov urges speedy aid to Russia. The delegations quickly get to work. M. Stalin accords a second interview to Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman.

The Russians score heavily in a seven-day tank battle in the Leningrad sector; destroy hundreds of German aircraft; and sink one German cruiser and two destroyers in the Baltic.

30th Sep.—Everywhere the Russians hold the initiative. The defenders of Leningrad force a number of positions held by the enemy; Rumanian troops are mauled in the Odessa sector; though German planes bomb positions to the rear of the Russians in the Crimea, German troops make no progress in the Isthmus of Perekop.

1st Oct.—The Finns claim Petrozavodsk, the capital of Soviet Karelia, but their claim to have captured the Murmansk Railway has not been confirmed. In the Central Sector, the German 268th infantry division is flung back, leaving 1,800 dead on the field. Following the Russian evacuation of Poltava in the South, the Germans make some progress in the Perekop Isthmus but are still far from the Crimean Peninsula.

The Moscow Three-Power Talks conclude after rapidly drawing up plans of action.

2nd Oct.—The Germans intensify pressure on Leningrad but their attacks are repulsed. Russian forces recapture four important positions in a big counter-attack in the Staraya Russa area near Lake Ilmen 125 miles south of Leningrad. German planes raid Moscow and Leningrad but otherwise there is no important change on the front.

The Three-Power Conference concludes at Moscow where Britain, U.S.A. and Russia pledge mutual help and plan close co-operation.

The Russian Marshal Bluecher is stated to be training a huge Soviet army in Siberia for winter warfare.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

26th Sep.—The Germans demand the closure of the Iranian Legation and Consulates in Germany.

The arrival of British aircraft for Turkey is reported from Ankara.

Genl. Catroux, the Free French leader, makes a public declaration, proclaiming the independence of Syria. The Syrian President expresses his gratitude to Britain and to the Free French.

28th Sep.—The ex-Shah of Iran sails for South America.

29th Sep.—In a press interview at Teheran, Genl. Wavell says he does not think it will be necessary to create a joint British-Russian Caucasian or Persian Command.

30th Sep.—Mr. Churchill announces in the House of Commons that a new alliance made by Britain and Russia with Persia "will associate the Persian peoples with us in the future movement of the war."

Genl. Wavell, after his conversations with the Soviet Commander in Teheran and with Genl. Auchinleck (British Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East) at Baghdad, leaves for India.

Hitler is reported to have handed over a final *demarche* to King Boris, asking him to send a Bulgarian army corps to the Russian front.

1st Oct.—Turkey refuses to sell chrome to Germany and renews the agreement with Britain in this connexion.

SHIPPING

27th Sep.—A number of merchantships—of "the Liberty Fleet"—are launched simultaneously at shipyards scattered throughout the United States. President Roosevelt says "We propose to the best of our ability to protect them (the ships) from torpedo, shell or bomb."

30th Sep.—Mr. Churchill announces that the losses of British, Allied and Neutral merchantships in July-August-September amount only to one-third of the losses in April-May-June and that "our slaughter of enemy shipping has been increasing by leaps and bounds."

1st Oct.—Preferring the word "protection" to "convoy", Col. Knox declares that the United States Fleet "is providing whatever protection is needed any where."

THE FAR EAST

27th Sep.—Prince Konoye, Japanese Premier, exchanges greetings with Hitler and Mussolini on the first anniversary of the Axis Tripartite Pact.

The Japanese claim to have taken Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, is not confirmed by the Chinese, who have launched a simultaneous counter-offensive in the Provinces of Chekiang, Kiangsu and Anhwei.

28th Sep—Germany is reported to be exercising pressure on Japan in order to induce her to attack Russia.

The Japanese Embassy at Peiping hands over Mrs. Denzil Clarke, the Japanese-born wife of the Press Attache at the British Embassy, who had been missing for several days.

29th Sep.—The Japanese claim to have entered the town of Chuchow in Hunan Province.

30th Sep.—Considerable land and air reinforcements arrive in Malaya to strengthen the British Empire troops guarding the Far East defences.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 12)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 23rd September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 17	Nil.	..
September 18	Nil.	..
September 19	Nil.	..
September 20	Nil.	1 night bomber.
September 21	Nil.	..
September 22	Nil.	..
September 23	Nil.	..

THREE MONTHS R. A. F. RAIDS ON GERMANY

Here are figures of Royal Air Force raids on Germany from June 14 to September 15, 1941. Berlin and Kiel tie for the third place: Cologne 24; Bremen 16; Berlin 14; Kiel 14; Frankfurt 11; Mannheim 11; Dusseldorf 13; Duisberg 10; Munster 7; Hanover 9; Hamburg 6; Emden 8; Aachen 5; Essen 4; Wilhelmshaven 7; Osnabruck 4; Oldenburg 3; Karlsruhe 3; Magdeburg 3; Bielfeld 3; Dortmund 2; Stettin 2; Bremerhaven 3; Hamm 2; Krefeld 2; Munchen Gladbach 2; Rheydt 2; Huls 1; Kassel 1; Vegesack 1; Brunswick 1; Luuna 1; Sylt 1; Rheine 1; Cuxhaven 1; Halle 1; and Rostock 1. Total raids 200.

1st Oct.—The Chinese claim a smashing victory near Changsha, which the Japanese admit having evacuated. The Chinese also ridicule the Japanese claim to have entered Chuchow.

China protests to the French authorities against the Japanese raid on the Chinese Consulate in Hanoi (Indo-China) and the arrest of Chinese nationals by the Japanese in Indo-China.

Mr. Duff Cooper, British Minister on a special mission to the Far East, confers with British military and diplomatic chiefs at Singapore.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

26th Sep.—The Soviet Union recognizes the Free French National Committee, M. Maisky (Soviet Ambassador to Britain) exchanging letters with General de Gaulle at London.

28th Sep.—Two more Frenchmen are executed in Paris "for being in wrongful possession of arms."

A Stockholm report says that Berlin has agreed to a relaxation of the armistice conditions and that Petain's Government will move from Vichy to Paris, though the German occupying troops will remain in France.

2nd Oct.—Twenty French railwaymen are shot at Lille, following the blowing up of a German ammunition train and two goods trains.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

26th Sep.—Twenty Belgian "hostages" are shot by the German authorities as a reprisal for sabotage activities against the German troops.

27th Sep.—Baron von Neurath is succeeded by the notorious Nazi terrorist, Heydrich, as "Reich Protector of Bohemia and Moravia."

A Central Committee is formed in London, under the leadership of Count Karolyi, to free Hungary from Nazi domination.

28th Sep.—Heydrich gets an assurance of co-operation from the Quisling President of Bohemia (Dr. Hacha) but has Premier Elias of the Protectorate Government arrested for high treason and executes six leaders of the Czechs, including two Generals.

29th Sep.—A State of Emergency is proclaimed in Bohemia and Moravia and the curfew is imposed in public resorts. Twenty persons are executed in Prague.

Sabotage in Bohemia and guerilla activity in Yugoslavia are reported.

The official German News Agency denies the report of an attempt on the life of Dr. Tuka, the puppet Premier of Slovakia.

30th Sep.—It is strongly rumoured that Baron von Neurath is under arrest; and that the pretence of a separate administration in the "Protectorate" of Bohemia-Moravia will be given up by the Germans.

A new Greek Cabinet is formed in London, M. Tsouderos (the Premier) taking charge of Foreign Affairs too.

1st Oct.—A Soviet-Czech military agreement is reported.

The erstwhile Premier of Bohemia-Moravia is sentenced to death by a so-called German People's Court. Nearly 60 persons are executed after courts-martial in Bohemia-Moravia.

2nd Oct.—President Hacha of the Protectorate Government in Bohemia-Moravia offers his resignation, which is not accepted by the Germans.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

27th Sep.—Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, paying a flying visit to England, says "We have a lot more friends in Spain than anybody thinks."

2nd Oct.—The Eire Government decide to complete a National Register to facilitate rationing if and when necessary.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Germany's great offensive against Russia, promised by Hitler, is now proceeding. About two million men are engaged, it is believed, in fighting the Battle for Moscow. The object is to cut off Marshal Budenny's army in the South and Marshal Timoshenko's army in the Central Sector and to open the way both to Moscow and to the Caucasus. Russia is stubbornly resisting and no rapid conclusion of the epic battles which are now proceeding can be anticipated.

In an order of the day, Hitler has promised his men that in a few weeks Russia's "three most important industrial areas will be completely in your hands." After repeating the extravagant estimate of Russian losses he described the common action as being "for the salvation of culturally the most valuable continent." The order concluded by saying: "With bated breath, the whole German nation will be with you in the difficult days ahead, for, with the help of God you are bestowing on us not only victory but are also making the most important preparations for peace."

A certain amount of public discussion is going on in America regarding the attitude of Russia towards religion. Important conferences took place between Mr. Myron Taylor and the Pope and between Mr. Harriman and the authorities in Moscow. Mr. Myron Taylor has proceeded to Washington taking with him a personal letter from the Pope to President Roosevelt. Meanwhile, M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, has made a statement that every Soviet citizen was at liberty to pursue his chosen faith. Religion, so far as Soviet Russia was concerned, was not the concern of the State. Citizens had a perfect right to belong to any church and to conduct anti-religious propaganda. Freedom of worship and freedom of anti-religious propaganda were recognized for all citizens.

I.C. White, a tanker, flying the Panama flag, was torpedoed and sunk on September 27. Thirty-four out of a crew of 37 have been picked up so far. Mr. Cordell Hull stated that the sinking of this ship was another act of lawlessness and piracy and attempted frightfulness in connexion with the general movement to drive Americans off the Atlantic Ocean, which was part of a world movement of conquest. The sinking of I.C. White has naturally brought into prominence the question of changing the Neutrality Act, a decision in regard to which has been taken by President Roosevelt.

The Australian Government, of which Mr. Fadden was the Prime Minister, has been defeated by 36 votes to 33. Mr. Curtin, the leader of the Labour Party, has formed a new Australian All-Labour Cabinet. Mr. Curtin has stated that he knew that the nation devoted itself with a singleness of purpose for the prosecution of the war and that the men standing between Australia and the enemy should be backed up by the nation's whole resources.

General Wavell has returned to India after important conferences in London, Middle East, Iraq and Iran.

A party of American journalists paid a remarkable tribute to the work of Indian troops in the Middle East. Indians, they said, were winning wars everywhere and wherever they went, they evoked the admiration of their comrades in arms. They won the battle of Siddi Barrani and the battle of Damascus.

They took East Africa and they stormed Keren. They were sharing the defence of the garrison of Tobruk with the Australians and British troops. At Damascus, it was pointed out, they fought for four days without respite with only a few casualties.

In an interview at La Guardia airport, Viscount Halifax, the British Ambassador in the United States, said that everyone in Britain wanted an invasion of the Continent, but the people had the sense to realize that it was not good until it could be done successfully. Speaking at a Press Conference after his arrival in Washington, Lord Halifax explained that at present both shipping and equipment were insufficient to make an invasion of the Continent easy. In his view, the steady bombardment of Germany was the best method of relieving the strain on the Russians and draining German fighter planes from the Russian front. It was very important that more and more bombers should be produced. One bomber delivered this year was worth two or three next year.

Production of planes in America has reached a high level. In September 1914 military aircraft were delivered as against 1854 in August. So far 12,651 planes have been delivered in the first nine months of the present year. It is anticipated that, by the end of the current year, America will be able to produce 2,500 military planes a month. Joint British and American production is now stated to be well over German production.

It is announced that British submarines have sunk or damaged 11 more enemy ships in the Mediterranean. Reports have also been received of the achievements of British planes in damaging ships in an Italian convoy in the Mediterranean.

Finland has sent a reply to the British note warning her against going beyond her previous frontiers. Finland has now declared that her role in the present war is defensive and that important areas of her 1939 frontiers are still in enemy territory. The note adds that an effective defence is possible for her only by pushing the defences to areas outside the frontiers from which Finland was attacked.

The Chinese have entered Ichang, an important treaty port on the Yangtze. They have also entered the outskirts of Chengchow.

JAPAN

There is undoubtedly a lull in the Pacific at present, but uneasiness in Indo-China, Thailand and other places still exists. Japan has not fulfilled the terms of her economic agreement with Indo-China and indications are very clear that Japan is attempting to establish a long-term occupation of that country. It would appear that the Japanese have monopolized practically all Indo-China's foreign trade. Military preparations near Saigon have been intensified and new aerodromes are being built around that city. Now and then violent comments appear in the Japanese press regarding Thailand and the Netherlands East Indies. Big troop movements are reported in Manchuria. This is probably due to the instigation of the Axis Powers who are anxious that Russia should be attacked by Japan at a moment when Germany is using all her resources to smash the Russian Army. In connexion with this matter, it is to be noted that Japan has told the Netherlands East Indies that she would consider it as an unfriendly act if the Netherlands East Indies continued to send war supplies to Russia, such as oil, rubber and coffee. There is no disposition in the Dutch East Indies to get alarmed by this impertinence, but the incident shows that Japan intends at a favourable opportunity to strike northwards.

Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, in an interview at Manila, stated the other day that Japan is perhaps feeling that it has been double-crossed by the Axis and placed in a ticklish position. Japan is now obviously afraid of Russia because of her remarkable resistance to the Germans and of her strength in the Far East. Further, if Vladivostok is attacked, Great Britain and America are not likely to remain passive. So far as the southward drive is concerned, Japan cannot be ignorant of the vast network of defences that are being built up in Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines. No power can now afford to look upon Singapore as a base which can be trifled with. Burmese defences have been greatly strengthened and the Empire forces, air, naval and military, are ready to meet any contingencies. Further, the A.B.C.D. is now an organized and powerfully defended group. The defences of the Philippines, according to competent military authorities, are stronger today than they were some time ago.

Sir Robert Brooke-Popham has had important conferences at Manila with American military authorities. The Commander-in-Chief in the Far East has denied the existence of any definite pact with America and the Netherlands East Indies, but there can be no doubt that the conferences which he has held bear a very important aspect which cannot possibly be comforting to any power which threatens the *status quo* in the Pacific. Moreover, Mr. Duff Cooper, who has come to the Far East to examine arrangements for consolidation and co-ordination among various British authorities, has completed the first stage of his task and has met British representatives in China, Thailand and Netherlands East Indies. He has visited Burma and is now in India to have important conferences with the Viceroy. He is expected to go to Australia.

Japan has therefore got reason to be worried. Her financial position is not quite strong, complicating her purchase of rubber and rice from Indo-China and Thailand, and making it difficult for her to get oil supplies. The United States of America, Great Britain and the Dutch East Indies have further agreed to stop all shipments of oil to Japan. But there is no knowing when a flare-up will occur. "Be prepared" is the motto of the A.B.C.D. ring. As the Commander-in-Chief in the Far East stated recently: "You never can tell when the younger officers in Japan will slip off the rails." Mr. Duff Cooper thinks the position in the Far East has not deteriorated.

HITLER'S "WINTER HELP" SPEECH

There are certain features in the "Winter Help" speech which Hitler made on October 3 to which perhaps a reference may be made. The story that Russia intended to attack on a thinly-held German frontier was repeated by him and he reiterated his four charges against Russia, in regard to Finland, Bulgaria, Rumania and the Dardanelles, which Russia has denied. Hitler said that "a decision in the west with England which would have absorbed the whole of the *Luftwaffe* was no longer possible, for in my rear stood a State which was getting ready to proceed against me." That was the absurd reason, absolutely unfounded, for an attack against a country with which he concluded an agreement in 1939 "destined to last for ever." This 'apologetic' speech was obviously intended for the German people who had perhaps through their representatives been criticising the acts of the High Command. It should be noted that there is no mention of America in the speech, or of air raids. While he gave fantastic figures in regard to Russian losses Hitler said not a word about German losses which are known to have been very heavy. It is noteworthy, again, that he did not talk of "a decision in 1941" or even in 1942. The words which he used were: "when once the war will have been won." There is also the further fact that his anticipations in regard to the Moscow Conference have miserably failed. The German Radio told the world that a conference will not meet in Moscow. Another statement was made that if at all it met, it would dissolve owing to unbridgeable differences. These predictions have been proved to be absolutely false and Hitler should therefore naturally be gravely disturbed by the march of events, for a steady and ever-increasing flow of supplies from Great Britain and America to Russia would necessarily imply a formidable check to his forward march.

GERMANY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

What Mr. Churchill described as "the upsurge of the slave countries of Europe" is gaining momentum. For we hear every day in the occupied countries of acts of sabotage of industrial plant, rail derailments, breakdowns and passive resistance of the population. The failure of Germany to win the war against Britain, the stiff resistance of Russia and the growing strength of the Allies have naturally instilled in the peoples of the enslaved countries new hopes of freedom. Necessarily, therefore, the Quislings and tools of the Nazis are finding it increasingly difficult to reconcile these peoples to the rule of the Gestapo. In Czechoslovakia, for instance, the 'Protector', Von Neurath, has been replaced by 'Butcher' Reinhard Heydrich, whose reign of terror has already brought upon him the indignation of the whole world. Dr. Tuka in Slovakia nearly lost his life recently at the hands of assailants who were dissatisfied with his policy of collaboration with the Nazis. As is usual with the policy of the Nazis in disowning their friends, Dr. Tuka is now said to be in disgrace. General Neditch in Serbia and Anton Pavelitch in Croatia have had similar difficulties in dealing with their respective countries. Guerillas are giving infinite trouble and Pavelitch has apparently lost favour with the Nazis. Major Quisling in Norway was temporarily put out of action and Reich Commissar Terboven sought to re-establish effective control over the country by proclaiming Martial Law, executing trade union leaders, profesors, doctors and barristers and by securing reinforcements from Germany.

EXECUTIONS

Acts of terrorism by German agents in the occupied countries constitute the familiar method of dealing with the discontent of the population. It is no wonder that the British Government have made a statement in the House of Commons that the method of execution of hostages and other acts of reprisals committed by Germany are being taken note of, in order to punish the offenders when peace is re-established. A secret dossier of Nazi and and Fascist war criminals is to be compiled in Whitehall to deal with them in an appropriate manner after the war. In the week under review, information has reached London of numerous executions of Czechs in Brno for offences of high treason, and illicit and deliberate possession of arms. One of those executed was Doctor Otakar Klapka, former Lord Mayor of Prague, who refused to ask for mercy. In Poland, which has suffered most, executions are taking place daily. During the last three months 150 executions have taken place according to the German newspapers themselves. How many, other executions have taken place without being revealed, one does not know. According to an estimate one hundred thousand Poles have been executed besides those tortured in jails. On Sunday last four executions of Dutchmen were reported for sabotage, spying and attempts to blow up German-controlled railway lines. In German-occupied France hostages are being shot for the shooting of German soldiers by unknown persons. Need one wonder that the Czechoslovak Council of Ministers in London has asked the Czechoslovaks to swear over the graves of inhumanly executed Czechs to avenge their deaths? Some of the people who have been executed were in concentration camps and jails and could not have taken part in any act of sabotage. The proclamation issued by the

Czechoslovak Council of Ministers says very truly: "The German rulers have consummated the crime by the cynical murder of innocent hostages and it is the sacred duty of all decent peoples in the world not to forget this foul shame committed by Germany."

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

The cynicism underlying German policy and the callousness of the German rulers have again come into prominence by the attitude of the German Government in regard to the question of exchange of prisoners between England and Germany. This question has been under consideration for a considerable time and an agreement was entered into by dramatic exchanges of wireless messages between British and German Governments that the sick and wounded prisoners of war should be repatriated in hospital ships. The hospital ships which were to carry the sick and wounded from either side had been arranged to sail at 05·30 G.M.T. on Tuesday, October 7, and detailed instructions were exchanged. But all of a sudden the British Government have had to cancel the sailing of the "Mercy" ships owing to Germany's flagrant breach of faith in the matter. Germany wanted that repatriates should include sick and over-age civilian internees and the British Government expressed their readiness to mutual repatriation of civilian women and children and men not of military age. But the German Government stated that they were prepared only to agree to a 'limited exchange on a numerical basis.' This was contrary to the terms of the Geneva Convention signed by Germany in July 1939, according to which, the belligerents are to send back to their own country, without regard 'to rank or number,' war prisoners who are seriously ill or seriously wounded. Germany's claim that equal numbers of prisoners should be exchanged is quite contrary to the terms of this Convention. The German Government's intention to exchange about 103 Germans for a corresponding number of British prisoners was unacceptable to Great Britain, who had expected that the hospital ships would return to England "loaded to capacity" with British wounded. The disparity in the numbers is due to the fact that there are not many Germans wounded or ill in Great Britain, while the number of British in Germany and German occupied countries, ill or wounded, is very much more. That is no reason why Germany should seek to disregard the terms of the Convention which it had signed. And yet the Fuehrer has said that never had Germany repudiated any document which it had signed!

IRAN

German and German-controlled radio has been very busy ever since the commencement of the military action of the Allies in Iran, telling the world that the Allies had ulterior designs on Persia. The latest invention which has now been formally repudiated on behalf of the Allies, is that Russia was contemplating the annexation of a part of North-Western Iran. The new Iran Government has by now had first-hand experience of the real object of the Allies in regard to that country. The scrupulous care taken to avoid bloodshed, the liberal supply of food to Persia and the repeated declarations in regard to the territorial integrity and independence of the country, should disabuse the world of any impression sought to be created by the German radio about the real objects of the Allies. It is useful to refer again to points 1 and 2 of the Atlantic Charter declaring that Great Britain and the United States—and now Russia also—seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other, and desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned. This should have made it clear that neither England nor Russia has any territorial design in Persia. If certain strategic places are occupied, it is for the purpose of protecting the Allied interests and the Governments have declared their intention to respect Iran's territorial integrity. The object of spreading these rumours is, of course, to create suspicion in the minds of Iranians, who, however, realize full well that they cannot place any confidence in Germans who had robbed them of their food and raw materials and had, by their action in coming into their country in large numbers, rendered it necessary for the Allies to enter their territory for the protection of their interests.

TURKEY

The German-Turkish Trade Pact concluded by Dr. Clodius, which would be a reciprocal exchange agreement amounting to 60 million Turkish lire, has been signed. This agreement should be considered to be somewhat of a set back to German diplomacy. Turkey has, of course, learnt the secret of German policy in seeking to sujugate other countries by mingled threats and promises. Turkey has always expressed herself ready to take from any one delivery of goods, but Germany has not done so. As a matter of fact Great Britain delivered more than 3½ million pounds worth of goods, while Germany was not able to fulfill her contract promptly, so that her liabilities for Turkish goods in recent months have gone up to 8 million pounds. Such violation of agreements had been quietly acquiesced in by smaller cuntries, but Turkey thinks she is strong and that she has strong friends. The German representative, Dr. Clodius, therefore could not threaten Turkey with invasion. Both Germany and Turkey have declared that no pressure had been brought to bear upon Turkey. Again Turkey is to export chrome to Germany only 50 per cent of the demand made. It should be remembered that an agreement between Great Britain and France on the one side and Turkey on the other, was entered into in January 1940, which stated that all exportable surplus of Turkish chrome should be exported mainly to Great Britain, with a small percentage to France, for a period of three years. After the collapse of France, Germany took it upon herself to say that the chrome intended for France should be exported to Germany. Great Britain and America told the Turkish Government that such delivery of chrome to Germany would be incompatible with Turkish treaty obligations and also with Turkey's friendly attitude to the Democracies. It may be stated in this connexion that Germany gets quite a large quantity of chrome from Yugoslavia and Greece. Therefore, Germany's object in demanding chrome from Turkey is more political than economic and calculated to disturb the friendly relations between Great Britain and Turkey. But Turkey has stood firm and German diplomacy has failed. Turkish chrome is being shipped direct to the United States of America for British war purposes, and Great Britain and America, therefore, attach great weight to this issue.

It is well to remember that Turkey has firmly maintained her neutrality and commercial integrity and further demonstrated that she is not afraid of Germany. Another comforting fact is that British goods continue to get into Turkey at the rate of £500,000 worth a month. Deliveries are being speeded up. Other pointers in regard to the friendly relations between Turkey and Great Britain are, that a large contract has been signed for the improvement of harbour facilities at Alexandretta and Mersin with the British and that Turkey has shown herself interested in the conference in Palestine, which has just successfully concluded, of representatives of the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation, to discuss the co-ordination of supplies to Turkey and transport problems.

AMERICAN DEVELOPMENTS

Two far-reaching and important developments in American policy have to be recorded. The first is that the House of Representatives is now considering the new Lease and Lend Grant of 5,985 million dollars. It is predicted that this grant will be quickly acquiesced in the form recommended, that is, that nothing should be inserted in the Bill to prevent the use of the funds to help Russia. The second step is that Administration Leaders in the Representative Assembly and the Senate have introduced measures in the respective Houses to implement the President's message in regard to the arming of American merchantmen. The following is the text of Roosevelt's message:—

"The Neutrality Act seemed reasonable once but so did the Maginot Line. Now the war has spread from continent to continent with nations enslaved, cities in ruins and millions dead. Never has such devastation been visited upon God's earth and God's children. Hitler's pattern for shaping the world is now ominously clear. Increasingly we have become aware of the peril to ourselves.

We have taken important and costly steps to give aid, but we must defend ourselves wherever defence becomes necessary and in this the Government should not be hampered. The Neutrality Act requires complete reorganization. The revisions I suggest do not call for war any more than the Lend and Lease Act did, nor will they leave us any less neutral.

The Neutrality Act has established zones of combat prohibited to American ships, but Hitler considers the world and all the seven seas his battlefield. I recommend repeal of Section 6 of the Act which prohibits the arming of American merchantships. Historically, internationally and legally, the arming of United States merchantmen is justifiable.

We are faced with modern pirates, who sink defenceless ships without warning. The arming of our ships is a matter of extreme necessity and urgency.

Other phases of the Act needing correction are:—It is time we stopped giving definite assistance to aggressors by keeping our ships out of friendly ports and thus inviting Hitler to the control of the seas. Delivery of goods under the American flag is becoming increasingly necessary instead of depending on Norway and Holland to do it for us.

I am only asking for Congressional action to implement Congressional policy to make possible to do what the Lease and Lend Act intends—deliver goods to those who can use them effectively. The military situation is serious. Hitler is expending all to crush Russia and Britain. He knows he is racing against time. He fears American aid. We must act swiftly, for the ultimate fate of the Western Hemisphere lies in the balance.

Hitler has offered the Americans a challenge which we will not and cannot tolerate; the American flag is not going to be driven from the seas either by his submarines, his aeroplanes or his threats. We cannot permit the affirmative defence of our rights to be annulled and diluted by sections of the Neutrality Act which have no realism in the light of the unscrupulous ambition of mad men. This cannot be: we, Americans, have determined our course. We intend to maintain the security and integrity and honour of our country. We intend to maintain a policy of protecting the freedom of the seas against domination by any foreign power which has been crazed with the desire to control the world. We shall do so with all our strength, all our heart, all our mind."

The decision to amend the Neutrality Law only in regard to arming of merchantmen is considered to be inadequate by Government leaders who hope that the Congress will eventually agree to raise the ban against American ships travelling to belligerent ports or combat zones.

SOVIETS WILL BAULK HITLER

GIANT INDUSTRIES IN THE URALS

A massive German attack on a vast front of about 1,200 miles from Leningrad to the Crimea is reported to be in full swing. This is probably the major offensive that Hitler hinted in his speech this week. The principal effort seems to be in the Central Sector where attacks are developing in the direction of Moscow from both north and south. The Germans are thrusting from the north towards the rear of the Russian armies which have been keeping the Germans on the defensive around Smolensk. An attempt is being made to break through the Valdai Hills between Leningrad and Smolensk. The southern thrust is from the direction of a town south of Smolensk. Neutrals speak of the Germans' aim as nothing short of the encirclement of Moscow and that the comparative lull in the Central Sector was to enable the Germans to gather their resources for the decisive struggle of which Hitler spoke. Hitler, in a special Order of the Day to his troops, makes tall claims and says that the Russian armies in this sector have been encircled and are facing annihilation; but the Russians are resisting fiercely and their morale is as good as ever. In any case, the Germans are stated to aim at reaching the line of the Volga before taking up winter quarters. Hitler is anxious if he cannot capture Leningrad or Moscow, at least to stabilize operations in the North and the Centre and release troops to maintain the momentum of his drive to the rich regions of the South.

But everywhere the German offensive is being very stubbornly resisted. The German drive in the north against Leningrad has not made progress, thanks to the boggy ground and the appalling German losses, and in fact, the Russians under Marshal Voroshilov seem to retain all their initiative in this area, judging from the German report of an attempt by strong Soviet forces, supported by the fire of the batteries at the great naval base of Kronstadt and by the ships of the Russian Navy, to land on the coast west of Leningrad. In the extreme south, Odessa holds out strongly against the enemy and the Rumanians admit losses hitherto of 96,000 (killed or wounded) in attempts to take the city. In the Crimean Sector, the Germans are trying to force their way through the Perekop Isthmus by mass air raids on positions in the Russian rear but have not made any great progress on land in face of the stubborn Russian resistance. Nevertheless, with the German forces on the shores of the Sea of Azov and investing the Crimea, the situation is undoubtedly ugly. Here it is the potential industrial loss that further Russian retreat will entail (apart from the loss of naval bases in the Black Sea and the threat to the oil of the Caucasus) which constitutes the immediate source of anxiety. Beside the Perekop Isthmus, there are two possible main approaches to the Crimea for the Germans, viz., the railway causeway and where the channel separating the peninsula from the mainland is narrowest and accordingly bridgeable. The Germans apparently hold positions from the west of Perekop to the east of Genichesk, the latter point being where they have reached the Sea of Azov. The German operations, however, may yet prove hazardous. The Russians are still in possession of Kherson on the Dnieper, 75 miles north-west of the Isthmus, and a successful Russian blow at the Lower Dnieper will isolate the attacking German troops. If Odessa and Leningrad are criteria, the Russian preparations to meet this serious German threat may be relied on to be complete and efficient. A German drive has also been launched towards Kharkov, the chief city of the Ukraine. But here again, despite the loss of Poltava, the Russians seem to be giving as good as they get.

And, finally, Marshal Budenny has launched a great counter-offensive in the south, threatening the long left flank of the Germans and forcing them to fight on two fronts to keep free their lines of communication to the Crimean bottleneck at Perekop. Budenny's troops appear not only to be intact but to have vastly improved their position, thus giving the lie direct to the earlier German claims to have encircled or annihilated them just east of Kiev! The Russians have recaptured over thirty villages in one sector of the front here and in another area they have advanced 20 miles in 36 hours.

WHAT WILL HITLER GAIN?

Assuming for the sake of argument that Hitler's hordes manage to occupy the whole of the Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula, he will still be a long way from his main objectives—the liquidation of Russia as a fighting force before turning to invade Britain and the exploitation of the rich industrial and agricultural resources of the Soviet Union. Towards this end he has already sacrificed over three million German soldiers (killed or wounded), 11,000 tanks, 13,000 guns and 9,000 aircraft as against the Soviet's losses of 230,000 men killed, 720,000 wounded, 178,000 missing and 8,900 guns, 7,000 tanks and 5,316 planes. But all this and more will not avail him. Professor Turin, in

the course of a reasoned survey of Soviet Russia's industrial power in the *Manchester Guardian*, writes :—

"The Ukraine, the Caucasus, their wealth of coal, oil, and wheat are on the lips of all who think that Hitler can get them as easily as he got the material resources of the European countries occupied by him. But are the treasures of Russia concentrated in these regions only? What is actually the potential industrial power of Soviet Russia? If we consider the location of the most important industrial centres of present-day Russia, we come to the conclusion that the Ukraine and the Caucasus, rich as they are, are not the territories upon which Russia is entirely dependent either in peace or in war. During the Civil War (1918-20) the whole of the Ukraine and the Caucasus were in the hands of the White Armies, yet even at that time the Soviet Government was able to supply the Red Army with all necessaries from the Moscow industrial region and the Urals."

The Bulletin of International News, issued by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, points out that the old industrialized areas (in Russia) were Leningrad and the neighbourhood, with engineering and metal works, textile factories, shipbuilding, etc. Moscow and the surrounding districts, containing the principal centres of the textile industry and many of the lighter engineering industries; the Ukrainian Republic, the Dnieper and the Donetz basins, rich in coal, iron, and water power and big centre of heavy industry; and the older centres at Gorki (Nizhni Novgorod) and other towns on the Volga. But the rearmament of Germany and the general deterioration of the political situation in Europe and the Far East had nearly a decade ago brought home to the leaders of the Soviet Union the inherent danger of the concentration of production and industry in the vulnerable areas of Western European Russia, and the danger at the other extreme, in the Far East, of the absence of supplies of all kinds required for an army in the field, with the consequent necessity of haulage over the only railway line, the Trans-Siberian, 5,000 miles from Moscow to Vladivostok. They concentrated, therefore, on creating centres of heavy industry further east, out of reach of bombers and of military action, particularly from Western Europe where Germany was developing formidable air power. The leaders of Russia wisely set up the new industrial centres where the necessary resources of production could most easily be concentrated in the neighbourhood.

RUSSIA'S INDUSTRIAL RESERVES.

The recently developed industrial areas are in the region between the Volga river and the Ural mountains, the southern part of which is sometimes called, because of the new oilfields in course of exploitation there, the "Second Baku;" the Kuznetz area (the Kuzbass) in West Siberia, around Novo-Sibirsk on the Trans-Siberian Railway; a not inconsiderable development in Central Asia; and the beginnings of industrial organisation in the Russian Far East. As the *Bulletin* emphasises, "these developments and the huge transfers of population involved mean a shift eastward of the pivot of Russian power, a process as great in its way and likely to produce as important results as the colonization of Siberia in the latter half of the 19th Century."

To the question, therefore, whether, if the Russians lose the East Ukraine and the Donetz basin, their industrial capacity will be so crippled that they will be in danger of being overwhelmed before British and American supplies can reach them in sufficient quantities to fill the gap, the following statistics may help to supply the answer. If the Soviet armies continue to hold Leningrad and Moscow but are obliged to fall back to the line of the Don, the Soviet Union's supply of petrol, chrome, copper, lead and zinc will still remain unaffected, and she will still possess from 35 to 65 per cent of her resources in manganese, steel, iron and chemicals. If the withrawal is continued to the line of the Volga, these percentages would be only slightly decreased except in the case of petrol which would drop to 85 per cent and aluminium to 8 per cent. The Soviet Union has been informed, however, that Britain and the United States have already taken urgent measures to recoup Russian industry for this crippling loss of aluminium and thus ensure that Russian manufacture of aircraft is kept going. The great triumph of industrial effort in Ruussia in the recent past has certainly been the exploitation of the rich territory of the Urals, which has become one of the main metallurgical and armament centres of the Soviet Union based to a large extent on local raw materials, which amount to about 25 per cent of the total mineral resources of the Union. Here has been raised the country's largest steel plant, its largest chemical factory, its largest machine-building works, its largest copper-smelter, and its largest heavy tractor plant. The Novotagil plant is expected to increase the output of Ural metal by 150 per cent and though coal is deficient in this area, the shortage has been made good by the use of electric furnaces. It must not be forgotten, that the long line of plants which stretches from Magnitogorsk in the south to Berezniki in the north lies from 1,500 to 2,000 miles away from the Soviet western frontiers and still further away from its eastern frontiers.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN HELP

In general, it can be said that while the development of the Ural region has been spectacular, the area is, so far as we know, still dependent on the older industrial districts of Leningrad, Moscow and the Ukraine for various types of special steel and machinery and for many kinds of machine tools. This region is a great reserve arsenal which can keep the Soviet armies going, provided Britain and the United States meet the present emergency by pouring in through Iran large supplies of tanks and aircraft and then lend powerful aid by supplying industrial equipment such as machine-tools. Swift action is necessary, and drastic stepping up of British and American war production. Both Governments are alive to the fact that ultimate victory depends on those conditions being fulfilled and the Moscow Three-Power Conference has worked on that basis. The Russian armies are hard-pressed but their morale is not broken and their cohesion has not been lost, while the Germans are being made to pay a heavy price for devastated territory. In fact, the Russian strategy of attrition is working out substantially according to plan. If the British Empire and the United States fill in the gaps in their supply system, as they must and will, the ultimate issue can hardly be in doubt. As the Moscow Radio said in a broadcast to listeners in Germany and Austria on September 14, the anniversary of Napoleon's entry into Moscow: "Napoleon had no tanks and no motorised division; he knew nothing of *blitzkrieg*—but on foot he progressed more swiftly than Hitler with all his motors." And to Hitler himself, Moscow addressed the following message: "At the Kremlin, Napolean read the writing on the wall which foretold his downfall but you, megalomaniac and braggart, will never see the Kremlin; you will not spend your last winter before your downfall in Moscow. Your army will freeze and be ruined somewhere on the route between Smolensk and Minsk."

INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

MORE TRIBUTES TO INDIAN SOLDIERS

His Excellency the Viceroy, in opening the proceedings of the National Defence Council, made a handsome reference to the superb contribution of India towards the prosecution of the war in men, money and material. His Excellency said:—

"There could be no more appropriate occasion than this to refer to the superb contribution so far made by India to the achievement of the ideals for which we are fighting. She has, without stint, poured out men, money and supplies. Her fighting men, whether by land, by sea, or in the air, have covered themselves, and the land of their birth, with glory. In the face of every device of modern warfare, in conditions often most difficult, in unfamiliar surroundings, India's fighting men, whether they came from the Indian States or from the provinces of British India, have shown outstanding valour and endurance, and have added still further honour to the martial traditions of this country. The Empire and India owe them a debt of gratitude, a debt that will never be forgotten.

"In paying the tribute that I have to the gallant fighting men of India, I would associate with it a word of gratitude for the immense assistance given us by our neighbour, the warrior kingdom of Nepal, to the sympathetic and enthusiastic support and co-operation of whose Prime Minister we owe so much, and whose troops have played their part with the distinction which we have come to expect of them in the various theatres of war in which they have been engaged.

"In the field of supply, India has again made a contribution of immense significance and value, a contribution recognized throughout the Empire, a contribution that has in no small degree helped to bring home to many distant lands not only the great natural resources of India, but the high intelligence and skill of her craftsmen and her workers and the readiness of all to play their part in times like these. My Supply Member will be able to give you some idea of what has been done in this field. Let me say now only that the location in India of the Eastern Group Supply Council is, in itself, a tribute both to the importance of her strategic and geographical position and to the magnitude of the assistance which she has given, can give and will continue to give to the common effort.

"The generous stream of contributions in gifts and loans, in money and in kind, for the purchase of munitions and equipment, of planes, of tanks, of ambulances and the like for the alleviation of suffering and the relief of distress, which has flowed from India since the war began, is undiminished to-day. I pay my deep and sincere tribute to the magnificent generosity of the gifts that have been made by Your Highnesses of the Princely Order, by the provinces of British India, and by that great multitude of individuals throughout the country whose desire is to hasten, by their personal sacrifices, the day of victory of our cause."

MR. CHURCHILL'S MESSAGE

The first meeting of the National Defence Council was held at Simla on October 6. At the meeting, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, General Wavell, read the following message from Mr. Churchill:

"I was deeply interested by all you reported to me about India's war effort. In the first year of the war, it was impossible to find the weapons and equipment necessary for the Indian army. In the second year something was done. In the third year, large supplies of the most deadly modern war apparatus will come in a steady flow to expanding formations of the Indian Army. The sons of India have already in this war shown themselves worthy of the highest respect and honour among military men. Wherever they have fought—in Cyrenaica, in the Sudan, in Eritrea, Abyssinia, Syria and now latest of all in Persia—the Indian divisions have played an important and distinguished part. During 1942 the armies of India, with their British comrades, will be fighting on the long front from the Caspian to the Nile. By so doing, they will be barring the eastward progress of the war and guarding the plains of Hindustan and the homes of their dear ones. This is a highly honourable task and also, as anyone can see, the best strategy. This is equally true whether applied to the interests of India herself or to the fortunes of the world cause now being fought out."

GERMANY AND RUSSIA

HITLER'S LATEST

Herr Hitler made a speech on Friday, October 3, in connexion with the " Winter Help " scheme which has been characterized as " apologetic." It is also stated that he felt compelled to answer various complaints that have been made in Nazi Germany in regard to the policy of the Fuehrer, indicating growing discontent in the country. In this speech he dealt, for the most part, with the Russian campaign, but before he referred to Russia, he indulged in the usual attacks upon so-called war-mongers. He said :—" It was a historical truth that Germany has for two years been overthrowing one enemy after another. I did not want it. After the first conflict, I held out my hand, but each of my peace offers has been rejected by that war-monger, Churchill. I came to the conclusion that the decision had to be fought out—a decision of importance for a hundred years of world history."

Then followed the catalogue of complaints against Russia, which is fairly well known. Speaking about the decision to attack Russia, he said : " It was the most difficult decision of my whole life. The greatest struggle in the history of the world began and from then to now, everything has gone according to plan. We have not made a wrong calculation in any of our plans or in the bravery of the German soldier."

About Russian losses in the war, he said that Russian prisoners now amounted to two and a half millions and he further stated that Germany had destroyed 20,000 guns, 18,000 tanks and 14,500 planes. These figures have been ridiculed in Moscow. According to Moscow, Germany has lost over 3 million men killed or wounded so far while the Soviet losses were 230,000 killed, 720,000 wounded and 178,000 missing; Germans had lost 11,000 tanks according to Russia while Russia has lost 7,000; Germany has lost 13,000 guns while Russia has lost 8,900; and Germany has lost 9,000 planes while Russia has lost 5,316.

MR. W. J. BROWN ON LESSONS FROM RUSSIA

In an article in *the Listener*, dated 10th July 1941 on Germany's action against Russia, Mr. W. J. Brown traces the history of the relations between the two countries and says that two lessons can be learnt.

The lesson for the British people, he writes, Right, Left and Centre, is the lesson of the bottomless, the limitless, the unrestrained and unrestrainable perfidy and treachery which is the most distinctive feature of Hitler's character. Let us look back over the years and see how this characteristic of Hitler's is illustrated by his dealings with Russia.

In his book *Mein Kampf* (1933 edition) Hitler wrote of Russia thus :

" We must not forget that the rulers of Russia today are blood-stained common criminals : that we have to do with the scum of humanity. Russia today sees in Germany, not an ally, but a state destined to a like fate. One concludes no treaty with a partner whose sole interest is the destruction of the other. It is madness to ally ourselves with a power which has the deadly foe of our future (Communism) for its master."

PUBLIC LANGUAGE AND PRIVATE

You will see that Hitler is utterly positive that there could be no alliance between Germany and Russia. But later he becomes still more positive. At the Nuremburg Party Conference in 1936, Hitler announced :

" We cannot negotiate. . . In Bolshevist Russia there is devastation, grim murder and ruin. Here is laughter, happiness and beauty."

Now apart from the humour of describing Nazi Germany (founded on fraud and maintained by force, the concentration camp and murder) as a state of laughter, happiness and beauty, the important thing to note here is that Hitler is saying not merely that there cannot be an alliance between Germany and Russia, but that there cannot even be negotiations with Russia. The two states not only cannot be friends; they cannot even be on speaking terms. But while Hitler is speaking like this in public, he is holding quite a different language in private. Dr. Rauschnigg records in his book *Hitler Speaks* that as early as 1934, in private conversations, Hitler was telling his friends that he would not only talk to Russia, but make an agreement with Russia if it suited his purpose so to do. He said :

" I shall keep that as a trump card . . . We alone can conquer the great Continental space. . . The struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. . . That does not mean that I shall refuse to walk part of the road together with the Russians, if that will help us. . ."

The next chapter comes with the signing of the Non-Aggression Pact in 1939. In order to be able to fling the whole weight of his power first on Poland and then on to the west, Hitler goes back on every word about Russia that he has ever uttered in public. Notice how he does it. He not only recants the words. He swallows them with infinite gusto.

In his Reichstag speech on September 1, 1939, he said :

" I should like to declare that this political decision (the Non-Agression Pact with Russia) means a tremendous departure for the future, and that it is final. Russia and Germany fought against one another in the World War. That shall and will not happen again."

He went on to declare : " The resolve of Germany is unalterable. . namely, to introduce on the east of the Reich peaceful, stable, and thus bearable conditions. In this respect German interests and wishes coincide entirely with those of Russia."

And then, in February 1940, he rose to his final height in saying :

" I sincerely believe (note the ' sincerely ' !) that the Russian and German regimes have succeeded in achieving something which is really beneficial to both the people ; and they are far too good to bleed themselves to death for the sake of the stockbrokers and Jews in London."

ALL SYSTEMS TO ALL MEN

Hitler thus, in the interval of a few years, passed from a position in which there could not only be no alliance with the ' bloodthirsty scum ' of Moscow, but not even any talking with them, to a position in which he affirms that he ' sincerely believes ' that there is something so good about the Bolshevist regime that not only can he talk to the Bolshevists, but he can do a deal with them which is to involve peace for ever as between Germany and Russia (which peace only the stockbrokers and Jews in London would think of trying to disturb). From being the defender of Capitalist Europe against Bolshevism, he had, at this stage, become the friend of Bolshevism against the Capitalists of Britain.

That lasted for as long as was necessary to beat down Poland, Holland, Belgium and France. These things accomplished, the Non-Aggression Pact with Russia had served its purpose. More, it was an obstacle to further progress. For now the only surviving foe of Germany in Western Europe is Britain, which he knows he must destroy if the slave-peace that he has enforced on the Continent of Europe is to endure. He cannot risk the assault on Britain while the Russian Army and Air Force remain in being, for Hitler, who has double-crossed so many people, so many countries, stands in permanent fear of being double-crossed himself. Hitler, who has stabbed so many people and countries in the back, fears always that the knife may one day pierce his own ribs. So he himself does the double-crossing first. Without the shadow of an excuse, without even the formality of presenting demands and having them rejected, without even a declaration of war, Hitler tears up the Non-Aggression Pact and invades Russia.

Now, what is the lesson to be learnt from all this by the British people—Right, Left and Centre? It is that what is at stake in this war is not the merits of one system of society against another—Liberal-Capitalism, Communism or Fascism. Hitler is perfectly prepared to support all these successively, or even simultaneously, if need be. He will be all systems to all men if thereby he can damn some. What is at stake is whether the world is to live, under the domination of a man and a country to whom words have ceased to mean anything whatever except as instruments of deception, to achieve more and more power. There is a case for ' Liberal-Capitalism,' there is a case for almost any form of social organization you can mention. That is not the point. The point is that the cement disappears from every form of society, the cement disappears from every form of international relationship unless they are based upon truth. Personal relations, social relations, international relations cannot endure unless what men say corresponds with what they mean, or at least bears some relation to it.

If there is to be any sort of social order in the world, if there is to be any kind of civilization, any kind of stable international relations whatever, we must kill this philosophy of lies and deception which Nazism has made into a permanent instrument of policy. That is why I have insisted so often that basically this war is not a political war, not even an economic war, but primarily a religious war. That is the lesson for us all.

There is a second lesson to be learnt by all those in belligerent or neutral countries—particularly by the men of Vichy, who still hanker after a compromise with Hitler. It is that Hitler does not mean to compromise with anyone. He is out for domination by force of arms.

Russia made every effort to carry out the agreement she made with Germany in 1939. She based her foreign policy on it, she supplied the German war machine, she refused to reinsure by improving her relations with us. Up to the eleventh hour when the German army was massing on her borders, she stood pat on the letter and spirit of her agreement. Yet this did not save her from a treacherous attack preceded by no demands or declarations of war. Admiral Darlan and others who seek to make pacts with Germany will find that when they have served his purpose, Hitler will strike them down. It does not matter whether the victim be a Tory, a Liberal, a Socialist or a Communist. He will, sooner or later, if he does not stand firm from the outset, fall to Hitler's lust for power and lying—treachery.

(*Continued on page* 14)

MUSSOLINI IS MISERABLE

Never was Mussolini's glum scowl more in keeping with his mood than now. His Imperialistic adventure swelled the Italian budget deficit in six years (1935—41) from two to 28 milliards of lire. In 1940 he had something to show for it—an East African Empire almost as big as India. In 1941 Eritrea, Somaliland and Abyssinia were taken from him. Now he fears Libya may follow suit. According to some reports, he has asked Hitler for increased German aid in the Western Desert and Hitler's answer has been to ask him to send half a million Italian soldiers to supply a more urgent need on the Eastern Front.

The winter campaigning season in North Africa is at hand, yet General Rommel has been unable to launch a full-scale invasion of Egypt. The reason is not hard to find. Day and night, British submarines, Fleet Air Arm planes and Royal Air Force bombers and fighters tear Rommel's supply line to shreds. In a single attack recently, British submarines destroyed two-thirds of an Italian convoy, probably carrying two complete infantry divisions to Tripoli. In a recent period of two weeks, submarines sank 100,000 tons of enemy shipping carrying supplies and reinforcements to Rommel's German African Corps and its band of ragged Italian retainers.

Linked with these ceaseless and successful British raids that have made Mussolini's Bridge of Ships a Bridge of Sighs are the carefully planned aerial sorties against munitions factories and embarkation ports in Italy and Sicily, the Italy-Sicily train ferry service, Italian coastal reconnaissance seaplane bases and aerodromes from which Italian convoys might be expected to receive fighter support. Well may Mussolini regret the decision he took sixteen short months ago.

HITLER'S NOT-SO DOCILE "CHAIN GANG"

Addressing members of all the Allied Governments on June 12, 1941, Churchill said, "In every country into which the German armies and Nazi police have broken there has sprung up from the soil a hatred of the German name and a contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory." Evidence of that hatred and that contempt mounts daily.

The undaunted spirit of the CZECHS has broken the health of their "Protector," Baron von Neurath. Reinhard Heydrich, Nazi "Killer No. 1," has been sent to deputise for him. Heydrich's first acts have been to declare a state of emergency in six districts of Bohemia and Moravia, to execute two Czech generals and to order the arrest of the "Protectorate" Premier on a charge of high treason.

In two months YUGOSLAV guerillas have destroyed 200 bridges, blown up 400 ammunition and provision dumps, derailed 17 trains and killed 2,000 of their jailers. The appointment of a Quisling Premier (Neditch) has done nothing to curtail the sabotage activities of Serb patriots. Anton Pavelich, the Croat Quisling, has failed to reconcile the people to his regime and the Nazis are pressing Vlatko Matchek, the Peasant leader, to form a new Croat Government. The Archbishop of LUXEMBOURG has been arrested for refusing to support a policy of collaboration with the Nazis. Hostages have been shot in POLAND, FRANCE and BELGIUM as a reprisal against the shooting of Nazi officers and N.C.Os. Five DUTCHMEN have been executed for listening to the B.B.C. Oslo jails are packed with NORWEGIAN patriots. DANES have been caught adulterating bully-beef (destined for Hitler's front-line troops) with metal shavings. Those are just a few of the headaches that the "V" Army is preparing for Hitler.

NOTES ON CLIMATE

Murmansk. Rain from end of August to end of September. Snow from beginning of October to middle of May, during which period temperature fluctuates between 15 and 40 degrees below zero (Centigrade).

Leningrad. Heavy rain throughout October. Snow from beginning of November. Day temperature not more than 17°C.

Moscow. Rain during October. Snow from beginning of November. Temperature drops as low as minus 35°C. These conditions also apply to the region between Moscow and Kharkov.

Rostov-on-Don. Real winter does not begin until January and continues for about three months. Main roads are passable for mechanical transport.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 22—29, 1941

HITLER SEES RED

"Allied aid to Russia will prove a geographical impossibility." (*German news in English, Sept.* 23.)

"The Bolsheviks have lost quantities of aircraft, guns and tanks which no possible efforts on the part of Britain or U.S.A. can replace." (*German talk in English, Sept.* 22.)

"British and Soviet acrobatics cannot deduce the actual German losses (84,354 dead. 402,000 total casualties) in the greatest crusade in Europe." (*German news in Hindustani. Sept.* 22.)

One-third of Russian demands (and who can imagine they were light?) have already been met by Great Britain; more is on the way. America has given Russia a credit of 100,000,000 dollars. Two American tankers have reached Russia, nine others are on the way. Two hundred American fighter aircraft intended for Britain have with her consent been diverted to Russia. The Royal Air Force Wing in Russia has already distinguished itself, and the Three-Power Conference has planned more aid for Russia.

On a front 1,500 miles long for a period of roughly 90 days the German estimate works out to about *one German per mile per day.* As for the figures they give regarding the Russian losses 9,900,000, they modestly imply that the whole Russian army has been wiped out, and apparently has been replaced.

GERMAN GRIEF AND GREED

"The world has been plunged into grief at the Anglo-Saxon high handedness in Iran." (*German news in Hindustani, Sept.* 24.)

"Reports from Alexandria indicate that as a result of over-production cotton is hoarded in the streets. . . .they have become cotton dumps. Britain has not fulfilled her promise to buy the Egyptian cotton." (*German news in Arabic and Persian, Sept.* 25.)

The people of Iran gave a spontaneous welcome to the Allied army and co-operated with them. The Iranian Army, a creation of the late Shah, displayed little inclination to resist. Here is what an important Arabic paper *Saut al Haq* says in a leader: "The greed of the dictators has led them to direct offensive operations against the whole world. . . what has occurred in Iran is approved by all democracies and is only to the advantage of Iran; the Iranians will realize their hopes.

Lord Moyne said in Parliament recently that up to June 1941, the British Cotton British Government has undertaken to purcotton seed up to £25,000,000. In 1941 the British Government has undertaken to purchase half of the crop.

Further, whatever profit is likely to accrue to Britain in any subsequent transaction, half of it will be returned to the growers. The disinterestedness of Britain in this matter is obvious if it is remembered that England can have all the cotton she requires from America under the Lease-Lend Act.

AXIS REACTIONS

INDIFFERENCE

"The President is already helping Britain to his utmost, and it will make very little difference to the course of the war if the U.S.A. actually came to shooting or not."

(English broadcast from Rome, Sept. 12.)

"The Germans are behaving like Christians by turning the other cheek to Roosevelt."

(German broadcast to U.S.A., Sept. 14.)

"The so-called aid to Britain is the best way of strangling her. . . . . .Roosevelt gives her apparent aid so that he will strangle her slowly. . . . . .he does not loose his booty."

(German broadcast to S. America, Sept. 13.)

INDIGNATION

"What the Axis powers could not foresee and therefore properly weigh up was the frenzy which at a certain point took possession of the most powerful man in the U.S.A. and induced him to make even vaster decisions."

(Signor Ansaldo in a broadcast on Sept. 12.)

"American businessmen are deliberately prolonging the war to capture British Overseas markets."

(German broadcast in English, Sept. 16.)

"Roosevelt's speech is the final proof that he has been aggressive for years."

(German broadcast in German, Sept. 14.)

"The speech is the most barefaced trick yet played on an unsuspecting people."

(German broadcast to U.S.A., Sept. 13.)

"President Roosevelt is ready to set a spark to the powder barrel."

(German radio quoting Aftonbladet correspondent, July 1941.

What they tell America

"Germany desires peace and friendship with America."

Hitler, Reichstag speech, 30th January 1939.

"Germany and Italy have no interest whatever in crossing swords with the U.S.A."

Italian broadcast to America, Sept. 20.

What they tell others

"The U.S.A. are out for domination."

Zeesen broadcast to Brazil, March 3, 1941.

"All this means that the anti-Europe policy now in the course of development. . . .was and is national and as such must be fought to the end as Europe's war of independence from America."

Rome radio to Italians, Sept. 20.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA —*(Continued from page* 11)

IN THE INTERESTS OF TRUTH, JUSTICE AND MERCY

The British people have learnt their lesson. And so I speak for them when I say that for us this is not a war for or against any social system. It is a war against lying, treachery, perjury, murder—all the things which would dissolve the foundations of any social or international system whatever. Till this evil thing be destroyed, there is no hope for mankind, in any country, or continent, whatever its social order may be. And so we wish godspeed to Russia, and whatever happens in Russia, and even if the Russians were hopelessly knocked out, we British will carry on the struggle against Hitler and against Nazism. Free men and free institutions cannot co-exist in the world with Hitlerism. One or the other must die.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 30th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 24, Wednesday.	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on large supply ship off Norwegian coast. R.A.F. day fighter attack on minesweeper off Dunkirk. (No reports of night operations—bad weather).	Nil.	..
September 25, Thursday.	(No reports of day or night activity—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
September 26, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter attacks on enemy shipping off Dunkirk (two flak-ships damaged, two minesweepers afire); off Cherbourg (patrol ship sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; other targets in W. Germany; invasion bases at Calais and Dunkirk.	Nil. 1 night bomber.	.. ..
September 27, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on railway station at Amiens; railway junction near La Bassee. (No reports of night operations—bad weather.)	14 day fighters (3 pilots safe).	21 day fighters.
September 28, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on supply train (two petrol wagon afire); aircraft on ground; troops; gunposts. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Frankfurt-am-Main**; other targets in S. W. Germany; **Genoa**; **Turin**; other targets in N. Italy. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on oil depot at **St. Nazaire.**	Nil. 7 night bombers.	.. ..
September 29, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols, including attacks on shipping off Belgian coast (patrol boat afire, barge sunk); gunpost and lorry convoy in N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Stettin**; **Hamburg**; invasion bases at Cherbourg and Le Havre. R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over enemy aerodromes (bomber set afire).	1 day fighter (pilot safe). 8 night bombers, 2 night fighters.	.. 1 night fighter.
September 30, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attack on shipping off Cherbourg (armed merchantman afire). R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on heavily escorted convoy off Norwegian coast (largest ship hit by torpedo). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Stettin**; **Hamburg**; docks at Cherbourg. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on factory, oil depots and shipyards at Nantes; docks at St. Nazaire; aerodrome near Lorient. R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over English Channel and occupied territory, including attacks on aerodromes; convoy (large supply ship hit, smaller ship afire).	1 day fighter. 1 night bomber.	.. ..

(Continued on page 17)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

3rd Oct.—Three Nazi bombers are destroyed when they make a moonlight raid on Britain.

The Royal Air Force attacks the docks at Brest as well as aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory.

4th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks Dunkirk, Rotterdam and Antwerp.

One German supply ship as well as three "flak" (anti-aircraft) ships are sunk in the Channel by the Royal Air Force.

5th Oct.—Some slight coastal activity by the enemy is reported in the East and South-west of England.

8th Oct.—Slight enemy activity is reported over South-west England and South Wales.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3rd Oct.—A successful raid by heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force is carried out on Tripoli. Benghazi is also raided and several enemy aircraft are destroyed.

4th Oct.—Benghazi is again raided heavily by the Royal Air Force.

6th Oct.—Italy admits Royal Air Force raids on Catania and Licata in Sicily.

Enemy aircraft cause little damage in a raid on the Suez Canal area.

7th Oct.—The Admiralty announces that British submarines have sunk or severely damaged 11 enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force bombs shipping in Tripoli harbour and attacks Italian aerodromes and seaplane bases.

The Fleet Air Arm attacks a protected enemy convoy and leaves two ships sinking and at least another damaged.

Patrol activities in the Tobruk and frontier areas are reported from Libya.

It is announced that the Emperor of Abyssinia will raise and maintain an army under his own command. A British Military Mission is to assist him in the organization and training of the force.

9th Oct.—Increased activity is reported on the part of British partrols at Tobruk.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

4th Oct.—The Standard Oil Company's tanker I. C. White, is torpedoed.

5th Oct.—Mr. Myron Taylor, the President's personal convoy to the Vatican, says he will impart promptly to President Roosevelt and to Mr. Cordell Hull, information of the utmost value.

7th Oct.—Mr. Cordell Hull, U. S. Secretary of State, Mr. Henry Wallace, Vice-President, five Senators and two members of the House of Representatives confer with President Roosevelt regarding the revision of the Neutrality Act.

Mr. Wendell Willkie, Republican Leader, urges the prompt repeal of the Neutrality Act.

8th Oct.—The Appropriations Committee of United States House of Representatives approves a 5,985 million dollars Lease-Lend Appropriation.

President Roosevelt, in a message to the National Convention of the American Federatin of Labour, says they cannot take chances with national safety and urges them to speed up production of weapons for the Democracies.

9th Oct.—Mr. Roosevelt, in a special message to Congress, urges revision of the Neutrality Act to permit the arming of merchantships. Bills are accordingly introduced in the United States Houses of Congress.

In a message to M. Stalin, Mr. Roosevelt assures him that ways will be found to provide supplies to Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

3rd Oct.—Soviet troops make successful counter-attacks in the defence of Leningrad.

4th Oct.—Marshal Budenny launches a strong counter-attack to relieve the German pressure on the Crimea.

The Germans are driven back from Murmansk.

5th Oct.—Fighting of the fiercest nature is reported all along the Russian front.

Marshal Budenny's troops advance 20 miles in 36 hours and retake 30 villages in one sector.

6th Oct.—The new German offensive hinted darkly by Hitler is reported to be in full swing from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

7th Oct.—The Germans are held up on the Isthmus of Perekop. In the Battle for Moscow developing in the Central Sector, the Russians inflict very heavy losses on the enemy, who bombs Moscow and Leningrad. The Russians drive the Germans out of dug-outs in front of the Leningrad fortifications.

Finland, replying to the British Memorandum, asserts she is purely on the defensive against Russia.

8th Oct.—The German High Command puts out characteristically extravagant claims concerning the undoubtedly fierce struggles taking place in the Battle for Moscow and the Crimea, one of them being the encirclement of several Soviet armies!

A Finnish political commentator, speaking over the Finnish radio, exclaims "Our safety lies in the downfall of the Soviet leaders."

9th Oct.—The Russians admit the (orderly) evacuation of Orel but their front is unbroken in spite of the tall claims made by Hitler in an Order of the Day to German troops that their resistance has been smashed. It is evident that bitter fighting rages along the entire front.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

4th Oct.—The creation of an Eastern and a Western Army in the Middle East is announced in Cairo.

5th Oct.—The Iraqi Cabinet is reported to have resigned.

7th Oct.—It is announced in London that Eritrea will be included in the new East African Command, which comes directly under the control of the War Office.

8th Oct.—Turky denies (1) German pressure; (2) Bulgarian pressure to allow passage through the Dardanelles of destroyers "bought" from Italy; and (3) Anglo-Soviet pressure to root out German fifth columnists in Turkey.

The Moscow radio contradicts Axis reports that the Soviet Union demands the annexation of North-West Iran to Soviet Armenia.

9th Oct.—A Turkish-German trade agreement is signed at Ankara.

General Nuri Said forms a new Cabinet in Iraq.

SHIPPING

6th Oct.—Increased ship production and fewer sinkings would mean free movement of American foreign trade cargoes within the next few months, predicts Admiral Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission.

8th Oct.—It is announced that seven former United States destroyers have been transferred to the Canadian Navy.

9th Oct.—The Admiralty announces the capture of a German U-boat by a British trawler.

THE FAR EAST

3rd Oct.—Chinese troops are pursuing the retreating Japanese army twenty miles north of Changsha. The Chinese destroy 120 lorries in an attack on one Japanese transport column. Two Generals are among the Japanese dead.

The Japanese increase greatly the number of troops in Manchuria.

A Japanese spokesman states that Japan would consider it an unfriendly act if the Netherlands East Indies continues to send war supplies to Russia.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 15)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 30th September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
September 24	Nil.	1 bomber (at sea).
September 25	Nil.	..
September 26	Nil.	..
September 27	Nil.	..
September 28	Nil.	..
September 29	Nil.	..
September 30	Nil.	1 night bomber.

Mr. Fadden's Government resigns in Australia and Mr. Curtin, the Labour Leader, forms a new Government.

4th Oct.—The Japanese seize all warehouses, buildings and stores near the docks in Saigon. The Japanese claim the capture of Chengchow in Hunan Province.

5th Oct.—Strong reinforcements of Australians reach Singapore.

Heavy fighting is still going on between the Japanese and the Chinese north of Changsha. The Chinese allege that the Japanese use poison-gas.

6th Oct.—The Conference in Manila between British and United States Commanders in the Far East ends.

8th Oct.—There are indications that another Far East crisis is brewing. The Japanese army is stated to be getting restive.

The United States, Britain and the Royal Netherlands Government agree to halt all shipments of oil to Japan.

9th Oct.—The Chinese troops, in a series of brilliant offensives, re-take Ichang, the important port on the Yangtze and reach Chengchow again.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

3rd Oct.—Bombs destroy six Paris synagogues.

7th Oct.—Secret German activities along the French coast are reported as well as an order prohibiting the people from entering the so-called "forbidden zone."

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

3rd Oct.—Dr. Otokar Klapka, the former Mayor of Prague, is condemned to death by the German authorities in Bohemia-Moravia. Three Jews are sentenced to death by hanging and 110 persons are handed over to the Gestapo. Fifteen others are also sentenced to death by court-martial.

4th Oct.—Many more Czechs are executed by court-martial in Prague and Brno.

The fury of the German terror in Poland continues unabated.

5th Oct.—Dr. Otokar Klapka is executed.

7th Oct.—Ten Czechs are executed at Brno after trial by court-martial.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

6th Oct.—Two officers of the German pocket battleship *Graf Spee*, who escaped from a concentration camp in Argentina, are arrested by the Brazilian authorities while attempting to return to Germany.

8th Oct.—The official Afghan News Agency contradicts Axis rumours that Britain and the Soviet Union have addressed a note to Afghanistan regarding the Germans in that country.

9th Oct.—A *coup d'etat* is reported in Panama, whose President has left the country.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The battle for Moscow has reached an acute stage. It is stated that Germans have advanced to Mojaisk, 65 miles west of Moscow. Briansk, Vyazma and Mariupol have been evacuated by Russians. Germany is in need of success before winter, but Allied aid being rushed to Russia is a serious obstacle to this achievement. Russian morale and fighting power remain unimpaired and reserves are moving up. M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, has expressed his confidence that the Germans will never take Moscow.

News from Washington is to the effect that many officers, ranging from Second Lieutenants to Major-Generals, have been relieved of their command, following on the army manœuvres held in Louisiana recently.

Mr. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labour, in a message to Britain and Canada, has expressed the firm resolve and determination of American Labour to stand beside these countries to the bitter end. He added that if it became necessary for American Labour to do more than work in mines, mills and factories, if the call came to give service as before, they would meet that call unitedly and courageously.

The United States House of Representatives has refused to exclude Russia from aid under the Lease and Lend Appropriation.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Mr. Stimson and others connected with the Administration of the United States demanded before the Foreign Relations Committee the revision of the Neutrality Act to permit the arming of merchantmen. Mr. Hull said that the Nazi plan of conquest was so unusual that many people in the United States did not at all perceive the danger to America that this movement portended. This failure to realise and comprehend the vastness of the plan and the savagery of its unlimited objectives had been and still was the greatest single source of peril to those free peoples who were yet unconquered.

The Navy Department of the United States has discovered a Nazi Radio Station at Greenland and 'disposed of' it. A small Norwegian steamer *en route* to Greenland has been taken into custody. The vessel had been obviously despatched to Greenland under the auspices of the Nazi authorities to establish a radio station from where weather reports and other information could be sent to Germany.

A new rich oil-field has been discovered by the Soviet Union in Kosum Ozmailovo district near the Naphthquile oil-field. Operations have been started for constructing the necessary number of wells.

Russia and Japan have signed an agreement in regard to the border dispute between their puppet States of Manchukuo and Outer Mongolia.

The situation in Japan is deteriorating. Prince Konoye's Cabinet has resigned after three months, because of lack of complete agreement in regard to national policy. It appears that military control of public affairs is likely. Japanese newspapers have begun a war of nerves on America and a Navy Spokesman is reported as saying that the Japanese Navy was itching for action. American opinion has been stirred and there is demand for immobilising Japan. The story of British demands on Thailand is being revived. Meanwhile extension of the Japanese airline to Portuguese Timor, 500 miles from Australia is being carefully studied in Dutch East Indies.

America, Great Britain and Australia. Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Far East, who is now in Australia, has stated, " We do not want war with Japan, but if Japan insists on it we are ready." He added that war equipment was now rolling eastwards. Talk of Japanese attack on Siberia has also been revived.

CHINA

There is a wave of optimism in China. There are many reasons why this feeling that China will succeed in the end is justified. As Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek said on the eve of the 30th Anniversary of the Chinese Republic, the Powers opposed to aggression have closed their ranks and peace-loving nations have ranged themselves in the Pacific, resolved to resist aggression on the part of any Power. China has crossed the threshold of equality with other nations, as evidenced by the fact that Anglo-American declarations have been made of the intention on the part of these countries to relinquish extra-territorial rights in China. Further, Great Britain and America have completely stopped the export of oil to Japan and Japan is now facing considerable economic difficulties owing to the freezing operation on the part of the democratic countries.

Recent Chinese successes constitute another substantial reason for this optimism. As is well known, the main Japanese drive was south from Yochow on the Yangtse towards Changsha, an important road and rail junction in Hunan province. The Chinese maintain their communications with the three eastern provinces in Kiangsi, Fukien and Chekiang through Changsha as also between Shangai and Canton. Two years ago, the Japanese attempted to take Changsha unsuccessfully. On the present occasion, the Japanese Forces, which were very large, were allowed to approach within eight miles of the City and were then attacked from the flanks and the rear and driven back in confusion, suffering 79,500 casualties, including 33,600 dead. The Japanese, of course, have taken the walled city of Chengchow which is a very important town. The Chinese controlled only the western half of the Peiping-Hankow railway, so that the capture of Chengchow is important to the Japanese while its loss is not so serious to the Chinese. The Chinese who captured Ichang by a lightning attack have had to abandon the town owing to intensive bombing by the Japanese. Ichang is a Treaty Port of 100,000 inhabitants and as it is from this place that the Japanese launch their numerous air raids on Chungking, its loss is a matter of some importance. But the Chinese are not only advancing on Shasi but are also converging on Yochow and Linsiang on the North Hunan front. On the whole, the Chinese successes in 1941 have been very important. In the north, the Japanese have had important successes; in the centre, they have been held and elsewhere they have been beaten by the Chinese.

Dr. Wellington Koo has therefore reason to say, as he did recently in London, that the tide of the Far Eastern struggle has definitely turned in favour of China. World-wide sympathy with the Chinese cause and considerable assistance on the part of Great Britain, United States and Russia are circumstances which it is well to remember in this connexion.

There is the further fact that China has now nearly 5,000,000 men under arms of whom between one and two millions are guerillas. The Chinese forces are well-disciplined and well-equipped. Numerous small arsenals, scattered over the whole of China, have been established and they turn out large quantities of rifles, ammunition, grenades and small artillery. Officers of excellent quality are being trained and the recent wars have improved knowledge and practice of tactics. China lacks heavy artillery and aircraft and Britain and America are doing their best to send these through the Burma Road. America is further building pursuit planes for China.

CASUALTIES IN THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

Astronomical figures of Russian casualties mark the German propaganda. Hitler's estimates and the estimates of the Director of the Moscow Information Bureau were given in our last week's issue and it is not necessary to repeat them. It is not, however, difficult to assess the relative veracity of the two sides. It should be remembered that the Russians are consistently and periodically publishing their losses and have not tended to minimize their extent or seriousness, while the Germans have never published any comprehensive figures of their losses and have done their best to minimize them. The Russians have, of course, been slow in the publication of news relating to the war for obvious tactical reasons, but they have never been boastful or deceitful. On the other hand, the German radio has been both boastful and mendacious. For instance, the German radio announced on July 7 that the Russians had thrown in their last reserves: the fact is that reserves are still coming. On July 21, the German radio said that it was only a question of days before Leningrad was captured or destroyed: Leningrad is still in Russian hands. It was stated by Germans at Ankara that the war would be over in six weeks: this week marks the 17th week and the war is still going on. We have not exhausted examples of German untruths. At one time Germany said that the Red Air Force consisted only of 7,000 planes while the Italians put the limit at between 6,000 and 10,000 planes, but Hitler says he has destroyed 14,500 aircraft: the Red Air Force is still alive and kicking. United States observers and neutral reports also confirm the unreliable character of German estimates of Russian losses.

DEMAND FOR INVASION OF THE CONTINENT

In Great Britain, public discussion in regard to the necessity for opening up a second front in the west is still proceeding. There is an impression that the mentality of the British High Command is still defensive. The Prime Minister has so far refused to be drawn into a public discussion of this question and there are very good reasons for this attitude.

On the 14th October Mr. Shinwell asked the Prime Minister if he was aware of the considerable discontent in the country about the whole substance and speed of assistance rendered to Russia, to which the Prime Minister replied that Mr. Shinwell should not suppose that he had the monopoly of anxiety in these matters. The Prime Minister further deprecated discussion on this question either in public or in secret. Such discussion, it is obvious, would give the enemy information upon matters of Allied strategy.

Three circumstances may, however, be mentioned which bear upon this subject. The first is that Russia is getting whatever she asks for. M. Stalin has publicly acknowledged the extent of American and British assistance. The second point is that the British have during the last few months built up a most powerful front in the Middle East from Egypt to Iran. Public testimony has been given to the fact that this defence line is formidable and that reinforcements of every kind are reaching Egypt, Palestine, Syria and other countries. There is also the further fact that the British Air Force is striking hard at the heart of Germany. In the last two weeks, the Royal Air Force has done terrible havoc in Germany and occupied countries. The number of bombers taking part in these raids is increasing and the damage done is very heavy.

All the three Royal Air Force Commands—Bomber, Coastal and Fighter—have resumed day and night offensives on the Western Front and they are meeting with less and less resistance on the part of German fighters and bombers. The Royal Air Force is also destroying or damaging enemy supply ships and supply boats off the coast of Norway and in the North Sea. These factors should tell on German morale and German capacity for continuing the offensive in the East. Half the number of German fighters, which would otherwise be among the Russians, are now detained to meet the Royal Air Force. The American announcer from Berlin who is now back in America has testified to the enormous damage inflicted on German industry by the Royal Air Force. A Continental invasion this year is unlikely. If the British High Command is convinced that such an offensive would be successful, it would have no hesitation in launching it.

THE CRISIS IN RUSSIA

FIERCE BATTLE FOR MOSCOW

The latest German offensive in Russia has now lasted seventeen days and Hitler has thrown everything into the struggle in order to clinch a decision before the winter sets in. Winter is not likely to stop military operations altogether but it will certainly add to the difficulties of the invading army—forced to maintain its lines of communications from bases far in the rear. The first falls of snow are already reported and by the middle of November most of Russia will be in the grip of Arctic cold. If her troops can hold together till then, Hitler will have to reconcile himself to a winter campaign and despite their well-nigh crippling loss of valuable territory, the Russians will be enabled by British and American help to stand up to, and beat off the Germans in the coming spring. Lord Beaverbrook, on his return from the Three-Power Conference at Moscow, says that all the tanks and planes asked for by the Russian High Command have been promised by Britain and America; and in addition a large quantity of other heavy weapons of war is also being sent. He pledges that Britain will not fail Russia and that M. Stalin's heroic resistance to Hitler will be sustained. He has called on British Labour to go full steam ahead with the task of producing 30,000 tanks. And, in America, President Roosevelt expresses confidence that nothing in the conditions on the Russian front makes him doubt the success of the American programme of giving aid to nations resisting the Axis. The United States House of Representatives, approving a big new appropriation under the Lease and Lend Act, has expressly refused to exclude Russia from the benefits of the Lease and Lend programme. Lastly, most reassuring of all, M. Stalin has just paid a visit to the front and has satisfied himself that the Russians will baulk the Germans of their main objectives—the annihilation of the Russian armies in the centre and the liquidation of Russia as a fighting force.

This is not, however, to say that the position on the Russian front is not anxious and even critical. The next few days will decide whether the threat to Moscow will be warded off or the Russian capital will be forced to stand up like Leningrad to a heavy siege. The Nazi drive in the Central Sector started in the form of a furious attack by German troops from Yartzevo to Orel. Germany concentrated on this arc of the front huge forces, particularly tanks and aircraft. The struggle was exceptionally fierce, especially around Orel, Vyazma and Briansk, considerable forces being thrown into the fighting by both sides. At last, after stubborn resistance for a fortnight and after inflicting on the Germans casualties on a colossal scale, the Russians evacuated the three towns mentioned above. The Germans, advancing on a narrow front in great strength, reached Mojaisk, only 65 miles from Moscow, but were driven back by Soviet counter-attacks. Berlin claims that the outer defences of Moscow are under German fire but it is evident that Soviet resistance and counter-attacks have slowed down the enemy's drive. Indeed, it is these counter-attacks that constitute the most heartening feature of the fighting. The Germans give astronomical figures while announcing the number of prisoners captured in any given sector; and yet, again and again, the Russians have shown they are far from being demoralized and hit back with great reserve power. The temporary superiority which the Germans won in the air early this week has been neutralized and new Soviet fighters and dive-bombers are ceaselessly in action in support of the land forces. A steady stream of well-trained and well-equipped troops is moving west from Moscow to the front. And American experts calculate that even if Germany wins the Battle of Moscow, she will have paid dearly for it in men and material and will be exhausted for a long time to come.

In the extreme south, while there is no need to accept at its face value the German High Command's pompous claim that the Battle of the Sea of Azov has concluded with the " annihilation " of the Soviet " Ninth and Eighteenth Armies," the threat to the Crimea and the Caucasus cannot be minimized. But the Russians are offering as stubborn a resistance here as in the Central Sector. And the German drive from Poltava to Kharkov, key city of the Ukraine, has not registered appreciable progress; Odessa is reported to have fallen after a long siege in the south; but Leningrad holds out proudly in the north, and several successful sorties by the Russian troops in the city are reported. In the Murmansk area in the far north, all is quiet.

The Italian newspaper *La Stampa* evidently does not share the optimism of the German propaganda agencies and strikes a cautious note. It says: " The struggle against Russia is not finished because Soviet divisions still exist which have not been destroyed nor encircled." The newspaper foresees a Spring campaign against the Russian army, " which during the winter will have time to reconstitute itself. The *Stampa* further underlines German difficulties and says: " The needs of the millions of German soldiers are immense. Transport difficulties remain formidable." It adds that hundreds of thousands of technicians and workers who are engaged in improving the German lines of communication, are obliged to work rifle in hand because Soviet attacks never cease.

ITALY BROKEN AND DISPIRITED

SERIOUS AXIS LIABILITY

It was on 10th June 1940, that " the swollen bull-frog of the Pontine Marshes," as Kamal Ataturk once called Mussolini, threw out his chest and shouted from the balcony of his palace at Rome, " Proletarian and Fascist Italy is for the third time on her feet, strong, proud and united as she has never been before. We have only one watch-word, which is clear-cut and binds everyone. This word is already in the air, and is burning in Italian hearts from the Alps to the Indian Ocean—to conquer. And we shall conquer to give at last a long period of peace with justice to Italy, to Europe, to the world."

In the course of sixteen months Italy, as a fighting force, has become a serious liability to the Axis, having to rely on Germany not only for military initiative but for all forms of supply. After a short-lived triumph over the small police garrison in British Somaliland, Italy has seen her empire in Africa broken up by the courage and skill of the armies of the British Commonwealth. Eritrea, her oldest and proudest colony, and all Somaliland are now in Allied hands. The grievous wrong that she did to Abyssinia six years ago has been undone and the Ethiopian Emperor is once more on his throne at Addis Ababa. General Wavell, at present Commander-in-Chief in India, by superb application of mechanized warfare to the desert, speedily accounted for the entire Italian army in Cyrenaica as the hundreds of thousands of Italian prisoners in India testify. And, though under pressure of developments in the Balkans, he was forced to withdraw his troops from the Libyan territory he conquered, neither the Italians nor the Germans under von Rommel (who were rushed to North Africa by the Nazi High Command) have been able to invade Egypt. And Tobruk stands in the very heart of Cyrenaica—a fortress manned by Indian and other soldiers, who defy all the attempts of the Axis to take it by storm and, in turn, continually threaten the enemy's lines of communications. The British Navy sails serenely on the Mediterranean and makes short work of Italian and German convoys and units of the Italian Navy whenever they dare to show themselves. And the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force range the sky from Tripoli to Milan and Genoa, striking heavily at Italian industrial and military centres. And, finally, we may recall the ignominy which the Italians courted in Greece and Albania and how they were rescued at the eleventh hour by the German legions. Italy cannot even maintain order either in the territory that Germany has graciously asked her to police or in Croatia where an Axis puppet State is ruled by an Italian Prince.

There is not the least doubt that the Italians are war-weary and worn out. They will be sorely tried during the long nights of winter when the R.A.F. raids not only on Libya but on the mainland will become constant and severe. It is not possible to confirm the report that His Holiness the Pope will shortly leave the Vatican and take up his quarters elsewhere. That will enable the British and Allied airmen to bomb Rome with freedom as a reprisal for the Italian bombing of London. But it certainly indicates what is soon coming to Italy.

There is no cause therefore to be surprised at the reports which speak of simmering unrest in Italy. Shortage of food and milk, irregularities in the stock markets, perpetual price changes, unbridled speculation and general lack of confidence in the currency have been the subject of strong criticism in the Italian press. Anti-Fascist demonstrations are reported from Sicily and acts of sabotage have occurred in certain factories working for the German war-machine in the north. In Hitler's philosophy Germany may have friends and partners, but never any equals. Italy is in the Axis partnership, but this has not prevented her from becoming a camp-follower of Germany.

AXIS " BROTHERHOOD "

A few instances of how this " Axis brotherhood " has worked out in practice are detailed below:—

(i) Italy entered the war with the cry for Corsica, Tunis and Savoy on her lips; to-day she is not allowed to occupy even a town in Savoy, to say nothing of the French Empire in Africa. Hungary, traditionally an Italian sphere of influence, has fallen under German, rather than Italian control. Nor has Italy been allowed to take even a nominal part in the vital negotiations between Vichy and Berlin.

(ii) Germany has now more or less direct military control in Italy. About 50,000 German troops were reported to have arrived at the ports of Bari and Naples last December. In addition to supply trains, an artillery regiment, an infantry regiment and an armoured division passed through Carinthia this January. Though these forces were intended for Libya, the Germans secured military infiltration into Italy, an advantage which they still retain. Important staff talks set up a joint Nazi-Fascist Command which allowed the Germans a free hand in Italy.

The resignation of Marshal Badoglio was clearly not due to the Albanian issue alone; the state of Italo-German relations had a good deal to do with it.

(iii) Economically, the existence of Italy depends on German pleasure. Italy needed oil, but it was Germany that occupied Rumania. By one stroke Hitler can starve Italy of coal, iron-ore, timber, zinc, etc. The German-Italian agricultural agreement is word for word a replica of similar arrangements imposed by Germany on occupied countries. Italian labourers have been conscripted—often by press gang methods—for compulsory labour in Germany.

(iv) Hitler's real grip on Italy is maintained, however, by the agency of the Gestapo. This secret German police controls all the key positions in vital industry, in important Italian ministries and in the politico-economic spheres of activity. When the Fascist regime reeled under the impact of military defeat in Libya during January and February this year, and the wheels of government almost came to a standstill, power passed into the hands of the Germans, who were prepared for it and had made all the necessary arrangements. Italian censorship is a formality. German censorship is superimposed upon it.

Faced with internal discontent and the fact that his carefully nourished Fascist State now harbours "Democrats, Socalists, Freemasons and Liberals" Mussolini finds that the only way to retain his authority is to fall back on the unwelcome Germans. A wholesale purge amongst the lower ranks of the party seems to have been effected in the earlier part of the year; a more determined purge may well be imminent now—with the economic unrest in the country providing the most plausible excuse. It will pay the Germans also; for, isolated from faithful and well-meaning followers, Mussolini will become more amenable to German pressure. The dismissal or convenient deaths of people like Balbo, Badoglio, Graziani, Starace and Sebastiani, thus acquire a new significance and may be the prelude to complete domination of Italy by the Germans.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S ENVOY SEES THE POPE

As more and more news of Italy's unhappiness comes to us, it is natural for many to ask how long it will be before she makes a separate peace. The recent visit of President Roosevelt's Special Envoy (Mr. Myron Taylor) to the Pope and his statement that he is carrying back reports of the utmost importance to the President have set us all speculating. But (as *The Manchester Guardian* writes) the British Government's opinion that Germany will not let Italy conclude a separate peace, even if the latter wants to, appears to be well justified. Italy may have ceased to be a great power; she cannot stop being in a strategical position. Her shores are as useful for plaguing the Allies as those of France and the Low Countries; and Germany will not let them go. It may also be expected that the Italian Royal family and the Church will be greatly concerned with the maintenance of order inside Italy, both now and after the war. Any government that attempted to get out of the war would be overthrown by the Germans and what would come afterwards? Fear of internal disorder will be a powerful force in Italy and no doubt already induces many people to let Mussolini drift along, hoping like all weak men that something after all will turn up. To the interesting question what exactly the Pope and the President did say to each other (through Mr. Taylor) it is impossible to give an answer, but it is obvious that the only hope of Italy getting out of war is at a time when the Nazis are heavily engaged elsewhere. If diplomatic procedure could provide an "escape clause," the Vatican would be the obvious intermediary. The question is, however, one of military backing and reinforcements, if necessary, from the west. As long as the battle of North Africa is undecided, there can be no question of either. Meanwhile, the Allies' opportunity lies in adding to Italy's weakness. The weaker Italy becomes, the more Germany will pay, by the dispersal of her economic and military strength—already strained to the breaking-point in Russia—for the favourable position in the Mediterranean which the Italian territories give her. Left to herself, it is hardly likely that Italy will recover. Mussolini was not able to supply weapons even for the three divisions which he sent to Russia with characteristic flourish and beating of drums in response to Hitler's request for seven!

ITS IN THE AIR

A number of London air experts have concluded that Germany's air losses in all theatres of war are probably exceeding her aircraft production by about 300 machines a month. This figure is based on an American estimate of a monthly output of 2,500 German aircraft and takes into account the Russian call on reserves increases the *Luftwaffe* will grow weaker instead of stronger.

Meanwhile, the combined output of Britain, Russia and the United States of America, is estimated at about 6,000 aircraft monthly. Britain and Russia are at present losing monthly about 1,750 machines.

So, at the present pace, the Freedom Front is approaching air superiority over the Axis at the rate of well over 4,000 planes a month.

HITLER CALLS

"ACCORDING TO PLAN"

Hitler took leave from the Eastern Front last week to stand on a rostrum in Berlin and deliver his annual exhortation to the German people to give generously to the "Winter Help" Fund. But his speech dealt almost exclusively with the Russian campaign and he showed far more concern about civilian morale than civilian generosity. After urging the people to make "such an effort that the soldier at the front is convinced of being as much as possible cared for by those in the rear," he declared that they could not expect Providence to help them unless the entire German nation became a "single community of sacrifice."

The clearest indication that the Germans no longer trust their own official war news was given by Hitler's insistence that, "the High Command communique is a report of the truth." Further proof was afforded by his efforts to refute "the speeches of Herr Churchill." The only source from which the Germans can get a full and authentic version of Churchill's speeches is the B.B.C. For the past two months any German caught listening in to London has been summarily sentenced to death. In spite of this drastic punishment it is evident that the Germans are still listening to the truth—that most feared enemy of the Nazi system.

"Right up to now," said Hitler, "every operation has taken its course exactly according to plan." At the same time he announced the opening of a new October offensive on the Eastern front. But three months ago Hitler did not bargain for an October offensive in Russia. In the Middle East, yes, against Britain probably, but in Russia—No! According to his plan on June 22, Hitler would have dictated "peace" to the Soviet by the end of August, at the latest. As early as July 7 the German radio announced that the Russians had thrown in their last reserves and on July 23 the German military attaché at Ankara said the campaign would be over in six weeks, while on July 15 the Berlin correspondent of the *Stockholm Tidningens* was told that the Eastern campaign would be essentially completed" by August 15. German troops entered Smolensk a whole month after the German radio had claimed its capture and Kiev held out for two months after the same announcer had claimed that its last fortifications had fallen.

It was no part of Hitler's plan that his fifth column should be driven out of Iran before his armies could penetrate to the Caucasus. It was no part of his plan that Beaverbrook and Harriman should be in Moscow, which is still miles from the nearest Nazi panzer. He did not expect to find the smiling cornfields of the Ukraine charred and worthless. He did not think the Russians would have the courage to destroy their most cherished creation—the Dnieper Dam—so that the electric dynamoes of the Ukraine factories would not turn for their enemies. He did not imagine that thousands of tons of Anglo-American supplies would now be pouring through Murmansk, Archangel, Vladivostok, Merv and Baku or that the Eastern Front would extend in an unbroken line from the White Sea to the Equator, passing through Iran, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and the Sudan.

In November 1940, Hitler said, "Calm and determined, we shall take our stand in 1941 to *complete* what was begun last year." Although he now declares that "the enemy already lies defeated and cannot rise again," his radio stations are hard at work preparing the people for a winter campaign in Russia, and telling them that, until Russia is finally defeated, Britain cannot be overthrown.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 30—October 5, 1941

TANK WEEK STAGGERS GOEBBELS

"Germany is sinking ships at a tremendous rate. Millions of tons of supplies stored in the United States will be useless as they cannot be trasported."

(*German in English, Sep.* 30.)

The success of the Moscow conference and the arrival of help for Russia have thrown German propaganda into confusion. On the very same day Berlin admitted that American supplies were reaching the Soviet, but consoled itself with the hope that they would be too late "to save the exhausted Soviet Army."

And on the following day (October 1) the German broadcast in Hindustani declared that "War material delivered to Moscow a fortnight before the campaign proves that the Allies have been planning an attack on Germany for a long time."

FIFTH COLUMN TAKES TO THE ETHER

"Russian intentions to annex Noth-West Iran, including Tabriz, to Armenia were referred to in Iranian diplomatic circles."

(*German in Arabic and Persian, Oct.* 2.)
(*Italian in Arabic, Oct.* 2.)

"The Bolsheviks have committed acts of violence against the Iranians and the peaceful German colony there and have violated international law."

(*German in English, Sep.* 30.)

The only "diplomatic circles" that would have any interest in this false allegation are the German and Italian fifth columnists who have been rounded up just in time, and the persistence of this sort of thing in Axis broadcasts shows how necessary it was to clear them out of Iran.

Since the entry of the Soviet troops, 1,770 tons of sugar, 9,680 tons of wheat have been sent by the Soviet Union to Iran for general consumption, besides half a million metres of piecegoods. More stuff is yet to arrive.

SYRIAN FABLE AND FACT

"Reports from Syria and the Lebanon show that there is a reign of anarchy everywhere. Hunger and starvation have aggravated the distress of the people. Foodstuffs have been taken away by the British troops."

(*German in Persian and Arabic, Sep.* 29.)

The general supply situation has improved remarkably in Syria and will improve even more when the transport and communication policy in the Middle East is more completely implemented in a few months. Ten thousand tons of wheat has been sent to Damascus, 1,500 tons to Beirut and 5,000 tons of Canadian flour has also reached Beirut. Good supplies of sugar, kerosene, rice and coffee have also arrived in the country.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 6th October 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
October 1, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols over English Channel.	2 day fighters.	2 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Stuttgart; other targets in W. and S.W. Germany; docks at Calais, Boulogne and Ostend.	1 night bomber.	1 night fighter.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on convoy off Frisian Is. (merchantman afire).		
October 2, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols over English Channel and N. France, including attack on shipping off Dunkirk (barge afire). R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber raid on shipping off Norwegian coast (2 motor vessels hit).	3 day fighters.	7 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on Brest (battleships *Scharnhorst, Gneisenau*; cruiser *Prinz Eugen*). R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on docks and shipyards at St. Nazaire. R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over aerodromes in occupied territory.	Nil.	..
October 3, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter raid on docks at Ostend. R.A.F. day fighter attack on escorted supply ship off Gravelines (flak-ship sunk, supply ship and 3 flak-ships afire, remaining 3 flak-ships damaged).	3 day fighters.	1 day fighter.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at Antwerp, Rotterdam, Dunkirk and Brest. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on aerodromes at Aalborg (Denmark). R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols over N. France, including attack on aerodrome.	1 night bomber.	..
October 4, Saturday.	(No reports of day or night operations)	Nil.	..
October 5, Sunday.	(No reports of day or night operations)	Nil.	..
October 6, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter attack on four armed trawlers off Belgian coast (1 sunk, 1 afire). (No reports of night operations.)	Nil.	..

(*Continued on page* 12)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

10th Oct.—The Royal Air Force bombs shipping and other objectives in Aalesund.

A single enemy aircraft drops bombs on the south-west coast of England and damages a few houses.

11th Oct.—Two hundred bombers take part when the Royal Air Force attacks Cologne and other targets in Rhineland and the Ruhr and raids enemy-occupied ports and aerodromes in Holland and France.

The Nazis drop bombs on Eastern England and cause slight damage and a few casualties.

12th Oct.—The Royal Air Force successfully raids North-Western Germany, starts fires in Emden and also attacks enemy ships.

An enemy bomber attacking a British convoy in the North Sea is shot down. Enemy activity over Britain is on a very small scale. Three enemy planes are shot down in an air battle over the Channel.

13th Oct.—Over 300 Royal Air Force bombers raid Nuremberg and other objectives in Bavaria, Rhineland and North-West Germany.

14th Oct.—Dusseldorf and Cologne are bombed by the Royal Air Force, also the docks at Boulogne and enemy shipping off the French, Dutch and Norwegian coasts.

15th Oct.—The Royal Air Force destroys five enemy fighters in the course of attacks on the docks at Le Havre.

16th Oct.—Targets in Western Germany as well as anti-aircraft ships, petrol stores and oil-tanks wagons in enemy-occupied territory are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

Slight enemy activity over the East Coast of England causes some damage but no casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

11th Oct.—The Germans, failing to penetrate the Tobruk defences with tanks, try "anti-personnel bombs." Two hundred of these bombs are dropped but with very little success.

Polish troops are fighting in the front line at Tobruk.

The Royal Air Force bombs Libyan ports.

12th Oct.—Fleet torpedo planes and Royal Air Force bombers attack and cripple an Italian convoy in the Mediterranean. Enemy shipping in the Gulf of Sirte is successfully attacked.

Successful patrolling by Allied garrisons at Tobruk is reported. German tanks are destroyed and prisoners taken.

Benghazi and Tripoli are raided by heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force.

13th Oct.—Farinacci, prominent Fascist leader, says that Italy must prepare to face a long war.

Count Sforza, former Foreign Minister of Italy in a Columbus Day broadcast from America, urges Italy to accept the Atlantic Charter and turn her back on collaboration with the Axis.

14th Oct.—British submarines sink two enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean and severely damage another; and a Netherlands submarine sinks a fourth enemy ship.

The Royal Air Force raids Benghazi and Tripoli, drives off enemy planes from Malta and sinks an enemy ship in convoy.

Two train collisions are reported in Italy.

15th Oct.—Italy admits damage and casualties in two successive air raids by the British on Benghazi.

A British patrol captures the (Italian) garrison of an enemy post outside Tobruk.

16th Oct.—It is revealed that American bombers are being ferried to Britain and the Middle East *via* the West African Coast.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC.

10th Oct.—The United States House of Representatives refuses to exclude Russia from aid under the Lease and Lend appropriation and passes the new Lease and Lend Bill.

Mr. Wallace, the Vice-President, announces that United States of America is to requisition war materials discovered at ports throughout America consigned to Axis-dominated countries.

11th Oct.—The United States authorities discover and dispose of a Nazi radio station in Greenland and take into custody an enemy-controlled Norwegian ship *en route* to Greenland.

13th Oct.—President Roosevelt announces that munitions for Russia are leaving United States ports constantly.

Arrangements are well in hand for ferrying United States planes for the Allied forces in the Middle East.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Col. Knox and Mr. Stimson, members of President Roosevelt's Cabinet, urge the speedy modification of the Neutrality Act to help the Allies.

14th Oct.—President Roosevelt says that there is nothing in the conditions on the Russian front to make him doubt the success of the American programme of giving aid to nations resisting the Axis.

Senator Norris says that a United States—Japan war is inevitable if Russia loses to Germany and that such a war "is not a bad thing for United States" who can speedily destroy Japan's power.

A big shake-up of American Army officers is reported after the recent manoeuvres in Louisiana.

Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling, former Chief of Staff of the United States Fleet, says the American Navy is now on a war footing, patrolling the seas without lights and with gun-crews at their posts.

15th Oct.—Mr. Roosevelt states that transfers of Lease and Lend articles and services in September were about three times the average monthly figure in the preceeding half year.

16th Oct.—Senator Pepper declares that the United States of America should immobilise Japan and destroy the Japanese, Italian and French Navies.

President Roosevelt confers with members of his Cabinet and military advisers on the Far Eastern and Russian situations.

Two United States submarines are being transferred to the British Navy under the Lease and Lend Act.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

10th Oct.—Fierce fighting continues in the Vyazma sector where the enemy has succeeded in advancing at several points. The Soviet troops under General Boldin destroy in five days 220 tanks and 140 lorries and annihilate about 8,000 German officers and men.

The loss of Melitopol, Berdiansk and Mariupol is confirmed.

11th Oct.—The German High Command announces that the battle of the Sea Azov is concluded and that the bulk of the Soviet Ninth and Eighteenth Armies is beaten and "annihilated."

The Soviet Communiqué says that attacks near Vyazma are being repulsed and strong reinforcements are being sent to the Central Front to relieve the hard-pressed Soviet Army. Briansk falls into enemy hands and the Russians evacuate it.

12th Oct.—M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, claims that the Battle of Moscow has already shown that Hitler's aims can never be achieved in the present offensive.

The Moscow Radio states that in the Murmansk area 29 German bombers and fighters have been destroyed.

Lord Beaverbrook, in a broadcast, pledges that Britain will not fail Russia in her hour of need and says that M. Stalin must be sustained and the Soviet Union enabled to enter the Spring campaign with adequate supplies. All tanks and aircraft asked for by M. Stalin have been promised.

13th Oct.—The Soviet announces the evacuation of Vyazma. The Nazis claim the capture of 350,000 prisoners in the fighting in the Briansk-Vyazma sector. It is clear that the German drive to Moscow has slowed down though it has not been completely held. It is revealed that M. Stalin has visited the front.

14th Oct.—Activity on the Russian front is confined to the centre. The Germans, after advancing to 65 miles from Moscow at one point, are driven back by the Soviet forces.

"The Germans will never reach Moscow," says M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman.

His Excellency the Viceroy makes a grant of one lakh of rupees from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the provision of surgical and medical supplies from India to Russia.

15th Oct.—Marshal Timoshenko bars Hitler's road to Moscow on the famous Napoleonic battle-field of Borodino. Three new army corps are thrown into the battle by the Russians to stem the advance of the Germans who have reached Kalinin, to the north-west of Moscow.

16th Oct.—The Battle of Moscow reaches its climax. The Nazis claim the capture of Kalinin and Kaluga and state that the capital's outer defences are under fire. The Soviet admit a break-through by the Germans to the west of Moscow, achieved at the cost of hundreds of thousands of German lives, and state that resistance to the enemy is as stubborn as ever.

It is reported that foreign Embassies are leaving Moscow for Kazan, about 400 miles further east, which may become the temporary Soviet capital.

On the southern front the Rumanians claim the capture of Odessa. But in the north, the Russians drive the Germans from several fortified places outside Leningrad.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

11th Oct.—The Teheran Radio says that the new Shah addressed the Iranian Deputies at the Marble Palace. A grant of twenty million rials for nation-building is announced by His Majesty.

13th Oct.—General Auchinleck has returned to Cairo from a short tour of the defences in Palestine and Syria.

14th Oct.—The Allied troops in Teheran are withdrawing to positions outside the city as no disturbances have occurred recently in the Iranian capital.

16th Oct.—A hundred thousand guerillas are reported to be playing havoc with German communications in Yugoslavia.

SHIPPING

10th Oct.—A 6,000-ton enemy vessel is torpedoed and sunk by British Naval aircraft, says a Middle East Communiqué.

The Admiralty announces the introduction of fighter aircraft as means of new protection for merchantmen. These aircraft will be catapaulted into the air by the latter whenever enemy bombers make their appearance.

11th Oct.—The United States Maritime Commission announces the signing on of contracts for the construction of 49 more tankers which will give America the largest tanker fleet in the world.

13th Oct—It is announced that Malaya (as well as Australia) is building ships for the Royal Indian Navy.

14th Oct.—It is reported that four ships in a convoy have been sunk a hundred miles from the Azores. Eighty survivors reach Lisbon.

15th Oct.—An enemy supply ship is torpedoed off Norway by Coastal Command aircraft.

THE FAR EAST

10th Oct.—Dr. Henry Grady, United States Special Economic Investigator in the Far East, says that within a few weeks China will have an effective air force composed of American planes.

More Chinese successes in the Changsha area are reported, following Marshal Chiang Kai-shek's call for an all-out effort to beat Japan.

The United States Military Mission under Brigadier General John Macgruder arrives in Chungking.

The Japanese use poison gas and the Chinese suffer heavy casualties in the battle of Ichang.

It is reported that Herr Stahmer, the Nazi specialist on Far Eastern questions, is about to be sent to represent Germany at Nanking.

12th Oct.—The Chinese capture Ichang, the important Treaty Port on the Yangtse.

13th Oct.—Prince Konoye, the Japanese Premier, reports to the Emperor.

Chinese forces are beginning a counter-offensive towards Shasi in the Ichang front, also towards Yochow and Linsiang on the North Hunan front.

Sir Robert Brooke-Popham arrives in Australia by air for conversations with the Commonwealth Government.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page 9*)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 6th October 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
October 1	Nil.	..
October 2	Nil.	3 night bombers.
October 3	Nil.	1 night bomber .
October 4	Nil.	..
October 5	Nil.	..
October 6	Nil.	..

The Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Indies Army, Lieut.-Gen. Berenshot, is killed in an air crash on his way to Bandoeng after his conversation with Sir Robert Brooke-Popham (in Batavia).

14th Oct.—The Chinese forces leave Ichang owing to intensive bombing of the city by the Japanese.

A Japanese Army spokesman denies the use of poison-gas against the Chinese forces at Ichang.

The Thailand Premier, in a broadcast from Bangkok, urges foreign communities in the country to refrain from propaganda.

The Australian press says that the A. B. C. D. (Democratic) Front in the Far East should warn Japan against any stab-in-the-back attack on Siberia.

15th Oct.—Russia and Japan sign an agreement settling Manchukuo-Mongolian border problems.

The Japanese Premier confers with elder statesmen and Cabinet collegues on "grave matters."

Major-Gen. Terpoorten is appointed Chief of Staff of the Netherlands Indies Army.

16th Oct.—Prince Konoye's Cabinet resigns and this is thought in America to foreshadow some aggressive move by Japan.

A Japanese Army spokesman warns the army to be ready for any eventuality.

Sir Robert Brooke-Popham attends the meeting of the War Council in Melbourne and says "We do not want war with Japan but if Japan insists on it, we are ready."

The Australian Navy announces the laying of mine-fields off certain coastal regions.

The Chinese capture an important point to the south of Chengchow and are advancing on the city.

The Banghok Radio warns Thailanders that grave events are creeping towards their land.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary for the Navy, says that the proposed air service between Japan and Portuguese Timor is unjustified commercially.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

10th Oct.—Fears of a fresh wave of Gestapo terror sweep through Paris when the body of Mme. Tonia Masse, the Secretary of the French Fascist leader, Eugene Deloncle, is discovered in the Seine.

13th Oct.—Admiral Darlan is on a visit to Paris.

Senator Connally, Chairman of the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, says that America will seize hold of any French colonies in the Western Hemisphere if the Vichy Government permitted Germans to use them.

16th Oct.—Marshal Petain orders the detention in a fortress, of M. M. Daladier, Blum, Reynaud, Mandel and Guy la Chambre and General Gamelin.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

10th Oct.—In revenge for local sabotage, it is reported the Germans have razed to the ground the village of Sabac, 90 miles west of Belgrade, and sent all surviving males to a concentration camp.

Twelve more Czech patriots are executed in Bohemia.

The Greek Premier, in the course of a report to Mr. Churchill on German atrocities in Crete, suggests the trial and execution in Berlin after the war of those responsible for the atrocities perpetrated in occupied countries.

Considerable detachments of British and Greek forces are reported to be carrying on guerilla warfare in Crete.

11th Oct.—The Sokol, the Czechoslovak patriotic organization is dissolved by the Germans throughout Bohemia and Moravia and its property confiscated.

12th Oct.—The Holy Synod at Belgrade presents to the German military authorities a memorandum on the atrocities committed against the Serbians by Ustachis (Croat terrorists).

15th Oct.—Two divisions of Polish troops are ready to go into action on the Eastern front against Germany.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

10th Oct.—An all-party Government is reported to have been formed in Panama under the former Minister of Justice, de la Guardia, and ex-President Aria's followers are arrested.

11th Oct.—Col. Batista, President of Cuba, declares that Cuba will immediately abandon her policy of strict neutrality and that she is whole-heartedly with the United States of America and the Democratic powers.

13th Oct.—Aircraft of unknown nationality drop bombs on a village in Switzerland on the shore of Lake Constance.

14th Oct.—It is reported that the Portuguese steamer Corte Real was topedoed and sunk in the Atlantic by a German U-Boat.

The United States and Argentina have concluded a new trade agreement.

15th Oct.—Peru is stated to be negotiating with the United States of America in order to get the latter to revoke her decision to divert to the Soviet Union over one million dollars worth of bombing planes and equipment destined for Peru.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Lieut.-Genl. Tojo, the War Minister, has become the Prime Minister of Japan and the Cabinet includes five civilians, the others belonging to the forces. The general belief is that extremism is on the saddle. If Moscow falls, Japan may fall upon Russia in Eastern Siberia as Germany's second jackal or she may attack Thailand or possibly the East Indies as well. Russia's eastern forces are very strong and the winter will make operations difficult. An attack on Thailand risks the intervention of America.

America has been stirred by the torpedoing of the United States destroyer *Kearney* in the North Atlantic. Is it a policy of sea offensive against the United States, it is asked. Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, has said that protesting to Germany for the torpedoing of the destroyer *Kearney* is as good as sending a diplomatic note to an international highwayman. The destroyer *Kearney* has reached port with 11 men reported missing and 2 reported injured. The *Bold Venture* flying the Panama flag has been torpedoed *en route* from Baltimore to England. This has been followed by the sinking of the United States freighter *Lehigh*, on Sunday and this is the tenth United States vessel to receive attention at Nazi hands.

Over one thousand Protestant bishops, educationists, clergymen and editors have petitioned President Roosevelt pledging their readiness to accept any sacrifice asked of them for furthering aid to Russia so that freedom "may march on its enemy and that it may march from Washington."

The United States Secretary of State for War, Mr. Stimson, has stated that an Axis attack on Iceland will meet joint resistance from British and American forces. He added that the American troops will eventually replace all British forces in Iceland.

Two re-commissioned American submarines are being transferred to the British Navy under the Lease and Lend Act. They will be manned by British crews before leaving United States waters.

The latest estimate of German losses on the Eastern Front is now four million killed and injured. While the situation as regards the Moscow battle is still grave, there are indications that the battle for the Donetz basin is raging fiercely. General Zhukov has replaced General Timoshenko in the Western Sector. The Russians are resisting everywhere with great determination and valour. A state of siege has been proclaimed in Moscow. The capital of Soviet Russia has been transferred from Moscow to Kujbyshev.

Russia has evacuated Taganrog on the Sea of Azov. The battle for the Crimea has been intensified.

Gen. Karl Frederick Holtz, the Nazi Commander of the Nantes district has been assassinated. It is stated that 50 hostages have been shot as a reprisal for the assassination and 50 more hostages will be shot if the guilty persons are not promptly arrested. Another German officer was shot dead at Bordeaux on Tuesday and 50 hostages have been arrested.

Though German submarines and planes are busy in the Atlantic, British convoys continue to cross the dangerous waters and the strength of the convoying British forces is increasing daily. There is reason for confidence and the help given by American Navy is invaluable.

As a result of representations made by British and Russian Governments, the Afghanistan Government have asked German and Italian nationals not engaged in Consular duties to leave the country. The readiness of the Afghan Government to observe strict neutrality is contrasted with the attitude of the ex-Shah of Persia.

The total casualties of the British armies, including prisoners of war, on all fronts is 100,000, those of the Dominions being 20,000. Indian casualties on all fronts now number 7,000. It is announced that the number of British Empire prisoners of war in enemy hands is 66,000.

The House of Lords has adopted a resolution recording its admiration of the heroic resistance of Russia to German aggression. Lord Beaverbrook stated in the Lords that Great Britain has supplied Russia with what she wanted in aluminium, copper, lead, zinc, cobalt, brass, jute, wool, parchment, dyes and shellac, oil and petrol were being supplied by America. Besides tanks and munitions were being taken to Russia. Necessary locomotives and rolling stock were being supplied to Persia to improve the means of communication from the Persian Gulf to Russia. It is stated that "all United States' promises are being fulfilled."

THE UNITED STATES' NEUTRALITY ACT

The House of Representatives has passed the measure for arming United States merchantmen by 259 votes to 138. Earlier the House had rejected by 257 votes to 136 the Opposition proposal to send the measure back to the Foreign Affairs Committee for further hearing. The first witness to appear before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was Mr. Cordell Hull. He stated that the Neutrality Act should be repealed or modified and warned America that the attack by German submarines on American shipping was continuous and that there was reason to believe that it would steadily increase in strength and intensity. He reminded the Committee that when the Neutrality Act was passed America did not intend to waive her right to take the fullest measures needed for self-defence on land and sea if the tide of conquest moved in the direction of America. That tide, he said, had now moved. The Secretary for the Interior, Mr. Ickes, asked for the repeal of the "obsolete and unwise" Neutrality Act. Mr. Wendell Willkie has been at it again. In a nation-wide broadcast, he said that America must abandon the hope of peace and that she could no more negotiate peace with the war-lords of Tokyo than with the conquering dictator of Berlin. On any Continent, in every ocean, America could only stop these partners in piracy. They were winning and unless America acted soon it would be too late. Senator Glass described the Neutrality Act as "craven poltroonery" and said that they should repeal the "damn thing." The demand for the total repeal of the Act is gaining ground and no wonder that a Bill for the complete repeal of the Act has been introduced by three Senators. There could be no doubt that the Bill to permit the arming of merchantmen will be passed at a very early date. The total repeal of the Neutrality Act is perhaps a question of time, though President Roosevelt has modestly suggested that American ships should be allowed to enter belligerent ports as the next step that should be taken.

INVASION OF THE CONTINENT

American correspondents in London of American newspapers have sent many dispatches regarding the demand made by a section of the public in Great Britain for an expeditionary force to be sent to the Continent of Europe to relieve German pressure in Russia. It will be recollected that Mr. Churchill referred to this question in his speech in the House of Commons on September 30th. He acknowledged public interest in the matter and said that the Government have had their attention drawn to such questions several times, but he refused to give gratuitous military information to the enemy and reinforced his argument in regard to "the responsibility of the Government to retain here at home an ample first-class force to beat down and annihilate any invading lodgments from the sea or descents from the air." Germany was rather perturbed and despondent because Mr. Churchill refused to reveal the conclusions of the British War Cabinet on this point. Gradually the bombastic German references to invasion of England have become feeble. On the other hand, Hitler went to the length of saying in December last that if Great Britain tried to gain a foothold anywhere on the Continent, she would encounter the German army. The German people, therefore, are now being prepared to a realisation of the consequences of an invasion of the Continent. This sense of defeatism may be welcomed but on that account there should be no hasty action on the part of the Allies.

Those who favour a land offensive against Germany argue somewhat as follows: Such invasion, they say, would involve Germany in a two-front war, which the German High Command has always dreaded and which would compel the German armies to divide their attention. Again, such an offensive, it is stated, would afford the most effective aid to Russia and avert the danger of a Russian collapse. Such action would also bring the simmering opposition to the Germans in the occupied countries to the boiling point of effective action and afford an opportunity of effective rebellion against German occupation. An invasion of the

Continent would also, it is stated, bring about a depressing effect on the German population conducive to collapse or revolution. Finally, such action would show that Britain meant business and would shrink from no sacrifice to achieve a speedy victory.

PRODUCTION BATTLE MUST BE WON.

As against these arguments, it is said that, as a matter of fact, the activities of the R.A.F. over Germany and occupied countries have already involved Germany in a two-front war. Industrial output of Germany is being appreciably reduced and communications, harbours, invasion ports, aerodromes and other industrial plants are being smashed. Again, Russia has already secured the kind and quantity of aid she requires. Any large-scale offensive such as is suggested would probably reduce and perhaps extinguish the possibility of supply of war materials to Russia, thus increasing that very danger of Russian collapse which the advocates of a Western invasion seek to avert.

It may be mentioned in passing that this apprehension of Russian collapse was considerably stronger throughout the world at the beginning of the campaign than at present. Moreover, such an invasion would intensify the German record of assassinations, murders and shootings. An invasion of the Continent would necessarily involve vast preparation of the population of the occupied countries to help such a land offensive and no account of such preparations can obviously be now given to the public. It is further absurd to assume that civilians and isolated groups can succeed where mobilised armies have failed. During the last war, German collapse and revolution happened after 4 years of land warfare. There is no reason to think that the mere landing of an expeditionary force on the Continent would bring about such a revolution. It should be emphasised that though the output in regard to tanks, planes and munitions of war has been mounting up, there is still a gap between the actual and the potential strength of the Allies. America is also supplying plenty of war materials. A most essential pre-requisite of a land operation is the winning of the production race in which Britain was unfortunately a late starter. This production race is being gradually won by British blockade, British defence against the German war on shipping, R.A.F. bombing of German industries and the defence of British industries and it will be wrong to divert British energy from these directions. Finally, a German thrust in the south appears to indicate that the defence line from Egypt to Iran would be the scene of conflict between Great Britain and Germany. The defence of the Middle East has become very vital more than ever before. The great importance of the present stage of war, particularly of the defence of India, is that the Nile-Caucasus front should be held and supplied. It is pertinent to mention in this connexion that Lord Moyne stated in the House of Lords on Wednesday last that a West Front expedition would be madness.

American military commentators, it is refreshing to note, have stated explicitly that any invasion plan is impracticable and is likely to result in disaster. The *New York Times* Military Correspondent says for instance:

> "To-day Russia's situation is such that there is no time to prepare and mount an invasion. Russia may well have sustained almost mortal losses before it could succeed in its objective of drawing off large forces of German troops from the east. So far as the present battle is concerned, only Russia can save herself. Britain has not trained divisions, planes, ships and equipment to undertake with much hope of success a serious invasion of Europe."

It is believed in American circles that Germany has still about 100 divisions on the Western Front to repel any invasion by Great Britain in the West. Britain, it is said, has only about 20 divisions for an invasion effort.

PROGRESS OF BATTLE FOR MOSCOW

The Battle for Moscow has now been in progress for more than a month and the past week has witnessed some of the grimmest and bloodiest fighting that history has ever recorded. The tenacity and ferocity of the Russian resistance has more than matched the German will to advance; Hitler has thrown his men and material recklessly into the battle but the Russians fight every inch of ground and exact a terrific toll from the Germans. Nor do the heroic defenders lack well-trained and well-equipped reserves, who are moving in a constant stream to the fighting line.

It appears, in fact, as if the fury of Hitler's onslaught is spending itself. The Germans have not been able to make appreciable progress in the central sector for some days now and there have been no large movements. The stubborn Russian resistance, as "Annalist" the well-known military commentator says, has introduced the time element into the struggle, which may well stand the defenders of Moscow in good stead should they be called upon to man their gates. The citizens of the capital have risen in its defence and the Russian Radio speaks of "a steel wall" around Moscow.

The nearest that the Germans have got to Moscow is on the direct high road to it through Smolensk which Napoleon took in 1812. The Germans reached as far as Mojaisk, about 60 miles from the capital, but were thrown back to Bordino in a fierce Russian counter-attack.

Later, however, the Germans were able to break through at a few places in the Mojaisk

area and the Russians, fighting as stubbornly as ever, took up new positions of defence. The Germans also claimed the fall of Kalinin, north-west of Moscow, on the Leningrad-Moscow Railway, but the Russians appear to have re-occupied the town. In another sector round Moscow, the Germans advanced as far as Kaluga (150 miles south of the capital) and a fierce struggle is raging there. The railway town of Orel which the Germans captured last week is again in hands. And the tall German claims, made from Hitler's headquarters, to have "ended" the double battle of Briansk and Vyazma with the "annihilation" of Marshal Timoshenko's army and the capture of over six hundred thousand prisoners have proved hollow. The Russian troops that were to have been "encircled" by the Germans have fought their way out and joined the main Russian army defending the approaches to Moscow. General Zhukov, former Soviet Chief of Staff, has taken over the command of the Russian Army of the centre and responsibility for the defence of Moscow from Marshal Timoshenko, who has been entrusted with another job.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION

Thus while the situation in the central sector is still regarded as serious (and must remain so until this tremendous Battle for Moscow is decided one way or the other), it must be held to be better than it was a week ago. But M. Stalin is not taking any chances with the defence of Moscow. He has proclaimed a State of Siege in the capital "in order to assure the defence of Moscow and strengthen the rear of the forces defending the city as well as in order to stop underground activities of spies and agents of German Fascists." And in an Order of the Day, M. Stalin declares "Moscow will be defended to the last. The citizens are remaining calm and are preparing to render every assistance to the troops defending the capital." "Tanks and planes from England and America are coming to our help," declared the Military Commissar of the tenth battalion of the Moscow Home Guard, Boris Abramovich Bakshev, in a broadcast to the citizens of Moscow. He added, "From all corners of our vast country, reinforcements are streaming forward. Our determination and our vast resources will crush the Fascist scum at the approaches to Moscow. Knowing my men and their patriotism, I know we shall not falter. We shall not lose Moscow."

The situation in the north, especially around Leningrad, is equally hopeful. The heroic defenders of that city seem determined to defy all the Nazis' strength and wile. Not only that. The Russian army under Marshal Voroshilov is incessantly harrying the Germans with powerful counter-attacks just outside Leningrad. And it is now revealed that a strong Russian force has been landed by sea west of Leningrad in the rear of the Germans and has given a good account of itself. And, despite all Finnish claims, the Arctic port of Murmansk is safe in Russian hands.

The situation in the south is, however, as critical as in the centre. Little progress, it is true, has been made by the Germans in their drive from Poltava to Kharkov and the attack on the Crimean Peninsula, just renewed, appears to have been held by the Russians defending the Perekop Isthmus. But Marshal Budenny, commanding the Russian army in this sector, is seriously embarrassed by the German successes on the coast of the Sea of Azov which are undoubtedly a prelude to a full-fledged German attempt to take by storm the key-city of Rostov on the Don, through which pass railways and an oil pipe-line from the Caucasus. The Germans have captured Taganrog and this certainly constitutes a danger to Rostov. The Germans also claim to have entered Stalino.

Further south, the Russians have evacuated Odessa, the operations taking eight days and going according to plan. They have saved a large amount of their equipment and left nothing but "scorched earth" behind. The entire garrison has gone to strengthen the great Russian Naval Base of Sebastopol, which now assumes even greater importance in view of the German drive to the Caucasus. The Germans and the Rumanians loudly proclaim their triumph in "subduing" Odessa after their long siege; but as the Russians make it clear, the evacuation was not forced by the Axis troops but was a strategic step taken by the Russian High Command of their own volition. As the *Times of India* points out, "from a military point of view, its defence served little purpose once the Nazis reached the Sea of Azov and headed for Kharkov. There was latterly no parallel with Tobruk, since that town sits athwart a narrow line of communications to an enemy firmly held at the front; this was not the case with Odessa." And the Russians urgently wanted elsewhere the troops locked up in that city.

CONFIDENCE IN RUSSIA

All things considered, one feels that Mr. Averell Harriman, Leader of the American delegation to the Moscow Three-Power Conference, is right in reporting to President Roosevelt on his return that he has "great confidence in the Russian situation." British and American help is being rushed to the heroic Russian armies who show an unbroken front to the enemy. That the Russian Government themselves are determined on resistance and feel confident of victory is evident from their decision to leave Moscow and to establish themselves at Kujbyshev, an important industrial town formerly known as Samara, about 550 miles south-east of Moscow on the Volga river. The new seat of

(Continued on page 7)

WHITHER JAPAN?

CRISIS AGAIN IN THE FAR EAST

The situation in the Far East is again causing concern. There has been a change of Cabinet in Japan. Prince Konoye, the Prime Minister, who initiated talks with the United States in order to reach an understanding on the Pacific question, has resigned. A new Ministry under General Tojo has been formed. On paper it does not look more agressive than its predecessor. But the new Foreign Minister, Mr. Shigenori Togo, is expected to look for guidance to Berlin where he was for some time Japan's Ambassador. Possibly that is why he has been chosen in preference to Mr. Shigemitsu, Japan's Ambassador in London, who is now on a visit to Tokyo and who was equally available. The retention of four civilian members of the previous Cabinet is generally held to be more a matter of expediency than policy. Far more significant are the changes in the so-called "Little Cabinet"—of men who held key posts in the Administration and exert an influence often greater than that of the Cabinet proper. The most important appointment to this Little Cabinet is that of Mr. Masayuki Tani as Head of the Information Bureau. Mr. Tani, a former Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, was nominated as Ambassador to France two years ago but was not acceptable to the then Democratic Government of France.

And it must not be forgotten that General Tojo is a confirmed nationalist, ardent to the point of aggressiveness. He unites in himself the offices of Prime Minister, Minister for War and Minister for Home Affairs. General Tojo (who was also War Minister in the Konoye Cabinet) has never concealed his affiliations with the inner councils of the Japanese Army. There is every warrant for the common belief—despite denials in Tokyo—that this is a War Cabinet though there is a nominal predominance of civilian Ministers. It is also equally evident that Japan expects to profit by the developments in the war situation. If she feels that Russia cannot effectively resist Germany in the West, she may strike at the Russian Maritime Provinces in the East. True she has a Non-Aggression Agreement with Russia. But has such a thing ever deterred her or her Axis partner? Ironically enough, it was only last week that Russia and Japan signed an agreement, finally settling the border problems between Outer Mongolia and Manchukuo, countries which are in their respective spheres of influence. Japan has periodically threatened to cut off American supplies reaching Russia through the Far Eastern port of Vladivostok; but Russia has warned her against any interference and the United States is determined to keep that supply line open.

Or, Japan may move in the South. The Netherlands East Indies constitute a formidable proposition though Japan has been casting covetous eyes on their raw products and their strategic bases. Thailand may appear to be an easier prey to the war-mongers at Tokyo. They have already played the bully to Indo-China and secured valuable military, naval and air bases, directly threatening Thailand. The latter has repeatedly declared her determination to defend herself against any attack. She has not become a casualty in the war of nerves which the Japanese Press and Radio are conducting against her in the approved Nazi fashion. But she cannot hope to resist for long any Japanese attack unless she is backed up by the Democratic powers.

NEW PREMIER'S DECLARATION

Finally, for once, Japan may mean what she says. Immediately after the first meeting of his Cabinet, General Tojo declared, in a broadcast, "Japan will continue to contribute towards world peace through the execution of her basic policy of bringing about a settlement of the China incident and the creation of a prosperity sphere in Eastern Asia. Internally, we must consolidate our war-time structure, while externally, we must strengthen our ties with treaty nations. I am confident that we can achieve these objectives through the firm determination of the entire nation. I ask the nation for full co-operation and faith in the Government and thereby justify the glorious three thousand years old tradition of Japan." But the "China Incident" does not appear to be so easy of solution after five years of war. Recently the Chinese have been giving as good as they are getting and Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, their intrepid leader, has expressed the utmost confidence in the eventual outcome of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

A decision is thus rendered very difficult for Japan's new Premier. In his first Order of the Day, addressed to members of the War Cabinet, he declared that "Japan now stands at the cross-roads of life or death" and appealed to them to be prepared to sacrifice everything in order to surmount the current crisis. He again indulged in the usual talk of "the encirclement of Japan by foreign powers"—Does this indicate an uneasy foreboding that Japan has backed the wrong horse in aligning herself with the Axis powers?—and urged the necessity for establishing "iron unity" among all fighting arms and the people.

The Premier's first move is expected, to be to request a definite "Yes" or "No" to Japan's propositions before breaking off the Japanese-American negotiations at Washington. They are already near breaking point, though the Japanese Ambassador has again had a lengthy conference with Mr. Cordell Hull and Mr. Sumner Welles at Washington. As indicated by Mr. Churchill recently, Britain and America have no thought of appeasement

and insist that Japanese aggression must stop. On October 1, Col. Knox, outspoken Secretary of the United States Navy, declared that Nazism would be defeated without doubt and went on to say "that we shall proceed from one measure to another until we have taken adequate steps to bring defeat to the legions of Hitler and his satellites, Italy and Japan, again, I have no doubt".

WASHINGTON TALKS

It is now possible (says Mr. George Holman) to draw a fairly accurate picture of what has been going on behind the scenes of the Tokyo-Washington talks. After his return from the Atlantic Conference, President Roosevelt, anxious to avoid war in the Pacific and prevent Japan from attacking Russia, made an offer to Japan unfreezing Japanese assets and lifting the trade embargoes on the condition that Japan withdrew from Indo-China. Japan replied with a somewhat startling suggestion. She proposed a standstill in the armament of Singapore, the Dutch East Indies, Australia and the Philippines; she requested the intervention of America to achieve a Sino-Japanese peace settlement. The Japanese reply left little ground whereon to build any sort of Pacific settlement. Yet the negotiations continued. Followed the despatch of a personal message by Prince Konoye, then Japanese Prime Minister, to President Roosevelt which, as now everybody seems agreed, contained an invitation to a Pacific meeting with the President after the model of the Atlantic Conference. It seems that the President answered neither in the affirmative nor in the negative, but let it be known that, in his opinion, any such meeting should rather crown a settlement than initiate it. During the last few weeks it transpired that the negotiations had reached a deadlock. Japanese conditions for the settlement of the Chinese "incident" —the control of Chinese treaty ports and four northern provinces of China and the maintenance of military garrisons in other parts of the country—were not acceptable to Washington, which refused to recognize Japan's special status in East Asia and insisted on the reintroduction of the open door principle. Last hopes were pinned on the return of Japan's Minister in Washington, Mr. Wakasugi, from Tokyo with new instructions. Until the very last days both Tokyo and Washington showed themselves anxious to avoid any occurrences which might poison the atmosphere; the President asked Senator Dies to postpone his investigations into possible Japanese espionage in the Panama Canal zone; Tokyo decreed that the anniversary of the Tripartite Pact should be celebrated on tiptoes. It now seems that Col. Knox's drastic remark signals to the American public that the negotiations have definitely collapsed.

WHAT JAPAN HAS TO RECKON WITH

The nations forming, along with America, the Democratic Front in the Far East are indeed ready to counter any possible Japanese move. The A.B.C.D. Front, as it is called, comprising America, the British Commonwealth, China and the Dutch East Indies, have been strengthening their military, naval and air forces against a possible show-down with Japan. "We do not want war with Japan" said Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, "but if Japan insists on it, we are ready." Sir Robert, who has been mainly instrumental in rendering the great British Naval Base at Singapore well-nigh impregnable, has just had a series of conferences with the Dutch defence chiefs at Batavia and with the Australian War Council at Melbourne. Both the Australian and New Zealand Premiers have declared their determination to resist and defeat any aggressive action by Japan. The Netherlands East Indies is ready to repel any invasion and resolved to see that not a single valuable area falls to the Japanese. Thailand and behind her, Burma have consolidated their defence. China is striking blow for Japanese blow and Russia's Far Eastern Army, Fleet and Air Force are more than a match for anything that Japan may move up from Manchuria.

Lastly, there is the United States. Not only has she been rushing aircraft and other supplies to the Democratic forces in the Far East. She has taken a few measures of her own. The Philippines is now on a war-footing, ready to fight side by side with America. As if to serve notice that it is feeling fit for any show-down in the Pacific, the United States Navy Department announced that the programme of constructing air bases in the Pacific was progressing very well. Without so much as a mention of Japan, the official announcement said, "In short the new Pacific bases programme is keeping well apace of the general expansion programme of the Navy in building up the nation's Two-ocean Navy to the greatest array of sea-power the world has ever seen." The Navy said that the Midway Islands base, about twelve hundred miles from Honolulu, "has been completed far ahead of schedule." In addition to originally planned construction there, the Navy stated, "substantial expansions" are under way. The Navy also reported exceptional progress in the development of the Alaskan air bases in Sitka Kodiak, and Dutch Harbour. The Navy statement said that a huge new dry dock at Pearl Harbour (Hawaii) was basically complete and that the Kaneohe Air Base in the Island of Oahu was in operation even while enlargements were being carried forward.

Japan must realize that the members of the A.B.C.D. Front are united in their resolve to meet aggression anywhere—in Siberia, in Thailand or in the Dutch East Indies. It is still not too late for her to back out. Will the war-lords of Tokyo allow her to do so?

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

SOVIET STAND

Sir Bernard Pares writes in a recently published book :—

"There is a fine Russian word for a fine Russian quality—*vynoslivost*, 'lasting a thing out,' and it applies not only to the man but to the nation, not only to the body, but the mind."

It is this fine quality that is showing itself now round Vyazma and north of Briansk and Orel, where Soviet soldiers are putting every ounce of their strength, every scintilla of their spirit, into the defence of Moscow—150 Kilometres in their rear.

Hitler must look in vain for any sign of a crack appearing in the firm facade of Russian morale. The 14,000 tanks he has thrown into the present battle have not scared the Russians, nor can all Goering's dive-bombers and parachutists shake their spirit. Like the people of Britain, they can take all Hitler has to hurl against them and still stand firm, eager to hit back hard when their turn comes.

Pravda's phrase, "The danger is great and threatening," means just what it says. It certainly does not mean, as such phrases did during the French campaign, that all is nearly lost. There is no military reason why resistance should not be continued, even if Moscow fell. The Soviet Government has been noted for the frankness of its admissions and the sharpness of its self-criticisms. Stalin's speech in July provides an example of the first; the second is exemplified by the severe criticism of Russia's transport facilities at a conference held only a few months before the German invasion.

In practice, the Russians have been better than their word, not only in the matter of transport, but also in the efficiency of their Air Force, Navy, Tank forces and mechanised infantry. Hitler himself has had to admit his colossal error in underestimating Russian strength and Russian powers of endurance.

Hitler knows, that apart from any consideration of approaching winter, the campaign in the East is a race against time between his tanks and the ships (and factory output) of the British Empire and the United States of America. Any doubts about the effectiveness of the Anglo-American supply organization were dispelled by Lord Beaverbrook, who said on his return to London :—

"The Russians are now being supplied with much that they had asked for and certainly with all that at present we can give. As for tanks and aircraft, the numbers M. Stalin had asked for, just so many have been promised and, lest there should be any confusion, let it be said that the full numbers promised for the month of October have been provided. Guns we have promised, a few big guns, plenty of small guns and plenty of ammunition. Raw materials too, aluminium, copper, lead, zinc, tin, cobalt, brass, rubber, jute, wool, phosphorus, and diamonds, shellac and a long list of other requirements.

Beaverbrook and Harriman are seeing that Russia is given tools for the task.

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from Page 4*)

the Russian Government is one of the principal ports on the Volga and is in the new oil-bearing district known as "the second Baku" which was producing 6,000 tons of oil daily in 1939. A pipe-line connecting Kujbyshev with the Caspian Sea near Emba was planned as long ago as 1930. Kujbyshev is also on the railway line from Moscow to Orenburg. The Embassies and Diplomatic Missions of foreign powers, and especially the British Military Mission, have moved out with the Russian Government from Moscow. As Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent points out, this decision to remove the seat of Government from Moscow demonstrates in the clearest possible way the inflexible and relentless determination of the Soviet to continue the struggle against Hitler and Fascism. Moscow is hotly assailed by German forces and a movement of the seat of Government would be both logical and good strategy, for it is obvious that it would be quite impossible to run the Government from a city which is directly menaced by the enemy. That the Soviet Government, with their customary foresight, have foreseen the possibility that such a move might be necessary is shown by the fact that some weeks ago important archives and records were removed from Moscow for greater safety to the new seat of Government.

INVASION OF THE CONTINENT

PROS

1. A British invasion of Europe would involve Germany in a two-front war in which her full strength could not be employed on either front.

2. It would constitute the most effective aid to Russia and lessen the danger of Russian collapse.

3. It would bring the simmering opposition to the Germans in the occupied countries to the boiling point of effective action; soldiers of the "V" Army, whose name is legion, would mobilize openly, abandoning their secret sabotage for a more vigorous role.

4. The depressing effect on the German population would hasten internal collapse or revolution.

5. America would be convinced that Britain "means business" and the people of the United States would be encouraged to increase the impetus of their aid programme.

CONS

1. The Royal Air Force has already involved Germany in a two-front war. Large German forces are immobilized in the occupied territories from Stavanger to St. Jean de Luz, from Trondheim to Tobruk. Invasion would make little difference to the present dispositions of the German troops, but would serve to disperse Britain's less numerous forces—a danger that must be avoided until the prospect of an invasion of Britain dwindles.

2. The Russians themselves have clearly stated the kind and quantity of aid they require. Britain and America are bearing their full share of this burden. Large-scale operations on the Western Front would greatly reduce, and perhaps extinguish altogether, the possibility of supply to Russia, thus increasing the danger of Russian collapse.

3. The prophets of an early "European Revolution" in concert with a British offensive assume that civilians and isolated groups can succeed where mobilized armies failed. The present "Go Slow" campaign of the industrial workers in the "V" Army is taking a steady toll. In the event of invasion, it might be smothered by wholesale massacre, at which the Nazis have proved themselves pastmasters.

4. In the last war German collapse and revolution followed military reverses suffered after four years of land warfare. For two years the German armies have not known defeat. They have marched on from one aggressive victory to another. Something more subtle and more substantial than the mere landing of an expeditionary force on the Continent will be necessary to start disintegration of the German Home Front.

5. It would be the height of folly to subordinate military considerations to the advantage of securing favourable headlines in the American newspapers.

WHAT IT ALL MEANS

To be effective, a British invasion of the Continent must be on a sufficiently large scale to achieve what no power, even Russia, has yet succeeded in doing—to inflict decisive defeat on the German land forces. An essential prerequisite of such an offensive is the winning of the production race in which Britain was a late starter. British blockade measures, British defence against the German war on shipping, British bombing of German industries and the defence of British industries are all factors in the winning of the production race from which British strategy cannot afford to be divorced.

Defence of the British Isles is still the most vital single factor in the strategy that will finally beat Hitler. The Middle East and Far East are other key points. They must be defended at all costs. While British leaders must concentrate for the time being on forcing the maximum possible dispersion of the German armies, not until the production race has been won, not until Britain has built up a colossal reserve of ships, tanks and planes, can they afford to disperse their own forces.

No arm-chair strategist can know the exact day on which Britain will be able to switch her strategy from the defensive to the offensive. Everyone knows that the day must and will come. Churchill of all men can be relied upon to recognize it when it dawns.

In his cable to General Wavell, Mr. Churchill said that India's fighting men would soon be defending their homes and their loved ones on a front from the Nile to the Caucasus. That vital front should not be weakened for the sake of a Continental adventure in the West.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 8—15, 1941

AUSTRALIA AND THE AXIS

"Labour disapproves of the Government's policy of giving unqualified aid to Britain in the prosecution of the war." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, October 6. German and Italian news in English, October 7.*)

Nothing could be more pitiful than the manner in which the Axis has tried to make political capital out of Australia's internal affairs.

Here is what Mr. Curtin, the Federal Premier, said on October 8: "Australia wants to maintain British justice and British law and knows she cannot maintain them unless we wage war with all our effort. I wish always to be able to say that the Australian people gave all their resources in this war as a gift of free men and women to a Government, toward the accomplishment of victory."

The whole Cabinet consists of men who have distinguished themselves in one way or another connected with the war effort. Mr. Forde, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, said on October 4: "Australia under Labour will be able to play her part honourably and effectively as an integral member of the British Commonwealth."

DEEP IMPRESSIONS

"The Fuehrer's speech has made a deep impression abroad." (*German news in Hindustani, October 6.*)

"Hitler is obviously entertaining an unoptimistic view concerning the developments of the war. The Fuehrer frankly admitted that Russia is developing into an arsenal despite the tremendous German victories." (Japanese paper "*Yomiuri*" *on the Fuehrer's speech.*)

"Rotterdam was raided by the British Air Force on October 5. Only residential quarters were bombed and the indignation of the Dutch people is mounting." (*German news in English, October 7.*)

The indignation of the Dutch people is mounting, but against whom? They have already shown their attitude towards Britain. During the Royal Air Force raids in July the people of Holland came out into the streets and waved to the pilots to help them to attack military targets more effectively. The Quisling Government had to issue orders against such demonstrations, but they still go on.

WHAT GOEBBELS SAID IN 1940

Plenty

" The excellent wheat harvest in France has not been damaged by the war. For the first time in modern history, Poland, a very fertile grain producer, has been the object of an intensive German cultivation. These two facts with the plentiful supplies of Germany, constitute a convincing refutation of all those unsubstantial rumours about scarcity of foodstuffs in Europe."—*German Broadcast in English, July* 17, 1940.

" Harvesting in Europe has just begun and leaves no doubt that it is satisfactory, Germany is completely independent of this year's crops, having stored away vast reserves of grain for this year and next year."—*German Broadcast in English, August* 4, 1940.

" Starvation in Europe and especially of the German people can be considered to-day as only a monster of the British imagination. General Starvation, the last ally of Britain, disappeared before the war from the ranks of the living. Today nearly all foodstuffs are lacking in England and the situation becomes worse day by day."—*German Broadcast to Hungary, June* 28, 1940.

Scarcity

" Britain wants to starve the populations of French territories because famine has often spelt the beginning of revolutions."—*German Broadcast in French, August* 15, 1940.

" If England refuses to let food supplies pass through to the peoples of occupied areas, these people should not beg Germany to relieve their hunger; they should apply to the British."—*German Broadcast in Dutch, August* 9, 1940.

" If Britain gives up the idea of this blockade, serious food shortage could be avoided and without providing the least assistance to Germany herself."—*German Broadcast to Brazil, August* 10, 1940.

WHAT GOEBBELS SAYS IN 1941

Plenty

" The prospects of a good harvest in most European countries are very good."—*German Broadcast in English, July* 1, 1941.

" The grain crop of 1941 will be much better than that of previous years."—*German Trans-Ocean News Agency, August* 1, 1941.

Scarcity

" The weather has been unsuitable for harvesting. Grains, potatoes and vegetables have to a large extent not yet been brought in. The situation is serious."—*German-controlled Norwegian Radio, September* 12, 1941.

" This year there are farmers who would not hear, see or speak of the grain harvest. Certainly this year's harvest has not turned out in the way to which we have been accustomed."—*German Broadcast in German, August* 25, 1941.

Dr. Darre has told us that German harvests are good and yet:

Why were 700,000 tons of bread grain taken from Poland in 1940? 1,500,000 pigs, 7,000,000 hens, 150,000 cows taken from Denmark? 200 tons of fish daily, and 20,000 tons of sugar taken from Norway? 90 per cent of her reserves of butter and 43,000 tons of potatoes taken from the Netherlands?

Because:

Fats can be turned into glycerine for explosives.

Starch can be used for the production of alcohol, acetone and glycerine.

Sugar and Sugar-beet are readily convertible into alcohol.

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

17th Oct.—The Royal Air Force bombs objectives at Duisburg and other places in the Ruhr and also attacks docks at Dunkirk, Ostend and Calais. Enemy shipping off Norwegian Coast and Frisian Islands are also bombed.

Slight enemy activity over Eastern England is reported and one enemy bomber is shot down.

18th Oct.—The Royal Air Force bombs targets in Western Germany.

19th Oct.—The Royal Air Force carries out several offensive patrols over the Cherbourg Peninsula. Radio stations are machine-gunned and two enemy aircraft destroyed.

20th Oct.—The Royal Air Force carries out a number of offensive patrols over Northern France. Attacks are made on a munition train, enemy supply columns, troops, gun-positions and enemy aircraft on the ground.

An enemy patrol vessel off the French coast is also attacked and an enemy supply ship off the Dutch coast.

A few enemy aircraft drop bombs in East Anglia, causing slight damage. One German aircraft is destroyed.

21st Oct.—One enemy aircraft is shot down into the sea off the South Coast of England.

22nd Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks Bremen and Emden and also French and Dutch occupation ports and aerodromes.

In combats over France 13 enemy planes are destroyed as against 10 of the Royal Air Force.

Enemy planes drop bombs on two towns on the east coast of England.

23rd Oct.—The industrial centre of Mannheim in Rhineland, the docks at Le Havre and the harbour at Brest are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

German aircraft raid scattered points in North Wales and the Merseyside, causing little damage and some casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17th Oct.—British aircraft bomb Naples. British patrols are again active in the Tobruk and Frontier areas.

The Royal Air Force attacks Sardinia, Syracuse and Tarapani in Sicily, Axis transport in the Western Desert, and Axis ships at sea.

Naval aircraft torpedo two Axis merchantmen, each between five and six thousand tons, and hit another of about 4,000 tons.

18th Oct.—The first batch of wounded Italians arrive in Italy from the Russian front.

19th Oct.—" Plastering " of landing grounds at Derna, Gazala, Benghazi, Azozo and Sicily, and safe return form the " high spots " of a Royal Air Force Middle East Communiqué.

More Italian merchantmen are torpedoed by British naval aircraft.

The Royal Air Force carries out successful air attacks on objective in Naples and Syracuse.

20th Oct.—Two Italian torpedo boats are sunk in the Central Mediterranean, probably striking some mines.

An Italian communiqué states that the British Air Force have raided Benghazi, Tripoli and Acireale in Sicily.

22nd Oct.—Italy admits a five-hour raid by the Royal Air Force on Naples.

Benghazi is bombed by heavy aircraft of the Royal Air Force.

Reports from Milan say that a big operation is imminent in Libya on either British or Axis initiative.

The British Navy bombards enemy gun-positions in the Tobruk sector.

23rd Oct.—Reports are circulating in America that Italian army leaders are on the brink of revolt and that the Germans are planning the occupation of Italy.

Dr. Dalton, British Minister for Economic Warfare, warns Italians that the sooner they declare themselves against Mussolini, the better for them.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

17th Oct.—The United States destroyer *Kearney* is torpedoed and damaged by a German submarine 350 miles south-west of Iceland. President Roosevelt asserts that torpedoeing has taken place in the United States defence zone.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, declares that an Axis attack on Iceland now will meet with joint resistance from British and American forces. He adds that American troops will eventually replace all British troops in Iceland.

The United States House of Representatives passes the measure for arming U.S. merchantmen.

The American Federation of Labour recommends full assistance to the U.S.S.R.

18th Oct.—The United States Navy Department announces that its programme for the construction of air bases in the Pacific is progressing very well.

Mr. Harriman, leader of the American delegation to Moscow, returns to Washington from London.

The United States Press urges the repeal of the Neutrality Act. The veteran Senator Carter Glass demands its repeal.

19th Oct.—Rear-Admiral Byrd declares that "Adolf Hitler will not win unless he attacks and defeats the United States."

Mr. Wendell Willkie in a broadcast states that the United States must abandon the hope of peace and go all out to defeat Hitler and his Axis partners before it is too late.

20th Oct.—The United States Navy department announces that the destroyer *Kearney* has reached port with eleven men reported missing and two reported injured.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, says that diplomatic notes are not often sent to international highwaymen, while replying to a query whether the United States of America is protesting to Germany about the attack on *Kearney*.

21st Oct.—Mr. Cordell Hull and Mr. Harold Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, recommend the repeal of the Neutrality Act.

Mr. Harriman reports to President Roosevelt that he has great confidence in the Russian situation.

The United States Treasury advances Russia 30 million dollars cash against future deliveries of gold.

President Roosevelt announces that an American freighter is torpedoed off Africa.

The American-owned ship *Bold Venture* flying the Panamanian flag is torpedoed *en route* from Baltimore to England.

22nd Oct.—The leaders of the British Management and Labour Mission to America, express confidence that the United States arms output will reach its peak in the spring and will be sufficient "to lick Hitler or anyone else."

Commenting on the torpedoing of the American freighter Lehigh, President Roosevelt says "Arm them (ships) all".

23rd Oct.—It is reported that an American-owned tanker has been torpedoed on her way to England.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

17th Oct.—Soviet and German armies are suffering heavy losses. Marshal Timoshenko's armies are reported to be intact and fighting back with undiminished fury.

The defenders of Leningrad continue to counter-attack vigorously and claim some successes.

A successful Russian counter-attack drives the Germans back from Kalinin with heavy losses to the enemy.

The Nazi attack in the Orel direction slackens.

18th Oct.—The Moscow Radio announces that "the enemy is at the gates of Moscow but we shall not allow him to enter our city."

The Russians are powerfully countering the German attempt in the south to reach the industrial Don basin.

The recapture of Orel and another town in the Leningrad sector is announced by the Russians.

Odessa, it is revealed, has been evacuated in time and in perfect order.

The German High Command claims the successful conclusion of the double battle of Briansk and Vyazma with the "annilation" of Marshal Timoshenko's armies and the capture of over 600,000 prisoners.

19th Oct.—German troops are driven out of three towns in the western direction of the front and the Russians change attack into counter-attack also in the Kalinin district and in the Vyazma sector.

Odessa is incorporated in the new Rumanian Province of Transniestria by a decree published in Bucharest.

20th Oct.—M. Stalin proclaims a State of Siege in Moscow, which is to be defended street by street, house by house.

Soviet troops near Vyzama succeed in breaking through the surrounding Germans.

The Russian Government are now established at Kujbyshev (formerly known as Samara), 550 miles south-east of Moscow, on the banks of the Volga.

21st Oct.—Soviet troops repulse repeated attacks by large formations of German tanks in the Western direction of the front.

Moscow Radio announces the recapture of Pogastie near Leningrad.

The Russians are reported to have taken the initiative in the Leningrad sector.

Soviet troops cause several German losses in the Orel sector.

A German High Command Communiqué announces the occupation of the area around Stalino.

The Germans also claim the capture of the Baltic Island of Dagoe.

The British Embassy in Russia arrives at Russia's new capital, Kujbyshev.

22nd Oct.—The Russians entrench themselves in new positions following a German break-through at Mojaisk.

The Russians stop the German thrust to Rostov on the southern front.

Mr. Jesse Jones, United States Federal Loan Administrator, makes a further advance of two million pounds to Russia to buy munitions in the United States.

23rd Oct.—The Germans launch a fierce offensive on the approaches to the Crimea and fierce fighting is raging in the Donetz basin where the Russians have inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.

The Soviets announce the evacuation of Taganrog.

It is revealed that the Rumanians have lost twelve divisions in the siege of Odessa.

Further fierce fighting in the vicinity of Mojaisk is reported. The Germans claim that some of their Spearheads fought their way at some points to 38 miles from Moscow and that Moscow has been heavily bombed.

General Zhukov, former Soviet Chief of Staff, is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Russian western sector (including Moscow). Marshal Timoshenko is transferred to another post.

The House of Lords passes a resolution expressing admiration for "the heroic resistance of our Russian Ally." Lord Beaverbrook says that the Russians will be able to reconstruct their industrial resources as the British did under Mr. Churchill's leadership last year.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

17th Oct.—H.I.M. the ex-Shah of Iran is proceeding temporarily to Mauritius.

18th Oct.—The British and Soviet forces in Teheran move out to take positions elsewhere in Iran.

23rd Oct.—It is stated that 600 Axis nationals have left Iran in a troopship for internment abroad.

Britain sends Turkey a consignment of spare parts from Heinkel aircraft engines shot down on English soil.

SHIPPING

21st Oct.—The First Lord of the Admiralty reveals that British, Allied and Neutral shipping losses have been less in the last twelve months when they have had to face co-ordinated air, submarine and mine attacks than they were from submarine attacks alone in 1917.

Britain releases to the United States of America 15 oil tankers, formerly of American registry, to be used for alleviating petrol shortage on the East Coast of America.

22nd Oct.—The Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission says that American ship construction has caught up ton for ton with the sinking of Allied ships.

A British submarine sinks two enemy supply ships in the course of an attack on a convoy in the Mediterranean.

The United States Navy Department announces that three more British warships, making a total of 35, have arrived in American ports for repairs.

23rd Oct.—Mr. Harold Ickes announces that Great Britain is returning 40 tankers borrowed from the United States.

THE FAR EAST

17th Oct.—Lieut.-Gen. Tojo, War Minister, is commanded to form the new Japanese Cabinet.

A Singapore Radio spokesman declares that tension in the Far East is very near the breaking point.

All American merchantships are reported to have been ordered out of Japanese and Chinese waters.

The number of Japanese troops in Manchuria is stated to have been doubled.

18th Oct.—The new Japanese Cabinet is formed with Genl. Tojo as Premier and Mr. Shigenori Togo as Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Curtin, the Australian Premier, declares that Australia is ready to hit back at any aggressor in the Pacific region

19th Oct.—The Japanese claim to be engaged in mopping-up operations round Ichang, the Chinese strategic town.

20th Oct.—Gen. Tojo, the Japanese Premier, declares that Japan stands at the crossroads of life or death and appeals for all possible sacrifice to be made so that the country may break off the "encirclement" by foreign powers.

A Japanese troop ship has been sunk by Chinese gun-fire on the Yangtse river.

22nd Oct.—Air-raid precautions are being tested in Tokyo.

The Australian War Cabinet meets to consider the Far Eastern crisis.

23rd Oct.—Japanese troops movements are reported in Indo-China, close to the Thailand border.

The Australian War Council discusses the Pacific situation.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

17th Oct.—Marshal Petain, refering to the internment of MM. Daladier, Blum, Reynaud, Mandel and General Gamelin, asks the French people to have faith in him.

19th Oct.—Genl. Karl Frederick Holtz, the Nazi Military Commander of the Nantes district of Occupied France, is assassinated.

20th Oct.—Genl. Weygand leaves Vichy for North Africa after attending a French Cabinet meeting.

21st Oct.—Fifty hostages, the Germans threaten, will be shot as a reprisal for the assassination of the German Commander of Nantes. Fifty more hostages will be shot if the guilty persons are not arrested before midnight of October 23.

The German authorities arrest the Prefect of the Loire Inferieure department in which Nantes lies.

22nd Oct.—A German officer is assassinated in Bordeaux and fifty hostages are arrested by the Occupation authorities.

Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan appeal to Frenchmen to stop shooting Germans in view of the terrible reprisals.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

20th Oct.—The Bulgarians are unable to keep order in occupied Greece and so five German regiments have been sent there.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19th Oct.—Mr. de Valera warns Eire that there is every possibility of the country being involved in war and even being invaded.

Acting on representations from the British and Russian Governments, the Afghan Government ask German and Italian nationals not engaged in Consular duties to leave the country.

The Cuban Secretary of State requests the Spanish Government to withdraw their Press Attache at Havana as the latter has been indulging in Falangist activities and totalitarian propaganda.

21st Oct.—President de la Guardia of Panama signs a decree, authorising ships of the Panama registry to be armed in order to defend themselves against all attacks.

22nd Oct.—Great Britain and Mexico resume diplomatic relations that were broken off in 1938 on the question of the Mexican Government expropriating foreign oil companies.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK.

In the north of the Russian battle-front, the Germans are on the defensive, while the Russians are counter-attacking near Leningrad. In the centre, the threat to Moscow is still there, but during the last few days, the situation has been easier. The nearest point the Germans have reached is 30 to 40 miles near the City. In the south, the situation is serious. The Nazis are possibly 10 or 15 miles from Rostov. The battle for Crimea, which the Germans claim to have penetrated, is still raging, but the Germans have lost enormously in men and material. The Russians have evacuated Kharkov.

The 'invade Europe' cry is still heard in Great Britain and elsewhere. Mr. Anthony Eden gave a pledge that the Government would give Russia every help in their power by every means in their power. In this connection, he said that a treaty of alliance with Persia was being prepared which would bring about stabilty in that area and enable the British Government to open up a route of supplies to Russia which would have the inestimable advantage of being available at all seasons of the year. Arrangements to increase the capacity of the railways and the volume of traffic the roads can carry are already being made.

The following points as regards recent developments in America may be noted :—

(1) The majority of Senators favour the widening of the Bill to amend the Neutrality Act so as to permit American ships to sail anywhere. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has voted in favour of arming ships to sail anywhere on the high seas.

(2) The United States tank production programme would be approximately doubled, according to President Roosevelt. The new programme exceeded 2,000 medium tanks monthly.

(3) The 5,985 million dollar Lease and Lend Bill has been passed by both the Houses and has been signed by the President.

(4) It is estimated that American planes will be turned out at the rate of 250 planes daily from July 1942 and the present rate of joint Anglo-American production is stated to be 35,000 yearly.

Mr. Churchill addressed a communication to the Greek Prime Minister on the anniversary of the attack by Italy on Greece. After expressing the gratitude of the British people to the Hellenes for all they have done and are doing for the Allied cause, he referred to Greece's Albanian victories. Mr. Churchill continued: "The glory of Greece shines not only in her antiquity but even brighter in these tragic years. It is vindicated by the constancy of her people in cruel bondage. Their martyrdom will be avenged by a pan-Hellenic army of liberation. The unity of all her sons and daughters behind their King and Government in the cause of their fatherland will bring its sure reward."

The Berlin radio paid a tribute to the effectiveness of British convoys. The anti-aircraft defences of the Atlantic convoys were

ferocious. An attack on a convoy was comparable, it is said, with nothing less than the desperate assault on a mighty and powerful line of fortifications by great infantry assault units. The fact that all merchantmen were armed with one or several anti-air guns or machine guns and carried barrage balloons with their malicious steel cables made attack extremely difficult. Those commanding the convoys were efficient and vigilant and the anti-aircraft guns were directed with uncanny precision.

President Roosevelt stated at a press conference that he had heard a report that Hitler had gone to one of the prominent Jews in Germany and told him that he would be allowed to remain in that country if he would disclose how Moses made the waters of the Red Sea stand aside in order that the children of Israel could cross!

Col. Knox refused to say 'yes' or 'no' to the question put to him at a press conference whether the American Navy had sunk German submarines. But he added significantly: "The British have been in the war a long time, but you have not read of very many submarines being sunk by the British Navy. This does not mean that many have not been sunk. The withholding of news, however, is just a matter of obvious policy."

CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The Battle for Russia has reached another critical phase. The Germans claim that three divisions supported by aircraft and tanks have broken through the Russian defences on the Perekop Isthmus and penetrated into the Crimean Peninsula. It is added that 15,000 prisoners were captured, while 13 tanks and 109 guns were taken or destroyed. The number of prisoners claimed in relation to artillery and tanks is quite disproportionate; either there should be more guns or fewer captives to make the claim reasonable, writes "Annalist," the famous military commentator. On the face of it, therfore, he concludes, this claim is unreasonable. The Germans may have penetrated into the Crimea, but the Russians will not shrink from admitting it if their lines have indeed been broken. The Russians admit, indeed, the seriousness of the fighting on the Perekop Isthmus and say that the enemy has obtained a foothold in the Soviet defences, but they are fighting like tigers to restore the situation. Assuming the German claim to be true, there is still plenty of room in the Crimea for the Russians to re-form their front and Sebastopol, their chief naval base in the south, is heavily fortified. If Soviet troops fight with the same spirit and tenacity as their comrades in the north, the Germans may find that penetration into the Crimea does not mean its conquest. The really sticky situation just now appears to be in the Donetz Basin between Kharkov and Rostov, because it looks a bit as if Marshal Timoshenko, who has taken over the supreme command of the Southern Russian Army from Marshal Budenny, is having some difficulty in consolidating his troops and establishing a front down here. Anyway the Germans are apparently pretty close to the strategically important town of Rostov, and have also occupied Kharkov, 200 miles to the north-west. As usual, the Germans announced with a fanfare of trumpets quite early in the week that they had taken Kharkov, but fighting continued on in the approaches to the city till a day or two ago. The Germans are making a strong bid for Rostov but the Russians are disputing every inch of the ground and are giving Marshal Timoshenko much-needed time to organise his defences on the Don river.

The latest communiqués from both German and Russian headquarters show that round Moscow the heaviest fighting is taking place at six points: at Kalinin, 100 miles north-west of the city, in the neighbourhood of Mojaisk and Malo-Yeroslavetz, 60 miles west, and 80 miles south-west respectively; and at Volokolansk, 60 miles to the north-west between Mojaisk and Moscow. Also further away to the south-west of the city at Kaluga, and due south between Orel and Tula, where the fighting has been renewed after a comparative lull for a day or two. It is evident that the Germans do not relish the prospect of looking at Moscow through the telescope from winter quarters round the capital and they are going all out to take it and settle down there in comfort for the winter. Most bitter fighting has been going on; Germany's strongest forces and most numerous armoured divisions are striving their utmost to force a passage to this heart of Russian resistance. To date, German troops and aspirations have been foiled and the Nazis' claim to have "annihilated" the Russian Army of the Centre have been falsified. The Soviet troops, exhorted by their High Command not to yield an inch without struggle, have performed prodigies of valour; and the Battle of Moscow, even if it has not gone against Hitler, has certainly not yet been won by him.

And in the north Leningrad is defying all his attempts to storm it. The heroic defenders of that city have again and again taken the offensive at various points and given a hammering to the Germans. Air activity on both sides has increased in tempo. Moscow is now frequently raided but the Russians take a terrific toll of German bombers and, in their turn, have not only caused havoc to German communications in the front but also bombed Berlin.

AXIS NATIONALS IN AFGHANISTAN

A word of praise is due to the Afghan Government for expelling Axis nationals from Afghanistan. This step was taken as a result of friendly representations by the British and Russian Governments. Though only about 90 Germans and some Italians are involved, there can be no doubt that that their presence was a constant danger to India and to Iran as well as to the neutrality of Afghanistan. It is gratifying to note that Afghanistan, by following this advice, has protected herself against Axis nationals abusing the hospitality they have enjoyed by hostile acts or preparations. Of course, the menace of Axis fifth columnists in Iran was far greater and more immediate, but there is no doubt that the Afghan Government's response is in pleasing contrast to the attitude adopted by the ex-Shah of Iran and his Government. It may be stated that none of the 90 Axis nationals who are to leave Afghanistan has any diplomatic status, and no question of interference with diplomatic privileges arises because all Governments have the right at any time to expel aliens whose presence in their country is shown to be undesirable. If these hostile agents had been allowed to remain in Afghanistan, they would have tried to disturb the rear of the Caucasus-Nile front, the North-West Frontier of India and the peace of Afghanistan; and the Afghan Government would have found it very difficult to deal with them effectively because there are so many factions in that country in which the Axis agents would have found a fruitful field for disruptive activities.

"WILD JUSTICE" BY GERMANY

After world-wide protests and appeals by the Vichy Government, the Commander of the German-occupying troops in France has announced that he has suspended the executions of the hundred hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux following the killing of two German officers. He has added that he was, by this postponement, giving the population a chance 'to throw light on the outrages.' One cannot say how soon this decision will be reversed, for the Germans pay little heed to life when their prestige is affected or if they have an object to secure. Those who are familiar with German history after Hitler came into prominence know how he and his associates did not scruple to strike terror into their political opponents by indulging in blood-bath by killing scores of their whilom friends and collaborators in crime. But the world, which knew this, was, however, horrified by the shooting of Frenchmen at the rate of 50 for one German officer killed.

The Germans have been attempting to enforce the "New Order" in France ever since they occupied it in the middle of last year, but have they brought peace to that country? The "New Order" has only whetted the desire of Frenchmen to show their hatred of the oppressors by acts of sabotage and by killing of German officers. The other day a German controlled Paris newspaper deplored the fact that killing of German officers and soldiers had assumed a mass character and that the anti-German struggle had particularly intensified after Germany's attack on the U.S.S.R. What is this due to? It shows indubitably that the soul of France is alive and cannot be killed, whatever the Petains and Darlans may say or do.

Two hundred "Communist" hostages, it is said, have been executed in Yugoslavia, according to the Serb official newspaper *Nove Vreme*. The order for their execution was given by the Germans in reprisal for alleged attacks on German soldiers on October 18.

As the *Manchester Guardian* says: "Reprisals are a policy which the Germans understand but not, apparently, their results. Desperate and embittered men are increased, and not reduced, in number and daring by counter-strokes of violence. "Revenge is a kind of wild justice which, the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out." But 'wild justice' of revenge must inevitably strike again and again, and no reprisals will root it out of men who are deprived of freedom and of the protection of law. It is almost terrifying to think of the hatred and contempt the Germans have earned for themselves."

PROTESTS AGAINST THE OUTRAGES

Feeling appeals and strong protests have been made against this wild justice. Marshal Petain is reported to have said that he was willing to hand himself over as a hostage in the occupied zone to prevent the execution of further batches of hostages. Even Admiral Darlan has been compelled by this frightfulness to appeal to Nazi authorities to stop the shootings. General de Gaulle, leader of the Free French, broadcast, on Thursday, an appeal to his countrymen not to kill Germans. He said that as soon as it was possible to attack from outside and inside, they would receive orders. Until then patience, preparation and resolution.

The Pope is said to have charged the Papal Nuncio in Berlin with the task of making a *demarche* to the German Government in favour of the hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux. But the most spectacular and forceful denunciation of this murder of hostages has come from President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill.

President Roosevelt in a formal statement said :—

" The practice of executing scores of innocent hostages in reprisals for isolated attacks on Germans in countries temporarily under the Nazi heel revolts a world, already inured to suffering and brutality. Civilized people long ago adopted the basic principle that no man should be punished for the deed of another. Unable to apprehend the persons involved in these attacks, the Nazis characteristically slaughter fifty or a hundred innocent persons.

" Those who would ' collaborate ' with Hitler or try to appease him cannot ignore this ghastly warning. The Nazis might, have learned from the last war the impossibility of breaking men's spirit by terrorism. Instead, they develop their *lebensraum* and ' New Order ' by depths of frightfulness, which even they have not approached before.

" Frightfulness can never bring peace to Europe. It only sows seeds of hatred, which will one day bring fearful retribution."

Mr. Churchill followed this up by associating the British Government with the sentiments of horror and condemnation expressed by the President of the United States in respect of the " cold-blooded executions of innocent people which would only recoil upon the savages who ordered the executions." Mr. Churchill, after referring to the butcheries in France said : " The atrocities in Poland, Yugoslavia, Norway, Holland, Belgium and, above all, behind the German front in Russia surpass anything that has been known since the darkest and most bestial ages of mankind. They are but a foretaste of what Hitler would inflict upon the British and American people if only he could get the power." He further declared : " Retribution for these crimes must henceforward take its place amongst the major purposes of this war."

ANOTHER PEACE OFFENSIVE

FAMILIAR NAZI TECHNIQUE

During the last few weeks, German propaganda has been busy in courting Great Britain in favour of fresh Nazi peace proposals. These reports did not all emanate from Germany. Nazi propaganda is clever, skilful and unscrupulous. Many of these feelers are therefore put out so that they might appear to proceed from neutral sources and as Dr. Goebbels is a master in the art of lying, he takes good care to make these lies as plausible as possible. These feelers are part of war strategy, indicating the enemy's need to recover strength for further offensives and reduce the *tempo* of Allied war effort. Now that according to the German High Command, Russia is collapsing, if it has not already collapsed, the moment has been chosen by Nazi propagandists to tell Great Britain that there are no vital differences which need force them to carry on the struggle against each other. Does not Great Britain hate Bolshevism as much as Germany does? Now that the " hell-born monster " is down, is not the time ripe for Great Britain and Germany to march together to save the world from the " Bolshevik disaster "? The Germans have also emphasized that they do not want anything from England—nothing at all. She may keep her colonies and dependencies and do whatever she pleases with them. Germany will not interfere. Only France would be deprived of her colonies and deprived also of the power of fomenting a war again. For, Germany wants the world to believe that it is France that is responsible for plunging the world into the Second Great War. French colonies would be distributed presumably between Germany, Italy and Japan, the Axis partners.

And yet, German propaganda did not scruple in the middle of last year to promise France that she would be treated liberally if she laid down her arms. As Viscount Maugham, lately Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, has stated " Lies to a people who have been induced to lay down their arms by promises of fair treatment followed by most cruel exactions constitute a category. It is a species of low cunning which would disgrace an ordinary bandit. Yet this is the practice followed by Hitler." For what did the German broadcast say on June 7, 1940 and the following days? " The Germans want peace and are ready to lay down their arms against you whenever you (French) wish." " The French have but to lay down their arms and lasting peace and security will be assured." " France has been beaten and has collapsed after a heroic resistance. Germany does not intend, therefore, to impose the character of degradation upon the conditions and negotiations for an armistice with such a valiant foe." And yet, the world knows how France has been treated after the armistice. Humiliations, cruelties and savagery are the order of the day, and to crown all, Dr. Goebbels has the audacity to tell the world that France's cup of humiliation is not full and that she would be deprived of her colonies because she is the cause of the present war.

GERMAN AIM

But this is by the way. In sending out these peace-feelers, Germany has but followed the familiar path she has treaded all along. Every military success is generally followed by such approaches to Great Britain to make peace with Germany and every time those approaches have been ignominiously rejected. The fact is that nobody in his senses is now willing to believe that Germany desires peace. Did not a Nazi leader say : " The Fuehrer proclaimed peace with gun in hand." The fact is that Germany believes that military power is the best guarantee for the assurance of peace. That is the reason why Germany has paid great attention to the production of tanks, guns and planes for six years. Dr. Goebbels has stated : " We can do without butter, but despite all our love of peace not without arms. One cannot shoot with butter but with guns." Hitler himself has said in his book that " The cruellest weapons are, in fact, the most humane, for they curtail the slaughter in the long run." Pacifism, Germany has always proclaimed, was the enemy of mankind, at any rate of Germany and that the strong alone would be able to carry on, while the weak would perish by feebleness. A German officer bluntly stated a few years ago that " the next war will require the highest degree of brutality and so the uneducated man would best be able to work the war-machine." The object, therefore, of Germany, which believes in fierce militarism, armed might and limitless brutality, in making peace proposals is pretty obvious. It is to make England allow herself to be lulled into a sense of false security, as also to tell her that she would be the victim of the cruellest deeds of German airmen if she persevered in her folly of continuing the war.

The tactics of peace offensive has recently been described by Mr. James Murphy in a booklet he has written on Rudolph Hess. He says :

" The direct military purpose of destroying the enemy's armed strength and the sources of his supplies is no longer the main objective. The Germans think that by spreading conquest and destruction they will eventually terrorize their enemies into

subjection or at least induce them to consider terms of peace. That is what is strangest of all in this war. It is with the same purpose in view that they threaten to renew the ruthless bombing of British towns and cities."

In the author's view, the visit of Hess to Great Britain is a typical instance of this policy carried out in concert with General Goering. It would appear that the bombings at the beginning of May 1941 purposely reached the climax with the bombing of London on May 10, the evening on which Hess arrived in Scotland. The Germans thought they would strike terror into the British hearts. "It was not a stunt on Hess's part, nor was it a break-away from his party. It was part of a policy that had been thought out months ahead. The dramatic method of the approach was quite in Hitler's Wagnerian style. It was the first step in a new peace offensive. And undoubtedly Hitler was a party to it."

GERMAN PROPAGANDA

The campaign against Russia is another of such peace offensives. The purpose of Germany in invading the Soviet Union is the smashing of the Russian war-machine and the acquisition of resources and industrial capacity so as to compensate for the British blockade and to enable the German High Command to strike with all its force at Britain. There are three important features in this ambitious programme: thrust to Moscow; penetration into the Caucasus and cutting the Anglo-American supply-route to Russia; and dispersal of Britain's forces and of her war-effort. In the middle of the current month, Turkish broadcasts in Urdu, Persian and Arabic stated that the last offensive had opened a way for the possibilities of an armistice or peace. There are two conjectures in this respect: the cessation of hostilities between Germany and Russia, and an armistice or peace between Britain and Germany. The Turkish report allowed some credence to the latter conjecture, stating that a British General had gone to Madrid and the visit might have some connexion with peace-feelers. The real fact is that the Turkish broadcast was Nazi in origin though those responsible for it did not realise it.

There is, of course, absolutely no possibility of Great Britain and her Allies walking into the German parlour. Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States, has emphatically stated that there can be no peace before the end of Hitlerism. Mr. Anthony Eden has stated the same thing on a number of occasions. Field Marshal Smuts said only the other day that the belief that a favourable peace could be concluded with Hitler at the end of the war was absolutely infantile. "A Nazi victory," he said, "spells a Nazi or Nazi-dependent South Africa, governed by Nazi Quislings for Hitler. And the fundamental question before South Africa is whether we will accept such a Nazi order or fight it to death." Field Marshal Smuts added that if the Allies lost the war, they would get Hitler and nothing else. There can be no doubt whatsoever that to the malicious Nazi propaganda there is only one answer. Neither Great Britain nor America would ever "parley with faithless men," and they well realise that the object of such feelers is to spread doubt and confusion.

RUSSIA

Nazi Promise—"The Soviet people can once more be free from oppression; and one of the first measures of the German administration will be the restoration of religious freedom."

That is what the Zeesen announcer said in a broadcast to the Soviet people on the day the German armies invaded Russia.

And Performance—This is what happened in Germany on October 17, 1941:—

"Twenty thousand Jews in Berlin, Vienna and the Rhineland received only ten minutes warning that they were being deported to Poland. They were compelled to leave their homes forthwith, taking only a small handbag and 100 marks each. The first group has been sent to the Lodz Ghetto; others will be sent further east to Ghettos of towns in Eastern Poland. The majority are between 50 and 80 years old; younger Jews are being kept in Germany to labour on behalf of the Reich.

"The German Government, it is stated, intends to send all German and Austrian Jews to Eastern Poland, the Ukraine and other occupied territories in Russia. Deportations will be carried out gradually, the rate depending on the Royal Air Force bombardment of German cities, which is causing great shortage of habitable houses. Bombed-out Germans will be installed in houses which the Jews must leave fully furnished and complete with linen, plate and other household goods."—*Reuter.*

MR. ROOSEVELT'S REVELATIONS

GERMAN PLANS FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Mr. Roosevelt has again spoken and has again irritated the Germans. In his speech at the Navy Day Banquet in Washington on Tuesday last, he referred to the successive attacks on American ships by Germans and said that shooting had started. History had recorded who fired the first shot but that in the long run all that mattered was who fired the last shot. The purpose of Hitler's attack was to frighten the American people off the high seas. Germany had tried the game before, but American policy was not dominated by the fear of shooting. It stood for self-interest, self-respect and good faith and American ships would not stand behind any line that Hitler might draw because freedom of the seas had been the fundamental policy of America.

President Roosevelt made two startling revelations regarding Germany's plans of conquest in the Western Hemisphere. He said he had in his possession a secret map of South America made in Germany by Hitler's Government. It was a map of South America and part of Central America as Hitler proposed to reorganize it. Geographical experts in Berlin divided South America in that map into five vassal states in the place of the 14 separate countries now in existence and one of them included the Republic of Panama and the Panama canal. That map made it clear that the Nazi design was not only against South America but against the United States itself.

Another document in the possession of the American Government is a detailed plan to abolish all existing religions, Protestant, Catholic, Muhammadan, Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish. All the churches will be seized by the Reich. The Cross and all other symbols of religion are to be forbidden. The clergy are to be for ever silenced under penalty of the concentration camps, because they place God above Hitler. In place of the churches of the present civilization there is to be set up an international Nazi Church. In place of the Bible the *Mein Kampf* will be imposed and enforced as the holy writ and in the place of the Cross of Christ will be put two symbols —the Swastika and the naked sword. The God of blood and iron will take place of God of love and mercy.

The truth of this statement about the attitude of the Nazis towards the Church has since been confirmed by the publication of the programme of the German National Reich Church.

"On the day when a national church is established, Christ's Cross must be removed from all cathedrals, churches and chapels within Germany and Germany's colonial frontiers", states the programme of the German National Reich Church distributed in pamphlet form in Germany, according to the newspaper *Die Nation*. The Cross, the paper adds, "must be replaced by the sole invincible symbol of Germany—the Swastika." The German National Church claims "exclusive power over all the churches within the German frontiers" and is "unchangeably resolved by all necessary means to extinguish the Christian faith imported into Germany in the unhappy year, 1800. It must take the strictest precautions in order to render impossible the importation of bibles and documents appertaining to the Christian religion and declares that the greatest document for our people is 'Mein Kampf.' National Church serves solely and exclusively on the doctrine—race and people."

After referring to the few Americans who said that America should not concern herself with anything that went on beyond rifle-shot of American shores, the President said that the forward march of Hitler "can be stopped and will be stopped," and that America was pledged to the destruction of Hitlerism. For this purpose, America was determined to send vital arms and supplies of all kinds to those who were fighting Hitlerism and those goods would neither be locked up in American harbours nor sent to the bottom of the sea. He said that the House of Representatives had already voted to amend part of the Neutrality Act of 1937 and that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee had recommended the elimination of other hamstringing provisions of that Act. Speaking of labour troubles, he said that American factories and shipyards were constantly expanding and that American output should be multiplied and that it should not be hampered by the selfish obsrtuction of the small but dangerous minority of industrial managers.

The defence of America was now constantly before the Government. The Navy had assumed unprecedented size and it was ready for action. Total national defence had been decided upon and the first objective of that defence was to stop Hitler.

In regard to Aid to Russia, the President said that Russia needed all kinds of help, planes, tanks, guns, medical supplies and other aids and the United States and Great Britain were giving all these in great quantities. "Upon our American production," President Roosevelt said, "falls the colossal task of equipping our own armed forces and helping to supply the British, the Russians and the Chinese. In the performance of that task we dare not fail."

THE GERMAN THRUST IN THE SOUTH

THE BLACK SEA

There is now a German thrust along the Azov towards Rostov. The capture of Azov would bring the Germans to the Don, the first line of defence of the Caucasus. The Azov may be made the base of attack either south-east towards the Caucasian mountain rampart or north-west towards Stalingrad on the Volga. Stalingrad is on the line of communications between the Caucasus and central Russia. If Crimea falls into the hands of the Germans, that would remove a threat to the German line of communications, but more important still, it would deprive the Soviet Black Sea Fleet of its main naval base of Sebastopol. Only Batum, in the Caucasus, would remain with the Russians and its range of operations would be severely restricted owing to fuelling difficulties and Crimea-based air operation. Sebastopol would be a convenient base for small craft and also a base for long-range bombing attacks on the Caucasus.

THE DONETZ BASIN

A thrust into the basin would cut the link between Kharkov and Rostov. If the basin falls into German hands, it would safeguard the German flank and the rear, and make it possible for thrusts towards Stalingrad and the Caucasus. The Donetz Basin is obviously very important to Russians. It is famous for metallurgical production and finer machine tools are being made here. Kharkov is one of the main Russian centres of heavy industry, the chief industries being metallurgical, smelting, engine-building, manufacturing of machinery and agricultural implements, locomotives and electrical goods, elevators, tractors and hydro-electric generators. Mariupol on the sea of Azov is a port of considerable importance. Rostov is the main producer of industrial machinery and there are other places where other manufactures are being made. The pipeline passing through Rostov connects the area with the Caucasian oilfields. This area used to derive its electric power from the giant power-station of Dnieprostrov which has been destroyed.

NAZIS EXPELLED FROM AFGHANISTAN

QUESTION AND ANSWER

(i) Why has the Afghan Government expelled Axis nationals from the country?

Kabul has responded in a friendly manner to well-intentioned representations from London and Moscow.

(ii) Why was the Anglo-Soviet request made?

As in the case of Iran, the presence of Axis technicians in the country constituted a latent threat to India and the defence of the Middle East generally, as well as to the country whose hospitality they have enjoyed.

(iii) What does Afghanistan's action mean?

It means that the danger of this potential Fifth Column is appreciated in Kabul.

Afghanistan's wisdom is in sharp contrast to the behaviour of the ex-Shah of Iran, in whose country Axis agents were numbered in thousands instead of scores and were a more immediate danger, not only to his neighbours but also to his own people.

(iv) How would Axis action in Afghanistan affect India?

Herat is 500 miles from the Caspian and 800 miles from the Caucasus.

The Caspian and Caucasus are two objectives of the German drive now developing on the southern sector of the Eastern Front.

Collaboration of agents planted in Afghanistan might open up a corridor by which Hitler's armies could outflank the Allied forces manning the outer defences of India in Iran, Iraq and Syria and push on to the Khyber Pass.

In any operations which may soon develop in the Near East, India must be the main base from which supplies will be sent to the front line. Air bases in Afghanistan would enable the enemy to bomb supply sources in India and thereby imperil the very existence of the Allied forces on the Caucasian Front.

(v) What is Afghanistan's present position?

Afghanistan remains strictly neutral and her action has done nothing to impair her normal diplomatic relations with any nations—Allied, Axis or other. At the same time she has removed a source of danger to her independence.

(vi) What is to happen to the expelled Axis nationals?

They are to be repatriated to Europe as an Allied gesture of respect for Afghan neutrality and Oriental traditions of hospitality.

FOOD FRONT

Here are some points from a recent speech by the British Agriculure Minister, R. S. Hudson :—

In Denmark farmers have had no oilcake for months and there is no prospect of getting any until the end of the war. At the end of last winter cattle were so weak that many could not stand when turned out to grass.

In Holland farmers cannot get enough fertilisers. They have less than 40 per cent of the normal supplies of phosphates and less than 70 per cent of nitrogen.

In Belgium the food shortage has been so acute that during last spring seed potatoes were taken up from the fields in the night by hungry villagers. There are stories of Belgian children having to make meals of potato peels, while German evacuees from the much-bombed Ruhr get twice the Beligian rations and the German occupation soldiers four times.

In Britain the pig and sheep population has fallen and poultry have been slightly reduced, but the number of cattle is as great as before the war and dairy cattle have slightly increased.

There appear to be ample supplies of home-grown feeding stuffs to maintain these livestock during the coming winter.

Britain has stocks of wheat, sugar and other foodstuffs in excess of those at the outbreak of war.

More than 16,000,000 acres are under the plough in the United Kingdom and the total output is much bigger than for many years past.

As home production is increased the volume of food imports shows a steady decline.

The British people are saving shipping space by cutting consumption of luxuries and growing more staple food necessaries at home.

The urgent call now is for ships to carry munitions and raw materials to Russia and the people of Britain place the importance of this need above the importance of filling their own bellies. In Beaverbrook's words : "We will forego food from abroad if the ships are needed for Russia. We will give up all our leisure if munitions are required to defend their cities. Shadows we will endure with them and sunshine we will share with them."

THE TERROR IN POLAND

The Nazi jackboot which first ripped open the body of Poland in September 1939, has continued to trample and crush the helpless population for no greater reason than that they are Poles. On the night of October 18, says the Polish Telegraph Agency, 20,000 Jews in Berlin, Vienna and the Rhineland were deported at ten minutes notice, to Poland—presumably Central Poland, in order to make room for German families bombed out by the R.A.F. in those areas.

The conditions in Central Poland were the subject of a remarkable talk to the B.B.C. by Madame Lucille Bronska, on October 15. Madame Bronska was born an Englishwoman but became a Pole by marriage, and has spent ten years in Poland. The Gestapo, she says, is forcibly transferring 9 million Poles from the western provinces, which have been incorporated in the Reich, to the districts in Central Poland. The peasants are dragged out at night and herded in trains and lorries going to the east. From time to time the train or lorry stops, and the guards call to those inside to throw out the corpses. The majority of these corpses are small—in winter children frozen to death in the arms of their mothers. Then the human cargo is dumped in the middle of a countryside already starving, with no means whatever of feeding or clothing themselves, or of securing any work. Continual man hunts in Central Poland secure forced labour to work in German factories. Villages are compelled to deliver a quota of grain to the German soldiery. When one district failed to do so, all the men were summoned, stripped, beaten, their limbs broken and their eyes put out.

"How long, O God, shall men
be ridden down,
And trampled under by the
last and least Of men."

These lines written on Poland by Lord Tennyson about the year 1851, apply to Poland under the Nazis today.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 11—18, 1941

SHOCKS FROM THE SOVIET

"In 3½ months of the Russo-German war we have captured more than 3 million Russian prisoners." (*German News in English, October* 15).
(*Germcan News in Hindustani, October* 15.)

"Germany's successes have already resulted in the encirclement and annihilation of the armies of Marshal Timoshenko." (*German News in English, October* 11.) (*German News in Hindustani, October* 11).

These figures, if true mean that virtually the whole of the Russian army has been wiped out. It is surprising that the communiques from Berlin still report of "operations continuing according to plan." Are they therefore beating the air? Having beaten the Russians before the campaign started and sunk more warships than Britain possessed, the Nazis are now performing rope-tricks with armies that vanish and re-appear.

Being asked to recoup the German losses to the extent of a million men, finding the winter "icy like steel" the Italians have other news to give. Here is what the *Stampa* says:—"the German forces have not so far succeeded in encircling the Russian Army completely. The Russian units are still very largely safe and sound." And the defence of Moscow bears them out.

ADOLF FINDS A SOUL-MATE

"Can there still be any doubt that on June 22, 1941, Adolf Hitler took that very step which Churchill had always buried in the deep recesses of his soul?" (*German talk in English, October* 18.)

THE DEVIL AND THE SCRIPTURES

"The Bolsheviks have eliminated all freedom of religion in Lithuania." (*German News in English, October* 15.)

Article 124 of the Stalin constitution expressly provides for freedom of personal belief in Russia, and freedom either to espouse or to denounce religion. This is an experiment in constitutional tolerance which may or may not be approved.

Hitler's view is simple and comprehensive. "The Religions," he said in 1933 to Hermann Rauschning, "have no future—certainly none for Germany."

"The British, and they alone, are the bitterest enemies of Islam." (*German News in Hindustani, October* 15, 1941.)

The Iraqi Minister of Propaganda declared on October 12 the "programme of reconstruction under Great Britain's auspices' which Syria and the Lebanon in particular, and other Arab countries in general, can now hope to implement is for the benefit of all concerned.

In the Baghdad paper *Az-Azam* Salaman Al Sheik Daud sums up the Nazi "New Order" as follows:—

(*a*) All people should admit the German right to dominate the world.

(*b*) No Nation dominated by the Nazis has the right to choose its own form of government. This is the prerogative of Nazi scholars.

(*c*) Arts and technical industries are the property of the German nation.

(*d*) The world medium of exchange is to be decided by the Reich alone.

(*e*) None have the right to bear arms except those who have German blood in them.

TURKISH DELIGHT

"The Turkish Deputy states that the Turko-German trade agreement is proof that British propaganda has lost its effect." (*German News in English, October.*)

The alleged statement is a typically wishful fabrication of Goebbels. Clodius has had to go back to Berlin without the chrome. Germany may get some chrome in 1943, long after the honourably maintained Turko-British agreement expires and even then only after the goods promised by Germany have reached Turkey.

Turks neither fear nor trust Germany as much as Clodius and von Papen imagined.

THE NEW TERROR

What Hitltr says

"At the present time it is a question of selling other nations a new idea—The New Idea of a New Order of a united community working for every one's benefit." (*German News to S. America, September* 1941.)

Norway

"Germany keeps her promises to Norway. Germany said Norway would regain her independence." (*Oslo Radio, September* 26, 1941.)

Yugoslavia

"Germany wants the nations of goodwill to be partners with equal rights." (*German broadcast, August* 25, 1941.)

France

"France is determined to collaborate with Germany and acclimatize herself to the New European Order." (*German broadcast, September* 1941.)

Prosperity

"The whole aim of the New Order is simply the fruitful collaboration of all European powers in the interests of European prosperity." (*German broadcast, September* 1941.)

What Hitler knows

"Certain fanatics are making criminal attacks on members of the occupying forces. These are irresponsible actions." (*German talk in English, October* 5, 1941.)

Norway

"Either the German Reich takes Norway under her wing or the Norwegian people adopt an attitude which will make it natural for them to march shoulder to shoulder with the German brother nation." (*German broadcast to Norway, October* 4, 1941.)

Yugoslavia

"At this juncture we are on the verge of a civil war." (*Quisung Neditch's broadcast, September* 14, 1941.)

France

"There are enemies of the State everywhere in France and it is doubtful if French prison can hold them all." (*German home radio, September* 26, 1941.)

But for whom?

"We have one million seven hundred thousand foreign workers labouring in Germany. We have Denmark's bacon, Holland's butter, Belgium's potatoes, Rumania's fruit." (*German broadcasts to Belgium and Holland, October* 1941.)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND BRITAIN

24th Oct.—Powerful forces of the Royal Air Force raid North-West Germany, attacking docks at Brest, Cherbourg and Le Havre. Mannheim is raided and enemy aerodromes near Calais and at Lannion are bombed.

In a sweep over Northern France British fighters destroy seven enemy fighters without loss to themselves.

A single enemy aircraft drops a few bombs in North Scotland, causing slight damage.

25th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks objectives in the Rhineland and elsewhere in Western Germany, and also bombs docks at Brest. Coastal Command aircraft attack enemy shipping off the coast of Norway and the Frisian Islands. A large sized supply ship is hit and set on fire.

Enemy activity over Britain is on a small scale and a Nazi bomber is destroyed.

26th Oct.—The Royal Air Force carries out widespread raids, attacking aerodromes in France and Holland, and bombing objectives in Denmark.

27th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks Hamburg and Cherbourg.

During stray air-raids by the enemy two Nazi bombers are shot down over England.

28th Oct.—The Royal Air Force makes sweeps over Northern France, bombs targets in the Dunkirk area and attacks an enemy convoy off Tershelling. Six enemy fighters are shot down.

29th Oct.—The Royal Air Force penetrates deep into German territory, attacking objectives in south and south-west. The docks at Cherbourg, an aerodrome at Abbeville and military objectives in Belgium are also bombed.

Enemy planes drop bombs at points in south-west England.

30th Oct.—Ships in the harbour of the Norwegian town of Aalesund are successfully attacked by the Royal Air Force, which also bombs barracks and a fish-oil factory.

Brest, Boulogne and Le Havre are raided by the Royal Air Force.

Only one enemy aircraft visits Britain and its bombs cause neither damage nor casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

24th Oct.—An Italian communiqué states that Naples is again raided by the Royal Air Force.

British patrols, along with Abyssinian Patriot forces, are in contact with the only remaining Italian force in Abyssinita.

Light enemy shelling of the harbour at Tobruk is reported.

25th Oct.—An Italian communiqué admits that British planes have bombed Ragusa, Licata, Naples, Tripoli and Benghazi and caused heavy damage. British Naval aircraft raid Bardia.

The South African Air Force attacks the landing ground in Gazala, damaging several aircraft.

In the Central Mediterranean two enemy ships are bombed and machine-gunned.

Admiral Cunningham reveals that in September over 30 per cent of Axis shipping sailing from Italian ports was sunk by British submarines and air force.

26th Oct.—Tobruk town and harbour are raided by enemy aircraft with no damage or casualties resulting.

27th Oct.—Naples is heavily raided by the Royal Air Force. Tripoli and Benghazi are also attacked.

British patrols harass the enemy in the Gondar area.

28th Oct.—Southern Italy is raided by the Royal Ai Force, which blows up a goods train near Cotrone, Benghazi and other Libyan bases are also attacked.

29th Oct.—Italy admits a Royal Air Force raid on Comiso in Sicily.

30th Oct.—There is an increase in the intensity of enemy shelling of the Tobruk area.

The Royal Air Force raids Siderna, Soverato and Locri in Southern Italy, also enemy bases in Libya and Sicily.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

24th Oct.—President Roosevelt announces that United States tank production will be doubled immediately.

Mr. Howe, Canadian Minister for Munitions and Supply, announces that the first 15 of the 100 cruisers produced in Canada for Russia are being shipped this month.

Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, speaking at Washington, says that collision in the Far East is virtually inevitable if the Japanese pursue their expansion plans.

25th Oct.—President Roosevelt declares that "the real and inescapable end of United States foreign policy is the destruction of the Hitler menace."

President Roosevelt assails Nazi reprisal executions in France, declaring that they are revolting to the world and are "the acts of desperate men who know in their hearts that they cannot win."

The American Iron and Steel Institute announces that all previous annual United States steel output records are smashed this year.

The United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee votes in favour of broadening the Armed Ships Bill to permit American merchant ships to sail anywhere on the high seas.

26th Oct.—The third cruiser in America's new 6,000-ton class of warships is launched.

Mr. Attlee, member of the British War Cabinet meets President Roosevelt at Washington.

27th Oct.—The debate on the Bill for the revision of the Neutrality Act opens in the United States Senate.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, emphasises the extreme urgency of delivery of war equipment to Britain and the Allies.

Col. Knox in a Navy Day speech, points to the example of Russia to emphasise the futility of Isolation.

The House of Representatives and the Senate pass the Supplemental Lease and Lend Bill and send it to the White House for signature.

The International Labour Office Conference opens at New York, 33 nations being represented.

28th Oct.—President Roosevelt, speaking at the Navy Day banquet, says "We have cleared on decks" in order to stop Hitler and that America will deliver the goods to Britain and her Allies.

Mr. Roosevelt reveals that he is considering legislation against strikes in the defence industries with specific reference to the one called by Mr. John Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers' Union.

A writer in *The New York Times* states that planes of all types at the rate of about 35,000 a year, are now rolling off the assembly lines of Britain and America and by next July American plants will turn out 250 planes a day.

29th Oct.—President Roosevelt signs the supplementary Lease and Lend Bill.

30th Oct.—Mr. Cudahy, former United States Ambassador to Belgium, urges President Roosevelt to call a Peace Conference and says that Hitler dare not refuse to attend it in view of the terrible German casualties in Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

24th Oct.—The Official Soviet News Agency says that renewed German attacks on the Crimea have been repulsed, the Germans losing over 2,000 killed and wounded.

Marshal Timoshenko takes over command of the Russian Southern Front and Marshals Voroshilov and Budenny are completing the preparation of new armies.

New Soviet reserves have been thrown in on the Central Front.

Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador, and members of the British Mission establish themselves at Kujbyshev. Moscow remains the capital and leading members of the Government, including M. Stalin, are still there.

A Bucharest telegram says that a bomb in an Odessa hotel kills General Glugosianu, Rumanian Commander of the Fortress and fifty other officers and soldiers.

25th Oct.—The Germans claim the capture of Kharkov and the occupation of Belgorod.

The battle for Moscow continues with unabated fury but the Germans do not appear to have made much progress.

Wounded German soldiers are arriving in Warsaw at the rate of between 11,000 and 14,000 daily.

The German drive on Rostov has been checked and the Germans are now on the defensive in this sector.

The Red Banner Baltic Fleet has destroyed within the past few weeks nearly 50 enemy warships, including one Finnish battleship, one German cruiser and 158 German transports, tanks and auxiliary vessel and nearly 300 enemy planes.

26th Oct.—The German claim to have captured Kharkov is premature. Fighting continues on the approaches to the City.

In a fierce battle in the Rostov sector, Soviet troops repel the Germans; intensive fighting continues in the Crimea; and there is most intense fighting in the Donetz Basin too.

The Russians report a successful counter-offensive on the approaches to Moscow.

Soviet troops inflict losses on the enemy in the Kalinin direction of the front in which 4,000 Germans are killed and wounded and much valuable equipment captured.

The *Red Star* reports that the German army has lost 300,000 killed and wounded during the last twenty days in the Crimea.

A Soviet communiqué announces the evacuation at Stalino.

A German High Command Communiqué claims bomb-hits on the Kremlin during night raids on Moscow.

27th Oct.—German forces make some slight progress towards Moscow from the South and South-West but their drive at the important railway centre at Kalinin is firmly held.

The Moscow Radio broadcasts a " Do-not-retreat-one-step " call to the defenders of the capital.

Fierce fighting is reported in the Leningrad sector, one Soviet unit accounting for 37,000 German casualties in four days.

The Finns claim the sinking of two Soviet destroyers in the Gulf of Finland.

28th Oct.—The Germans admit a very severe Soviet counter-attack in the Central sector.

The Soviet Air Force strikes hard at German communications.

The Russians also retain the initative around Leningrad.

In the South, the Germans claim a further advance in the Donetz Basin and it is stated that the threat to Kharkov is intensified but Marshal Timoshenko is speedily reorganizing the Russian Army of the South on the Don river.

29th Oct.—The Germans claim a breakthrough to the Crimea. The Russians admit a little setback but are fighting fiercely to restore the position.

The Soviets admit the evacuation of Kharkov after terrific fighting.

It is revealed that Marshal Timoshenko is organizing a new line of defence on the Don river.

The Nazis launch a fierce attack in the Orel sector and claim a slight advance towards Tula. They are also bringing fresh reinforcements in the Kalinin sector but elsewhere in the battle of Moscow the Russians not only hold their own but make several counter-attacks.

30th Oct.—The Germans claim some progress towards Tula but the Russians advance five miles in the Mojaisk sector.

Over 300 German planes attempt to raid Moscow but are no more successful than their predecessors and 47 planes are shot down by the Russians.

The Soviet Air Force raids Berlin.

Fierce fighting is reported in the south where the German thrusts towards Rostov are repelled.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

25th Oct.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, reveals that British losses in Persia were less than a hundred. He also announces that the Persian Government have already accepted in principle the suggested Alliance with the Soviets and Britain.

26th Oct.—American-built Tomahak fighters, the first batch of a large consignment of Tomahaks and Hurricanes, are delivered to Turkey from Britain.

27th Oct.—The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem arrives in Italy.

Teheran reports that Soviet forces in Iran are withdrawing to the Caucusus are contradicted.

It is revealed that the first consignment of supplies to Russia have already passed through Iran.

28th Oct.—The Turkish Premier warns his country against the dangerous possibilities of the international situation.

King George telegraphs congratulations and good wishes to the President of the New Syrian Republic.

The Iraqi Premier declares that his country will stand loyally by the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of Alliance.

The National Broadcasting Corporation's commentator at Ankara says that the Anglo-Russian Treaty with Iran will be signed this week.

29th Oct.—King George sends a message of congratulations and greetings to President Ineunu of Turkey on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the Turkish Republic.

President Ineunu, addressing the Turkish nation, appeals for increased production as a means of preventing the spread of war to Turkey.

A report is current in Berlin that M. Horia Sima, the Rumanian Iron Guard Leader, has been assassinated.

SHIPPING

24th Oct.—The Admiralty announces that an Italian armed merchant cruiser has been torpedoed by a British submarine in the Central Mediterranean.

It is officially announced that the British destroyer Broadwater has been torpedoed and sunk while on escort duty in the North Atlantic.

25th Oct.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, announces that Britain has sent some naval equipment to Russia and also carried out fourteen separate attacks on enemy transports taking reinforcements for use against the Soviets.

29th Oct.—Col. Knox says that the United States Navy will probably apply a policy of secrecy to the sinkings of any German submarines in engagements with American vessels of war.

30th Oct.—Senator Taft says that Britain has now 25 million tons of shipping, which is four million more than when the war was declared.

Two British ships are bombed from the air outside Spanish territorial waters. One is sunk but the other beats off the raiders.

THE FAR EAST

24th Oct.—Unusually heavy Japanese troop movements are reported in China.

The Australian Air Minister announces that the Royal Australian Air Force is now over 60,000 strong, twenty times its pre-war figure.

25th Oct.—Thailand authorities warn their people that the situation on the Indo-China-Thailand border is unsafe owing to frequent gunfire from over the frontier.

26th Oct.—Recent air-raid drills throughout Japan are more than a mere exercise, according to Lieutenant-General Kawle, Defence Headquarters Chief of Staff who, in a broadcast to the Japanese nation, says that as regards air defence, the moment of danger is swiftly approaching.

27th Oct.—A skirmish between Japanese and Soviet frontier guards s reported in the village of Raskino.

A Chinese spokesman reveals that of the 3,000 Chinese troops who entered Ichang recently, 700 died of the effects of poison gas and 600 were wounded.

The British Ambassador at Tokyo is taking up with the Japanese Government the prolonged and unexplained detention of two British subjects in the Japanese capital.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo Taichi, says that a collision between the United States and Japan is inevitable.

29th Oct.—The American Embassay at Peking lodges a protest to the Japanese authorities regarding the shooting of an American sentry by a Japanese national.

The Japan Times and Advertiser, the organ of the Tokyo Foreign Office, says that the border clash reported two days ago between Soviet and Japanese troops was nothing more than a local affair.

30th Oct.—Japan proceeds to place certain key-industries on a complete war-footing.

A Japanese warship strikes a mine in the Yangtse river and sinks.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

24th Oct.—The town and neighbouring areas of Bordeaux have been ordered to pay a surety of ten million francs as a reprisal for the shooting of a German officer.

It is rumoured that Marshal Petain wants to hand himself over as a hostage to the German authorities in order to prevent the execution of further batches of hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux.

25th Oct.—Mr. Churchill issues a statement, associating His Majesty's Government fully with the sentiments of horror and condemnation expressed by the President of the United States upon the Nazi butcheries in France and declaring that retribution for these crimes must henceforward take its place amongst the major purposes of this war.

Three more Frenchmen are shot by the Germans " for illegal possession of arms and munitions."

General de Gaulle, broadcasting to the French nation, asks all French men and women to stand still for five minutes at 4 p.m. on October 31, wherever they may be, as a gigantic demonstration against the shooting of the French martyrs.

27th Oct.—The Commander of the German occupation troops in France advises the Vichy Government that he has suspended the executions of 100 French hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux in order to give the population a chance to throw light on the recent killing of the German officers.

The Government of Chile protest to the German Government against the execution of French hostages.

The Vichy Cabinet adopts further repressive measures against attacks on Germans and against acts of sabotage.

28th Oct.—It is revealed that H.H. the Pope has made a *demarche* to the German Government against the execution of hostages in occupied France.

The Royal Air Force while bombing military objectives at Nantes, drops leaflets containing a message of hope and deliverance to the French people. The citizens of Nantes joyously acknowledge the message in spite of the fact that the town is surrounded by German troops.

30th Oct.—Vichy bans public or private reception of British radio stations and announces penalties for those infringing this rule.

A cooling off in Franco-German relations is reported, following the execution of hostages by the Nazis.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24th Oct.—Two hundred more 'Communist' hostages are executed in Yugoslavia as a reprisal for alleged attacks on German soldiers on October 18.

25th Oct.—Fourteen Hungarians, including seven women are executed at Pecs, for alleged subversive activities and illegal detention of arms.

26th Oct.—Under a Netherlands Royal decree, Dutch courts will shortly be administering Dutch law in Great Britain.

The Czechoslovak Independence Day is celebrated at a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral in the presence of President Benes and representatives of all allied Governments.

Dr. Benes reconstructs the Czechoslovak Cabinet (in London).

27th Oct.—Mr. Churchill, in a letter to the Greek Premier on the anniversary of Italy's invasion of Greece, reveals that Greek forces in the Middle East will participate in forthcoming operations.

29th Oct.—It is reported that 13 persons have been shot as a result of the court-martial for alleged sabotage at Travnik in North Bosnia.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

26th Oct.—Mexico's attitude in case the United States enters the war is defined by her Foreign Minister, Senor Padilla, who states that she will honour her given word and the agreement reached at the Havana Conference. Meanwhile various measures have been taken to prepare the country for any emergency.

29th Oct.—M. Gunther, Swedn's Foreign Minister, reaffirms her neutrality.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

On October 30th, the United States destroyer *Reuben James* was sunk by a torpedo off Iceland. Only 25 members of the crew have been rescued out of a complement of 120 officers and men. Mr. Wendell Wilkie has demanded the complete repeal of the Neutrality Act and suggested that Germany should be informed officially that America means to maintain her rights at all hazards. The *New York Times* states that there is no doubt now that the United States and Germany are at war. An American tanker *Salinas* was torpedoed without warning on the night of October 29, south-west of Iceland, the night before the sinking of *Reuben James*. Both these incidents have naturally excited a good deal of indignation in the United States and important developments are expected.

The United States Government have demanded compensation amounting to about three million dollars for the sinking of *Robin Moor*. The note demanding compensation was sent to Germany on September 19 and was accompanied by the condition that payment should be made within 90 days of that date.

Nazi acts of terror continue unabated in the Occupied countries. Here is a list for the week :—

(1) Fifty "Communists" and Jews executed in Belgrade in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier.

(2) Thirteen Greek hostages hanged following the murder of two German solidiers in Salonika.

(3) Four Czechs executed after a court-martial for high treason and sabotage.

(4) Forty "Communists" shot by Government troops near Belgrade and forty more killed in fighting around Ubo.

(5) Fourteen "Communists" sentenced to death at Kishinev, Capital of Bessarabia.

Russia, it appears, has suggested to Great Britain that she might declare war on Finland, Hungary, and Rumania. Great Britain is said to be considering the question in consultation with the Dominions. In the meanwhile, America has warned Finland that if friendly relations are to be maintained, Finland must stop war operations against the Soviet. This is interpreted as meaning that if Great Britain decides to declare war on Finland, the latter could not expect any sympathy from the United States Government. Finland, it is said, would reply that her action was a sequel to Russian aggression in 1939. It is also stated that, according to the Finnish Radio, military operations were drawing to a close so far as Finland was concerned.

In regard to the Axis attempt to insinuate that Great Britain is not bearing her full share of the war, figures have been published in Canberra to expose the mischief underlying this allegation. The total casualties in the Middle East of the Australian Imperial Forces up to September 25 were 13,143. The total casualties for Britain and all the Dominions in the Middle East, Greece, Crete, Syria and Abyssinia were 4,870 killed, 15,184 wounded, 28,477 missing and 6,580 prisoners. In land alone, in this theatre of war, the United Kingdom casualties were 29,176 and combined Dominion casualties in other theatres 25,935. Other British casualties in other theatres were 70,000. The Royal Navy casualties were 22,500 and the Royal Air Force 8,500.

An American journal has announced the possibility of America producing 100,000 planes annually by 1943. Of these, bombers would amount to 25,000, of which 8,000 would be "Flying Fortresses." The present monthly output is 2,000 planes.

Important successes on the sea have been announced. South African patrols sighted a convoy of five ships escorted by a French sloop, off South Africa. They were French ships suspected to be carrying contraband. The escorting sloop was requested to direct the convoy to proceed into port for examination, but this was refused and three out of the five ships made a determined attempt to scuttle themselves. The attempt was frustrated by prompt action on the part of the boarding parties. So far thirty-nine French ships, apart from these five, have been intercepted on various routes this year. The second success relates to the sinking or damaging of 24 German ships in less than a week by the Coastal Command of the Royal Air Force. The third achievement is the sinking of three enemy supply ships by British submarines in the Central Mediterranean.

On the Moscow front, the new drive by Germany in the Tula region, is resulting in fierce battles. Crimea is still in great danger, but the claim that the whole of Crimea is in German hands is denied.

M. Litvinov, the Russian international figure, will succeed M. Oumansky as Russian Ambassador in the United States. This step shows the importance that Russia pays to friendship with America.

President Roosevelt has authorised a thousand million dollar loan to Russia, free of interest, to be repaid five years after the end of the war.

JAPAN

Frequent references are made in the press to the movements of Japanese armed forces in this direction or that. This is part of the war of nerves which is characteristic of the Totalitarian Powers. Whether Japan is going to drive south or attack Russia in the north or is intensifying her struggle against China or contemplates an invasion of Thailand, nobody yet knows. The Japanese press has recently been directing attention to the United States whose people and Government are being strongly attacked. A state of stalemate has apparently been reached in regard to the progress of negotiations between these two countries. Meanwhile, what is of importance is that the A.B.C.D. front is strong and that all the countries involved are alert. Singapore, the Philippines, Dutch East Endies and Australia are all well prepared for any emergency, while Thailand strictly adheres to her neutrality. General Wavell's rather unexpected visit to the Far East in order to take stock of the position there perhaps indicates that the situation is considered to be rather abnormal. General Wavell, before leaving Singapore for India, emphasized the fact that the Far East was the right flank of India. Reinforcements would still flow to Malaya, he said, and stated that his object was to study the situation at first hand and hold personal consultations with Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham. Some Australian statesmen are inclined to believe that the situation is critical. Whatever that may be, if Japan thinks of taking any aggressive step towards Thailand or the Dutch East Indies, she would have to face a situation which is not likely to be pleasant to her. That is why it is thought in some quarters that, though pressed by Germany to carry out the terms of the Tripartite Pact, she has so far refrained from taking any action which would involve her in difficulties with the A.B.C.D. front.

It is stated that Britain is consulting the Dominions in regard to the clarification of the attitude of the Empire towards Japan. Mr. Curtin of Australia, stated that the consultations included spheres wider than Europe. Whatever may be the exact significance of this expression, it is to be noted that Mr. Curtin has given a specific pledge of adherence to the cause of Britain and her Allies and freedom-loving people everywhere. The Dominions have noted the recent hint on the part of Germany to Japan that Australia could be easily invaded, but Japan knows better and the impressive account of Australia's defences recently given by Sir Earle Page should dispel Nazi Germany of any illusions she may have in regard to the Commonwealth.

Japan has been saying that the strained relations between America and Japan may give place to friendship if the United States would recognize Japan's right to establish the 'New Order' in the Far East. An eleventh hour attempt to ease the situation is being made by sending Mr. Saburu Kurusu, formerly Japanese Ambassador in Berlin, to Washington as special adviser to the Japanese Ambassador to the United States Admiral Nomura. How far Mr. Kurusu, who is carrying definite proposals and a special message from the Prime Minister of Japan, will be able to break the deadlock remains to be seen. If, however, there is any basis for the report that certain demands have been made on the United States, then it may be stated at once that prospects for a settlement are not at all bright. For, what are these demands? It seems that Japan asks that the United States should give no further help to China, that China should be allowed complete freedom to deal with Japan, that there should be no military or economic encirclement of Japan, that her object of establishing a Co-Prosperity sphere should be recognized, that all trade and financial restrictions should be relaxed and that Manchukuo should be recognized. The United States would be stultifying herself if these claims are allowed. America now knows only too well what the 'New Order' means. It is similar to Germany's 'New Order' according to which

other nations will be hewers of wood and drawers of water. Neither America nor Great Britain would willingly allow Japan to assume a role which would reduce China, the Netherlands East Indies and Thailand to the position of slave states.

TURKEY

President Ineunu, in a speech at the opening of Parliament early this week, stated amidst cheers that Turkey would resist any forceful action against her. She had nothing to fear from Great Britain and so this pronouncement must be clearly meant for Germany who might demand a passage for German troops through Turkey or the use of Turkish Black Sea bases for an attack on the Caucasus or North Iran. Undoubtedly, as the President said, the guiding principle of Turkish foreign policy is faithfulness to her engagements, alliances and friendships. Of course, Turkey has not been able to help Greece, her Ally. It is to be noted also that President Ineunu is said to have stated that if Turkey could one day become the source of peace which the world awaits and needs, her joy would be unbounded. This is evidently a hint that she is prepared to mediate between the belligerents.

There are some points in regard to this matter which should be emphasized. Turkey is being daily and hourly induced by Germany to betray Great Britain. She knows that she can be attacked by land, sea and air by the German-Bulgar army being kept on her west Thracian frontier. She could also be attacked by light craft and by air from German-occupied ports in Rumania and Bulgaria, but her lines of defence are strong and forcing the Dardanelles is not an easy operation. In spite of her determination to resist, Turkey is unwilling to act in a manner which can possibly be misinterpreted by Germany. Sir Ronald Storrs has recently given an explanation which is interesting. He says: "I have found Eastern Rulers often good chess players, but Ismet Ineunu is the strongest of them all. And he has hitherto proved himself capable through the intricate middle game, in which Turkey finds herself, of sacrificing an occasional pawn to keep the Black Queen on the other side of the board." That is the explanation for the agreement with Germany to supply the latter with 90,000 tons of chrome but not until 1943, instead of a much larger quantity at the expense of the standing British agreement.

Neither is President Ineunu likely to be carried away by the Nazi promise of placing all the Arab countries under the Turkish rule. The Caliphate was deliberately abolished by Mustafa Kemal and President Ineunu is far from likely to re-establish the Caliphate. Turkey's offer to mediate is also the result of her desire to induce Germany to keep away from her, but the fate of neutral countries is clear and the inference is not unjustifiable that if Hitler has not yet molested Turkey, it is because he does not feel that the time is yet ripe for that operation. Turkey knows this and knowing it, she does not let pass a single opportunity to proclaim her adherence to her friendship with Great Britain.

CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The week's fighting in Russia is a curious picture of light and shade. The Germans seem to be carrying all before them in the Ukraine and the Crimea, if their periodic announcements are to be taken at their face value. They talk of the "pursuit" of the "beaten foe" by German and Rumanian troops but it is evident that the Russian army is not only intact but making the Germans pay dearly for every inch of ground. There is no denying, of course, that the Germans have won much strategically valuable territory in the Crimea. They have taken Simferopol, the capital of the peninsula, and the harbour town of Feodosia on the Black Sea coast. Feodosia lies along the south-eastern coast of the Crimea, about midway between Kerch and the Russian naval base of Sebastopol. The Germans themselves have exposed the falsity of their earlier claim to have divided the Soviet forces in the peninsula; they now warn the German people not to expect the quick fall of Sebastopol (whose outer defences they are said to have reached) or of Kerch, which marks the extreme eastern point of the Crimea and offers a good jumping-off place to the Caucasus. Though the German breakthrough constitutes a serious threat to the Russian Black Sea Fleet, there is, however, no immediate danger to the Caucasus so long as that fleet itself is not accounted for. It may have to withdraw from Sebastopol to Novorossik, Tuapse, Poti and Batum on the Caucasian coast of the Black Sea; but while it is still intact, it can prevent any German seaborne operations against the Caucasus. The Germans are trying their best to bomb Sebastopol but unless they can bring in naval reinforcements into the Black Sea, they cannot hope to beat the Soviet Fleet. And Turkey stands, as ever, the vigilant guardian of the entrance to that sea. That the Russians are full of fight in the south is evident from the words of the Soviet Army's paper, *Red Star*. "The Germans have seized a part of the Crimea but they have lost a whole army in the fighting," says that paper. At least 90,000 Germans have been killed and the Nazis have not succeeded in annihilating the Russian units nor in crushing their resistance. "The situation in the Crimea is difficult but it has not been conquered yet. The struggle continues and will continue."

In the Ukraine, the threat to Rostov, key railway and oil centre, persists but it has so far been held. The Nazis claim to have reached the Donetz river along a wide front. The Soviet's next line of resistance is being

organized by Marshal Timoshenko along the river Don; behind that lies the Volga. Rostov is situated on the right bank of the Don and exposed to attacks from the west and the north. But the Russians are beating back all German attempts. They know the importance of Rostov. It is a gateway to the Caucasus; through it passes a giant pipe-line from the Grozny oilfields which feeds the Donetz basin, and a vital trunk railway.

The Battle for Moscow is definitely not going Hitler's way. Nowhere are the German troops within 40 miles of the city at any point and only near Mojaisk and Kalinin are they holding the initiative. And here the Russians give as good as they get. In an Order of the Day, to the Red Army operating in the directions of Mojaisk, Maloyaroslavets and Tula, M. Stalin says "Do not step back." This exhortation is being literally followed by the heroic Russian defenders. They have so far not only defended themselves against the repeated attacks by the Germans who recklessly throw in fresh reserves every day but have counter-attacked whenever they got the opportunity.

And up in the North, Leningrad stands out —a proud symbol of defiance of the barbarian—aggressor and of the unconquerable spirit of the Russian people. Its resistance to the siege will be memorable for all time. Further north, the Finns make one of their usual claims to be approaching Murmansk and to be advancing in Russian Karelia, but this need not be taken seriously. That Arctic port is still free. And the Russian Baltic Fleet is reported, though without confirmation, to have broken out of the minefields of the Gulf of Finland and to be steaming west. In any case, Finland is seriously considering whether she can afford to continue the war and antagonize both the United States and Great Britain, who have warned her in unmistakable fashion against such a course. And the Finnish Radio stated yesterday that "military operations are drawing to a close so far as our country is concerned. It is realised that our frontiers cannot finally be determined until the coming peace conference."

Finally, a word about the Russian Air Force which is accomplishing prodigies of valour. Not only has it lent constant support to the Soviet army in the field by breaking up German formations but has made successful raids on Danzig, Koenigsberg and Riga. Little wonder that M. Stalin, Russia's Premier who has just reappointed Marshal Shaposhnikov as Chief of the General Staff, feels supremely confident that Hitler's *blitzkrieg* is bound to collapse. He reveals that the German losses in the first four months of the campaign in Russia total four and a half million as against the million and a half of the Soviet's losses. Now that Hitler has failed in his attempts to isolate the Soviet Union, the latter's allies will speedily make up the deficiency in tanks which has been responsible for Russian reverses so far.

M. STALIN ON THE WAR

On Thursday, M. Stalin and President Roosevelt delivered speeches on Germany which, for their vehemence and strength, should be considered as very significant. M. Stalin stated, addressing the Moscow Soviet, that Germany had lost during four months of the war four millions and a half, wounded and taken prisoners, while Russia has lost 350,000 killed, 378,000 missing and 1,020,000 wounded. It was, he said, deficiency in tanks that has been responsible for Russian withdrawal, though Soviet tanks and air-craft and navy were of better quality than the Germans. Summing up the war position, he said:—

> "At Leningrad the position is unaltered except for local attacks in which both sides claim success. In the Crimea the Germans are now up against the defences of Sebastopol to the west and Kerch to the east. It appears that there was no organized defence of any lines behind the Perekop Isthmus and that explains the rapidity of the German advance to the south coast across the Yaila range. They will find the investment of Sebastopol an arduous task, because it is well garrisoned and well supplied for a long siege. The maintenance of an army on barren hills and the steppes around Sebastopol will involve serious strain on German communications, especially if they are unable to gain supremacy at sea."

The rear of the Red Army was never stronger than now. While German resources were being strained, Soviet reserves were only now giving their full output. Where Germany expected a coalition against Russia, the latter had now the help and co-operation of Britain and America. M. Stalin concluded by saying:

> "The defences of Leningrad and Moscow, where our divisions destroyed German cadres and annihilated their division, show that in this national war, Soviet men and their commanders, airmen, gunners, infantry and sailors will to-morrow turn into a thunderbolt for the German army. There is no doubt that all these considerations make the collapse of the *blitzkrieg* in the East a certainty."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ATTACK AGAINST HITLER

Mr. Roosevelt, addressing the International Labour Conference at Washington referred to the struggle against aggression now being carried on in the following words:—

> "But with all this we have not made any substantial sacrifices in the United States. We are not like the heroic people of Britain, who had to withstand the deluge of death from the skies. Nor can we even grasp the full extent of the sacrifices that the people of China are making in their struggle for freedom from aggression. We have in amazement witnessed the Russians oppose the Nazi war machine for four long months—at a price of uncounted dead and scorched earth. The most heroic of all, however, has been the struggle of the common men and women of Europe, from Norway to Greece, against brutal force which, however powerful will for ever be inadequate to crush the fight for freedom.

After referring to the few in America who were obstructing war effort, the President pointed out how Berlin was becoming the slave market of the world and what fate the American would have to avoid:—

> "To replace the Nazi workers shipped to the front and to meet the gigantic needs of her total war effort, Nazi Germany has imported about two million foreign civilian labourers. They have changed occupied countries into great slave areas for the Nazi rulers. Berlin is the principal slave market of the world. The American worker has no illusions about the fate that awaits him and his free labour organizations if Hitler wins. He knows that his own liberty and the very safety of the people of the United States is not assurable in a world which is three-fourths slave and one-fourth free. He knows we must furnish arms to Britain, Russia and China and that we must do it now—to-day. Our place—the place of the whole of the Western Hemisphere—in the Nazi scheme of world domination has been marked on the Nazi timetable."

Mr. Roosevelt called the workers to make sacrifices to-day—not to-morrow, by working three shifts, by making full use of every machine every day and every night. That was the path of realism. As for reconstruction after the war, he pointed out:—

> "In the process of working and fighting for victory, however, we must never forget the goal which is beyond the victory. The defeat of Hitlerism is necessary so that there may be fredom, but this war, like the last war, will produce nothing but destruction unless we prepare for the future now. We plan now for the better world we aim to build. If that world is to be one in which peace is to prevail, there must be more abundant life for the masses of the people of all countries . . . There are so many millions of people in this world who have never been adequately fed, clothed and housed. By undertaking to provide a decent standard of living for these millions, the free peoples would and can furnish employment to every man and woman who seeks a job. We are already engaged in surveying the immediate post-war requirements of the world whose economies have been disrupted by the war. We are planning to achieve permanent cures—to help to establish a sounder life. To attain these goals will be no easy task. Their fulfilment will require the 'fullest co-operation of all nations in the economic field.'"

THE AIR OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY

WONDERFUL WORK BY THE R. A. F.

As Reichminister for Air, Hermann Goering boasted on 9th August 1939 as follows :—

"I have convinced myself personally of the measures taken to protect the Ruhr against air attack. In future I will look after every battery, for we will not expose the Ruhr to a single bomb dropped by enemy aircraft."

By end of January 1941, the Ruhr's great railway centre, Hamm, alone had been bombed on 82 occasions by the Royal Air Force.

Some idea of the persistence and precision of the bombing attacks made on Germany by the Royal Air Force is given in the facts contained in an attractive brochure called "The Air Offensive against Germany" published in England, of which this is a summary.

These facts indicate how the vast web of destruction woven day after day and night after night by British bombers, who have struck at over 270 target areas of military and strategic importance in Germany, is clogging Hitler's industrial and war machine. Since the outbreak of war 1,616 area raids have been carried out on German territory, from the Baltic Sea to Switzerland, from the North Sea hundreds of miles inland to Berlin and beyond. These are in addition to raids made on hundreds of other occasions on points of military importance outside Germany and apart from Danzig and Pilsen.

British bombing attacks on Germany have the twofold aim of destroying the industrial basis of Germany's war effort and of producing a situation in which shortage of essential war supplies will sap the energy and effectiveness of the German armed forces.

The synthetic oil plants and the refineries in Germany itself are a vital factor in the German war economy, since the synthetic oil plants are responsible for the bulk of supplies of aviation spirit for the German Air Force, and of higher grade Diesel oil for the submarine fleet, whilst certain of the oil refineries are the chief source of Germany's slender supplies of high quality lubricating oil. Some of the heaviest attacks have been delivered at the famous Leuna hydrogenation plant which produces up to half a million tons of synthetic oil per year, at the Politz (Stettin) plant, at the new Wesseling plant on the Rhine.

Many of the aircraft works (e.g., the B.M.W. aeroengine works at Munich and Berlin, the Fockewulf factory at Bremen, the Messerschmitt and Junkers works at Augsburg and Dessau) have been attacked by the Royal Air Force bombers. One at least of the aircraft factories—the Dornier works at Wismar on the Baltic Coast—is believed to have been so seriously damaged that it is doubtful whether it has been able to contribute more than a fraction of its normal quota towards replacement of the flights of bombers which have been shot down over Great Britain. Among other works which have suffered heavy damage may be mentioned the Siemen's electrical works in Berlin, the Bosch magneto, the sparking plug factories at Stuttgart, and the famous Zeiss instrument works at Jena.

Other vital points of attack include the great chemical works in the Rhineland, the Krupp works at Essen, which produce a million tons of steel per annum.

Another field in which the bombers of the Royal Air Force have been active is the bombing of ports, docks, railways and canals.

The attacks on the celebrated Dortmund-Ems aqueduct have succeeded in interrupting the internal transport traffic for long periods. The almost nightly visits to Hamm, Soest, etc., in the Ruhr and other industrial areas in which goods trains are made up for despatch to all parts of Germany, have resulted not only in physical damage to the yards themselves and to train loads of goods, but also in dislocation and interruption of activity at these vital centres.

An incidental contribution to the difficulties of the German transport system has been provided by the destruction of barges in the Channel ports.

Many power stations and gasworks have also been hit. Interruption of electricity supplies will be the more severely felt because Germany has for years suffered from a shortage of electricity—struggling always to expand generating capacity in pace with the insatiable demand of the "Ersatz" industries.

NOT A BOMB WASTED

For this reason the full effects of the uninterrupted raids carried out by the Royal Air Force will not be seen in days or even in weeks. But steadily and inexorably the grip will tighten upon the nerve centres of German resistance until it becomes a stranglehold. To this end not a bomb that has been dropped upon Germany has been wasted, and as far as the precision of British pilots can ensure it, not a bomb will be wasted.

Of the 1,616 attacks, 473 were made on railways and communications, 331 on munition and aircraft works, power stations and military stores, 294 on docks and shipping, 272 on oil refineries and storage, 201 on aerodromes and seaplane bases and 45 on other objectives.

The following is a *list of major bombing attacks carried out by the Royal Air Force over German territory between the outbreak of war, 3rd September 1939, and April 15th, 1941,* as reported in communiques issued by the Air Ministry. Weather conditions during February and March 1941, prevented bombing operations on a full scale; hence the reduction in number of attacks both by British machines on German territory and by German machines on British Isles:—

DETAILS

Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.
Aachen	8	Grevenbroich	5	Midlum	1
Ahaus	1	Griesheim	2	Misburg	7
Aldekerk	1	Gross-korbetha	1	Monheim	11
Alt-gaarz	1	Hage	2	Mors	2
Altona	1	Halberstadt	1	Mulhausen	2
Amrum	4	Halle	3	Mulheim	3
Agermunden	1	Haltern	3	Munchen-Gladbach	7
Arsbeck	1	Hamborn	4	Munich	2
Aschersleben	1	Hamburg	63	Munster	13
Augsburg	1	Hamm	82	Mutterstadt	1
Aurich	2	Hanau	2	Neckarau	1
Baden	1	Handorf	2	Neheim	1
Bad Rheinfelden	1	Hanover	33	Neuhaidensleben	3
Barge	1	Harburg	4	Neumunster	1
Barmen	2	Hattingen	1	Neuss	2
Barnstorf	1	Heerdt	1	Nienburg	1
Bassenheim	1	Heide	1	Nohra	1
Berlin	1	Heidelberg	1	Nordenham	2
Bernburg	38	Heilbronn	1	Norderney	18
Bielefeld	2	Heligoland	3	Nordhausen	3
Bitterfeld	2	Heligoland light	7	Nordhorn	1
Black Forest	3	Herdecke	2	Nuremberg	2
Boblingen	5	Herringen	3	Oberharz mountains	3
Bochum	1	Hildesheim	2	Oberhausen	2
Bohlen	1	Hitzacker	1	Oberndorf	1
Bomlitz	2	Hochst	3	Ohrtermesche	1
Bonn	2	Holtenau	2	Oldenburg	7
Bonninghardt	5	Homberg	12	Osnabruck	34
Borkum	1	Homburg	5	Osterfeld	2
Bottrop	20	Hornum	4	Ostermoor	3
Bremen	7	Hoya	1	Ostheim	1
Bremerhaven	61	Hantlosen	2	Ottersburg	1
Brunsbuttel	13	Husten	1	Paderborn	5
Brunswick	4	Husum	4	Pilsen	2
Buer	1	Ickern	1	Politz	6
Celle	2	Jagel	1	Pretzsch	1
Coblenz	3	Jena	1	Quakenbruck	3
Cologne	11	Jever	1	Rangsdorf	1
Cuxhaven	59	Juist	1	Rantum Bay	1
Danzig	11	Julich	2	Rathenow	1
Darmstadt	1	Kamen	6	Rebstock	1
Deichshausen	2	Karlsruhe	1	Recklinghausen	2
Delmenhorst	5	Kassel	8	Rees	1
Dessau	2	Kastrop-Rauxel	4	Regensburg	2
Deipholz	4	Kelsterbach	1	Reisholz	9
Distelrath	8	Kerkrade	1	Rendsburg	1
Dollbergen	1	Kiel	37	Rheinberg	1
Dormagen	1	Kloppenburg	2	Rheine	8
Dorsten	1	Knapsack	2	Rheydt	6
Dortmund	2	Kochem	1	Riesenbeck	1
Dortmund-ems canal	20	Kolleda	1	Rotha	1
Dresden	15	Konigshofen	1	Rothenburg	4
Duisburg	2	Krefeld	20	Rudersdorf	1
Dusseldorf	38	Kreuzbruch	1	Rugen Island	1
Ehrang	27	Langenhagen	1	Ruhland	2
Elbe estuary	13	Langeoog	1	Saarbrucken	1
Emden	1	Lastrup	4	Sazlbergen	5
Emmerich	40	Lauta	1	Salzhof	1
Erkelenz	11	Lehe	1	Schildan	1
Eschwege	1	Leipzig	6	Schlebusch	1
Eschweiler	5	Lemforde	1	Schonebeck	1
Esens	1	Leuna	11	Schwerte	13
Essen	1	Leverkusen	4	Siedenburg	1
Euskirchen	32	Lingen	5	Siegburg	1
Eystrup	3	Lintorf	1	Soest	34
Fehman island	1	Lippstadt	2	Solingen	1
Finkenheerd	1	Lohausen	1	Soltan	1
Flensburg	1	Lubeck	4	Speyer	1
Frankfurt-on-main	1	Ludwigshafen	16	Spich	1
Frankfurt-on-oder	17	Lunen	10	Stade	3
Freiburg	1	Lutzen	1	Stendal	1
Furstenan	1	Magdeburg	20	Sterkrade	6
Geldern	1	Mainz	3	Stettin	3
Gelsenkirchen	5	Mannheim	35	Stockum	1
Geseke	43	Marnheim	1	Stralsund	1
Gifhorn	1	Mecklenburg	1	Stuttgart	1
Goch	2	Meidrich	1	Sundern	5
Gotha	1	Merseburg	1	Sylt	1
Gottingen	3	Merzig	1		7
Gremburg	3	Metelen	1		
	8		1		

(*Continued on page* 10)

HELP TO RUSSIA

THREE MAIN ROUTES OF SUPPLY

The Germans are throwing in fresh reserves into the Battle for Russia but it is generally taken for granted that, despite crippling loss of territory, the core of Russian resistance will remain unbroken when winter really sets in and adds to the difficulties of the invaders. But the danger is that the Soviet Union may be so gravely weakened by losses of material and—still more important—of the vital industrial production in the Moscow region and in the Donetz Basin that only British and American aid can fill the gap and help Marshals Voroshilov and Budenny to reconstitute the Russian armies as a major fighting force by next spring. Expert statisticians now estimate that, if the Russians were to fall back on the lines of the Don and the Volga, their own factories and raw materials in the east could be developed so as to convert their armies once more into a first-rate military machine in twelve months. That is obviously not good enough. The time-lag must be halved at least. That is the measure of the peril and the measure of the opportunity which is presenting itself to the peoples of the British Commonwealth and the United States of America. They must not, and will not, fail but nothing less than an all-out effort will suffice.

The supply lines to Russia are, indeed, being organised rapidly. The three main routes are, of course, from the Persian Gulf or from Baluchistan across Iran to the Caspian Sea or the Caucasus; from the Pacific Coast of North America to Vladivostok; and from Boston (or any other convenient port) on the Atlantic seaboard of the United States to Archangel. In Iran roads are being built and the Trans-Iranian Railway extended to take 3,000 tons of goods per day. This may be compared with the 400 tons per day travelling over the Burma Road to China, as reorganized by the American transport expert, Mr. J. E. Baker. The Trans-Iranian Railway, 868 miles in length, crosses Iran from Bandar Shapur on the Persian Gulf to Bandar Shah touching the Caspian Sea. It is a single track all the way. From Teheran, the Iranian capital which lies on the main line, a branch line runs north-west as far as Zenjan and this is being extended to join the line which runs from the Russian frontier to Tabriz. Another branch line is also under construction to Meshed in the north-east and will eventually reach Kushk, another Russian rail-head bordering on Afghanistan. The land route from Quetta is also being developed rapidly so as to take over supplies going through the port of Karachi and along the Karachi-Quetta railway as well as from supply centres in India. British railway engineers are already at work in Iran and British rolling stock is being shipped to Iran in considerable volume. An American mission is also helping to supervise the delivery of American supplies to Russia along the Iranian roads and railways.

ARCHANGEL ROUTE

Supplies from America, the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies are already going over to Vladivostok and thence by the Trans-Siberian Railway to Moscow and the fighting front. But Japan indulges in threats to cut this route though they have amounted in practice to little more than tall talk and M. Lozovsky, the Russian spokesman, has called her bluff and warned her against any monkey-tricks. Nevertheless, the main bulk of American supplies are now being sent to Archangel, the Soviet's northern port, *via* Boston because this sea-route is *shorter to the front* than *via* Vladivostok. The main American industries concerned are also situated near the Atlantic coast.

By sea from San Francisco to Vladivostok is roughly the same distance as from New York or Boston to Archangel—just over 5,000 miles, writes the *Times* Diplomatic Correspondent. But there are land routes on each side to the ports to consider. The bulk of American industries are nearer to the east coast than to the west; therefore the Atlantic ports are more convenient; and on the Russian railways the advantage of using Archangel rather than Vladivostok is very much greater. If Archangel could not be kept free from ice during the winter, then the Vladivostok route would have to be used, in spite of the greater length. The Soviet Government, however, are confident that their three new ice-breakers, of 12,000 tons each, can keep open the port—which used to be closed by ice from November to May. They are also confident that they can safeguard the railway route from Archangel during winter. An added reason for using the Archangel route is that convoys *via* the Atlantic are already well organized and formidably guarded.

Again, the *News Chronicle's* Special Correspondent at Manila points out that diversion of the delivery of United States supplies to Archangel has created a Gilbertian situation whereby Japan is able to claim a diplomatic victory and yet vital war materials are able to reach Russia by a more direct route and to be quickly ferried by river barges to the vicinity of Moscow. The move, which was decided upon at least a month ago, permits supplies to be transported to the interior of Russia along the Ob, Yenisei and Lena rivers. It is the job of the organization known as the main administration of the Soviet Northern Sea Route to keep the Arctic Sea rivers free from ice. Raw materials from the Philippines,

(*Continued on page* 9)

HITLER'S HOLLOW "VICTORIES"

THE SAME OLD STORY

Here is a passage from Emil Ludwig's 'Napoleon':—

"Now Russia is open to him for the first time, a land like a desert. Endless steppes, covered with snow or mud, no bread, and hardly any roads. After a few skirmishes, the Tsar slowly retreats. Can we follow him? Whither is he enticing us? Who will feed the army? There is nothing in this land to be seized, nothing such as there is in prosperous Germany, no storehouses. . . . When the Emperor is riding towards Pultusk, he hears murmurs from the ranks. His generals report suicides among the men. Thousands of starving soldiers desert, to become marauders. . . It is not surprising, therfore, that when he compels the Russians to fight, for the first time he should fail to conquer in the open field. He is not actually beaten at Eylau, but both the contending armies sustain terrible losses and the issue is indecisive. . .

"He writes to his brother: 'We are living here amid snow and mud, without wine, bread or brandy.' But this is a private missive. From Osterode, where he is housed in a barn among the soldiers, his bulletins to Paris speak of a great victory, and of a Russian rout. The casualties are stated at a third of the true figures. . . Arrangements must be made for the Paris newspapers to publish articles, ostensibly based on information from Bucharest and Tiflis, and describing Russia's desperate situation."

Napoleon, with all his difficulties, entered Moscow twelve weeks after his invasion of Russia began. Hitler, with troops of high morale (after a long series of victories) and well fed (with food plundered from conquered territories), with excellent lines of communication and supply, was still well out of goosestepping range of the Kremlin eighteen weeks after beginning his invasion. No wonder he uses Napoleon's strategems in his progress reports to the German people . . . lying communiqués, understatements of casualties, fake news items purporting to come from neutral sources. Every battle, according to Hitler's communiqués, is a "battle of annihilation," but he knows that the Russian armies are far from broken, that his "victories" are indecisive.

"This is a tank war," says Stalin. "The Germans conquered Poland," says Genreal de Gaulle, "because they had 5,000 tanks against 1,000 tanks, they conquered France because they had 10,000 against 3,000 and they are advancing in Russia because they have 25,000 against the Russians' 15,000 tanks."

President Roosevelt is doubling America's tank output and British factories are working day and night to reach the target of 30,000 metal monsters set by Beaverbrook. Wavell—Britain's tank expert—was transferred from the Middle East to the Indian Command to organize the defence of the Allied front south of the Caucasus. Timoshenko—Russia's tank expert—has been transferred from the central to the southern sector of the Russian front so that he can organise the defence of the Donetz Basin and the vital Caucasus. It is in this area that the main weight of any German winter offensive will fall.

HELP TO RUSSIA—(*Continued from Page* 8)

Australia and the East Indies have already reached Archangel *via* Arctic Seas. The captains of the ships conveying these supplies were impressed by the ability of the special Soviet organization to maintain lanes through the ice whereby shipments of supplies from America, Australia and the Far East can be kept flowing all the year around. Far Eastern observers point out that the Democracies, by using a route developed by the Soviet in peace time, have made a "complete monkey" of the concentrated Nazi efforts to cause trouble about Vladivostok, at the same time giving Japan a seeming diplomatic victory, whereby she may save her face. The Archangel route is no experiment. Regular sea-freighting began to North Siberia in 1934 after the ice-breaker *Siberykov* had negotiated a passage. Dozens of freighters have since made the journey in the depth of winter.

And, lastly, Finnish sources reveal that several large British transport ships have recently arrived at Archangel and war supplies transported rapidly southward. No, the Democracies will not fail Russia and will carry out to the last detail the promise of all-out aid given by Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman to M. Stalin at the Three Power Conference at Moscow.

WAR OF SUPPLIES

FOR ALLIES

Supply lorries are rumbling along Russia's "Burma Road"—through Iran—in a continuous stream, carrying 3,000 tons of war materials daily across the Russian frontier. Two thousand lorries have been imported to ease the transport problem.

The Australian Government has undertaken to supply big quantities of rolling stock to Iran's railway, whose carrying capacity will be increased in a year from its present daily total of 350 tons to 3,000 tons.

India's factories are playing an important part in helping to deliver the goods to her soldiers and to the Russians, who together are manning her first line of defence.

American-built war planes, flown or shipped across the Atlantic, are now being ferried by air direct across Central Africa and *via* the Sudan to the Middle East battle fronts.

AGAINST AXIS

The British Navy has already carried out 14 separate attacks on enemy transports carrying reinforcements for use against the Soviets. The Royal Air Force keeps up a ceaseless bombardment of German ports and supply lines in the West.

In the Mediterranean, British submarines and naval aircraft are sinking Axis supplies at the rate of a shipload a day. British, South African and Australian bombers are ranging far and wide over the Libyan desert, blasting ammunition and petrol dumps, armaments factories and motor transport columns.

Last year, the Italian General, Rodolfo Graziani, was able to begin his invasion of Egypt in mid-September. This year, the German General, Erwin Rommel, is still marking time on the Egyptian frontier. The reason? British bombs and torpedoes are tearing his supply line to shreds.

ATLANTIC BRIDGE OF SHIPS

As the volume of American Lease-Lend-Aid increases—Rs. 54 crores worth was shipped in September—German U-boats, surface raiders and bombers are presented with a bigger target. But, instead of sinking more ships in the Atlantic, they are sinking less.

Goebbels feels obliged to explain. The German radio (October 26) speaks of the Battle of the Atlantic as "indescribable hell for German airmen." Two years ago, says the announcer, attacks on British shipping meant just dropping bombs, but "to-day an attack on a convoy can be compared with nothing less than a desperate assault on a mighty and powerful line of fortifications by great infantry assault units. British convoys are now always powerfully escorted by large numbers of fast and heavily armed warships. Moreover, all merchantmen are themselves armed with one or several anti-aircraft guns or machine guns. Finally, convoys carry with them barrage balloons, with their malicious steel cables. It seldom happens now-a-days that aircraft succeed in surprising a British convoy. The enemy has become so efficient and vigilant, he is in such a constant state of preparedness, that, as soon as our bombers approach, the most murderous fire is opened against us. This is directed with uncanny precision and on a cunning system which covers practically every inch of air space. For our bombers to get at a ship is to go down into the shadow of death."

High-speed fighters are now catapulted from British merchantmen to deal with long-range Focke-Wulf Condor bombers—another good reason why Allied shipping losses in the past 12 months have been more than 20 per cent lower than the total for 1917.

THE AIR OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY—(*Continued from Page 7*)

Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.
Thuringen Forest	2	Wanne Eickel	5	Westerland	3
Torgau	2	Warendorf	1	Westhofen	1
Trier	3	Warnemunda	1	Wilhelmshaven	45
Tubingen	1	Wedan	2	Wismar	9
Uberlingen	1	Wenzendorf	5	Witten	1
Ulm	1	Werl	1	Wittenburg	1
Varel	3	Wernigerode	1	Wunstorf	2
Vechta	1	Wesel	13	Wurzburg	1
Vegesack	1	Weser-Elbe Canal	2	Zschorncwitz	1
Waldeck	1	Wesermunde	5	Zweibrucken	1
Waldshut	1	Wesseling	7	Zwischenahu	2
Wangeroog	2	Westerholt	1		

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 18—25, 1941

SOME NAZI DOUBTS CLEAR

"Londoners are beginning to realize that the Battle of the East is virtually over." (*German news in Hindustani, October* 18.).

"The fresh Soviet troops have been completely annihilated and the war on the Eastern Front has virtually come to an end." (*German news in Hindustani, October* 19.).

"The army of Timoshenko has been annihilated." (*German news in English, October* 20.)

"One realized that there can be no question of the revival of the Soviet armed forces." (*German news in English, October* 22.)

"Pursuit of the Bolsheviks in the Donetz basin continues favourably. Newly arrived Soviet formations are drawn into the general flight." (*German news in English, October* 21.)

"Marshal Budenny of the Southern Sector has been confined to jail in Moscow. Also Marshal Voroshilov has been disposed of." (*German news in Hindustani, October* 25.)

"No official reasons are given for Timoshenko's dismissal. There can be no doubt however, that now he has been found guilty of whatever he may be accused of, we shall not have to wait long for his liquidation." (*German news in English, October* 25.)

"Inhuman and indescribable tactics are being employed by the British to starve out the French colony in Africa." (*German news in English, October* 18.)

As a Swedish paper recently observed, according to *Nazi estimates*, the number of Russians killed and captured is 12,000,000 and when the estimate reaches 15,000,000 (the maximum Russian mobilization figure) which it no doubt will, Berlin will have great difficulty in explaining why she is still fighting at all in Russia.

Dr. Goebbels has not reached the broadcasting station at Moscow, although "*the whole Russian army is in flight*" and "*Timoshenko's forces are annihilated.*"

But for internal consumption the Nazis adopt a more sober tone. On October 15 they said in German "*hard struggle may still be ahead of us. Our forces will not be spared more hard fighting.*"

The Berlin correspondent of the *Stockholm Tidningen* issued a warning against premature jubilation over the Southern move. He said "*The Russians are organizing a new defence line in the Donetz basin.*"

Goebbels has been caught in the trap of his lies inextricably this time, and even for him it will take some wriggling out.

Both Budenny and Voroshilov are free, alive and kicking, and after their present organization of armies behind the front lines, will kick harder still.

As for Timoshenko, he is being sent to the South, the critical area now, where he will no doubt show the same qualities that kept him for four months across the German path to Moscow.

While the Vichy Government attempt to send supplies to their army by submarines, the British have made every possible effort to relieve the suffering of the French population. As far back as June 26 an offer was made to convey all women and children to Madagascar.

The Governor ignored the gesture. A constant stream of supplies of milk for women and children has been kept up and recently increased. Free French doctors are kept in waiting with medicines and food to help as soon as the Governor sees fit to co-operate with those who were once his Allies.

GERMANY SEEKS A RESPITE

Periodically Goebbels organizes a "*Peace Blitz.*" It takes many shapes and talks in many voices. But it is always an integral part of the Nazi strategy of world-conquest.

As with other German attacks, the *peace-blitz* is begun while its existence is denied :—

"After weapons have had their say and Britain has thrown out Churchill and other people responsible for the war, one might speak of peace-feelers. Of course, they will be exclusively English peace-feelers." (*Nazi Radio in German and English, October* 13.)

Then various countries are tried out.

The Italian radio tell Britain and the U.S.A. on October 8 :—

"If you have any hopes left, let them be based on a peace which will come in spite of Mr. Churchill, and in spite of all the villanies of Bolshevism. Germany would destroy your hopes of winning this war, this unnecessary war, but Germany will in the end grant you one thing for sure, a peace free from Bolshevism."

Another message from Rome is sent out to Canada in French on October 12 :—

"Recent military developments make it obvious that a British victory is impossible. Then why does she fight. A country with common sense would endeavour to stop fighting to save as much as possible. But Britain has no common sense."

In the same week Berlin probes South Africa :—

"The British would give up the struggle if Russia were beaten. The only factor that might prolong the war is American intervention."

The same day in a broadcast to England Berlin declares :—

"The German people are the ancestors of the British. If there are two races in the world who should have been allies, they are Germany and England."

On October 15 and 16 the Nazi radio issues the pronouncement in English :—

"All rumours of a peace settlement are unfounded. They are spread by democracies."

To understand the tactics of aggressive hypocrisy is to defeat them. This German search for a breathing space before the next assault serves only to strengthen the grim resolve of the Allies to expunge for ever such malice from the surface of the earth.

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER BRITAIN AND GERMANY

31st Oct.—The Royal Air Force carries out numerous offensive sweeps over Northern France and the Channel, attacking factories, communications, barges, etc.

Enemy aircraft drop a few bombs over East Anglia, West and South-west England, causing little damage.

1st Nov.—The Royal Air Force bombs Hamburg and the docks at Dunkirk and Boulogne. Successful attacks are also carried out on enemy shipping off the Norwegian coast and the Frisian Islands.

German guns from the other side of the Channel shell the vicinity of Dover.

2nd Nov.—The Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force attacks objectives in Kiel and elsewhere in North-west Germany. Docks at Brest, Le Havre, and St. Nazaire are also attacked.

Six enemy planes are destroyed when enemy aircraft drop bombs on scattered points in England and Wales. Small damage is caused at the Mereseyside and the South Coast.

3rd Nov.—The Royal Air Force again attacks objectives in Northern France, including a wireless station and a number of enemy lorries.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command attacks enemy shipping off the Dutch Islands and objectives on the coast of Norway.

Single enemy aircraft drop bombs at a few isolated points in East Anglia and East Scotland, causing slight damage.

4th Nov.—The Royal Air Force makes successful attacks on enemy convoys in the English Channel and off the Frisian Islands.

5th Nov.—The German News Agency admits bombing of Western and North-western Germany by the Royal Air Force. French Channel ports are also attacked as well as shipping off the Dutch and Norwegian coasts.

Britain has a raid-free night.

6th Nov.—The Royal Air Force again attacks Channel ports and enemy shipping.

A single enemy plane raiding England causes slight damage and no casualty.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

31st Oct.—An Italian communiqué admits raids on Tripoli and Benghazi by British aircraft.

Tmimi and Bardia in Libya and Heraklion and Suda Bay in Crete are also heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force.

1st Nov.—Naples and the Sicilian ports of Palermo and Licata are raided by the Royal Air Force and numerous fires started.

2nd Nov.—British patrols continue to be active on the Egyptian frontier.

Italian positions in the Gondar area are attacked by the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force.

3rd Nov.—Widespread havoc is caused by the latest Royal Air Force and South African Air Force raids in North Africa. Military objectives in Benghazi, the harbour and aerodrome at Derna, and aerodromes at Berca are all heavily attacked. Four enemy aircraft are set alight.

4th Nov.—British bombers attack Syracuse and Licata and also the aerodrome at Castel Benito, south of Tripoli.

5th Nov.—British submarines sink three enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean. Increased enemy activity is reported in the Tobruk area.

6th Nov.—Italy admits a Royal Air Force raid on Augusta in Sicily.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

31st Oct.—The United States destroyer, *Reuben James* with 120 on board, is torpedoed off the coast of Iceland while on convoy duty. Seven officers and 88 men are missing.

The United States *Journal of Commerce* states that plans are afoot in America to produce 100,000 planes a year by 1943.

1st Nov.—Denouncing the sinking of United States ships as worse than piracy, Colonel Knox, Secretary of the Navy, states "We are in this fight to the finish."

Mr. Wendell Wilkie asks for complete repeal of the Neutrality Act.

Naval men in Washington declare they are virtually certain that United States warships have scored direct hits on German submarines since the Navy got orders to shoot.

It is revealed that there has been a rush of Americans to join the United States Navy within an hour of the news of the sinking of the *Reuben James.*

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, begins conversations with President Roosevelt at Hyde Park.

2nd Nov.—It is revealed that the output of aircraft engines in the United States has risen 88 per cent during the first nine months of the year. Enough engines are now being produced for about 2,000 aircraft monthly.

The United States Navy now has 344 major fighting ships in hand and 347 are being built.

3rd Nov.—The United States warns Finland that she must discontinue promptly military operations against Russia if she desires to maintain her friendship with America.

Two American submarines are being transferred to the British and Polish Navies.

The United States claims three million dollars in full compensation for all claims against the German Government for the sinking of the American steamer *Robin Moor*.

4th Nov.—The United States Navy Department announces that the oil tanker Salinas was torpedoed without warning off Iceland but has managed to reach port.

5th Nov.—Mayor La Guardia, ardent champion of the Allied cause, is elected Mayor of New York for a third term.

Mr. Kurusu, formerly Japanese Ambassador to Germany, is appointed Special Adviser to the Japanese Ambassador to the United States of America. It is said he is carrying a personal message from Premier Tojo to President Roosevelt and is bringing a formula approved by the Emperor of Japan for reaching an agreement with America.

6th Nov.—President Roosevelt, addressing the International Labour Office Conference, says that America is determined to play her part in planning a new world after the war.

The International Labour Office Conference approves of the Atlantic Charter.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

31st Oct.—A German Communiqué claims a striking advance in the Crimea by German and Rumanian troops.

The German offensive against Orel and Tula has intensified and fierce fighting is in progress in the Central Sector.

The Soviet Midnight Communiqué states that all Nazi attacks on Russian positions have been beaten off with heavy losses.

A Soviet cavalry regiment smashes two German regiments on the Southern front and a Soviet tank unit wipes out an enemy regiment on the Central front.

1st Nov.—It is revealed that fresh Russian armies are undergoing vigorous training in Southern Siberia.

The Germans are bringing up fresh reinforcements on the Moscow front for an imminent new assault.

The German News Agency claims that a big force of bombers has raided Moscow.

Soviet motor torpedo-boats sink three enemy ships and damage another in the Baltic.

The Germans have advanced several miles in the Crimea and the Moscow Radio reports fierce fighting in the Crimean front.

A submarine of the Russia Black Sea Fleet has returned to its base after sinking three enemy transports.

2nd Nov.—The Russians have commenced counter-attacks in some sectors of the Moscow front.

The Germans claim the capture of Simferopol, capital of the Crimea.

It is claimed that German and Italian troops have broken Soviet resistance in the Donetz basin and occupied further industrial districts.

"Do not step back" is the order issued by M. Stalin to the Red Army in the Moscow sector.

3rd Nov.—The Moscow Radio announces that the Battle for Moscow has entered a most serious phase.

The Soviet claims the destruction of two German battalions on the Southern front.

A special announcement by all German radio stations claim that the Soviet troops in the Crimea have been separated into two groups and that the industrial town of Kursk has been captured.

Soviet factories are showing remarkable records of increased output, according to the British Trade Union Congress delegation which visited Russia recently.

Swedish newspapers reveal the arrival at Archangel of several large British transport ships and war supplies.

The suggestion made by Russia that Britain might declare war on Finland, Hungary and Rumania is under active consideration by the British Government in consultation with Dominion Governments, according to informed circles in London.

Finnish troops are stated to be 14 miles from Murmansk in a Helsinki press report.

It is stated that some Russian warships have broken out of the mine-fields in the Gulf of Finland and are steaming west.

Marshal Shaposhnikov is reappointed Chief of the Russian General Staff.

4th Nov.—The Germans claim the capture of the harbour town of Feodosia on the Black Sea Coast.

The Russians make many successful counter-attacks on the Moscow and Leningrad fronts and have beaten back a new Nazi offensive at Mojaisk.

The Germans are throwing fresh reserves on the Kalinin front.

The Russian Air Force raids Danzig, Koenigsberg and Riga.

The Finns claim the occupation of an island in the Gulf of Finland, 40 miles north-east of Kronstadt. They also report an advance into Russian Karelia towards the White Sea.

5th Nov.—M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, contradicts the German report to have captured almost the whole of the Crimea and says fierce fighting is going on.

The Germans claim to have reached the Black Sea coast of the Crimea and to have bombed the ports of Sebastopol, Yalta and Kerch.

Fierce fighting is reported at Tula on the Moscow front.

A Soviet advance is reported in the Donetz Basin.

Mr. Lozovsky contradicts the German statement that the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from the Far East to the Western front.

6th Nov.—The fresh Nazi offensive is stemmed all along the Moscow front and Russian defence is stabilised.

Another attack on Lenningrad is beaten off.

The Germans reach the outer defences of Sebastopol.

The training of powerful reserves for the Red Army is proceeding apace.

M. Stalin, addressing the Moscow Soviet, emphasises Hitler's failure to isolate Russia and points to the Russian deficiency in tanks as the reason for the German successes so far. M. Stalin says that Hitler's *blitzkrieg* is bound to collapse, the German losses in the first four months of the war in Russia being 4½ million as against the Soviet's million and a half.

The Finish Radio states "Military operations are drawing to a close so far as our country is concerned."

President Roosevelt authorises a thousand million dollar loan to Russia.

M. Litvinov (it is understood) has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to the United States of America.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

1st Nov.—President Ineunu, opening the Turkish Parliament, says that Turkey will adhere to her announced foreign policy and commitments.

Emir Abdullah of Transjordan declares that the question of an Arab Federation should be left until after the war and for the time being all efforts should be concentrated on helping Britain to win the war.

2nd Nov.—The Regent of Iraq, opening the first session of the Iraqi Parliament since May, declares that the Iraqi Government would zealously observe their Treaty of Alliance with Britain.

6th Nov.—The Turkish motor boat Kaynakdere is stopped and sunk by a submarine in the Black Sea, in Turkish territorial waters.

SHIPPING

1st Nov.—Ten ships inciuding a tanker, a large-sized supply vessel and an escort ship, are hit during Royal Air Force attacks on enemy shipping off the Norwegian Coast and off the Frisian Islands.

3rd Nov.—The United States Navy Department announces that fifty escort vessels for Britain are under construction.

It is announced that twenty to thirty ships of a German convoy hugging the European coast have been destroyed during the last three days by the Royal Air Force.

5th Nov.—It is revealed that American are actively hunting Hittler's new-type U-boats in the Atlantic.

6th Nov.—The Canadian Navy Minister reveals the presence of German U-boats just off Newfoundland.

FAR EAST

31st Oct.—The Australian Premier, Mr. Curtin, broadcasting to the British people, says that Australia wants to see a peaceful Pacific Ocean but is determined and ready to resist any aggression.

2nd Nov.—General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief in India, arrives in Singapore.

Chinese forces recapture the important city and railway junction of Chengchow.

The agreement made a year ago for the supply of oil by the Netherlands East Indies to Japan expires to-day.

3rd Nov.—General Wavell confers with Mr. Duff Cooper and also has talks with Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, and Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, the

Commander-in-Chief, China Station, and other defence chiefs. He is expected to tour the defences of Malaya.

The Japanese claim to have captured the stronghold of Junan, 200 miles north of Hankow. An attack on Yunnan through Indo-China is predicted.

The Prime Minister of Australia hints that the British Empire is considering a revision of its attitude towards Japan.

Australian naval units have been withdrawn from the Mediterranean and are concentrated in Australian waters.

4th Nov.—A spokesman of the Japanese Information Board says that the Japan-United States talks at Washington "have not been stopped or cut off."

The Chinese Minister for Publicity reveals the massing of Japanese troops on Burma and Thailand borders.

The Thailand Consul-General in Singapore denies reports that Japanese troops have crossed the Indo-China border into Thailand.

Chinese reports say that 15,000 Japanese troops have been annihilated in fierce fighting at Kwangwu.

5th Nov.—The Netherlands Indies is to control the export of aviation fuel to the Island of Timor where Japan has secured an air base.

6th Nov.—Japan protests to Russia against the sinking of the steamer Kebi Maru, consequent on its striking a drifting mine on the north-eastern coast of Korea.

More reinforcements arrive in Singapore.

General Wavell tells the press at Singapore that the Far East is the right flank of India, also that there is close liaison between the Indian and Russian Commands.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

3rd Nov.—Marshal Petain nominates 20 new members of the French National Council, from which the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has resigned.

The Admiralty announces that French ships in convoy, attempting to scuttle themselves off South Africa, have been intercepted by British ships.

4th Nov.—The Vichy Government protest to Britain against the interception of a French convoy off South Africa.

Britain grants a navicut for fresh United States Red Cross supplies for France.

5th Nov.—The Vichy Delegate-General to Occupied France returns to Paris from a visit to Germany.

The German-controlled Paris Radio incites the Vichy authorities to resist with force future searches of their ships by the British Navy.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

31st Oct.—Fifty communists and Jews are shot in Belgrade as a reprisal for one German soldier found killed.

Thriteen Greek hostages have been hanged as a reprisal for the murder of two Nazi soldiers.

3rd Nov.—The Belgrade Radio announces the shooting of a hundred Communists and Jews as a reprisal for attacking a German soldier.

5th Nov.—King George of Greece says that he awaits an Allied victory with absolute confidence.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1st Nov.—Costa Rica, Argentina and Chile protest to Germany against the shooting of French hostages.

A Bill providing for the extension of compulsory military service is presented to the Riksdag by the Swedish Government.

3rd Nov.—M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, affirms Russian friendship with Afghanistan.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The United States House of Representatives has passed the Neutrality (Amendment) Act by 212 votes against 194, following a strongly worded letter by Mr. Roosevelt to the Speaker saying that failure to pass the measure would bolster the aggressive steps and intentions of Germany.

The support Great Britain is giving to Russia by consistently daring air attacks is a fact which should be greatly appreciated. The biggest of the air raids took place on Friday last, when aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked targets in Berlin, Cologne and Mannheim. It appears that more than 300 aircraft took part in the operations. The biggest loss ever sustained in such air raids by Great Britain was incurred this time—37 aircraft are reported to be missing.

The Finnish answer to the United States demand that Finland should cease fire against Russia has now been sent. It says that Finland will finish the war in Russia only when the danger to her existence is eliminated and guarantees for her permanent security are created. Obviously such a reply has been sent owing to German pressure. It is now revealed that while the Finnish Government were informed at the beginning of October that Soviet Russia was prepared to negotiate a treaty of peace with Finland involving territorial concessions, Finland was also informed that the U.S.S.R. was prepared to fight indefinitely against Germany. There is a good deal of sympathy for Finland in America which she will lose if she continues the war against Russia.

It is noteworthy that President Roosevelt has categorically stated that the defence of the Soviet Union is vital to the defence of the United States. This is necessary in order that transfer of defence supplies to the Soviet Union under the Lease and Lend Act may be made. Executive instructions have been given to this effect to the State officials. President Roosevelt has also requested M. Stalin to deal with him direct in regard to anything that Russia may require by way of supplies. Russia has been asked to sell to the United States of America such available raw material as the United States may urgently need, the proceeds of such sales being credited to the Soviet Government's account. M. Stalin has accepted those offers and has stated further that he would let President Roosevelt know whenever he wanted anything to be done.

A remarkable tribute has been paid by Lord Beaverbrook to M. Stalin. "We", he said, "have not yet known the privations of this war. Everyone is going to be hurt and hurt terribly. No man or woman will escape. We must suffer and endure in the days to come much more than we have suffered." As for M. Stalin, Lord Beaverbrook said that he showed joy, pleasure, satisfaction and relief on being told that Britain would give all the aluminium he had asked for. It seemed as if a great burden had dropped off his back. On being told that Mr. Churchill had directed that all aluminium that had been asked for should be given and that the risk of depleting England's resources should be taken, M. Stalin exclaimed: "The old war-horse!". Lord Beaverbrook said that "Stalin is a great man—he is is indeed," and added "I could not understand his language but I could feel his pulsating power."

A heart-rending story of German cruelty has been told by a member of the Royal Marine. When Calais fell in May 1940 he and others were driven like cattle through Belgian villages, their guards whipping them "whenever they felt like it just to show us and the Belgians who was the boss." Many who tried to get apples or bread from friendly Belgians were shot and the dead bodies were left lying on the road. Other guards used the bayonet. Prisoners were made to run through villages holding their hands above their heads while whips cracked all round the column. On some days it would appear Germans killed anything up to 10 men more or less in the way of sport. Women and children did not escape this butchery and French colonial troops fared the worst. They were called and whipped like slaves, just to hear them shout.

Another instance of German brutality has come to public notice. Four people, two of them women, were condemned to death by the Bucharest military tribunal for "Communist" acts and sabotage. The sentences have been carried out.

Mr. Wendell Wilkie has publicly made a statement that American and British aeroplane manufactures are now outproducing German manufacturers and that in a year Anglo-American output would be thrice that of the Germans.

The German advance in the Black Sea front continues to give anxiety. In other fronts, the enemy is being held. On the whole, the present week has not seen any appreciable enemy advance on any sector.

The encirclement of Gondor, the last remaining Italian stronghold in Abyssinia, with 15,000 troops, has now been completed.

OPENING A WESTERN FRONT

It is recognized that it is only natural that Russia should desire that a western front should be opened in order to relieve the pressure against her in her struggle with Germany. M. Stalin, speaking on this subject, proceeded to discuss the considerations which produced temporary setbacks for the Red Army which had been forced to retreat and give up tracts of country to the enemy and said :—

> "What are these considerations? What is the reason for the military misfortunes of the Red Army? One reason is that there is no second front in Europe against Germany. At the present, on the Continent of Europe, there are no armies in existence belonging to Great Britain or the United States to fight against the Fascists; therefore, the Germans are not compelled to divide their forces and carry on the war on two fronts, in the west and east. This means that the Germans, considering their front to the west to be safe, are able to pit all their armies and their Allies in Europe against our Army.
>
> "The situation is now such, that our country leads the war of liberation alone against the united forces of Germans, Finns, Italians and Hungarians. The Germans boast about their military successes and glorify, out of all proportion, their army, asserting that it can always overwhelm the Red Army in battle, but this is an empty boast and it is not understandable why in that case the Germans have asked for the help of the Finns, Rumanians, Italians and Hungarians, and do not wage war, with their forces alone without outside assistance. Doubtless, the absence of a second front in Europe against the Germans very much lightens the position of the German armies. But there can be no doubt that the appearance of a second front on the European Continent, and it must certainly appear in the immediate future, will very considerably lighten our position. The other cause of the temporary misfortune of our army is to be found in our shortage of tanks and aircraft."

Herr Hitler, in his speech at Munich relating to the opening of a second front, is reported to have said :

> "If it pleases the English to land whether in Norway or on the German coast or in the Netherlands, Belgium or France to start an offensive, we can only say 'Come on, but you will return more quickly than you came'."

These are brave words, but according to neutral reports there is perturbation in Germany at the prospect of a second front in the west. Commander Stephen King Hall, in a recent B.B.C. talk, examined this point in some detail and came to the conclusion that sufficient troops with sufficient equipment could not be safely landed in Western Europe to cope with a possible German force of 25 divisions now in western Europe and 30 divisions which would possibly be brought from the Russian front. Further, an advance force has got to get ashore and it has to seize an area which, under modern conditions, must contain a first-class port if the advance landing is to be followed by an invasion in force. Again, Great Britain should have special kinds of ships to take hundreds of motor vehicles, tanks, armoured cars, motor bicycles, supply wagons, etc. Further, there would have to be aerodromes to support the landing forces. He concluded by saying that if the German General staff heard that Great Britain was attempting with inadequate forces to undertake what was notoriously one of the most difficult operations of the war, they would be overcome with delighted elation.

American opinion is frankly of the view that it is not possible to help Russia except in the air. Major Attlee, speaking in America, told a press conference in Washington that he could not discuss military matters or plans including the one of opening up another front, but he assured his listeners that Great Britain was in the war with her Allies to defeat Hitlerism and that all efforts would be used where they were most effective, according to the best expert advice which could be obtained. The question is not for laymen to discuss with any profit. That is why Mr. Churchill has consistently refused to be drawn into a discussion on this particular phase of the war.

JAPAN'S DILEMMA

Japan cannot be quite happy over her partnership with the Axis. For one thing, Japan is being persuaded to draw Great Britain and Germany into an armed conflict in the Pacific for Germany's own benefit and the Pact is invoked for this purpose. Nobody outside a lunatic asylum can see how further aggression on the part of Japan would benefit her in the face of the A. B. C. D. Front. In any case, it is almost certain that Germany is incapable of lifting her little finger to help Japan in the conflict which she is fomenting. The German drive for world domination has, unfortunately for Japan, spoiled her plans for Asiatic domination by creating a united front against both. Japan is finding herself in a position where her peace-makers are afraid to make peace (for fear of her militarists) and her war-makers are afraid to make war because of the formidable combination of America, Great Britain, Russia, Netherlands, East Indies and China. Mr. Churchill's warning has immensely complicated the issue for Japan. He has told the originator of the "Co-Prosperity" idea in the Far East that if America finds it necessary to declare war against Japan, Great Britain would do so similarly within an hour. The Japanese Government spokesman has commented upon Mr. Churchill's warning that it would have been surprising if Mr. Churchill had said otherwise. The cup of misery for Japan has been filled by Col. Knox, American Secretary of the Navy, declaring in solemn tones that, so far as the Far East is concerned, "the hour of decision is near." After referring to the conciliatory policy hitherto pursued by America, including sending supplies to Japan, Mr. Knox said : "We have felt in the interests of peace, that we must tolerate and take risks, but there comes a time in the life of every man and every nation when principles cannot be sacrificed, when vital essential rights can no longer be ignored, a time when to go further would mean that our liberality and forberance would be misunderstood. We are moved and actuated in the Pacific no less than in the Atlantic solely by considerations of self-defence." While the Japanese moderates seem to be of the opinion that, on the whole, Mr. Churchill expressed no ideas which had not hitherto been expressed by British spokesmen, the Japanese press is not so restrained. Some of them seem to be of the view that this threat by Mr. Churchill was calculated to involve the United States in a war with Japan in order to protect British interests in the Far East. In the Dominions, Mr. Churchill's warning has been interpreted as an ultimatum to the Japanese Government, while in America there is hearty welcome.

HESITATION

Japan's hesitancy is therfore understandable. The negotiations with America are now proceeding and it may be that they are being protracted merely for the purpose of gaining time. Other reports indicate that Japan is anxious for a complete understanding with the United States, but it is doubtful how such an understanding is possible unless it be based on the Washington Nine-Power Treaty and Japan's withdrawal from China. Japan is willing to wound, yet afraid to strike. While, on the one hand, the freezing of Japanese assets has resulted in a serious loss of trade, there is, on the other, no doubt that Japan is equally aware of the rising tide of hatred against the Germans throughout Europe, Italy and Rumania. Mr. Wickham Steed, in a broadcast speech the other day, said that Japan hesitated to take the plunge and that her action would be prompted by considerations akin to those of sheep stealers in the days when men were hanged for stealing sheep. "Japan has been stealing lambs in China and Indo-China. A German defeat might in any event bring trouble upon her in those regions. So her militarists may decide that a bigger prey is worth going after." The hesitation is also due to fear of a possible powerful combination. According to certain newspaper correspondents, there is a belief that Great Britain and the United States have plans to deal with any aggression in the Far East, particularly the Pacific Islands. It is even stated that the United States has taken great measures to ensure a victorious war with British co-operation against any unlawful ambitions on the part of a third Power. In America, Government spokesmen have been saying that a very critical stage has been reached in the Pacific. Some such expectation is in the air in Thailand because the Bangkok Radio stated the other day that "Thailand will be in the war this year or the next" and that the people must be prepared to defend their neutrality.

THE BURMA ROAD

The reported decision of the United States to withdraw the Marines from Japan may be an additional reminder to the war-mongers there that the deck is being cleared for action and sections of American opinion are clearly of the view that Japan should be told what any further aggression on her part would result in. It is surmised, therefore, that Japan is likely to pursue a policy serving her own interests rather than those of Germany and her next moves will be neither north nor south, but against China, from the strengthened position she has obtained in Indo-China from her last push southwards. The

Japanese threat to the Burma Road is extremely serious. Two hundred miles inside Yunnan from the Indo-China frontier lies Kunming, the Chinese terminus of the Burma Road. It is also the terminus of the railway which connects Kunming with Hanoi and the seaport of Haiphong, now a Japanese naval base. If Japan could secure a safe base at Kunming she would be in a good strategic position to operate a " pincers " movement from there and from her bases in French Indo-China on Burma and Thailand. The Burma Road is now stated to be approaching its peak capacity and Japan is stated to be very anxious that the heavy traffic proceeding to China through that road which has reached a volume compensating China for the stoppage in deliveries from Russia should be stopped. According to one account, Japan has massed 120,000 troops in Indo-China for a drive to cut the Burma Road. It is surmised in Tokyo that the United States cannot object if Japan strikes through Indo-China, because America herself is employing a " foreign intervention route " to aid Chungking. But Japan would do well to reflect upon the fact that America is very anixous that her supplies should reach their destination. For this purpose she has amended the Neutrality Act and neither Great Britain nor America is likely to sit quiet if their help to China is sought to be interrupted.

Japan has now to choose. She can join the Axis, knowing that thereby she would imperil her existence as a great power, and will become the junior partner of a predatory power already known to have an oriental appetite, or alternatively, she can try to reach an understanding with the Democracies, and that understanding would involve the closing of the China " incident ". The Konoye Cabinet fell because it could find no way out of this dilemma and the Tojo Cabinet finds itself in the same position as a result of which there is exasperation. It is possible that this exasperation may result in caution being thrown to the winds. In that case, General Wavell's visit to Burma and Singapore and his conference with Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham shows that this possibility is fully realized and serves to demonstrate how closely knit is the whole system of defence in the East, from Tobruk and Libya, through Syria, Iraq and Iran to Burma, Singapore and the East Indies. The Middle and Far Eastern Front is one and indivisible. In the middle of it lies India, the strategical pivot and the centre of supply.

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

In his book on ' Sea Power,' the author, T-124, a well-known writer on naval and military affairs, who is not for any considerable land operations, says that there is no doubt that England possesses sea-sense in a grater measure than others. He writes: " Nations, like individuals, have their part to play in the world, for which nature has specially fitted them. For the British, this part is undeniably a maritime one. During the 19th century, we were universally recognized as the paramount naval power, with whom no one else till the very end of the century took the trouble seriously to compete. On the whole, we filled that position with dignity and success. The world, if it felt a certain envy of our undisputed maritime supremacy, was well enough content that we should hold it, for we used it wisely and with moderation."

In the great battles of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, recent events have shown that Great Britain is still the mistress of the seas. Big losses have been incurred, but on a long-term view of the whole matter, it cannot be denied that this supremacy is still there. Of course, in the battle of the Atlantic, the Germans have enjoyed advantages which they did not possess during the last war. The whole of the European coastline from the Arctic to the Pyrenees is controlled by them. They have friendly bases in West Africa; they have a Mediterranean base from which they can sally through the Straits of Gibraltar; they have improved submarines and far greater facilities for building them; their huge coastline and the impossibility of maintaining an inshore blockade makes it much easier for surface raiders and supply ships to reach the open seas; their bombers can harass convoys far out in the Atlantic and their dive-bombers can beset ships in the narrow seas; they are within easy bombing range of Britain's ports and they can lay mines from the air right in their fairways. And with all these, England has been getting all supplies intended for her and there is increasing evidence to show that since the end of May Germany has been interfering less and less with supplies. This is almost wholly attributable to the efficiency of the British Navy, greatly handicapped though it is owing to the defection of the French Navy. This German failure is illustrated by the fact that British sea-losses in the third quarter of 1941 were only *one-third* of their losses in the second quarter. Mr. Churchill, in his review of the war in the House of Commons on Wednesday last, stated that in the four months ending June last, Great Britain lost over two million tons, an average of 500,000 tons a month. In the next four months ending October, Britain lost three-quarters of a million tons, a monthly average of 180,000 tons. Including new building, captures from the enemy and assistance from the United States, the net loss has been reduced in the four months ending October to less than one-fifth of what it was in the previous four months. Many reasons can be stated for this turn of the tide. The number of escort vessels, of which corvettes are the leading examples, has increased. America has transferred 50 destroyers and there is greater British and Dominion production. Patrolling aircraft are doing wonderful work. Fighters catapulted from convoys are driving off German Focke-Wulf bombers. The new type of depth-charge is proving its worth wonderfully. Air-patrols are more effective. American shipbuilding, to which Mr. Churchill has paid a tribute, now proceeding at the rate of 6,000,000 tons a year, is more than replacing the losses, while the American patrols culminating in the occupation of Iceland have greatly assisted the British. Finally, the occupation of Iceland and the amendment of the Neutrality Act enable American ships to enter belligerent ports. All these definitely are turning the tide against Germany.

THE BATTLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The British Navy now dominates the Mediterranean and is on the offensive. The maintenance of the sea-route to Alexandria, the confinement of the Italian fleet to harbour or its destruction, the support of the army in Greece, Crete and Syria, and the interruption of the supply route to Libya are the main objectives of Great Britain. The Italian objectives, on the other hand, have been to cut the route to Alexandria, to supply the Libyan army, and to make the phrase " Mare Nostrum " a reality as well as a boast.

A look at this week's record proves the truth of General Sikorski's declaration that he has seen for himself that Britain's domination in the Mediterranean was complete, and that the battle of the Mediterranean has been won. On Saturday last, two enemy convoys consisting of ten supply ships escorted by destroyers was engaged by two cruisers and three destroyers under the command of Captain Agnew. All the ships, totalling 55,000 tons, were sunk and three Italian destroyers have been sent to the bottom of the sea, a feat upon which Mr. Churchill has congratulated the Admiralty. This action was important and timely in Mr. Churchill's words. This was indeed a brilliant and determined action, especially in view of the fact that the Italians had bigger cruisers and four destroyers. Up to now the Italians have lost 30 destroyers and the Axis Powers 45 transport and supply ships since August.

Close upon this great naval battle comes the news that four enemy troop ships or supply ships and two sailing vessels have been sunk by British submarines and that two supply ships have been seriously damaged.

Sea-power, like the blockade, is slow in its effect, but it is sure. Backed by air protection, sea-power may well be stated to be as decisive as in the days of Nelson and Admiral Mahan and it is not too much to hope that sea-power will give a decisive blow at the decisive moment.

THE WAR IN RUSSIA

It looks as if Hitler is resigned to a defensive war in Russia during the swiftly-approaching winter. His hordes are as far as ever from taking Moscow or Leningrad. The Germans have put it out that they are not afraid of winter and, indeed, that they look forward to the frost to render the roads usable. But what of the snow? As Mr. Churchill puts it, " the valiant resistance of the Russian nation has inflicted the most frightful injuries upon German military power and, at the present moment, the German invading armies, after all their losses, lie on the barren steppes, exposed to the approaching Russian winter."

In the north, the Finns have tried their best—but so far, without success—to cut the Murmansk railway. And the Germans have announced, with a fanfare of trumpets and roll of drums, the capture of Tikhvin, about 120 miles south-east of Leningrad, along with hundreds of prisoners. The claim is not confirmed but it is known that fierce fighting has been going on in that area. Tikhvin is an important railway centre and the Germans are possibly trying to complete the encirclement of Leningrad which, contrary to all earlier German claims, is still being reinforced and supplied from outside. Anyway, the Russians have launched large-scale counter-attacks in the Leningrad sector and are determined to thwart the Germans.

The Nazis are still trying their utmost to take Moscow before the winter sets in. They are concentrating reserves at Tula, a hundred miles south of the capital, but in vain. The Russians hold the town firmly, as also Kalinin in the north. And, in the Mojaisk area, where the Germans have come nearest to Moscow, the enemy's attempts to cross the Nara river have been again and again frustrated by the Russians. German air raids on Moscow have not achieved anything substantial. Indeed, when M. Stalin was reviewing a gigantic parade of the Soviet armed forces in Red square on the anniversary of the Russian Revolution, all the efforts of the enemy to disturb the ceremony were in vain.

And in the south, in spite of the Germans' early successes in the Donetz basin and in the Crimea, Russian resistance continues firm. In the Ukraine, Marshal Timoshenko has apparently rallied Marshal Budenny's armies and is holding the important oil and railway centre of Rostov on the Don against all German attacks. The Nazis claim territorial successes in the Donetz basin but their claims to have established bridgeheads on that river have not been followed by any striking advance into the interior.

The situation in the Crimea, however, continues to be disquieting. The Nazis have captured Yalta on the Crimean Riviera, also

(*Continued on page* 8)

HITLER—STALIN—CHURCHILL

POINTS FROM THEIR SPEECHES

The week has been full of notable utterances. Hitler addressed his 'Old Guard' at the annual celebration of the Nazi *putsch* of 1923. This was not broadcast and many versions of it have appeared indicating that the author had, for very good reasons of his own, revised it. There was nothing notable in his speech which was, as usual, vainglorious and boastful. He deplored the attitude of the British in not coming to terms with him, abused Jewry, exaggerated Russian losses and spoke of the willing co-operation of the slave-states in the formation of the 'New Order' in Europe. It is noteworthy that Dr. Goebbels had previously warned the German people that defeat meant the end of their national life. He frantically told them that victory was essential for Germany's protection. A note of despair and anxiety marked his pronouncement. The fact is that, as General de Gaulle has stated recently, the Allies are at the precise moment when the tide of victory is in the point of turning. German production attained the maximum output several months ago and Allied air and naval forces are now expanding at a terrific rate.

On the other hand, M. Stalin, speaking in Moscow on Friday last, spoke with confidence about the ultimate defeat of Hitler. He spoke of Russian deficiency in tanks and planes, of the solidarity with Britain and America and said that Hitler was no more like Napolean than a cat resembled a lion. The speech has had a very favourable reception in London and America. It was calculated to inspire confidence in Russia's ability to overcome German pressure.

Mr. Churchill, who was the guest of honour at the Lord Mayor's Day luncheon at Mansion House on Monday, spoke with robust confidence. He devoted a good portion of his speech to the series of shootings of hostages and innocent people in the occupied countries. He announced that even if England were alone, she would not seek terms for peace with Hitler and warned Japan against aggression, stating that England would go to war with Japan within an hour of America declaring war against that country. What is of very great importance is that Mr. Churchill announced to the delight of Democracies all over the world that Great Britain had parity with Germany in regard to aeroplanes and that the British Navy had been greatly strengthened.

HITLER

Here are some points from Hitler's speech :—

(1) The Germans had captured 3,600,000 Soviet prisoners. Including the dead and wounded, Russia had lost from 8 to 10 million soldiers. She had also lost 15,000 planes, 22,000 tanks and 27,000 guns.

(2) The Germans had occupied 1,670,000 square kilometres of Russian territory, containing 60 to 75 per cent of Soviet's industries and raw materials.

(3) "I have ordered German ships not to shoot when they see American ships, but to defend themselves as soon as they are attacked."

(4) President Roosevelt's statement about German plans for the partition of South America and the abolition of religion was "childish nonsense".

(5) "The Duce and I have made a vow and no power on earth can break it. Almost all South-east Europe is to-day in our camp and a larger part of the rest of Europe is on our front, if not as States, at least in outlook. We can say at the end of this year that this European front has averted the greatest danger. We need not have any doubt that the fate of Europe is being decided for the next thousand years."

(6) "Berlin does not seek to be the world capital."

(7) Leningrad is encircled and it will fall into German hands. Hitler has no interest in Leningrad as a town but only in the destruction of an industrial centre. If it pleases the Russians to blow up their cities, they will save Germans some work.

M. STALIN

The more important points in M. Stalin's speech are :—

(1) Hunger and impoverishment now reign in Germany. In four months of war Germany has lost four and a half million soldiers. Germany is bleeding to death, her resources are giving out, the spirit of revolt is gaining possession not only of the nations of Europe who have fallen under the yoke of the German invaders but the Germans themselves.

(2) Hess was sent to England to persuade the British to turn against Soviet, but in vain.

(3) Russia's air force was excellent and Russian pilots covered themselves with glory, but for the time being Russians had fewer planes. Russian tanks were better than the Germans but Russia had several times fewer tanks than the Germans.

(4) There should be an increase of several times in the output of anti-tank aircraft, anti-tank rifles and guns and anti-tank grenades.

(5) Great Britain, United States and the Soviet Union have united in a single camp and set themselves the aim of routing the Nazi imperialists and their invading armies.

(6) Russia has begun to receive tanks and supplies of raw materials in which she is deficient such as aluminium, lead, tin, nickel and rubber are assured. The United States has decided to grant the Soviet Government a loan of one million dollars.

(7) "From now on our task will consist of extermination to the last man of all Germans who have penetrated the territory of our native land as invaders. There will be no mercy for the German invaders. The fundamental factors which must lead to the inevitable destruction of Hitlerism are the moral degradation of the rear of the German Army, the instability of the new order in Europe."

(8) The Germans consider that Hitler acts like Napoleon and they will not forget Napoleon's fate. Hitler was no more like Napoleon than a cat resembles a lion, for Napoleon fought the forces of reaction, leaning on progressive forces. Hitler, on the contrary, is supported by reactionary forces and wages war against progressive forces.

(9) "What can there be in common between Socialism and the brutal Hitlerite invaders who are plundering and oppressing the nations of Europe? While the Hitlerites were engaged in gathering and re-uniting the Rhineland and Austria, etc., there existed certain grounds for considering them nationalist, but after they had seized foreign territories and enslaved the nations of Europe and began to strive for world domination, the Hitlerite people ceased to be nationalist, but became imperialist, a party of plunderers—the worst type of imperialists. The Hitlerites were the worst reactionaries of the "Black Hundred" type (extreme reactionary movement in Imperial Russia at the beginning of this century which was anti-Semite in particular) who deprived the working classes of Europe of elementary democratic liberties. In order to conceal their reactionary sense, the Hitlerites abuse the English and American internal regimes and call them the Jewish plutocracy. But in England and the United States, there exist elementary democratic liberties, trade unions for the workers and employees, workers' parties and parliaments. Fundamentally, the Hitlerite regime is a replica of the reactionary regime which existed in Russia under the Czars. The Hitlerite Party is a party of enemies of democratic liberties, of mediæval reactionaries and Black Hundred Pogroms. They are ravens donning peacock's feathers, but no matter how ravens might plume themselves, they still remain ravens."

MR. CHURCHILL

The following are points from Mr. Churchill's speech :—

(1) "This year our ancient Guildhall lies in ruins, our foreign affairs are shrunken and almost the whole of Europe is prostrate under the Nazi tyranny. The war which Hitler began by invading Poland and which now engulfs the European continent and has broken into North-east Africa may well engulf the greater part of Asia—nay, it may soon spread to the remaining fourth of the globe."

(2) "The condition of Europe is terrible in the last degree. Hitler's firing parties are busy every day in a dozen countries—Norwegians, Belgians, Frenchmen, Dutch, Poles, Czechs, Serbs, Slovaks, Slovenes, Greeks and above all in the scale, the Russians are being butchered by the thousands and by tens of thousands after they have surrendered while individual and mass executions in all the countries I have mentioned have become part of the regular German routine. The whole world has been intensely stirred by the massacre of French hostages. The whole of France, with the exception of that small piece whose public careers depend upon German victory, has been united in horror and indignation against the slaughter of perfectly innocent people. Admiral Darlan's tributes to German generosity fall unseasonably at this moment on French ears and his plans for loving collaboration with the conquerors and and murderers of Frenchmen are appreciably embarrassed."

"Aye, even the arch-criminal himself, the Nazi Ogre, Hitler, has been frightened by the volume and passion of world indignation which his spectacular atrocities have excited. It is he, and not the French people, who has been intimidated. He has not dared to go forward with his further programme of killing hostages. This, as you will have little doubt, is not due to mercy, compassion or compunction but to fear and an appalling consciousness of personal insecurity rising in a wicked heart: I would say generally we must regard all these victories of the Nazi executioners, in so many lands, who are labelled Communists and Jews—we must regard them just as if they were brave soldiers who died for their country on the field of battle."

(3) "A river of blood has flowed and is flowing between the German race and the peoples of nearly all Europe. It is not hot blood where good blows are given and deserved. It is the cold blood of the execution yard and the scaffold which leaves a stain, indelible for generations and for centuries. Here then, are the foundations upon which the new order of Europe is to be inaugurated. Here then is the house-warming festival of *Herrenvolk*. Here then is the system of terrorism by which the Nazi criminals and their Quisling accomplices seek to rule a dozen ancient and famous cities of Europe and, if possible, all the free nations of the world."

(4) " Now the valiant resistance of the Russian nation has inflicted the most frightful injuries upon German military power. Great Britain has an air force equal in size and numbers, not to speak of quality, of German air power. The destruction of German and Italian convoys, the passage of British supplies through the Mediterranean —all these show that Great Britain is still the mistress there. ' We now feel ourselves strong enough to provide a powerful naval force for heavy ships with its necessary anciliary vessels for service, if needed, in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. We stretch the long arm of brotherhood and motherhood to the Australian and New Zealand people and to the Indian people whose army has already been fighting with so much distinction in the Mediterranean theatre '."

(5) " The United States' interest in the Far East is well-known. They are doing their utmost to find a way to preserve peace in the Pacific. We do not know whether their efforts will be successful. But, if they fail, I take this occasion to say—and it is my duty to say—should the United States become involved in a war with Japan, the British declaration will follow within the hour."

(6) " Viewing the vast and sombre scene as dispassionately as possible, it would seem a very hazardous adventure for the Japanese people to plunge quite needlessly into the world struggle in which they may well find themselves opposed in the Pacific by States whose population comprises nearly three quarters of the human race."

" If steel is a nation's foundation of modern war it would be rather dangerous for a power like Japan, whose steel production is only about seven million tons per annum, to provoke quite gratuitously a struggle with the United States whose steel production is now about ninety million tons per annum. And I take no account of the powerful contribution which the British Empire can make in various ways. I hope devoutly that the peace of the Pacific will be preserved in accordance with the known wishes of the wisest statesmen of Japan. But every preparation to defend British interests in the Far East and to defend the common cause now at stake has been and is being made."

(7) " How can we watch without emotion the wonderful defence of their native soil, their freedom and independence which has been maintained singlehanded for five long years by the Chinese people under the leadership of that great Asiatic hero and Commander Genl. Chiang Kai-shek. It would be a disaster of the first magnitude to world civilization if the noble resistance to invasion and exploitation which has been made by the whole Chinese race were not to result in the liberation of their hearths and homes."

(8) " We are told from many quarters that we must soon expect what is called a peace offensive from Berlin. All the usual signs and symptoms are already manifest in neutral countries and all those signs point in one direction—they all show that the guilty men who have let hell loose upon the world are hoping to escape with their fleeting triumph and ill-gotton plunder from the closing net of doom."

" We owe it to ourselves and to our Russian allies and to the people of the United States to make it absolutely clear that whether we are supported or alone, however long and hard the toil may be, the British nation and His Majesty's Government at the head of that nation in intimate concert with the Governments of the Great Dominions will never enter into any negotiations with Hitler or any party in Germany which represents the Nazi regime."

NOTES OF THE WEEK—(*Continued from page* 5)

Baktshiserai. The latter town lies midway between the Crimean capital (Simferopol) which is already in German hands, and the Great Russian naval base of Sebastopol. The Germans are bombing both Sebastopol and Kerch, on the extreme south-east of the peninsula. The Rome Radio's claim that the Axis troops have entered Kerch is not confirmed by any other source. Occupation of Kerch will give the Germans a jumping-off place for the Caucasus.

The Russians have made all their dispositions to defend the Caucasus and they will doubtless have the help of the British armies in the Middle East. Indeed, Mr. Martin Agronsky, the American broadcasting commentator at Ankara, says that British troops will fight alongside the Red Army in defence of the Caucasus. Mr. Agronsky says that the decision to do the whole job as far as the defence of the Caucasus was concerned was taken following conferences in London, Moscow and Teheran. British staff officers of General Wavell's Indian Command are already attached to the Red Army's Caucasian headquarters at Tiflis. Mr. Agronsky adds that as far as can be reliably learned, no British troops are as yet on the move to their allotted positions in the Caucasus but the staff officers are working out with Russian staff officers details of movement and disposition of forces in the near future. The main British preoccupation now and for some time to come is to deal with staff and ground work in Iran for a rapid large scale movement of troops and supplies from Iraq and India into the Caucasian area. Observers from Iran say that work is proceeding at full speed.

AMERICA GOES FORWARD

REVISION OF NEUTRALITY ACT

The United States has taken a big step. Both Houses of Congress have adopted a Bill to revise the Neutrality Act. This Bill permits the arming of all United States merchantships and allows them to enter belligerent ports and combat zones.

With the removal of these last two prohibitions lingering in the Neutrality Act placed in 1935 on the Statute Book, nothing will now impede the free flow of American supplies—munitions and food—to Britain and the Soviet Union.

Neutrality legislation was first adopted in America in 1935 when the European tension was growing. The idea (as the *Penguin Political Dictionary* states) was to avoid a repetition of circumstances which, in the opinion of many, had led the United States into the last war, to wit, the formation of vested interests in the war through credits and supplies, and the torpedoing of American ships. The Act was renewed in 1937; arms supplies were completely forbidden, and other supplies were permitted only on a Cash-and-Carry basis. That is, the country buying those supplies had to pay for them in cash and had to make her own arrangements to transport them to her shores. This embargo on arms, however, worked out in practice as an encouragement for the aggressive policy which Hitler and his gang had already launched; the Nazis were justified in hoping that Britain and her Allies would be unable to obtain war-material from America in war time.

President Roosevelt, with a clear vision of the shape of things to come, urged the repeal of the arms embargo as early as the beginning of 1939. The House of Representatives approved a partial repeal in July of that year. But when the President demanded a full repeal, the Senate did not rise to the occasion and shelved the Bill.

On the outbreak of this war, the President called a special session of the United States Congress. After a debate lasting several weeks, the arms embargo was repealed. The law, as approved in November 1939, stipulated that, as soon as the President has issued a proclamation describing certain countries as belligerent, American arms, ammunition, implements of war and other articles or materials might be sold to such countries only on a Cash-and-Carry basis. Transports might leave America only after any right or title therein had been transferred to a foreign Government or person, which meant (for all practical purposes) that payment must be made in cash. It was forbidden for any person within the United States to buy bonds or other obligations of a belligerent government, issued after the outbreak of the war, or to extend any credits to such government, with the exception of certain commercial credits of a character customarily used in peace-time. American ships were forbidden to carry supplies to belligerents, who were to fetch the goods themselves. American ships were also forbidden to enter combat zones; the coasts of the British Isles, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Scandinavia were declared combat zones (to begin with). American citizens were not to travel on ships of belligerents. Licences were required for arms exports. (The Act did not apply to the other Republics of North and South America; and, as Japan persisted in calling the China war a mere " incident " and did not formally declare hostilities, America continued to help the Chinese).

AMERICA'S STAKE IN THE WAR.

The Cash-and-Carry clause in the 1939 legislation favoured the Allied powers as they had enough money to pay for supplies and sea-power to transport them, while Germany lacked both. But it was not enough. British sea-power had to meet the attacks of the German air, sea and under-sea raiders on the seven seas. The fall of France, the entry of Italy on the side of the aggressor and the far from cordial attitude manifested by Japan put a severe strain on the Royal Navy and the Navies of the Commonwealth. American people gradually realized that they had, indeed, a big stake in the war. That conviction bore fruit in March last in the famous Lease and Lend Act, by signing which, as Field Marshal Smuts put it, President Roosevelt signed Hitler's death-warrant.

The Lease and Lend Act removed the prohibition of the investment of American money in a foreign war. When Hitler ordered his forces to attack supplies going from America to Britain, President Roosevelt retaliated by ordering the American Navy to shoot at any German warship, U-boat, or etc., sighted in American waters. And these waters were so defined as to include all regions through which American ships had to pass. And now, with this " shooting war " going on with increasing tempo in the Atlantic, and with the need to rush supplies to Russia (for which immense credits have been voted by Mr. Roosevelt's administration) and to Britain (for whom a huge additional Lease and Lend appropriation has been voted by the United States Congress), the present momentous decision has been taken by Congress. America has now a vital stake both in the result of this conflict and its progress.

NAVAL BASE IN ICELAND

That the United States means business and is determined, in the ringing words of President Roosevelt's speech on Armistice day, " to make the world a place where freedom

(*Continued on page* 12.)

"THE WAGES OF CYNICISM IS DEATH"

A remarkable broadcast speech was made by Mr. Herbert Agar to listeners in England some time ago on the need for winning the war and for banishing cynicism. We are indebted to the *Listener* for the speech (given below) :

I have just arrived from America and therefore I cannot tell you anything new about the war which you are fighting and which, to my grief, we are not. But I do want to say something about why this calamity came upon our world. I want to begin with a story I was told the other day. It seems to me symbolic. A friend said to me that he had made a pool of British opinion and that he had discovered that a large majority of the people did not want America to come into the war. I told him that seemed to me nonsense, and he replied that it couldn't be nonsense because it was ' scientific.' Scientific or not, I would bet my last shilling that the British do want us in the war. They want us in the war for the same reason that the Germans want us out of the war; because Hitler will be beaten more quickly and more surely if we get in at once. But the British people have been told hundreds of times that they must not say this; they have been warned that if they speak the truth as they feel it in their hearts, nameless harm might be done.

The best way to keep America out of the war, according to this story, is to let her know that anyone wants her in it; in other words, the best way to get what you want is never to say what you think. I should like to point a weakness in this theory that America should never be told that Britain wants her in the war. The weakness is that every American whose mind has not gone bad knows perfectly well that Britain wants us in the war. In heaven's name, why shouldn't she? We are not, after all, another Italy.

WHO IS BEING FOOLED?

So the question arises, who is being fooled? And the answer, of course, is that nobody is being fooled. Nobody except the truth. The poor truth takes another beating in the name of ' practical politics,' which are the only kind of politics that always fall. (Where are the practical politicians of Europe to-day? They are dead, or in jail, or in exile, or they have been blackmailed into becoming traitors to their country.)

Nobody is fooled. But everybody is made a little more cynical, a little more contemptuous of public statements, a little less able, therefore, to believe in any high cause. And truth, the only really practicable way of influencing men's minds, wilts neglected. Hitler, it may be worth pointing out, doesn't influence men's minds : he suppresses them.

At home in America we find the same timid approach to life on the part of the people who talk about ' aid to Britain ' when they mean beating Hitler, and who talk about the ' risk of armed conflict ' when they mean war. It is a disease of our world, this feeling that the simple fact is the one thing that no one dare mention. And I want to suggest to you here that this disease—or the weakness that comes from this disease—is one of the chief reasons for the Axis barbarism that threatens to destroy us. I want to suggest that this war is something more dangerous than just another outbreak of the German trouble.

The German trouble became possible only because we of the Western World had lost faith in ourselves. And we had lost faith because for many dreary years we had refused to tell ourselves the truth. Instead of facing the troubles that were multiplying around us we took refuge in big words, big words that were not associated with big deeds, big words—that were used not as a call for action but as a soothing syrup. So the day came when the syrup no longer soothed, when it made the patient sick, and on that day the Nazi revolution of barbarism became possible.

THE CALL OF DEMOCRACY

Democracy is one of the big words that we have abused. Ever since ' saving the world for democracy '—and then betraying the world to sloth and indifference—that word has been used to cover a multitude of crimes and corruptions. To-day it is hard to use the word without sounding sentimental or weak. Yes if we took it seriously, if we lived it instead of talking it, the concept of democracy has still an almost magic power. It is the ancient dream of man, always betrayed but never forgotten. If we took it seriously it still has the dynamic force to reconquer our world and renew our civilization. But only if we live it, not if we just talk it. Like all the great forces which can make or break a world, democracy is first of all a code of conduct. It is a rigorous way of life, or else it is nothing but wind and promises. In other words, democracy begins with morals; it begins with an act of faith about the nature of man and about the dignity of his soul, and with a determination to build institutions which will fulfil that nature and uphold that dignity.

If we take democracy in this high sense, it makes heavy demands on us. We have got to live differently, and we have got to be discontented with many of our political and economic practices. But after the last war our world did not want to be disciplined and self-critical; it wanted to indulge itself and to make money. So, in America at least, we substituted the easy word for the difficult deed. It was not only in America that we did this; but I use my own country as an example for obvious reasons. We told ourselves in America that we were the greatest democracy on earth, pointed to our constitution and our standard of living and forgot all about democracy as a code of conduct. We did not treat the negro any better. We did not demand of ourselves a high standard of virtue in politics. We paid no heed to those who reminded us that millions of our fellow-citizens were living in subhuman poverty. We were content to boast ourselves democrats while living our lives in the service of the false gods of Success and Prosperity.

Now prosperity is a fine and pleasant thing, but it is not a faith. It is not the basis for a civilization. The presence of prosperity is not what did us harm, but the absence of a deeply-held meaning to life. It is nice to have more and more ice-boxes and automobiles; but the best ice-box in the world cannot long compensate man for the loss of his soul. And our world was losing its soul, because it was talking high words cheaply, boasting of virtue instead of seeking it.

ALL ' BALONEY '

In this way our world fell sick and cynical and self-distrustful. But the wages of cynicism is death. The other great nations which are a part of our Western, Christian world were treating their institutions and their ideals almost as negligently as we were treating ours. A kind of despairing helplessness set in. The masses of mankind began to feel that no promises would ever be kept, that no words were ever true. In American slang, everything except getting ahead in the world was ' baloney '.

Democracy was ' baloney,' and politics were ' baloney '; and any form of idealism was an extra big dish of ' baloney.' In this sordid atmosphere it became possible for those who hate our world and all its roots to rise to dominance. The free nations never resisted in time, because the free nations were not sure they believed in themselves. But our enemy believes in himself. He believes in his hatred of our Western world; and he believes he can kill it. As you know, the Nazis are not building a new world; they are merely killing the world that exists. Their talk of a ' New Order ' really is ' baloney.' Their economics are nothing but piracy; their politics are nothing but the secret police. They cannot build, but they can kill.

We should think of what is taking place today, not as a war for power but as a great counter-revolution against our culture. In the Nazi lust for destruction the sickness within our world has come to an ugly head. The policy of words without deeds, the fear of facing the bold simple truth, has weakened us to such an extent that this disease could arise. If the Nazis win we shall not have a new order instead of the old; we shall have no order at all. If the Nazis win we shall descend into the long night which follows the death of every great civilization. What is happening, I suggest, is not a war in any ordinary sense. What is happening is the disintegration of our world, the counter-revolution against our world. The counter-revolution goes forward in many countries where there is no war, as in parts of South America. In this dire world of today war is almost a healthy sign, because war means that someone is resisting the revolution of destruction.

TWO TASKS CONFRONT US

The value of seeing the story in these terms, I think, is that we then see the two tasks that confront us. We have got to beat the Germans because they personify the sickness and death of our world. They are the agents of that sickness and that threatened death. But we have got to do more than beat the Germans; we have got to cure the source of that sickness within ourselves. The killing of Germans is a harsh necessity today; but the mere killing of Germans will not renew our faith in ourselves. It will not reach us to live up to the brave words we use. It will not make us see democracy as a code of conduct, freedom as a heavy responsibility. But unless we do reform in these ways, the same disease that made the German threat possible will still infect our world. The disease will break out again in a new place and the next time it will certainly prove fatal.

So we have two jobs ahead of us. We must conquer the Germans in the war, which is the military phase of this revolution against life. And we must conquer ourselves within ourselves, the slackness, the indifference to truth, the acquiescence in what stupid men call ' practical,' the worship of what William James called that ' bitch-goddess, Success.'

If we do both of these things we may be good enough to build that world which Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt described together. But these things will not be easy to do. The war, as I try to preach to my fellow-countrymen, will not be won by ' other men.' It will only be won by the blood and toil of all of us who believe in Western civilization. And the reform within ourselves will not be accomplished by fine phrases, or by clever evasions. It demands a rebirth of faith; it demands a desire for decency which is so intense that it will drive us to heavy sacrifice.

HITLER'S ASPIRATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

THE RUSSIAN FRONT IN A WORLD WAR

When Hitler attacked Russia he lifted the war on to a world plane.

Why did he break the most important pledge he ever made? There are six main reasons. The winged spearhead of his assault on Britain was shivered by the Fighter Command of the Royal Air Force in Autumn 1940. He dared not make another attempt without first removing what he termed "the danger to his back." To maintain the high morale of his huge forces he must give them continued fruitful employment. Such employment at this stage was feasible only in an easterly direction. Faced with the progressive deterioration of his own supply position and the need to offset the growing impetus of Allied and American production, Hitler thought to find a solution in the exploitation of Russia's vast material resources. He hoped to defeat the British blockade by consolidating a land-power sufficiently great to counter-balance British sea-power. ("We can only win the present war by breaking British sea-power"—*Das Reich, September* 14, 1941). Victory in the East within three months would be the prelude to a decisive assault on the British position in the Middle East; there was always the chance that an attack in the rear, driving a wedge between India and Suez, would succeed where attempts from other, less obvious, directions had failed. Finally, there was the political factor. Invasion of Russia was intended to confuse Allied opinion, consolidate anti-Soviet opinion in occupied Europe, encourage the aggressive political element in Japan.

Hitler's biggest asset was his acknowledged superiority in mechanical strength. Air and tank superiority had brought him a long chain of victories. It might add another, of far greater lustre, to the list. He counted on surprising the Russians, as he undoubtedly did at the outset. He counted on the co-operation of a Russian Fifth Column, weaned away from their loyalty to the Soviets by propaganda on the failure of collectivisation.

On the other hand, for perhaps the first time, an early decision was not only desirable; it was vital. The effort required would be unprecedented and the colossal expenditure of men, weapons and supplies, particularly oil, could not proceed indefinitely without nullifying any gains accruing from conquered resources. Unless the campaign was short and sharp, Germany would become too exhausted to attack Britain and would be exposed to the Allies' ever-mounting strength.

The Russians have pursued their traditional policy of trading territory for time. German gains have been reduced to a minimum by the bulk transfer of industrial plant from threatened areas to the interior and by the policy of "scorched earth". Russian resistance has never faltered. The Russian armies have defied encirclement. Russian losses are being rapidly replaced by the British Empire and United States. And in the Middle East, confidently awaiting Hitler's coming are Wavell, Auchinleck and Cunningham, with fresh and powerful forces at their command. *A widening chasm divides Hitler's aspirations and his achievements.*

AMERICA GOES FORWARD—(*Continued from Page* 9)

can live and grow into the ages," is revealed by the establishment of a United States naval operating base in Iceland, raising Iceland to one of the United States Navy's most important operation centres. A brief announcement by the Secretary for the Navy, Col. Knox, says that Rear Admiral James L. Kauffman has been named Commandant of the base. "The command of the United States naval operating base in Iceland shall include all United States naval shore activities and United States naval local defence forces and district naval craft and any additional units as may be assigned by the Atlantic Fleet," it adds. It is pointed out that the designation of the base as a naval operating base is an organizational one entirely. It is a step taken only when extensive naval activities, both ashore and afloat, are centred around one place. It is generally taken for granted that an extension of American naval patrols and convoy escorts all the way to Britain is imminent. Rear Admiral Kauffman, who is 54 years old, distinguished himself in convoy battles against German U-boats in the last war.

Reuter's special correspondent writes that while officials at Washington are mum as regards the details, the activities at the naval base are taken to include ship and plane repair facilities for Anglo-American craft, fuel depots, ammunition supplies, hospital facilities, etc. Even if American bases are set up in the British Isles themselves, which is regarded as not unlikely in some quarters, it is considered probable that Iceland would remain the most important fleet base in the Eastern Atlantic. As we pointed out when Iceland was occupied by American and British troops, it is ideally situated athwart the main Atlantic routes to Great Britain (and to Russia). The United States Navy will give invaluable help to the British Navy in ensuring an uninterrupted flow of munitions and other supplies to Great Britain and her Allies.

THE AXIS PACT

POSITION OF ITALY AND JAPAN

A little over a year ago Berlin announced, with a great flourish, the signature of the Three-Power Axis Pact. Having already coaxed Italy into the arena, Hitler now hitched a second powerful ally to his star of destiny.....Japan.

Today Italy, torn and bleeding, shares a circus cage with other States that Ringmaster Hitler has temporarily tamed into subjection to his will. Japan, willing to wound, is yet afraid to strike.

Italy

The position of the Fascist regime in Italy now approximates to that of the Vichy Government.

Gestapo agents hold key positions in all Italian Government departments, in banks and in many important commercial concerns, while Italian industry—cut off from seaborne supplies by the British blockade—is dependent on Germany for coal and other raw materials.

The German stranglehold is so complete that any revolt by the war-weary Italian people cannot be expected until German military power has become more seriously weakened. Moreover, Italian discontent lacks the leadership essential to successful organized rebellion.

Hitler would have no qualms about launching an attack upon Italy at the first sign of trouble. There is reason to believe that his recent demand for an additional million Italian soldiers was designed not so much to reinforce the German armies in Russia as to render Italy herself less capable of armed resistance.

If the Fascist leaders are ready to dance to any tune called by the Berchtesgaden piper, the people they "rule" can only moan under the tightening Nazi halter. Food is scarce and distress widespread—so much so that an Italian general recently asked an American, Mr. David Edge, to persuade the British to invade Italy. "That is the only way we shall get rid of the Germans, who are squeezing the life-blood of the Italians," he said.

Meanwhile, Italy is becoming an increasingly serious liability to her Axis partner.

Japan

How hollow is Japan's pretension to be erecting a so-called "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" is patent from the lamentable internal conditions in Japan—the wages of her aggressive policy.

Successive bad rice harvests have led to food shortage. Last year the deficit was to some extent offset by imports from Burma. The source is now cut off. The granaries of the British Commonwealth and United States of America are now closed to Japanese consumers.

The hitherto prosperous food-canning industry cannot continue, as there are insufficient stocks of tinplate and rubber for packages.

Owing to shortage of labour in war industries and shortage of man-power due to deaths in China, the Japanese Government are being urged to cancel all reforms relative to hours of work and the employment of women.

Japan's great cotton and rayon industry is doomed as raw materials can no longer come from British and American sources and the great export field of the British Empire and United States has been taken away.

Recently-acquired Indo-China is being systematically bled. This new Japanese puppet has been forced to import 40 classes of goods from Japan free of import duty, only 10 classes being granted to Indo-China in return. Following the Nazi lead, Japan is grabbing goods and finding excuses for sending nothing to pay for them.

Faced with British military might as the keystone of the A. B. C. D. Front and with Italy's example staring her in the face, Japan hesitates to take the fatal plunge towards which Berlin is pushing her.

RELIGION AND GERMANY

The Fuehrer's Headquarters is a hive of diverse industry. From that address "the German Government" (whatever that may be) has found time, in the momentary intervals of slaughtering its fellowmen for the glory of a deified dictator, to issue an elaborate statement denying that Hitlerism is either aggressive or anti-religious.

It was the shadow of Roosevelt falling across Hitler's path of blood that had sent a shiver through the Fuehrer's Headquarters, the chill of something worse than the Russian sleet, the premonition of a winter that for the Nazis will have no spring in which to garland the barbaric altars of Hitler-worship. Roosevelt had spoken again, voicing the resolve of the civilized world never to accept the Nazi plan for the extinction of decent living and of religious freedom. The documents quoted by the American President to illustrate the outrageous intentions of Nazi Germany told the world little that was not already widely known. But the Fuehrer's Headquarters, in headlong haste to deny the allegations, may well have driven the truth of them still further home.

"The assertion that Germany desires the abolition of all religions in the world and their replacement by a National Socialist church is so nonsensical and absurd that the German Government sees no need to deal with it." Thus the Fuehrer's Headquarters on November 1, 1941. "The religions have no future, certainly none for the Germans." Thus the Fuehrer himself in 1933. "We believe in Hitler. And what of the old creeds? The scriptures are dead." Thus the Nazi radio, broadcasting to German youth on January 12, 1940.

But it is deeds that convict the Nazis on every count. Polish cathedrals turned into garages, priests beaten, imprisoned and killed, religious education prohibited, political idolatry enforced. Daily the catalogue of crime is increased. When at length Hitlerism is prevented from implementing the full programme of its blasphemous intentions there will still be a terrible indictment for that which has already been done.

From Canada, in the *Catholic Herald*, the position is summed up succinctly:—

> "There is not a country in the world, governed by the British, whose people do not enjoy religious freedom and the protection of the law. There is not a country on earth, dominated by the Nazis, where religious freedom and protection of the law are guaranteed. Wherever the swastika flies triumphant to-day people perish in concentration camps because they obey their conscience. Wherever the Union Jack flies to-day people are free to worship the God they choose, in the Church they choose."

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 25—NOVEMBER 1, 1941

RIDDLED BY RUSSIA

"Britain has decided to send supplies to Russia through the port of Archangel which is frozen over in winter. She is not at all helping Russia, and this is but another example of Britain's deceit".—*German news in Hindustani, October* 27.

Both Britain and America intend to use Archangel in preference to Vladivostok for excellent reasons. The Atlantic sea route is the shortest. The rail journey from Archangel is only a fraction of the immense journey across Siberia, for instance. Archangel can, in all but the severest weather, be kept open by ice-breakers in the use of which the Russians are expert

Other supply lines to Russia are also developing. Britain is reorganizing Iran's road and rail transport, with the help of Australian rolling stock, and plans to despatch 3,000 tons of goods a day to Russia.

"Where is the Soviet's Baltic fleet and above all where has it been since June 22?"—*German Talk in English, October* 29.

Admiral Raeder knows the answer. The Baltic fleet up to August 7 had sunk 13 German submarines, 10 destroyers, and 30 troop transports. And since then at least four submarines have been accounted for, and one enemy cruiser, and four torpedo boats have been destroyed. The Baltic fleet has helped in the defence of Leningrad, and Hangoe island, and has assisted in the evacuation of Talinnin.

But the people at home were told another story on October 15:

"Hard struggles may still be ahead of us. Our forces will not be spared more hard fighting"

"It is ridiculous to suggest that new armies are waiting to be thrown into the battle. The Russians are unable to do any such thing".—*German news in English and Hindustani, October* 28.

ECONOMICS—STRAIGHT AND CROOKED

"The *Giornale d'Italia* has stated that Germany's new economic agreement with Italy provides for the equality of Italy and Germany within the economic order of Europe".—*German News in English, October* 27.

And how? Rome broadcast on September 28 that not more than 30 per cent of the promised coal has come from Germany; Italy's attempt to ginger up her disintegrating economy by sending out-of-date Caproni planes to Turkey in exchange for food met with a rebuff. The New Tyranny gives the deflated Duce only one pleasure—frequent purges.

"British military officers in Egypt have been the source of constant distress for the Egyptians. Shortage of provisions and foodstuffs is being felt in Egypt on account of the seizure of stores by the British".—*German news in Hindustani, October* 27.

Goebbels' technique of repetition as the subtlest form of disseminating lies is wearing thin. In fact, in the past six months, the British Army in Egypt has purchased no more than 2 per cent of the local wheat supplies and ½ per cent of the maize supplies. An infallible evidence of Egypt's prosperity is that deposits in the National Bank of Egypt from the public (excluding Government departments) have risen by 100 per cent. Their approximate value now is £E. 31,500,000.

TRUTH WILL OUT—DESPITE GOEBBELS

"No serious attempt has been made on Tobruk yet. There is little doubt that it would have been evacuated at the very start had the force there consisted only of Englishmen instead of Australians."—*German news in English, October* 25, 1941.

"The British sailors declared that they preferred prison to the hell of German air attacks in the Atlantic."—*German news in English, October* 16, 1941.

Referring to this malicious attempt of Berlin to flatter the Dominion by lies, Mr. Forde, the Australian Army Minister, recently observed, in his statement regarding the general casualty figures: "The figures prove the fiction of the lying attempts by Italy and Germany to insinuate that the Mother Country is not bearing its full share of the war." The American *Life* and *Time* reporter praised "British heroism in Tobruk," as far back as August 17. And why did Berlin think it necessary to tell her own soldiers outside Tobruk that in the desert "We are encountering an opponent who is versed in desert conditions, tough and capable of resistance. We cannot but respect him. He shoots well. This you have got to hand him."

On the very same day the German radio observed "The battle of the Atlantic is an indescribable hell for the German airmen. As the German planes approach the convoys, a murderous fire breaks out from every ship. There is no question of surprising a convoy these days. As we gain in experience so do the British."

THE SOUTH AMERICAN WAY

"Geographical experts in Berlin, however, have ruthlessly obliterated all existing boundary lines, and have divided S. America into five vassal states, bringing the whole country under their domination."—*President Roosevelt's Navy Day Banquet Speech, October* 27, 1941.

"Even the ridiculous invention of a so-called secret map of Nazi designs on S. America, intended as it is to scare S. America into the arms of American Imperialists, cannot do very much to help Britain. . . . .it is extremely doubtful whether this story will be believed."—*German news in English, October* 29, 1941.

Nazi propaganda has consistently betrayed itself in its efforts to get S. America within it tentacles. The Berlin radio is full of the expected duplicity, double-dealing, and dark threatss Everything runs true to the Goebbels schedule.

They Say This

"That is America's policy to prolong the war so as to emerge from it the sole arbiter and owner of the American continent."—*German news in Spanish for South America, January* 9, 1941.

"Responsible Americans in high positions do not disguise their wish for North American domination of the South American countries."—*German news in Spanish for South America, January* 10, 1941.

"The Monroe Doctrine has become the doctrine of America for the Anglo-Saxon."—*German news in Spanish for South America, March* 24, 1941.

"In the great international film now being shown the United States of America plays the part of a gangster and Latin America that of the shop-keeper victim."—*German news in Spanish for South America, January* 8, 1941.

But Mean This

"If the present attitude of the United States of America were to drag the other American States into the war . . . several South American States might openly take the part of the Axis."—*Italian news in French for France, December* 5, 1940.

"With regard to U.S.A. attempts to include Central and South America in Pan-American autarky, it is impossible to detach these countries from Europe."—*German news in Spanish for South America, November* 25, 1940.

"The Ibero-American countries are revolting against Yankee methods. Germany is with them."—*German news in Spanish for South America, March* 25, 1941.

"To Germany Latin American countries owe their progress."—*German news in Spanish for South America, April* 25, 1940.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 4th November 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
October 29, Wednesday.	(No reports of day operations)	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; R.A.F. night bomber raids on fish oil factory, barracks, gun emplacements and shipping at **Aalesund** (Norway) (2 ships sunk, 5 hit); shipping off Statland (supply ship hit); docks at Bergen.	1 night bomber.	
October 30, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols over English Channel, N. France and Belgium, including attacks on Moralaix aerodrome and unspecified military objectives; shipping off Boulogne and Le Havre.	1 day fighter.	..
	(No reports of night operations)	Nil.	
October 31, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive sweeps and patrols over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on electricity transformer station; factories; railways; canal barges; 3 small coastal vessels.	2 day fighters.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Hamburg**; **Bremen**; docks at Dunkirk and Boulogne. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on shipping off Norwegian coast and Frisian Is. (10 ships—including tanker, large supply ship and escort vessel—hit).	6 night bombers. 2 C. C. aircraft.	..
November 1, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel ..	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Kiel; other targets in N.W. Germany; docks at Brest and Le Havre. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raid on docks at St. Nazaire.	4 night bombers.	
November 2, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on railways and a station.	4 day fighters.	..
	R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attacks on fish oil factory and wireless station on Norwegian coast; small supply ship in fjord; shipping off Dutch coast (tanker and supply ship hit).	1 C. C. aircraft.	..
November 3, Monday.	R.A.F. day fighter offensive patrols over English Channel and N. France, including attacks on wireless station; enemy lorries; shipping off Cherbourg (patrol ship damaged, motor vessel afire).	Nil.	3 day bombers.
	R.A.F. night bomber attacks on convoy off Frisian Is. (large supply ship hit); harbours in Occupied France. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber raids on fish oil factory at Bergso (Norway); docks at St. Nazaire.	Nil.	..
November 4, Tuesday.	(No reports of day operations).	Nil.	..
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on districts in Ruhr and Rhineland; docks at Ostend and Dunkirk. R.A.F. Coastal Command night bomber attack on convoy off Terschelling Is. (large supply ship hit).	1 C. C. aircraft.	

(*Continued on page* 19)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

7th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacks Wilhelmshaven, Hamburg, and other places in North-western Germany. Widespread mining operations in enemy waters are also carried out.

8th Nov.—The Royal Air Force makes the biggest attack of the war on Berlin, Cologne and Mannheim.

Enemy aircraft drop bombs in North-east and South-east England, causing some damage and killing a few persons.

9th Nov.—Essen and other industrial targets in Germany are attacked by the Royal Air Force. Successful attacks are also made on docks at Ostend and Dunkirk.

The Air Ministry announces that at least 300 fighters, including new Hurricane bombers, were in operation at one time during the day in offensives against targets in occupied territory. The heaviest British raid on Oslo, so far, is also reported. Considerable damage to factories is caused and four enemy fighters are destroyed.

10th Nov.—A strong force of the Bomber Command attacks docks and ship-building yards at Hamburg and other ports of North-west Germany, causing large fires.

Docks at Ostend and Dunkirk are also bombed. An enemy aerodrome at Calais is attacked and several fighters on the ground machine-gunned and hit.

A few enemy aircraft appear over the East Coast of England, causing little damage and no casualty.

Mr. Churchill announces that the Royal Air Force has reached parity in numbers with the Luftwaffe.

12th Nov.—The Royal Air Force makes sweeps over the Channel and Occupied France. An enemy supply ship is sunk off the Dutch Coast.

The Frankfurt Radio announces that the German air "ace", Flying Officer Hahn, is missing.

13th Nov.—Enemy planes cause slight damage at a place in North-east England and at another in the South-west.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

7th Nov.—An Italian Communiqué reports Royal Air Force raids on Benghazi, Tripoli and Sicily.

The enemy raids the Suez Canal area, causing slight damage to property.

8th Nov.—General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, declared in an interview that Britain has won the Battle of the Mediterranean where her domination is complete.

An Italian High Command Communiqué reports Royal Air Force bombing of Brindisi and other points in Southern Italy and Sicily. Heavy damage is admitted.

9th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacks an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean. Attacks on Benghazi and over the Gondar region in Abyssinia are also reported.

Three Italian destroyers and 11 supply ships (including an oil tanker of 10,000 tons) are sunk in a brilliant action by the British Mediterranean Fleet, which sustains no losses whatsoever.

Three enemy planes are shot down and two damaged during enemy attacks on Malta which cause some civilian damage. Some damage to property is also caused by an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal area.

10th Nov.—Italy admits air raids on Naples and Messina.

11th Nov.—Four enemy troop ships (or supply ships) and two sailing vessels are sunk by British submarines in the Mediterranean. Two armed merchant ships and two supply ships are also seriously damaged.

The Royal Air Force raids Naples, Brindisi, Messina and other towns in Italy, Sicily and Libya.

12th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raids Naples and Brindisi in Italy, Catania in Sicily and Benghazi, Gazala, etc., in Africa.

British and Ethiopian forces capture Gianda, completing the encirclement of the Italian garrison at Gondar.

13th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raids Benghazi and Derna.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

7th Nov.—President Roosevelt authorizes a thousand million dollar interest-free loan to Russia which M. Stalin accepts with sincere gratitude.

The United States Senate votes revision of the Neutrality Act, permitting the arming of American merchantmen and allowing them to enter belligerant ports and combat zones.

8th Nov.—The Navy Secretary, Col. Knox, announces the establishment of a United States naval operating base in Iceland.

9th Nov.—The world's largest flying-boat, capable of flying to Europe and back non-stop, is launched at Baltimore, in a full naval ceremony.

10th Nov.—It is officially announced from Moscow that M. Litvinoff has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to the United States.

11th Nov.—In his Armistice Day speech, President Roosevelt says that Americans will fight eternally, if necessary, to uphold liberty and to make the world safe for freedom.

Mr Wendell Willkie says that United States and British aeroplane manufacturers are out-producing those of Germany and her satellites and that in a year the Anglo-American output will be thrice that of the Axis.

Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under-Secretary of State, declares "At any moment war may be forced upon us by that criminal paranoic, Hitler, or by Japan."

Col. Knox says that "the hour of decision is near" in the Far East.

12th Nov.—President Roosevelt intervenes in the dispute between steel companies and workers (on the companies' coal mines) and calls representatives of both to a conference at the White House.

The American War Department is sounding members of the armoured forces if they would be willing to serve overseas.

13th Nov.—The United States House of Representatives passed the Neutrality Act Revision Bill by 212 votes to 194.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

7th Nov.—M. Stalin speaking at the Red Square in Moscow declares that Germany faces disaster and there is no doubt that she cannot sustain the strain for long. He declares Hitlerite Germany will collapse in a few more months.

8th Nov.—Reports from the Moscow front show that the German assault on the capital has been halted. Hitler, in a speech at Munich, hints that the Germans will be on the defensive in Russia during the winter.

A German communiqué claims that the Russian defence zone in Eastern Crimea has been pierced for six miles, while a Hungarian communiqué says that the whole left bank of the Donetz river has been occupied.

The Moscow Radio announces that Soviet troops have passed from the defensive to the offensive on the North-eastern sector of the Leningrad front.

9th Nov.—Soviet counter-attacks on the Moscow front are reported. The Russians recapture two important villages.

Pravda's war correspondent states that the Germans have been unable in the last few days to press their advance in the Donetz basin. Heavy losses have been inflicted on the enemy by vigorous counter-attacks. The German General Rens is killed by a Soviet tank.

Marshal Voroshilov broadcasts a fighting message to Soviet men and women and reveals that the Russian guerillas have become a nightmare to the German Army.

WAR IN THE AIR—(*Continued from Page* 17)

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 4th November 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
October 29	Nil.	..
October 30	Nil.	1 day bomber (at sea).
October 31	Nil.	Do.
November 1	Nil.	5 night bombers.
November 2	Nil.	..
November 3	Nil.	..
November 4	Nil.	..

The Germans claim the holiday resort of Yalta in the Crimea.

10th Nov.—The Germans have reached the outer defences of Sebastopol but have not penetrated them, according to authoritative quarters in London.

The Russians report they have thrown back the German forces by counter-attacking in the Southern sector.

The German Radio admits heavy counter-attacks by the Russians in the Sebastopol area but claims that the attacks have broken down. The Germans also claim the capture of Tikhvin, about 120 miles South-east of Leningrad.

Pravda reports fierce fighting in the Don basin and the dispersal of two German divisions.

Forty-eight new Generals are appointed in the Red Army.

Mr. Martin Agnousky, broadcasting from Ankara, says that British troops will fight alongside the Red Army in defence of the Caucasus.

11th Nov.—The Germans claim to have occupied Baktshiserai, midway between Simferopol and Sebastopol in the Crimea and to have bombed the latter city as well as Kerch.

Fierce fighting is reported at Tula on the Moscow front. The Germans are driven back at Mojaisk. The Nazi thrust in the Karelian Isthmus is foiled. A German air raid on Moscow does not achieve anything important. The Russians launch large-scale counter-attacks on the Leningrad front.

12th Nov.—The Russians beat back all German attempts to advance on Moscow.

The Germans claim that in the Crimea they have reached the coast south of Kerch.

The British Minister for War Transport says " We shall deliver the goods " to Russia.

The Finnish Government, replying to the United States Government, state that they will fight on against Russia till guarantees for Finland's permanent security are created.

13th Nov.—The Rome Radio's statement that Axis troops have occupied Kerch is not confirmed by any other source. But severe fighting has been going on round that city and round Sebastopol.

The Germans throw in fresh reserves at Tula on the Moscow front but are held back there as well as at Kalinin and at Volokolamsk.

Grim fighting is reported near Leningrad.

Britain and United States are expected to renew their efforts to end the Soviet-Finnish conflict by evolving some guarantees for Finland's security.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

9th Nov.—Faksri Nashashibi, a leading Palestinian Arab leader and vigorous opponent of the ex-Mufti, is assassinated in the main street of Baghdad.

12th Nov.—The Turkish Ministers for War and Transport resign (and are replaced) in order to facilitate investigation into the loss of a Turkish vessel in the Mediterranean.

13th Nov.—The Turkish Government are reported to have protested to the Soviet Government against the sinking of a Turkish motor-boat by a Russian submarine in Turkish territorial waters.

SHIPPING

7th Nov.—It is reported that submarines of the British Mediterranean Fleet and bombers of the Middle East Command have, in the last three months, sunk 81 Axis ships, totalling 339,000 tons and damaged another 61 ships, totalling 267,000 tons.

10th Nov.—It is revealed that the Italians have so far lost 30 destroyers.

The Admiralty announces the loss of the destroyer H. M. S. Cossack.

The sinking of the Italian tanker Torcallo (3,336 tons) in the Black Sea, presumably by a Soviet submarine on November 6, is reported.

The Royal Air Force scores a direct hit on an enemy supply ship off Norway.

British warships capture the Finnish freighter Anneberg (2,544 tons).

12th Nov.—Mr. Churchill announces in the House of Commons that shipping losses for the four months ending with October total only three-quarter million tons as against two million in the preceding four months.

FAR EAST

7th Nov.—Two hundred and eighty-one passengers have been saved from the Japanese steamer Kebi Maru, leaving 110 still missing, according to the Domei Agency. According to a Korean communiqué 59 Soviet drifting mines have been picked up in the Sea of Japan.

A Japanese official spokesman at Tokyo, speaking of the sinking of Kebi Maru, emphasises the gravity of the situation and says that Japan has almost reached the " limit ".

The *Japan Times and Advertiser*, the organ of the Japanese Foreign Office, says " There is always the possibility, even probability, of a direct march on the Burma Road."

Japanese aircraft reappear on the borders of Yunnan and Kwangsi Provinces, after two months of inactivity.

The necessity of mobilizing Japan's resources and perfecting her high-power defence structure in order to dispose of the " China incident " and establish the " East Asia Prosperity Sphere " is emphasised by the Japanese Prime Minister, General Tojo, addressing the National Mobilization Council.

Mr. Duff Cooper attends a meeting of the Australian War Council at Canberra which surveys the whole Far Eastern situation.

A new Australian Air Force Fighter squadron is formed in Malaya.

8th Nov.—Confidence in the final victory of the Democracies is expressed by Marshal Chiang Kai-shek in a special interview with foreign correspondents at Chungking, in the course of which he pays special tributes to England, America and Russia for their role in the present war against aggression. Reviewing the war in China, the Marshal declares that " the initiative will soon be ours."

9th Nov.—A Japanese Army spokesman at Shanghai expresses his personal hope that the Japanese-American conversations would result in the closing of the Burma Road by diplomatic rather than military means.

Chinese forces are holding out in West Shansi and along the east bank of the Yellow river, according to a Chinese military spokesman at Chungking, and they are defying the efforts of the Japanese to gain complete control of Yellow river crossings.

10th Nov.—According to an official Chinese spokesman at Chungking, the Japanese continue to send reinforcements into Indo-China and the Japanese strength there now totals 120,000 which is more than three times Japan's Indo-China strength when General Tojo assumed Japanese Premiership.

11th Nov.—The Bangkok Radio warns Thailanders that they may be in the war soon.

News Chronicle's Singapore correspondent reports that Britain and United States of America have reached a definite agreement on plans to forestall Axis attacks in the Far East.

Senator Taft, the Isolationist, asserts that Mr. Roosevelt has rejected Japan's proposals because she refuses to promise not to attack Vladivostok.

12th Nov.—The Japanese Cabinet discusses the speeches to be delivered by the principal ministers at the extraordinary session of the diet summoned on Saturday.

Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese Foreign Minister, welcomes Mr. Churchill's warning to Japan.

A Washington report says that Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek has appealed to Britain and America for military assistance in the event of a Japanese attack on the Burma Road.

13th Nov.—The Pearl River is closed to traffic by the Japanese military authorities in China.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

7th Nov.—Neutral observers, who have just left Berlin, say that recriminations have broken out between the German Army and Nazi party officials, each accusing the other of having provoked the present French unrest by shooting hostages.

12th Nov.—General Huntziger, Vichy's Minister for War, is killed in a plane crash in France just before he is due to report to Marshal Petain on his 10,000 miles tour of inspection of French North Africa.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

7th Nov.—The entire Norwegian fishing fleet, comprising 1,700 boats and other kinds of vessels, has been placed under German control, according to reports from Oslo, the Germans giving as a reason that, of late, too many fishermen have tried to escape to England.

8th Nov.—A German plan for a Conference at Vienna of the slave states of Europe has been revealed in messages from Vichy. Hitler's plan is to collect representatives from the countries occupied and also neutral countries and make a show of getting approval for the German " New Order ".

9th Nov.—Four people, including two women, are executed by order of the Bucharest military tribunal for " Communist " acts of sabotage.

10th Nov.—Several Italian soldiers are killed by bombs thrown on Italian troops at Spalato in Yugoslavia.

11th Nov.—Berlin denies reports of a congress of slave states.

13th Nov.—His Majesty King George of Greece is to visit President Roosevelt late in November.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

8th Nov.—The Japanese Foreign Office lodges a protest to Panama against the latter's decision banning the continuance there of Japanese commercial establishments but the Panama Government sharply reject the protest as being insolent.

10th Nov.—The Spanish Foreign Minister confers with the German, Italian and Japanese envoys at Madrid.

13th Nov.—Sixty-four persons are killed and 95 injured in an Axis air raid on the Fayoum area, 60 miles south of Cairo.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The news of the week is the general advance into Cyrenaica by Empire troops, a development of considerable importance to Russia because it means that Axis pressure on the Soviets would to some extent be reduced. Fifty miles have been penetrated. The massing of supplies and rushing of reinforcements in Egypt in recent weeks have been done with a view to make this drive successful. Mr. Churchill has explained that this invasion has the primary object of smashing German and Italian Army in Libya.

General Weygand, the Vichy representative in North Africa who had plenary powers to do what he liked, has been dismissed. He was a close collaborator of Marshal Petain, but his dismissal means that Darlan and Laval have gained the day. Germany found in General Weygand a hard nut to crack.

Russia has introduced a new air-craft, called by the Germans "Panzer Aircraft" capable of withstanding heavy ground fire, flying at sixty feet over marching columns directing deadly fire from cannons and machine guns.

The evacuation by Russians of Kerch has been admitted. The Nazi troops have been driven out of the outskirts of Tula one hundred miles south of Moscow. The Russians have improved their position in the Central and Northern Sectors though fierce battles continue. German losses in the battle front continue to be very heavy and it is reported from the Central Sector that a number of German troops have been found frozen to death.

Marshal Badoglio, it is now known, has been dismissed from his post of President of the National Reasearch Council. There is a move in Italy for the trial of Marshal Badoglio before a military court. It is also stated that General Pricolo, Chief of Italian Air Staff, has been dismissed. The General was unpopular with Hitler because he would not send ten divisions as required by him to the Eastern Front.

The present Italian naval strength has been summed up by Admiral Cunningham. It would appear that Italy has four or possibly five battleships or about the same number when Italy entered the war. The number of 8-inch gun cruisers have been reduced from seven to three, possibly four. Italy has now 80 fewer destroyers and torpedo boats than at the beginning of the war. About 30 per cent of Italian submarines have been sunk out of a total of 120. Admiral Cunningham emphasizes that, though the morale of the Italian navy has weakened, its potential strength is not to be underestimated.

Three incidents, proving German atrocities, have been reported during the week. A man found guilty by the Bucharest court-martial of assassination of a member of the German military mission in Rumania has been executed. In Prague, four death sentences have been carried out for "preparing high treason and unlawful possession of arms." One of them was an agricultural engineer, another was a builder, another a hair dresser, all of Prague: and the fourth a shoe-maker from Eastern Bohemia. Another batch of five persons has been executed in Prague for high treason.

A new link with Russia is being established, it is said, with the organization of a regular supply route from India, *via.*, Baluchistan and East Iran, from Mokkundi at the terminus of the Indian Railway in Baluchistan to Meshed, in North Iran. This route covers a

distance of 769 miles and is now being used for supplies from India. Rolling stock from England, Australia and Hongkong is being rushed in large quantities to Iran.

President Roosevelt has asked Congress for an additional appropriation of 6,687 million dollars for the Army. Of this amount, a sum of 308 million dollars is for expediting production of defence equipment and supplies, 269 millions for the Army of the Philippines, while half the total amount is earmarked for ordnance. The President has asked for 308 million dollars for the Navy and presumably, out of this amount, merchantships would be armed.

General de Gaulle, head of the Free French Forces, has outlined the Free French Charter as follows :—

> " (1) To carry on the war by every possible means ; (2) to enable the people of France to speak freely, to say what they think and what they want; and (3) under the motto of liberty, equality and fraternity when the war ended, every Frenchmen shall be free to work and think in freedom and dignity."

The British freighter *Nottingham* has been torpedoed and sunk *en route* for America. She was on her maiden voyage carrying a load of Scottish whisky to the United States. She was of nine-thousand tons and was designed to carry American supplies to Britain.

The German motor ship *Odenwald* (5,098 tons) was seized in the South Atlantic by units of the United States Navy. *Odenwald* was *en route* to Germany from Japan and much of her cargo is understood to have been rubber, metals and other essential war materials. The crew tried to scuttle the ship, but this was prevented, though repairs are required to make the ship seaworthy. This ship left Yokohoma two months ago and made its way round Cape Horn. It was using the name *Wilmoto* of Philadelphia and flew the American flag. Flags were also affixed or painted on other parts of the ship.

AMERICA AND THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

The signature of President Roosevelt to the amended Neutrality Act is an event of the utmost importance. United States ships will now be armed and they can carry any material to belligerent ports. Colonel Knox stated that the effect of the law was that the United States itself could now determine how its merchantmen could be used to get war supplies to any part of the world " where they can usefully be employed." It is stated further that naval and air patrols and convoy escorts may be provided for the rest of the way across the Atlantic to the British Isles. United States bases may also be established in Great Britain. Convoys can be passed through Gibraltar to British Mediterranean ports, thus saving the time which is now spent in going round the Cape of Good Hope. The United States navy, therefore, can start convoys at once. Further, the passage of the measure represents a resounding blow to Hitler and a great personal success to President Roosevelt. The event ends an epoch in American politics and removes the last legal obstacle to American entry into the war whenever she may desire it. The Neutrality Act of 1935 is, for all practical purposes, a dead letter. Sections II, III and IV of that Act now stand repealed. Section VII has been superseded by the Lease and Lend Act. Section XII alone remains, providing the Administration with very useful powers of supervision over the export of raw materials for munitions. Looked at another way, the United States Congress has now given practical effect to President Roosevelt's assertion of the Freedom of the Seas as a vital principle of American policy. America has thus reverted back to the position when it felt compelled to enter the war in 1917, a condition which was sought to be prevented by the passing of the Neutrality Act of 1935.

It is stated in New York that American ships will be armed at the rate of 100 a month for the next four months and there is general expectation that immediately some United States merchantmen will be crossing the Atlantic direct to Great Britain with supplies and guns. The Battle of the Atlantic, which is already being won as may be seen from the reduced rate of losses of British shipping, will continue still further to be lost by Germany, thanks to this great act of America.

LABOUR TROUBLE IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The reason why the margin in favour of the modification of the Neutrality Act in the House of Representatives was so small was that there has been considerable discontent throughout the United States with the growth of labour troubles impeding war production. The Government have been blamed for over-indulgence towards labour excesses. Labour refuses to govern itself according to democratic principles. Employers, on the other hand, have been hesitating to accept the principle of collective bargaining and the Administration has looked upon the employees with some amount of distrust. Although the Administration has been dinning into the ears of the American public that there is a grave national emergency, there is still some hesitation to be realistic and that is why there is this labour and capital trouble. President Roosevelt has so far been unable to settle the coal-mines dispute and there are thousands of men who have abstained from work, thus very seriously affecting the steel trade. The coal mines strike is spreading and there are threats of sympathetic strikes. Grave anxiety is felt as regards the future of production and it is possible that the Government may think of formulating a drastic policy for dealing with this evil. A bill has been introduced in the Senate under which the President is authorized to seize the coal mines owned by the steel companies. There is talk also of the introduction of another measure which would declare strikes illegal unless they are voted by a majority of workers in secret ballot, taken under Government supervision. The Administration may therefore be depended upon to act quickly if the situation deteriorates. Mr. Roosevelt has made an appeal to the employers and the workers to maintain the *status quo* as regards the ' closed shop ' issue during the national emergency or submit to arbitration. If this fails, other steps would have to be taken.

RUSSIA

News from the Moscow front continues to be encouraging. No German successes have been reported. On the other hand, the Russians seem to have regained the initiative and there have been a number of vigorous and successful counter-attacks in the various subsectors of the front. The Russians firmly hold Kalinin, north of Moscow; they have just beaten off a pincers movement designed to take Tula in the south ; and they have driven back the Germans attempting a frontal attack on the capital from Mojaisk. The German air raids on Moscow are proving costly to the enemy, the Soviets shooting down over thirty planes during one attack this week.

Leiningrad also continues to hold out, but the Germans are trying to isolate it and cut off all railway communication with the rest of Russia. Their attempts to join up with the Finns in the Karelian Isthmus have been foiled so far and, in fact, the Russians now claim a striking advance in the Karelian Peninsula. The Germans, following their success at Tikhvin, claim to have cut the Leningrad-Vologda railway but communications between that city and the rest of Russia are being maintained. If Leningrad is wholly isolated, the food problem will get acute as the winter advances, but the German army outside the city will also have to reckon with bitter cold and meagre supplies. German losses in the last four months around Leningrad are estimated at 200,000 men (killed or wounded) 1,500 air-planes and 700 tanks.

In the South, the Germans evidently hope to make further advances in the Donetz Basin, thanks to the temporary improvement in the weather, but so far all their efforts to take Rostov on the Don have been successfully countered by the Russians under Marshal Timoshenko. In the Crimea, however, the situation is more serious. With the fall of Kerch, at the eastern end of the Peninsula, the Germans may attempt to establish a bridgehead over the narrow Straits and penetrate the Caucasus. Alredy, Axis radio stations are announcing the bombing of Anapa and Tuapse, the Caucasian ports. But it is still a moot point whether the Germans will be able to cross the Straits. It is understood that a large part of the defenders of Kerch escaped across the Kerch Straits and will no doubt reinforce the already strong Russian forces in Caucasus. The Germans must accept terrible, almost crippling, losses if they want to cross the Straits and they must first establish complete air superiority. And Sebastopol, the great Russian naval base, will be a thorn on the German side. Unlike Kerch, with its hastily improvised earthworks and ancient fortifications, Sebastopol has a strong line of forts and adequate supplies of men and munitions. The Germans cannot hope to take the place by storm even with all of Von Rundstedt's tanks and Stuka dive-bombers. But by taking the rest of the Crimean Peninsula, they may neutralise the value of the naval base and compel the Russians to move their Black Sea Fleet to Novorossisk. Even then the Germans will have to liquidate the entire Fleet before they can safely launch a Caucasian drive. And unless Rostov is taken, Marshal Timoshenko's army will always threaten the German flank.

Meanwhile, supplies are being rushed to Russia by all possible routes and British aircraft and tanks will take an increasingly active part in the campaign. The Germans may yet find that, as before Moscow and before Leningrad, they are forced to undergo the trials of a Russian winter also on the southern front!

WORK OF THE MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE WAR

The work which is done by the Medical Services connected with the army and the Red Cross is most important, though almost unknown. A great measure of success has been attained among the Allied Powers in regard to the treatment of the wounded among civilians and soldiers, while recent reports more than suggest that Germany is facing considerable difficulties in the way of looking after those numerous people in civilian life and in the field who stand in need of medical and surgical assistance. It was stated, not many days ago, that the percentage of sickness in the Indian Army in North Malaya was less than the average of any army in the world. The task of caring after troops under tropical conditions, though they are not engaged in actual warfare, is very difficult. Again, a few weeks ago, it was stated that great improvement had taken place in the health of British troops in the Middle East as compared with the last war. These two facts are eloquent and testify to the efficiency and administrative capacity of the organizations concerned. As is well-known, the British Red Cross and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem were amalgamated after the outbreak of the war and a joint executive committee is now in charge of providing medical relief and aid to the wounded. So far, over £7,000,000 has been contributed to the fund

by the public. Large organizations were established in France to supplement the hospital equipment of the fighting forces and Norway, Greece and other countries in need of help also secured large sums out of this fund. Convalescent homes have been established in Palestine, Cairo and Alexandria and large stores are being accumulated in South Africa to meet the needs of the sick and wounded from the Middle East. There was Red Cross work in Iraq and Iran and the Australian Red Cross is actively at work in Singapore for the Far East. It will be of interest to the public to know that in Great Britain 212 convalescent homes and auxiliary hospitals have been established, while large stores have been issued to hospitals all over the country so that no district will be left without the necessary hospital equipment in case of invasion or interruption of communications. The Red Cross is also busy in sending medical aid to Russia. An " Aid for Russia Fund " has been started in Great Britain. Russia has so far asked for nearly 1,000,000 pairs of artery forceps, 2,000,000 hypodermic needles, 500,000 pairs of surgical gloves and 3 tons of rubber tubes. Besides Russia has asked for many different drugs in vast quantities; of one drug alone, of which an average dose is five grains, Russia has asked for 16 tons.

The reasons why there is considerable deficiency in the organization in Germany in regard to this matter are not merely connected with the fact that Hitler has hurled his armies in different directions. In the first place, " non-Aryan " physicians, surgeons and research workers, many of whom were among the ablest and most devoted doctors in Germany, have been persecuted and sent out of the country. In the second place, the period of medical study in German medical institutions has been cut down by two years and it is stated that quacks and untrained nature-healers are now busy, with the connivance of the State, plying their trade. It is also stated that the Physics Faculty at Gottingen, most famous for research work, has been shut down. Further, medical research is not in fashion in Germany at the present day; while attention has been directed to research in chemical warfare, the work of research in medicine has been comparatively neglected. An authority on this subject says that this marked increase in epidemic sicknesses " can only be the result of a lack of administration and public welfare measures which has, in turn, produced a condition of hygienic neglect."

THE ARK ROYAL

The loss of the *Ark Royal* has been announced. This aircraft carrier was torpedoed by a U-boat and while in tow, went to the bottom of the sea on the 13th November. She had a displacement of 22,000 tons and a top speed of 32 knots. She was a powerful ship specially built to carry more aircraft than any other aircraft-carrier—normally between 60 to 70 planes. The ship's company was 1,600. *H.M.S. Couragcous* was torpedoed and sunk in the Channel and *H.M.S. Glorious* was sunk by the German battle cruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*. And the *Ark Royal* is the third aircraft-carrier to go down.

It is stated that over a hundred enemy planes had been shot down by the aircraft of the *Ark Royal*. At the end of September 1939 she was reported to have been sunk by enemy action by Germany and the claim was repeated on several other occasions—a lie which the German propagandists were never tired of repeating. The record of the aircraft-carrier was one of which the English should feel proud. She took part in the Norwegian campaign, pursued the Italian fleet in November 1940, took part in the naval bombardment of the port of Genoa in February 1941. Again, appearing in the Atlantic, the *Ark Royal* hunted the *Bismarck* in May 1941.

Luckily there was only one casualty and the rest of the crew were saved. Mr. A. V. Alexander of the Admiralty has stated: " We shall avenge the *Ark Royal* as we avenged the *Hood*."

The *Argus* (14,999 tons), the *Eagle* (22,000 tons), the *Hermes* (10,850 tons), the *Furious* (22,450 tons) and the *Illustrious* (23,000 tons) are the names of aircraft-carriers now in commission. There are also three others of the same class as the *Illustrious*.

AMERICA AND JAPAN

It is generally believed that the talks which are now proceeding in Washington between Mr. Kurusu, the special Japanese envoy, and the Secretary of State of the United States, Mr. Cordell Hull, will prove to be the turning point in the history of the relations between Japan and America. According to Mr. Cordell Hull, the conversations were still exploratory, only very general points in regard to Japanese-American relations being discussed. It cannot be doubted, however, that the speeches of the Premier and the Foreign Minister of Japan and the resolution of the Japanese House of Representatives cannot help in these negotiations. The resolution declares: ' The greatest obstacles towards a settlement of the China hostilities are the action of hostile nations led by the United States '. ' It is clear ', proceeds the resolution, ' that the fundamental motivating force for the present conflict between the Axis powers and the British, American and Soviet nations is the inordinate desire of the United States for world hegemony.' The resolution pledges all-out support to the Government and expresses the belief that there is no chance of rising without fighting the battle through and adds: ' The unreasonable nature of the United States

Government's stand is apparent in its refusal to recognise, and its attempts to interfere with Japan's programme of attaining self-sufficiency, establishing her prosperity sphere and promoting peaceful, economic co-existence and co-prosperity among the Asiatic peoples." Conscription laws have been passed and a big budget has been adopted by the Parliament of Japan. Responsible Ministers have, by their speeches, very clearly indicated that Japan will not swerve from the path she has set for herself. Japan, it would appear, has made a demand on Indo-China that she should allow her to station a further 50,000 troops in Indo-China apart from the 45,000 troops which she had been authorised to station in that country.

The atmosphere, therefore, created by these bellicose utterances is not one in which negotiations can be carried on with any prospect of success. America's attitude is not likely to change on the question of China and at the Gallup poll taken recently 64 per cent answered " Yes " to the question " Should the United States take risks now to prevent Japan from becoming more powerful, even if this means risking a war with Japan? " Apparently Japan knows that she must act because the China affair has proved to be disastrous, and the freezing by Democratic powers has led to a grave economic situation in the country. Mr. Togo, Foreign Minister, has admitted that the situation confronting Japan as a result of the freezing of Japanese assets by America, the British Dominions and Colonies and the Netherlands East Indies has become intense. General Tojo, the Prime Minister, said that the freezing of the Japanese assets has not only gravely impeded a settlement of the China affair, but has gravely affected the existence of the empire itself.

THE A. B. C. D. FRONT

Meanwhile, the democracies are quite alive to the dangerous situation in the Far East and are preparing themselves. Canadian troops are now in Hongkong; an event of great importance showing that even distant Canada feels herself responsible for the safety of the Democracies, wherever they may be menaced. Mr. Mackenzie King, announcing the arrival in Hongkong of Canadian troops, said: " Defence against aggression, actual or threatened, in any part of the world is today part of the defence of every country which still enjoys freedom." " New Zeland expects a clash in the Pacific " declared Mr. Nash, New Zealand Finance Minister. Again, Mr. Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia, stated on Monday, November 17: " The danger to Australia in the Pacific is very very great. No Australian knows when we may be called upon to defend ourselves. Australia did not wish for war in the Pacific, but the decision does not rest with Australia. Only the enemy knows the enemy's plans. Australia is not taking any offensive in the Pacific but she is prepared to resist to the uttermost those taking the offensive." Mr. Eden has now told the Commons that a very grave situation will develop if the Burma Road is attacked. Further, men have been called to the colours in the Philippines, while defence measures in Thailand, where a Supreme Command has been created, are being brought up-to-date. America and Great Britain are following a determined policy in the Pacific. America has stated specifically that she would resist any further aggression. There has not, so far, been any announcement from American statesmen as to whether America would support Britain if Japan attacked Thailand or Burma, but America is quite alive to the seriousness of the danger of Japan's aggressive policy. Japan is in a dilemma. She can't give up her position in China without probably a fatal loss of prestige. Japan's " wild men " hesitate and this is a measure of the difficulties confronting the present Japanese policy.

CO-PROSPERITY

Japanese statesmen have been declaring that America should recognise Japan's position in the Far East. What is this position? What does the Co-prosperity drive mean? It means just that Order that Germany wishes to establish in Europe, herself being the dominant nation and the others round about becoming slave-states. The fact is Japan cannot be economically self-sufficient. The United States supplies Japan with one-third of her outside needs, including cotton, oil, steel products and machinery. She takes in return 90 per cent of the basic Japanese raw silk crop. Australia supplies Japan with two-thirds of her wool requirements which are essential for the army. The British Empire supplies 20 per cent of Japanese needs and takes 20 per cent of Japanese exports. Should Japan subdue China and exploit Manchukuo fully, they would only provide raw cotton and iron ore, leaving Japan's other essential needs unsatisfied, if she entered into a combat with the democracies. Japan is now short of shipping disabling her from continuing her trade with the Latin American Republics. Self-sufficiently as an ideal, if pursued, would necessarily drive Japan into an ever-widening circle of aggression. It is unthinkable that Great Britain or America or the Netherlands East Indies or China or New Zealand or Australia would be a party to this policy of aggression.

INVASION SEASON, 1941

WHAT HITLER HAS TO FACE

On 18th June 1940, when the Battle of France was over, Mr. Churchill warned his countrymen that " the whole fury and might of the enemy must very soon be turned upon us. Hitler knows that he will have to break us in this Island or lose the war." Thanks to the intrepid pilots of the Royal Air Force, the then numerically superior *Luftwaffe* was beaten in its attempts to " blitz " Britain as it had done in other parts of Europe. " Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few," said Mr. Churchill in a memorable tribute to British airmen. Hitler, who had fixed 15th August 1940, for his entry into London, met his first big reverse. In an effort to explain away his defeat, he told his followers (on 4th September 1940): " Naturally, I shall always prepare everything cleverly, cautiously and conscientiously, you may rest assured." If anyone puts the question today in Britain, " Why does not he come, we reply, " Calm yourselves; he is coming." It was, however, obvious that all his " clever, cautious and conscientious " preparations could not succeed against Britain's defences and Mr. Churchill could not resist having a fling at the Nazi braggart on 21st October 1940: " Our air force is more than holding its own and we are waiting for the long-promised invasion—so are the fishes."

But the Prime Minister has never encourged complacency or slackness in his countrymen. He has been repeatedly warning them to expect an invasion by Hitler's hordes. " Perhaps it will come tonight. Perhaps it will come next week. Perhaps it will never come," he said some time ago. " We must show ourselves equally capable of meeting a sudden, violent shock, or, what is perhaps a harder test, a prolonged vigil." There is a tendency to think that " Invasion Season, 1941 " is just an idle catch-phrase and that the danger which loomed so large a year ago is now past. Mr. Churchill has sternly discouraged this tendency.

After the fall of France in June 1940, Hitler turned his attention to the invasion of Britain. While the *Luftwaffe* tried to blaze a trail for the invaders to follow, the German armies were marshalled near the Channel ports to practise embarkation and disembarkation with fleets of barges. But a stern lesson was in store for the Fuehrer. In 1803, Napoleon began to make similar preparations, openly boasting that the English Channel was " but a ditch, and anyone can cross it who has but the courage to try." But the blockading British fleet kept Napoleon on the wrong side of the " ditch " long enough to make him change his mind and lead his forces first south-east against Austria, then east against Russia. In 1940, Hitler's vanguard—the *Luftwaffe*—actually crossed the " ditch " (Calais to Dover is only five minutes' flight in these days), but it returned just as fast as it had come, only rather less numerous and in less orderly formation. Royal Air Force bombs broke up the invasion barge concentrations in the Channel ports and Hitler emulated Napoleon by moving first south-east against the Balkans, then east against Russia. Since June 22, 1941, Hitler has lost tanks, planes and guns by the thousand, men by the lakh, on the eastern front. As a consequence, there is a dangerous tendency to believe that the invasion bogey has been banished for ever from the shores of Britain and that, like Napoleon, Hitler will soon be leading a defeated and dispirited army in another ragged retreat from Moscow to meet his end finally at another Waterloo.

HITLER'S HOPES

This is just what Hitler wants. Hitler hopes that, while he loses two or three million men in Russia—a mere bagatelle in the calculations of a man who is gambling to gain control of 1,500 million people—Britain will, with a sigh of relief, sink back in a chair and fold her arms. Then, when the prospect of invasion seems most remote, he will unleash the scores of divisions that still stand ready on the Western Front. It is an accepted belief that, if Hitler were to subdue Russia, he would proceed with the invasion of Britain. But German *failure* in Russia might have the same result. The more desperate the situation of Hitler's armies in the East, the more urgent will be the necessity to seek victory in another field, in order to offset the dangerous effect of the poison of defeatism on the spirits of the German people. The industrial resources of an entire continent are at Hitler's command. He has twelve million men under arms and a mobilizable reserve of some four millions. Only a third of these (170 divisions) have so far been engaged on the Eastern Front; the rest are mainly concentrated in Northern Europe—in occupied France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Southern Norway. If the need arose, Axis partners Italy, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria could, between them, muster close on ten million fighting men. Four Air Fleets of the *Luftwaffe* are engaged in Russia; the remaining three (about 5,000 planes) could be used for invasion purposes.

This is not to say that Hitler faces an easy problem. To throw an invading force across the English Channel, or—worse still—the North Sea, the German High Command must achieve either overwhelming superiority in the air, or complete command of the sea, preferably both. Both in Norway and in Crete, the British Navy performed prodigies of valour and sank numerous German troop transports. But some of them got through the Skaggerak

to Norway where the treachery of Quislings and the undisputed German superiority in air made the task of the British expeditionary force well-nigh hopeless from the start. And though British warships prevented a seaborne invasion of Crete, the almost complete lack of British air support made a successful airborne invasion inevitable. The balance of air power was tipped so heavily in favour of the Nazis that the British army in the field within the area affected could do little but fight a kind of magnificent rear-guard action, inflicting terrific casualties on the Germans.

HITLER'S PROBLEMS

An invasion of Britain is, however, a different proposition. Mr. Churchill has just announced that the Royal Air Force has reached numerical parity with the German air force. It has most assuredly established British air supremacy over the Channel. And the British Home Fleet stands, as it did in the days of Napoleon, between the invader and his coveted prize. Hitler must land an army and maintain a current of supplies for even a lightning campaign. For that he would have to establish a reasonably safe corridor across the water and hold it against attacks by the British Navy for not less than four weeks.

How does Hitler hope to achieve that? His hopes are based on the chance of laying two broad belts of mines across the narrows of the English Channel and ferrying his troops between them. Long-range coastal batteries, E-boats and dive-bombers would, he hopes, prevent the Royal Navy from sweeping up the minefields. Simultaneous diversions would be provided by attempted surprise landings at widely-separated points on the east and south-west coasts of the island by forces at present based in south-western Norway and north-western France. Hitler tried to establish air superiority over Britain last autumn and failed; but that does not mean he has lost hope of success at a second or a third attempt. There is also the question of the French Fleet, which at the outbreak of hostilities in 1939 was half as big again as its German counterpart. The Darlan-Laval clique may yet carry their policy of betrayal to the point of surrendering to Hitler the French warships still under the orders of the Vichy Government. These could be employd under the swastika to create a diversion in the Atlantic by inviting a full-scale naval action, just as warships of the Italian Navy were sacrificed at Matapan to distract attention from the dispatch of German troops to Libya last April. Before heavy armoured fighting vehicles can be landed in large numbers and at high speed, port facilities must be secured. For that reason, the invasion campaign would probably open with an air-borne landing behind one of the south coast ports, the intention being to seize the docks and make a bridgehead to shield the disembarkation of troops and heavy equipment. In Crete we were shown to what extent Hitler is prepared to sacrifice men and machines to achieve a similar objective. Troop-carriers crash-landed in scores; hundreds of para-troops were killed before their feet touched the ground. But the attack was pressed home successfully. For the invasion of Poland Hitler used no less than 52 divisions. In that instance he had no stretch of salt water to cross, air opposition was largely eliminated in the first few days of the campaign and he was opposed by smaller forces than those at his command. How many more troops he will need to crush the life out of Britain may be imagined when it is remembered that he must immobilize an army (including the Home Guard) of close on four millions.

Then there is the question of supplies—transport, equipment, food, munitions. A German mechanized force of even five divisions would comprise 1,800 tanks, 10,000 vehicles and 1,000 motor cycles. More than 1,000 barges would be needed to transport such a force which, in the first week of operations, would consume more than 2,500,000 gallons of petrol alone. Barges transporting the armada would be at sea for three hours on the shortest route (Calais to Kent) and 50 hours on the longest route (Norway to Scotland). Throughout the voyage and during embarkation at the outset of the voyage they would be under constant bombardment from warships, warplanes and shore batteries. And it is comforting to know that the British have more naval guns than all the rest of the world put together. Royal Air Force attacks on the invasion ports in September 1940, according to neutral observers, reduced the assembled fleet of transporting craft to one-third and destroyed two-fifths of the accumulated stores and ammunition. There will be no fifth column ready to help Hitler gain a foothold, as there was in Norway; no lack of air opposition, as there was in Crete; no refugee problem, as there was in the low countries and France; no German numerical superiority, as there has been in every campaign except the Russian.

ENGLAND READY

But, in the words of the Premier, " when we see the originality of malice and the ingenuity of aggresson which our enemy displays, we may certainly prepare ourselves for every kind of novel strategy and every kind of brutal and treacherous manoeuvre." No idea is so outlandish that it should not be reckoned with. Gigantic preparations in Germany suggest that she intends attempting an air-borne invasion of unprecedented magnitude by gliders. The production of gliders in Germany far exceeds the normal and all silk has been requisitioned for parachutes. While few German experts believe that such an invasion would finally succeed, there is a general belief that the dropping of thousands

(Continued on page 9)

THE NEW OFFENSIVE IN LIBYA

MR. CHURCHILL'S STATEMENT

Mr. Winston Churchill made the following statement in the House of Commons on Thursday last regarding the new offensive in Libya :—

" The House will, I am sure, have been interested to learn from the Cairo communiqué that an offensive against the German and Italian armies on the Libyan Front has begun.

" This offensive has been long elaborately prepared and we have waited nearly five months in order that our army should be well-equipped with all those weapons which have made their mark in this new war.

" There is nothing in the world quite like the war conditions prevailing in the Libyan Desert in which far-ranging movements are only possible by the extraordinary use of armour, air power and mechanization. The conditions are in many respects like those of a sea war. The principal units involved keep wireless silence when preparing and making their rapid and extensive movements. The encounter, when it is achieved, is like a clash of fleets and flotillas and as in a sea battle all may be settled one way or another in the course of two hours.

" If in this case enemy armour is destroyed or seriously defeated and his air power is dominated, the plight of his infantry and artillery, crowded in the coastal region, would evidently become serious in some respects. The object of the British and Empire offensive is not so much the occupation of this or that locality, but the destruction of the armed, and primarily of armoured, force of the enemy.

" For this purpose the Army of the Western Desert took up its preliminary station on a broad front, from the sea to the Jarabub Oasis and all was in readiness by nightfall on the seventeenth. At dawn on the eighteenth, a general advance began. Very heavy and exceptional rains hampered the movement of our forces which had great distances to cover. These rains, however, appear to have been far more heavy in the coastal region than in the desert and may well prove more harmful to the enemy than to us. During the eighteenth, our Army came into contact with enemy outposts at many points and it seemed certain that the enemy were taken completely by surprise. The Desert Army is now favourably situated for a trial of strength.

" I do not know up to the present whether this trial has actually begun or taken place between the heavy armoured forces, but evidently it cannot be long delayed. It is far too soon to indulge in any exultation. General Auchinleck, with General Cunningham in command under him of the Eighth Army, has made a brilliant and successful strategic approach and has gained positions of marked advantage. All now depends on the battle which follows. It is evident that the next few days will see developments which will include many highly interesting features.

" One thing is certain—all ranks of the British and Empire troops involved are animated by the long pent-up and ardent desire to engage the enemy and they will fight with the utmost resolve and devotion, feeling as they all do that this is the first time we have met the Germans at least equaly well-armed and equipped and realizing the part that a British victory in Libya will play upon the whole course of the war." (Loud cheers.)

PREMIER'S MESSAGE TO THE TROOPS

The following is the text of the Prime Minister's message to all ranks of the Army and R.A.F. in the Western Desert and to the Mediterranean Fleet :—

" I have it in command from the King to express to all ranks of the Army and Royal Air Force in the Western Desert and to the Mediterranean Fleet, His Majesty's confidence that they will do their duty with exemplary devotion in the supremely important battle which lies before them.

" For the first time British and Empire troops will meet Germans with ample equipment in modern weapons of all kinds. The battle itself will affect the whole course of the war. Now is the time to strike the hardest blow yet struck for final victory, home and freedom. The Desert Army may add a page to history which will rank with Blenheim and with Waterloo. The eyes of all nations are upon you. All our hearts are with you. May God uphold the right."

FEATURES OF THE CAMPAIGN

The advance, in which the Empire troops, including India, are taking part, is on a front of over 150 miles. The area includes Sollum in the south to the Oasis of Jarabub.

There is close and constant co-operation by the Navy which is bombarding Halfaya Pass.

(*Continued on page* 11)

MIGHT AND MAIN

ALLIES, GATHERING STRENGTH, ADOPT OFFENSIVE SPIRIT

The Royal Air Force has reached numerical parity with the Luftwaffe. The Royal Navy is now strong enough to send a powerful battle fleet, if needed, into the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The Army, with its own air arm, with many armoured divisions and with a large and highly trained force of paratroops, is ready to go into action in defence of Britain, the Far East or the Middle East or in offensive operations ordered by the War Cabinet.

A powerful factor in facilitating and encouraging this offensive spirit has been and continues to be American aid. In two years—thanks largely to Hitler—America has changed her outlook from the isolationism of the ostrich to the realism of the tiger, " a realism," as the President told the International Labour Conference, " in terms of three shifts daily; the full use of every vital machine every day and every night; a realism in terms of staying on the job and getting things made." *In 1939 the cry was Cash and Carry. A year later it was Lease and Lend. Now legislation is in force, changing the slogan to Convoy and Call, with American warships escorting armed American merchantmen into the combat zone to be unloaded at Allied quays.*

In January 1940, America exported 41 military aircraft to Britain. In August 1940, 278 were delivered. In August 1941, the total sent to Britain, Russia and other participants in the United States of America Lease-Lend programme was 1,533. This great speed-up of deliveries has enabled the Royal Air Force to build up a large reserve force, which in turn has made possible offensive operations on a scale much larger than was possible twelve, or even six, months ago. *Since the Eastern Front was set ablaze in June the Royal Air Force has maintained the weight of its western Front offensive at nearly five times what it was in January.* In the war against shipping alone, home-based aircraft have sunk or damaged 332 enemy vessels in the past six months.

The Royal Navy has more than recovered from the crippling blow it suffered when the help of the French Fleet was withdrawn last year. Then the Mediterranean was the most dangerous area. *Now the Nazi-controlled Danish radio feels obliged to admit that " Cunningham, despite heavy losses, is still master of the Mediterranean ".* Any doubts about this were answered on November 9 when nine out of ten Axis supply ships crossing the Central Mediterranean were sunk and the tenth was set afire; one escorting destroyer was sunk and a second severely damaged; two heavy cruisers were put to flight. *Cunningham carried out this daring action right on Mussolini's front door-step and returned to his base unscathed. If the Japanese Fleet is ordered to clear its decks for action it knows what to expect.* Tokyo now knows that, should the United States become involved in war with Japan, the British declaration will follow within the hour.

Meanwhile, Anglo-American aid flows across the Soviet frontier in an ever-widening stream. The boldness of conception of Churchill's war strategy is exemplified by his reply to Beaverbrook's sorrowful statement that Britain could not spare all the aluminium Stalin had asked for. " Give it," said Churchill; " take the risk ".

INVASION SEASON, 1941—(*Continued from Page* 7)

of desperate men with high explosives to sever all vital communications would be a terrible calamity for Britain. The answer to all this is that the men of the Royal Air Force say that they only hope the Germans will come by air in mass, their confidence in their ability to shoot the enemy out of the sky being unbounded. Mr. Vincent Sheean, the famous publicist, in an article in an American magazine, says that, in an operation so great and so hazardous, we may expect the Germans, who have revealed a contempt for human life in all their enterprises so far, to use the dreadful weapons of chemical and bacteriological warfare. But these weapons are double-edged. Two can play at the same game and the use of poison-gas will recoil on the user. In any event, Mr. Churchill and his Government have neglected no arrangements to meet every kind of weapon which Hitler may decide to employ and we may with confidence await the result of any attempt at invasion of Britain.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1—8, 1941

AUSTRALIA ASPERSED AGAIN

"General Blamey is going to Australia to convince the Australian Cabinet that Britain requires more Anzac soldiers".—(*German News in English, November* 4).

"This careful refusal of the Australian Government to help Britain is of great political significance".—(*German News in English, November* 7).

Mr. Curtin informed the House of Representatives on November 5 that Gen. Blamey's visit to Australia was to discuss the Pacific defence with Mr. Duff Cooper and others, and Australians need have no anxiety as to any slackening of effort in the Middle East Sector. Said Sir Earle Page, the Australian representative in London, on October 30:—"Although the Australian Government's personnel has recently changed, Australia's war effort has remained constant at 100 per cent." Again on November 3 he declared: "Australia's preparedness for the war is now greater than ever." Over 450,000 men were serving in the armed forces. Over 60,000 were in the Australian Air Force. Since the war, production of munition had increased by at least twenty times.

MISCELLANEOUS MENDACITIES

"The British blockade of Marseilles is intended to starve out the men, women and children of France. There can be no other purpose served by it."—(*German News in English, November* 5).

"All the air raids of the Royal Air Force over the Channel coast proved ineffective".—(*German News in Hindustani, November* 5.)

Looter No. 1 of unarmed and innocent victims, Berlin wishes to pose as the humane sympathiser of a country which she is ceaselessly striving to cow with hangmen and Quislings. The enemy "purchasing" commission in Marseilles requisitions 80 per cent of the incoming cargoes, not for use in France but for bomb-gutted Germany. Why were three of the Vichy ships recently captured by the British Navy in such a desperate hurry to scuttle themselves? American and British policy is to allow necessities through which are genuinely meant for France's internal consumption. The answer is simple: Those ships were engaged in a furtive and illicit attempt either to evade American control which insists on the distribution of food in French Africa under American supervision, or to run the British blockade, which justifiably enough insists that Vichy ships must not be used to carry goods for enemy use.

To refer only to one tiny aspect of the Royal Air Force activity over the Channel: Between 1,500 and 2,000 Royal Air Force sorties have kept the *Scharnhost*, *Gneisenau*, and *Prinz Eugen* still maimed and limp in the docks of Brest and unable to escape even to a remoter oblivion. The Royal Air Force fighters now carry bombs as well as machine guns and cannon in their offensive sweeps over the Channel and elsewhere.

"Roosevelt intoxicates himself on words which are not followed by deeds".—(*German News in English, November* 7).

On November 6, President Roosevelt declared in a broadcast to the I. L. O.:—"The epic stand of Britain, China and Russia will receive the full support of the free peoples of America". Few hours later he authorized a thousand million dollar, interest-free loan to Russia.

ARABESQUE OF LIES

"Britain is already taking steps to prepare the establishment of a Jewish State comprising Transjordan, Palestine and Syria."—(*German News in Arabic and Persian, November* 3).

As far back as May 1939 His Majesty's Government declared "unequivocally that it is not a part of their policy that Palestine should become a Jewish State."

More recently the voice of sound statesmanship and ripe wisdom, qualities which Berlin cannot now assess owing to a local dearth of it, made itself heard from South Africa and Transjordan. If there had been a vestige of truth in the German assertion, Emir Abdulla would not have said, as he did on October 30: "For the time being the efforts of all Arabs should be concentrated on helping Britain to win the war." On November 2, Field Marshal Smuts, pleading for a larger vision on world issues, hoped that the Jewish problem might be resolved "as part of the prospect of a large Arab confederation in the Middle East."

A PROPHET AT WORK

November 1940

"In half a year I will talk to you again and you will see that my **prophecy of victory will have been correct.**"—(*Goebbels to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin.*)

March 1941

"I affirm again that **before the year is over** Germany will **finish** the war."—(*Goebbels to Spanish correspondents in Berlin.*)

November 1941

"This question **how** the war is going **to end** is more important than the question **when?**"—(*Goebbels in an article in 'Das Reich'.*)

THE NEW OFFENSIVE IN LIBYA—(*Continued from page* 8)

The Royal Air Force is playing a big part in the operations. Already 18 enemy planes have been destroyed, including five enemy troop-carriers.

The garrison at Tobruk has already advanced ten miles and captured a town.

Tobruk, which may well be expected to be relieved after many months of great endurance, will again become a strong base to which supplies and reinforcements can be taken by sea.

The first reactions to this drive have been srtiking. In Singapore, there is considerable satisfaction and it is stated that Japanese expectations that while she strikes east or south, the Axis would strike in the Middle East are bound to be grievously disappointed. In the Dominions and America the news has created a sensation. It is considered to be a well-timed move to frustrate a possible Berlin-Vichy surprise in North Africa.

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

14th Nov.—Royal Air Force fighters attack gun-positions in occupied France and aircraft on the ground.

Nazi raiders drop bombs indiscriminately on the streets of a north-east Scottish town.

15th Nov.—Military and industrial targets in Northern France are again bombed by the Royal Air Force.

A German raider is shot down into the sea off the East Coast of England.

It is stated that 262 persons in all were killed (or are missing) in air raids over Britain during October. A further 361 were injured.

16th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raids Emden and other ports in north-west Germany in spite of trying weather conditions, bombs the docks at Boulogne and lays mines in enemy waters.

In scattered enemy raids by a small number of single aircraft, two German bombers are destroyed off the East Coast of England.

17th Nov.—Britain has a raid-free night.

The Royal Air Force raids factories and other targets in Northern France. A large German supply-ship off the south coast of Norway is successfully attacked.

18th Nov.—The sudden death is announced of the German air "ace", General Udet. He meets with an accident while testing a new type of plane.

Royal Air Force bombs a number of targets in Northern France.

19th Nov.—The Royal Air Force bombs docks at Brest.

Enemy air activity over Britain is on a slight scale—at points on the East Anglian Coast and in south-east England.

20th Nov.—No casualties result from stray enemy raids on two eastern coastal points in Britain.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

14th Nov.—The capture of Kamant Hill, 13 miles nort-east of Gondar, is announced by the British G.H.Q. at Nairobi.

H.M.S. *Ark Royal*, the 22,000 tons aircraft-carrier with an impressive record in the Royal Navy, is torpedoed and sunk east of Gibraltar (near the place where a Spanish vessel was sunk three days earlier by a U-boat). Of her complement of 1,600, only one is dead.

The Royal Air Force attacks Naples, Syracuse (in Sicily), Benghazi and Derna, while the South African Air Force bombs enemy positions in Abyssinia.

15th Nov.—"We shall avenge the Ark Royal as we avenged the Hood," says Mr. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Royal Air Force raids Derna, Bardia, Barce and Martuba.

Gen. Pricolo, Chief of the Italian Air Staff, is relieved of his duties and succeeded by Gen. Rino.

There is neither damage nor casualty when enemy planes dive-bomb the eastern sector of the Tobruk defences.

The British stranglehold on Gondar tightens, the Italians evacuating Janguar.

16th Nov.—Marshal Badoglio is dismissed from his last official post as President of the Italian National Research Council.

It is officially announced that a new British army has been formed in the Western Desert, called the Eighth Army.

17th Nov.—Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier, returns to Cairo after two days with the Polish and Empire troops at Tobruk.

Deserters from Gondar report a mutiny among the Italian Colonial Infantry.

18th Nov.—British Columns, advancing from the Sudan, start artillery attacks on enemy positions in Abyssinia. The Italian garrison of Gorgogra near Lake Tsana is called upon to surrender.

Italy admits that Naples has been raided in successive waves at night by the Royal Air Force.

19th Nov.—It is officially announced that British Imperial Forces have penetrated 50 miles into Cyrenaica, the enemy being taken by surprise.

20th Nov.—The British advance, supported by the Navy and the Air Force, continues towards Tobruk.

British forces, attacking the last Italian positions in Abyssinia, take Venticinque.

British submarines torpedo four enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

The U-Boat which sank the *Ark Royal* is destroyed by the British corvette *Marigold*. Thirty-four German sailers are made prisoners of war.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

15th Nov.—New York papers report that 100 American merchantmen will be armed every month for the next four months.

The American Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce reports that 330 million dollars worth of war planes and aeronautical equipment were delivered to Britain in the first eight months of this year.

The British freighter Nottingham (9,000 tons) is torpedoed and sunk on her maiden voyage to America.

Mr. Averill Harriman leaves the United States for London to expedite Lease-Lend deliveries to Britain. He says "Enormous supplies are going to Russia from Britain as well as from the United States."

"American seamen are at battle-stations in their ships," declares Col. Knox, Secretary for the United States Navy.

President Roosevelt confers with Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War, thus giving rise to rumours that the Army will take over the "captive" coal-mines (that is, those owned by steel companies) where a strike by over 50,000 men is threatened on the question of union membership.

New York City practises air raid drill.

16th Nov.—Negotiations for a settlement of the American coal mines dispute close without any agreement.

The Executive of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, one of the two large American labour organizations, offers its complete support to President Roosevelt in his policy of aid to the nations fighting Hitler.

17th Nov.—President Roosevelt signs the Neutrality Revision Bill.

Mr. Roosevelt asks Congress for an additional appropriation of 6,687 million dollars for Army equipment. He also recommends that the War Secretary be enabled to make dispositions under the Lease-Lend Act of any equipment bought for the Army since 11th March 1941.

The American coal strike begins, the United Mine Workers' Union defying President Roosevelt's declaration that coal "must" be mined.

The German motorship Odenwald (5,098 tons), masquerading as an American ship, is seized in South Atlantic by the United States Navy despite attempts to scuttle herself, and is brought to a port in Puerto Rico.

18th Nov.—The National Convention of the C.I.O. pledges support to President Roosevelt's foreign policy. The President, in a message to the Convention, says that the Government are determined to see that guns, tanks, planes and ships are produced without delay.

Col. Knox announces that ships plying from and to Britain and Northern Europe would be the first American merchantmen to be armed; then would come ships going to the Red Sea; and, third, ships for the South Atlantic.

United States warships sink or capture numerous German U-boats in a big naval battle with surface and submarine raiders off the Coast of Iceland, on the Norwegian approaches to Russian ports. A number of Mosquito-boat carriers are also sunk.

United States naval patrols are on the look-out for an Axis raider that is reported to have sunk a Yugoslav cargo ship in the Panama Canal zone.

19th Nov.—Mr. Roosevelt appeals to the executives of the steel companies and the United Mine Workers Union to maintain the *status quo* as regards their dispute during the national emergency or to submit to arbitration.

Three new American "Eagle" air squadrons are formed in Britain.

20th Nov.—The Steel companies agree to accept either of the two alternatives proposed by Mr. Roosevelt.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

14th Nov.—The Russians regain the initiative on the Moscow front and drive the Germans out of several prepared positions. A fierce battle is reported outside Kerch in the Crimea but the other German thrust towards the Caucasus is held outside Rostov on the Don.

M. Litvinov, Russia's new Ambassador to America, Mr. Steinhardt, American Ambassador to Russia, and Sir Walter Monckton of the British Ministry of Information are safe though the plane carrying them from Kujbyshev to Cairo makes a forced landing at Pahlevi in Iran.

15th Nov.—The Germans throw in more troops on the Moscow front but the Russians not only stand firm but launch several counter-attacks. No fewer than 31 German planes are shot down for the loss of five Soviet planes when the enemy attempts an air raid on Moscow. The Germans claim a further advance around Sebastopol and Kerch despite tough resistance.

16th Nov.—The Russians forestall a German offensive with a series of offensive thrusts and recapture many villages in the Moscow sector. A violent German attack on the Kalinin front is beaten off and the Russians hold Tula despite pressure from the north-west and south-east. The Russian Air Force destroys German

supply columns near Leningrad. But German pressure near Tikhvin continues and the Germans say they have cut the Leningrad-Vologda railway. Further north, an enemy attempt to cross from the Rybachi Peninsula to the Murmansk coast is thwarted and 20 Axis ships are sunk. On the Crimean front, the Germans claim to have captured a strongly defended fort near Sebastopol but, in the Don Basin, Soviet resistance is as stiff as ever.

17th Nov.—Soviet troops advance several miles on the Karelian front and stop the German drive to Moscow at all points. But the Germans take the harbour town of Kerch in the Crimea and claim over a hundred thousand prisoners. It is revealed that Leningrad is not completely surrounded and still has communication with the rest of Russia.

Dr. Rosenberg is appointed Reich Minister for occupied Russian territory.

18th Nov.—The Germans claim that, with an improvement in the weather, they have occupied further areas in the Donetz Basin. But two attempts to take Rostov are repulsed by the Russians with heavy losses. The Germans make air raids on Sebastopal and Leningrad. Both these towns continue to beat off all German attacks. And in the Moscow sector the situation is now much better for the Russians as a result, especially, of counter-attacks near Tula. In the extreme south, German planes bomb the Caucasian ports of Anapa and Tuapse but it is now evident that Russian troops in Kerch have been safely evacuated to reinforce the Caucasian garrisons.

The Russian Foreign office denies that the Soviet Government presented any new demands to Finland after the conclusion of peace between the two nations last year.

19th Nov.—A Nazi flank attack on Rostov fails and another near Volokolamsk in the Moscow sector is beaten off. The Germans attempt to drive a wedge in the Soviet defences near Tula and also to advance eastwards from Oniel, 200 miles south of Moscow.

20th Nov.—The Russians recapture many strategic heights in the Crimea. It is revealed they have withdrawn all troops, equipment and stores in perfect order from Kerch. A new Nazi offensive fails in the Kalinin region but fierce battles take place both near Volokolamsk and near Tula where small German advances are effected only at tremendoues cost.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAN, IRAQ, SYRIA, ETC.

15th Nov.—Brigadier General Wheeler and Brigadier General Maxwell of the United States Army arrive in Manila, *en route* to the Middle East to collaborate respectively with General Wavell and General Auchinleck.

16th Nov.—Captain Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of State in the Middle East, addressing British delegates to the Middle East Supply Centre, says:—"Cut out luxuries of life and stimulate local production to the utmost, use only essentials for existence, cut down demands for imports in the most drastic manner, hasten the turn round of our ships so that they may not lose one precious hour in port".

It is stated that Britain is to supply Turkey with 75,000 tons of wheat; 20,000 tons of this total have already been delivered in British ships to the Turkish port of Mersine.

18th Nov.—The Turkish press warns Bulgaria that British help is near if the Bulgarians attempt to enter Turkish Thrace as hinted by the Vice-President of the Bulgarian Parliament.

Dr. Schmidt, Press Chief of the German Foreign Office, arrives in Ankara and calls on the Turkish Foreign Minister.

Iraq decides to break off relations with Japan and Vichy, following investigations into the activities of their representatives at Baghdad during the Rashid Ali rebellion.

SHIPPING

15th Nov.—In a message to the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, President Roosevelt calls for "ships, ships and more ships", and Mr. Knudsen, head of the Office of Production Management, says "As long as you keep the line open to England, Hitler cannot win."

It is announced that the American liner *George Washington* (23,000 tons) has been transferred to Britain.

17th Nov.—Mr. Duff Cooper, British Minister on a special mission to the Far East, inspects shipyards at Sydney and pays a tribute to the great and expanding shipbuilding industry in Australia.

THE FAR EAST

14th Nov.—The Japanese Cabinet meets and considers the country's biggest war budget ever.

Mr. Kurusu, Special Japanese Envoy, arrives in San Francisco.

President Roosevelt announces that the United States has decided to withdraw the Marines stationed at Shanghai, Tientsin and Peiping in China. This decision does not affect the gun-boats on the Yangtze river, in charge of the American Navy.

Russia rejects as not proven the Japanese protest against the sinking of the liner Kebi Maru by alleged Soviet mines.

Following the Chinese Military Spokesman's warning that China will bomb Indo-China if the Japanese forces there launch an attack on Yunnan, the Chinese Province through which the Burma Road runs, General Ma Chan-shan reveals China's determination to recover her lost territories in Manchuria.

15th Nov.—The Japanese Diet commences a five-day session to discuss the international situation.

A Supreme Command for National Defence is created in Thailand with the Premier as Supreme Commander.

16th Nov.—Gen. Tojo, the Japanese Premier, in his capacity as War Minister, and Admiral Shemada, Navy Minister, report to the Diet on the progress of the China war.

Canadian troops arrive in Hongkong to reinforce the British garrison.

17th Nov.—Mr. Kurusu, Japan's Special Envoy, and Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador to the United States, call on Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, and then on President Roosevelt.

Both Gen. Tojo and the Foreign Minister, Mr. Togo, justify Japan's policy in China and East Asia in addresses to the Diet and express resentment at British and American pressure that "affects the very existence of our Empire."

Marshal Chiang Kai-shek declares in Chungking that Japan's only chance of salvation lies in the abandonment of aggression and the withdrawal of her troops from China. In a message to the Burma press, the Marshal says "The enemy is looking to the south, I hope you are well prepared."

Further reinforcements arrive in Singapore from India.

18th Nov.—The Japanese House of Representatives approves a resolution, pledging all-out support to the Government's policy and blaming the "unreasonable" attitude of the United States. The budget is passed by both Houses of the Diet, as also certain emergency war-time measures.

Admiral Nomura, after a further conference with Mr. Cordel Hull, says he is "still hopeful" about reaching an understanding with America.

Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese Foreign Minister, states that there can be no common basis for negotiations between Japan and America so long as the former is not prepared to abandon her aggressive policy.

Japan demands authority to station 50,000 more troops in Indo-China.

Border clashes between Thailand police and French *gendarmes* (who attempted to cross over from Indo-China) are reported.

19th Nov.—The Japanese allege that a Soviet unit has penetrated into Manchukuoan territory.

The United States-Japan talks continue at Washington, where Mr. Cordell Hull also confers with representatives of other "A. B. C. D." powers.

20th Nov.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, expresses "complete confidence in the United States spokesman" in the Washington talks with Japan, which are resumed. He had previously declared that an attack on the Burma Road would create a grave situation.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

14th Nov.—The British Ministry of Economic Warfare states that the five Vichy ships recently intercepted by the Royal Navy off the South African coast carried war materials.

15th Nov.—Gen. de Gaulle outlines "The Free French Charter" at a mass meeting of his countrymen in London, and pledges full support to Britain in the war.

16th Nov.—While Gen. Juin (who arrives in Vichy on the invitation of the French Government) is freely tipped as the next War Minister, Gen. Weygand also arrives in Vichy from North Africa.

The German Envoy, Abetz, meets Laval and then lunches with Marshal Petain at Vichy before returning to occupied France.

17th Nov.—Gen. Weygand reports to Marshal Petain on his recent conversations with the late War Minister (Gen. Huntziger). It is believed that the Germans favour Gen. Weygand's appointment as War Minister but it is not thought he would willingly relinquish his strategic post in North Africa.

Gen. Gamelin, former French Commander-in-Chief, is reported to be ill and in a hospital.

18th Nov.—Dr. Dalton, British Minister for Economic Warfare, affirms that it would be impossible for blockade purposes, to distinguish between occupied and unoccupied France. Intercepted French ships are to be retained as reprisal for the unlawful detention of British, Allied and neutral vessels by the Vichy Government at the conclusion of the armistice with Germany.

19th Nov.—It is reported from London and Washington that Gen. Weygand is dismissed from his post.

20th Nov.—It is officially announced in Vichy that Gen. Weygand has " retired ". A reshuffle of civil and military posts in French Africa is also announced.

The United States declares that it is reviewing its entire relations with Vichy, consequent on the removal of Gen. Weygand and the growth of German control over French Africa.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

14th Nov.—Five Czechs are hanged in Bruno on a charge of economic sabotage.

Five Norwegians are condemned to death in Oslo for alleged help to some of their countrymen to escape to Britain.

Dr. Matchek, the Croat leader, is sent to a concentration camp in Austria.

17th Nov.—It is revealed that a German expeditionary force, 320 strong, has been wiped out by a battalion of Serbian sharp-shooter guerilla fighters around the ruined town of Lebane, south of Nish. While the Germans rush in further reinforcements and arrest intellectuals as hostages, all guerilla bands unite under the supreme command of Col. Mihailovitch, who plans an offensive against all the enemy garrisons in Yugoslavia.

18th Nov.—Dr. Seyss-Inquart, Nazi Commissar for Holland, says that Holland can never expect to regain even formal independence in the event of a German victory.

Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier and Commander-in-Chief, is to visit Russia to confer with Soviet authorities. It will be recalled that 100,000 Polish troops are fighting along with Marshal Timoshenko's army on the southern front.

19th Nov.—Prince Paul of Greece states that the Greeks are still resisting the Axis. Fifteen Italian divisions and over 70,000 Germans are immobilized in Greece.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15th Nov.—It is stated that the first batch of (600) Spanish workers is to leave shortly for Germany.

In a speech to the Egyptian Parliament, King Farouk thanks Britain for the gift of a million sterling for the construction of air raid shelters.

16th Nov.—Mr. de Valera warns Eire that, as the war will reach its real intensity in the coming spring or summer, she must make a nation-wide effort to achieve self-sufficiency in the necessaries of life.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The British offensive in Libya is going well. It is well to remember that the Axis strength is considerable, but the scale of operations is very wide and with the aid of the undaunted spirit of British and Empire land forces and the supremacy in air, success is fairly certain. General Rommel's forces have been caught in a triangle, Bardia, Fort Capuzzo and Gambut have fallen as also Augila, taken by Indians. Sidi Rezegh has been re-taken and Bir El Hamid captured. Contact has been made with Tobruk.

The latest news about fighting in Russia is favourable. There has been a great success west of Rostov, Germans having been driven west by about 60 miles. The situation near Moscow is, however, very serious. In the northern sector, Germans are being steadily pushed back and the threat to Leningrad is considerably less than it was some time ago.

It is good to know that M. Maisky, the Soviet Ambassador in London, has declared that the Soviet Government would like to base its post-war policy on the closest possible collaboration with Britain. He hoped that as there was goodwill on both sides this could be accomplished. On questions concerning peace and international policy, Mr. Eden declared, there was no reason why there should be any conflict of opinion between Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

Moscow Radio states that Soviets have lost some 2,122,000 men, including 490,000 killed, 1,112,000 wounded and 520,000 missing. The Germans have lost over 15,000 tanks, 13,000 planes and 19,000 guns, while the Soviets have lost 7,900 tanks, 6,400 planes and 12,900 guns. Germans have lost about six million men, killed, wounded or taken prisoners so far.

M. Molotov has handed a note to the Ambassadors and Ministers of all countries making a definite charge that the Germans are torturing Soviet prisoners by branding them with red hot irons, putting their eyes out and cutting their hands, feet, ears and noses off.

At Kragujeva, in Central Serbia, the Germans are said to have shot 2,300 civilians as a reprisal for killing 26 German soldiers. Some intellectuals have been taken out of their homes and shot. Not being able to find enough hostages among the adult population, the Germans are reported to have arrested hundreds of students between the ages of 16 and 18, some of whom have already been executed. This brutal act has caused great emotion and distress among the population.

It is announced by German controlled Paris Radio that the French battleship *Dunkerque*, damaged in the bombardment of Mers El Kebir, has been repaired and is ready for service.

In accordance with the pledges already given, the independence of Ethiopia will be recognized by Great Britain. An agreement has been prepared and will be concluded shortly.

Lebanon has been declared to be an independent sovereign State by General Catroux, the Free French Delegate-General in Syria. The State forces will, for the duration of the war, be under the Allies.

A small British patrol landed on the coast of Normandy on Sunday last and returned complete. The German communiqué on the subject says that the attempt to land on the coast was repelled.

The Italians at Kulkober and Ferrober, east of Lake Tana, have surrendered. The British forward columns have captured Tadda Ridge, only seven miles from Gondar in Abyssinia.

The Anti-Comintern Pact will be prolonged for another five years. This was decided at a meeting of representatives of thirteen States in Berlin, including Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Croatia, Slovakia, Holland and Spain. The German Foreign Minister stated that Bolshevism has been dealt a blow from which it could never recover. Speaking at a luncheon to the delegates, Herr von Ribbentrop indulged in abuse of the United States which, he said, would suffer as a result of Mr. Roosevelt's policy. He added that the tank and the dive-bomber would preclude the possibility of revolt in disarmed, occupied territory, that Europe would be reconstructed after the war and that Great Britain had no business on the Continent. He was further confident that the odds were obviously against Britain and that, when the main fighting forces of Germany and her allies were employed against the British Isles by land, sea and air, Britain would be laid waste and must sooner or later suffer defeat.

Speculation is rife about the negotiations between the United States and Japan. The Japanese Envoy and the Ambassador, after receiving a note from the Secretary of State, have seen the President. The note is said to contain a reaffirmation of the views of United States of America. It is stated that a breakdown is inevitable and that America is insistent that the Nine-Power Treaty concluded in Washington should be observed, which means that Japan will have to withdraw from China.

There have been frontier incidents between Thailand and Japanese forces and the Bangkok Radio states that circumstances might force Thailand to abandon her neutrality, defend herself and appeal to other friendly countries for help. Some classes of reservists have been called up. Assurances have been given by United States of America and Great Britain regarding Thailand's independence. Japan has assured Thailand that she has no hostile intentions, but it is believed in Washington that large massing of Japanese troops in Indo-China may be for the purpose of aggression against Thailand.

The developments in the United States during the week which are worthy of note are as follows :—

1. The aero-engine output of the United States is now 5,000 per month, equalling the German output.
2. Export of petroleum products of any kind to Spain and its possessions has been banned. Algieria, French Morocco and Tunis are within the ban. This step has been taken because there was the fear that there was leakage of oil through Spain to the Axis Powers.
3. The Lease and Lend Act has been extended to Iceland and negotiations for its extension to Australia are proceeding.
4. United States troops have, with the consent of the Netherlands Government, been sent to Dutch Guiana to protect the bauxite mines in Surinam. Surinam supplies 60 per cent of the United States' bauxite requirements which are so necessary for the manufacture of aluminium.
5. The Chairman, the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, has said that the United States should take over French Guiana and Martinique. Probably this action is advised as a countermove to Axis activities in those countries.
6. In Washington the existence of a secret weapon for detecting ships and aircraft at great distances has been disclosed.

HITLER'S CONFERENCE

White House has announced that it has heard that Hitler intends to hold a conference some time in December or January of European Powers, excluding Great Britain, but including "some belligerents, all Axis Powers and some neutrals," for the purpose of considering the question of "economic rehabilitation and restoration of independence for all European nations." There can be little doubt that reports of this kind provide unmistakable evidence of Germany's difficulties, not of her strength.

Such rumours have been already categorically denied in Berlin. There is no smoke without fire, and there are reasons to believe that the conference was originally intended to be held in Moscow with due pomp and ceremony where the New Order was to have been proclaimed. Moscow has not yet fallen. Perhaps, the conference may be held in Vienna. What is the purpose of this conference? It may be to convince the German public that their sacrifices have been rewarded by a decisive victory and that major operations on the Eastern Front were over. It may also be to convince Britain and the United States that, since Europe is now happily united under German leadership, further fighting or continued aid to Russia would be useless. Japan may also be told that her "hour of destiny" has arrived.

The morale of the German troops is, of course, high, though there may be some disappointment. But it is unmistakable that the home morale is weakening. Dr. Goebbels said the other day : "The question of how this war will end is more important than the question of when it will end. If we win it, we have won everything—raw materials, free supply communications and living space, the bases for the social reorganization of our state and for the possibility of full development of the Axis Powers. But if we lose it, all that and more would be lost, namely our whole national life . . . We know only too well the heavy sacrifices demanded by war from all of us, but are not sacrifices borne by the beaten nations, even if they are already living outside the war, incomparably greater than ours?" This speech certainly implies that there was some doubt cast upon the certainty of final victory.

Incidentally, the question arises whether Germany is still thinking of the invasion of England. Ribbentrop has again threatened it. It will be attempted probably in the form of air-borne troops in fleets of towed gliders, but England is fully alive to the magnitude of the danger. What can unmistakably shake German morale as nothing else can is defeat on the battlefield and that would depend on the scale of British Empire and American war production in the coming winter months. There is, however, no doubt that Hitler youth is being decimated on different fronts. This means that they would have to be replaced by older age groups with longer memories and more faculties of criticism. The Nazi Party is also being weakened by the dispersal of special S.S. troops for service at the front and in the occupied countries. With acts of sabotage in occupied countries and growing discontent, something would have to be done to keep up enthusiasm and perhaps the object of the conference is to tell Germany and the world that great things have been accomplished and it only remains for Europe to accept the New Order, that is, as Mr. Stephen Early, Press Secretary to President Roosevelt said : "a series of puppet states throughout Europe with Germany always holding the strings." Of course, as Mr. Early remarked, the Conference should be discounted well in advance by people who really believe in democracy and oppose military domination not only of Europe, but of the entire world. The probabilities are that Hitler will wait for some time yet before he holds this show.

VICHY'S PLIGHT

Vichy has to come into the picture because Hitler is convinced that, without France, the settlement of Europe under Germany's auspices would be practically useless, but that is not the only object of the new developments that have taken place in the relations between Vichy and Germany. Things are not going too well in Russia for Hitler, who is further anxious that, as a compensation for the British penetration into Libya, Bizerta, Algeria, Oran, Casablanca and perhaps Dakar should fall into his hands. It is because General Weygand would not agree to the German demand for the use of the French naval base at Bizerta that he has been dismissed by Vichy. It is reported that Marshal Petain yielded because, otherwise, Germans threatened to occupy all France and take over the French fleet. Vichy's surrender is likely to have very serious repercussions. For one thing, there is already a movement in America to seize Dakar for forestalling possible German moves. The Administration in Washington is gathering facts in regard to Vichy-German relations in order to determine the future policy to be followed towards Marshal Petain's Government. The fact that a German military and economic mission is expected to leave for Africa cannot but be viewed by Great Britain and America as portending serious developments. If the British blockade in the Mediterranean is tightened up as is very likely, and if America refuses to send supplies to North Africa, then the plight of that country would become precarious and it might force Admiral Darlan to direct the French fleet to convoy French Mediterranean merchantmen.

The forthcoming meeting between Hitler and Marshal Petain may, in the circumstances, prove to be a crucial one. Tunis, Algeria and Morocco will figure largely in these talks as they serve not only as important supply bases for Axis troops in Libya, but can afford shelter to the enemy if he is pushed westward from Tripoli. The French naval bases if they come into German hands might threaten British sea communications east and west of Gibraltar, while the routes across the Sahara and the Trans-Sahara railway, on which work has already begun, would connect the Mediterranean ports of Oran and Algiera with French African ports on the Atlantic. Germany would, if these things occur, have in its rear a solid block of controlled country comprising the whole of North and West Africa.

But things are not at all likely to proceed according to Germany's plan. French Africa, after the collapse of France, became divided in its allegiance, the Northern and Western possessions remaining faithful to Vichy, and the Equatorial possessions lining up one by one behind General de Gaulle in support of the Allied cause. Laval was dismissed because he had pronounced pro-German sympathies, but the Germans are past-masters in strategy and treachery. Recent moves clearly indicate that Vichy is being pressed to meet German demands. The German policy has been anti-French, though called collaboration. The Moors in French Africa are being incited towards separatism. Spain has been induced to renew her claims to French Morocco and

the German infiltration into North Africa has been going on steadily for a long period. Dakar, Casablanca, Mers El Kebir and other French naval bases have been fortified by four or five thousand German technical experts. The Armistice Commission in Morocco is so big that, it is said, it can be stated to be an army of invasion.

THE FREE FRENCH

But Free French Africa is a thorn on the side of Germany. There was a gap between the Allied territories and this has been closed by the adhesion of French Equatorial Africa, which comprises Gabon, Middle Congo, Ubangi-Shari, the Chad Territory and the mandated territory of the Cameroons. While the western flank of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan is thus protected, the southern borders of Italian-occupied Libya are laid bare to the Free French forces, especially the virile fighters of the Chad Territory. American aid can also be rushed through Free French ports of Gabon and Cameroons to operate trans-African air communications between the Atlantic and the Red Sea. The British Government have taken certain financial measures in Equatorial Africa calculated to benefit both that country and Great Britain. The latter has made advances to cover the colonies' immediate requirements. The whole of the 1940–41 crop of cocoa in the Cameroons, cotton of Equatorial Africa, and palm-kernels of the French Congo are being purchased, as also the existing stocks of hides, skins, bees-wax and glue. Essential mineral oils are being exported to these countries.

Besides, President Roosevelt has declared that the defence of the territories under General de Gaulle is necessary for the security of America, thus making it possible to extend the benefits of the Lease and Lend Act to the Free French.

LABOUR TROUBLE IN AMERICA

It should be a matter for satisfaction to all those who are opposed to Hitler that the United States coal-strike has ended and President Roosevelt's proposal for the appointment of a Board of Arbitration has been accepted. Three members have been appointed to this Board which would begin its work immediately. Labour in America is not so well organized and developed as in Great Britain. The two Labour organizations are the American Federation of Labour (A.F.L.) and the Committee of Industrial Organization (C.I.O.), the former representing the skilled and the latter unskilled workers. Relations between the two are not very friendly. "The A.F.L.," it is observed, "is infested with racketeers as the C.I.O. is plagued with Reds." American employers, on their side, have not yet begun to realize that a contented staff requires not only reasonable hours and conditions of work, but also some means of self-expression through the trade unions. They also resent any interference from anybody in the management of their concerns or even curiosity about their profits. President Roosevelt is known to be the workers' friend and he has called upon all engaged in industry to realize the importance of war effort. He has further set up a mediation board, sought to control the prices and take over particular factories for national purposes. Labour is perfectly sound on the war and American public opinion will not tolerate either workers or capitalists to interfere with the production or armaments for the Allies.

The American Labour dispute is a technical one. The mine-workers do not want to admit non-union labour in independent mines, and want to establish the principle of "closed shop." They want to extend the principle to "captive" mines, that is, mines owned and operated by the steel companies. The "closed shop" principle, however, does not extend to the steel companies and the steel companies fear that a concession in the matter of captive mines will prove the thin end of the wedge for the whole steel industry.

It is probable that labour legislation will be undertaken providing for a "calling off" period before strikes were declared and that the President will be empowered to inaugurate compulsory arbitration, if necessary.

A complication which has since arisen is that in the St. Louis area there is a general strike of 8,500 machinists belonging to the American Federation of Labour. The dispute centres round the failure of two factories to reinstate machinists who struck last month. Four hundred industrial factories are involved and many workers in the aircraft industry are supporting these machinists.

WAR IN RUSSIA

It is exactly five months and a week since Hitler treacherously attacked Russia but he is as far as ever from attaining his objectives. He is now making a last desperate effort to capture Moscow and score a "prestige" success before the winter sets in in grim earnest. He is throwing everything into the battle and his troops have advanced some distance in the Mojaisk sub-sector, the Russians falling back to prepared positions in perfect order. Grim fighting, the fiercest of the war, is also reported from Tula, south of Moscow, and from Kalinin in the north where the Nazis are attempting to penetrate into Klin on the Kalinin-Moscow road. They are also trying their utmost to advance along the Volokolamsk-Moscow highway. But everywhere the Russians are not only showing a firm front but counter-attacking whenever they get an opportunity. Even if the Germans make a slight advance as in Mojaisk, the Russian line remains unbroken and then re-forms to deliver a counter-blow.

Such tactics have been employed with striking success in the Leningrad front where the Russians, after dislodging the Germans from the town of Malaya-Vishera, 40 miles north-east of Novogorod on the Leningrad-Moscow railway, have now re-entered the important railway centre of Tikhvin. Leningrad, like Moscow, continues to stand firm despite intensified German pressure.

It is in the south, however, that we get a true picture of the fluctuating fortunes of the war. Early this week the Germans announced with a flourish of trumpets that they had entered the important oil-rail centre of Rostov on the Don. It now appears that they have entered only the southern approaches and that a fierce hand to hand fighting is going on in the streets. In order to relieve the Russians defending the greater part of the city and to threaten the German flank, Marshal Timoshenko has launched a very skilful counter-attack west of Rostov. Progressing at the rate of a mile an hour, the Russians have already registered a 70 miles advance. The German defences have been broken, the 16th German Tank division (the flower of General von Kleist's Panzer group) being smashed as also a picked S.S. Division and the 39th Mounted Infantry Corps. This Russian counter-offensive holds immense possibilities, the Germans having already lost over 10,000 men, killed and wounded, in this area. Meanwhile, Russian guerillas have been active behind the German lines in the Donetz Basin and recently they engineered a terrific explosion in the docks at Tagarong.

Latest reports from Sebastopol state that units of the Red Army and the Black Sea Fleet continue to hold their positions and that the enemy has lost heavily, trying to break through, as he has throughout the Crimean campaign, in which he has lost well over 100,000. So far, in the entire Russian campaign, Germany has lost six million men, killed, wounded or taken prisoner, as against the Soviet's casualties of just over two million men. The losses of material are also in much the same ratio.

"Hitler still has some reserves, but they will soon be exhausted since the Red Army does not intend to give the Germans one minute's rest throughout the entire winter campaign," said M. Lozovsky, the Soviet Information Chief, when summing up the results of the first five months of the Soviet-German war. "The Germans," he went on, "have the stupid idea that they can stabilize the front for the winter until summer sets in, but I can assure the Germans that they will be unable to stick it out calmly throughout the winter on the Eastern Front and enable themselves to remove a considerable part of the force for an attack on England." M. Lozovsky continued, "Plans for a *blitzkrieg* have failed and the hopes of Hitler to unite the world against the Soviet Union have collapsed and the tables are now turned. Hitler's hopes of annihilating our forces have also not been justified. Hitler had hoped that the Soviet Union would be exhausted by the loss of some industrial centres, but we have many places far beyond the reach of German planes, where evacuated factories are working successfully. Therefore, all Hitler's calculations have been futile, the war is becoming protracted and the resources of the Soviet Union and its friends and allies are inexhaustible. That is why Germany and Italy, in spite of successes, are arriving at the sixth month of war with negative results."

And the British offensive that is going according to plan in Libya will soon tell on the German strength in Russia. As M. Lozovsky said, "Any blow against the Germans on any front is advantageous both to Britain and to the U.S.S.R." Not only that. If Britain succeeds in driving the Axis from North Africa, the way will be open to an all-out offensive against Italy with incalculable effects on Germany herself.

Finally, we may take heart from the fact that supplies are being rushed to Russia both from Britain and the United States of America. In a broadcast from London, Mr. Averill Harriman, United States Lend and Lease Representative in Britain, said, "You have set the United States a fast pace in the supplies you are pouring into Russia. Mr. Churchill, with characteristic vigour, lost not a single hour giving the necessary commands and when Lord Beaverbrook returned (from the Moscow Conference) he saw that item by item was released in quantities needed. Nothing was allowed to stand in the way. I pay a tribute to Mr. Churchill's leadership and Lord Beaverbrook's energy and resourcefulness. The response too of the British people—your demand for even greater action has been an inspiration. You have set the pace—you can have the confidence that we will do our share. President Roosevelt is as determined as Mr. Churchill. He understands clearly the destructive forces that are loose in the world and the inter-dependency of American destiny with that of the British. He hates Hitler and all he stands for with the same burning hatred as Mr. Churchill."

BATTLE OF LIBYA

BRITISH ADVANCE CONTINUES

The British drive in Libya is in full swing and so far has been going extremely well for the Allies. With the Royal Navy hammering away at enemy fortifications along the coast, with the Royal Air Force taking terrific toll of Axis aircraft (both in the air and on the ground), tanks and troop-concentrations, the Empire Forces, among whom Indians are giving a good account of themselves, are relentlessly closing in on the enemy and destroying his armoured force. This Battle of Libya is likely to go down in history as one of the greatest battles of all time so far as strategy and tactics are concerned.

For months past, material has been entering the Middle East and been piled up in the Western Desert. A glance at the map reveals that the real battle front stretches through the two Continents of Asia and Africa for thousands of miles. Beginning at Tobruk, where a gallant Allied garrison has not only undergone a siege for over 230 days but has immobilized strong Axis forces outside its defences, the line passes through Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Iran and, at one point, bends sharply northwards and links up with the Russian armies in the Caucasus. The front is one of great distances as well as all varieties of country—mountains, deserts, great rivers and cultivated tracts. Rapidity of movement is, therefore, essential to successful operations. While each component country—Iraq, Iran, Syria, Palestine, Egypt —had its own transport systems, they had not been planned as a whole and, in many cases, had not been adequately linked together till the outbreak of the war. This work was undertaken by the Allied authorities with the utmost vigour, speed and foresight possible. The accumulation of supplies, the concentration of men and the development of easy lines of communication went on apace—thanks to British enterprise and the ready and willing co-operation of the United States.

An idea of the gigantic nature of these operations can be gained from a bare recital of some facts and figures. British railway workshops completed in 10 weeks 1,000 railway trucks for Iran and sent 142 locomotives; rolling stock also came from America, India and Australia and it is hoped to quadruple by the end of this month the present maximum number of trains per day along the Trans-Iran Railway. At the port of Bandar Shahpur, an American engineering staff has been enlarging dock facilities for the daily handling of 2,000 tons of war material and Indian engineering firms have been busy improving port facilities along the Persian Gulf. At Basra a plant is being erected to assemble 300 United States aeroplanes a month. An American Mission in Cairo is entrusted with the task of dealing with United States cargo ships which arrive at Suez at the rate of 30 a month, consisting of trucks, light and heavy tanks, armoured cars, and aeroplane parts. The main highways (including the road from Baluchistan to Iran) and the chief ports of all the Middle Eastern countries are now hives of activity on a scale unequalled even in the busiest days of the last war.

Britain's growing air strength and America's increasing collaboration with the Allied cause have also been emphasized by the inauguration of a new air service between Cairo and Teheran. British Airways, who have established the new service, are using American Lockheed-Lodestar planes. These were made available under the Lease and Lend Act and the planes first used (to open the service) had been ferried across the South Atlantic and Africa by pilots of Pan-American Airways. The planes fly between Baghdad and Teheran in less than three hours, thus saving three days of arduous road travel. Cairo to Baghdad, and *vice versa* now takes four hours instead of three days of trans-desert road travel.

THE NEW EIGHTH ARMY

The official announcement a fortnight ago that a new army had been formed in the Western Desert, called the Eighth Army, therefore, came as no surprise. The fact that this new formation is of such a size as to form a separate army shows that it must be well equipped with modern arms. Meanwhile the British Navy under Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham had since August sunk or severely damaged 175 Axis transport and supply ships in the Mediterranean. The Italian Navy has lost since the war began one battleship (the *Conti di Cavour*), four heavy cruisers (the *Fiume*, *Gorizia*, *Pola* and *Zara*), two light cruisers (the *Armando Diaz* and *Bartolomeo Colleoni* and possibly a third of the *Eugenio di Savoia* type) 25 destroyers, 10 sea-going torpedo-boats and 16 motor-boats in addition to numerous submarines. The task of keeping the Axis forces in Libya supplied and reinforced is becoming desperate, especially in the face of the non-stop British air offensive against military objectives in Southern Italy and Sicily and Axis bases in Libya.

It was soon obvious to everyone that a British offensive would be launched in Libya to turn the tables on General Rommel. It will be recalled that, early this year, when General Wavell, after overrunning Cyrenaica and destroying the Italian army under Marshal Graziani, had in honour to divert most of his troops to help Greece in her mortal peril, the

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TO-DAY IN GREAT BRITAIN

FINANCIAL POSITION

We discussed last week the latest phase in the Battle of Britain and brought out the "warm" reception that awaits Hitler if he decides to hurl his hordes against this Bastion of Democracy. Mr. Churchill, in his speech to the Commons on 12th November, told us that the economic and financial position of Britain is as sound as her military position. The latest reports reveal that her people—"forty-six million Churchills" as a New York paper has aptly described them—spare no effort and count no sacrifice too much to smash Hitler. The Government's measures against inflationary spending have had the result that despite a 25 to 30 per cent rise in production during the first two years of the war, and despite the employment of hundreds of thousands of new workers, the note circulation has risen very little, indeed.

At the end of October 1941, the total circulation of bank notes throughout Britain amounted to £695,000,000. Compared with the corresponding period last year, the increase is roughly 17 per cent. It is useful to recall that during the same period ordinary revenue has increased more than 60 per cent, while ordinary expenditure has registered a rise of approximately 27 per cent. The people, therefore, cannot be convicted of wastefully spending their new found resources and thereby upsetting the equilibrium of war production. The return for their hard and conscientious labour is duly made to serve the purpose of sharpening the tools of freedom in the shape of genuine savings. For two years the Bank of England bank rate has remained unaltered at two per cent. There has been no shortage on the money markets for the first two years of the war. And there has been no rise in prices during the past half-year, but an actual decline. The Ministry of Labour cost of living index in April was 122, in September 121·3. The index for foodstuffs was 111 in April but only 107·1 in September. Even wholesale prices which are subject to foreign influences have remained remarkably stable. The total profit of 498 British industrial companies for the third quarter of 1941 has shown an increase over the corresponding period of 1940. But the net profit has declined owing to heavier taxation, i.e., increased income-tax and the 100 per cent excess profits tax. Ship-building indicates an appreciable rise in its net profits, while iron, steel, rubber and oil industries show a greater total but a lower *net* profit.

PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORT

It is worthwhile observing the astonishing resilience displayed by the British steel industry. After the collapse of France, England, deprived of a valuable source of Continental supply, was left in a really perilous position. British iron and steel concerns had to readjust themselves to such supplies as they could obtain from overseas and scrap collections at home. Despite this their capacity remained at its former level, i.e., approximately 13 million tons annually. America now adds her inestimable strength to that of Britain's. The ideal that the British worker places before himself is the ever elusive "better:" a 40 per cent rise in productive effort by winter is what all have set before themselves, by a better utilization of existing man power, plant and raw material. Transport organization is to be further improved. Loading and unloading in the docks, to deal with the increase in goods due to the falling off in shipping losses, has been speeded up. New and far-reaching plans have been made regarding transport in general. Government has under its direct control some 500,000 lorries and mechanically propelled vehicles. By means of a new agreement with transport companies lorries will now be used only for short distances. Long distance work will be done by the Railways which are functioning smoothly with a considerably replenished rolling stock. Glasgow and Birmingham collected over £13 million and over £10 million in a week, respectively, for a battleship to be built, bearin the name of the city. Before Christmas 144 Warship Weeks are to be held and 350 have been arranged for the first few months of the coming year.

EXPORT TRADE

There is a prevalent misconception that England's export trade is suffering unduly owing to her Lease and Lend obligations with America. This is incorrect, as the Prime Minister recently pointed out to the Manufacturers' Association. While England does not want to encroach on American ground because the U.S.A. is devoting much of her effort to help England, she at the same time continues her essential export trade to obtain dollars and thereby a fresh accession to her armed strength through American endeavour. This is a genuine example of the English-speaking nations' union.

FOOD

Here are some extracts from Mr. Churchill's speech in Parliament on November 12:—Referring to the dietary he said: "It is sufficient for our physical needs, I hope we shall be able to give a large share of supplies of meat to workers who need it most. The figure we prescribed for the minimum food imports will now be probably achieved. We have amassed stocks of our bulkier articles of diet which amount to double what they were

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IRAN ROAD

SOUTHERN SUPPLY ROUTE TO RUSSIA

Since June 1941 the improvement of Middle East communications has become not only desirable but imperative. The purpose of those improved communications is two-fold. They facilitate the defence of the area between the frontiers of Libya and India against a possible German drive through the Caucasus and/or Turkey. They enable a bigger volume of supplies to be sent into Russia. So every effort is being made to speed aid to Russia by weaving a great new net-work of roads and railways linking Suez and Basra with Merv and Baku.

Two of the biggest railway systems in Britain—the Southern and the Great Western—have curtailed their services in order to despatch a thousand railway trucks and 142 railway engines to Iran. Other rolling stock, locomotives and operating staff are on the way from India, Hong Kong and Australia. The maximum normal capacity of the Trans-Iranian Railway is 350 tons a day. By the end of November that capacity will have been quadrupled.

Already more than 5,000 labourers are at work improving the road surface on the most easterly branch of the Iran Road, which leads from India *via* Baluchistan, to Zahidan and on through Birjand to Meshed, where the road links up with the railway system leading to Merv.

Other sections of the Iran Road link Bandar Abbas and Bushire (*Iran*) *and Basra*, Khaniqin and Rowanduz (Iraq) with the Caspian coast. All the Persian Gulf ports are packed with ships of almost every nationality unloading their cargoes of aid to Russia. Tens of thousands of Iranian, Iraqi and Egyptian workmen have found lucrative employment at the docks and on the roads and railways. Indian civilian lorry drivers are engaged on the route from India.

BATTLE OF LIBYA—(*Continued from page* 6)

German forces under Rommel pushed back the greatly weakened Allied forces from Benghazi to Sollum. However, the enemy was well held at the Egyptian frontier by the troops under General Sir Alan Cunningham who had won Ethiopia back for the Emperor Haile Selassie. It is of happy augury that General Cunningham is co-operating with his brother Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, and Air Vice-Marshal Conyngham in the present Libyan advance.

THE CAMPAIGN

The Allied forces have done well in the first few days of the offensive. They rendered useless the German frontier fortifications in the north by a speedy drive to their rear from the extreme south. The Germans were completely taken by surprise and lost the first round almost immediately. The Indian troops have occupied Sidi Omar Nuovo; Sidi Rezegh, Fort Capuzzo, Bardia, Bir el Hamid and Gambut have fallen to the British and Empire forces. Even more important than the extent of the advance—a hundred miles in three days—is the systematic annihilation of the enemy's *armoured force*. For once the British and Germans are meeting each other on equal terms, as Mr. Churchill has pointed out. And the Royal Air Force ranges supreme over the sky and gives effective aid to the land forces. In the first three or four days, General Rommel had lost half his tanks. Trapped in the triangle—Tobruk, El Gobi and Sollum—the German "Panzer" divisions have been making desperate efforts to break out of the British ring. "We are continuing to destroy enemy tanks," it is authoritatively stated in Cairo. "It can be stated on high authority that our objective is not Tobruk or prisoners, but the destruction of every German tank in Libya. That is what we are doing at the moment." It is heartening to hear that our troops from Tobruk have sallied forth and effected a junction with our troops advancing towards them at El Duda. The sally ran up against some known minefields, but there was little difficulty in negotiating them.

The German forces encircled in the various sectors of this front must fight back. The alternative is death or imprisonment. Already in one action near Sidi Omar, the Indian troops have taken over 8,000 prisoners. The Allies, too, may have to fight hard because it is the Germans they are meeting this time, not the Italians. The Nazis will spare nothing, men, machines or material; for the future of the Axis in North Africa depends upon the outcome of what Mr. Churchill has called "this supremely important battle." But the Allies have begun magnificently, they are as well armed as the Germans, they have a great leader in General Cunningham and they know they can rely on invaluable support from the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. They may well be expected to give a good account of themselves. Indeed, they have dealt effectively with a German diversionary move from Gabr Saleh eastwards to the Egyptian border. While a fierce tank and infantry battle is now proceeding in the centre of Cyrenaica, British forces have made a rapid march and captured the Gialo Oasis, 250 miles west of the Egyptian frontier and Indian troops, not to be outdone, have taken Augila close by. If these successes are followed up, they may well help to cut off the entire enemy forces in Cyrenaica from their main base at Tripoli.

FUEHRER'S FRUSTRATION

ATTEMPTS TO EXCUSE FAILURES IN RUSSIA

"We are before Leningrad," said Hitler on October 3. Already the German *communiqués* had claimed to be approaching Leningrad so often that Lozovsky was led to remark that, had they been advancing on all fours, the Germans should have reached the town by this time. On November 9, when Hitler was due to speak again, the defenders of Leningrad were still scorning the Fuehrer's "advances." He could only retort that it was "sheer nonsense" to say the German forces were "on the defensive before Leningrad." The true position was that they could take the city any time they chose, *but* "I shall not sacrifice a single man more than is absolutely necessary."

Yet Hitler knows as well as anyone that possession of Leningrad would have provided him with a forward base, supplied from Germany along the short sea-route, from which he could have struck in behind Moscow and perhaps destroyed the Russian Army of the Centre. Instead, he has been obliged to concentrate two million of his best troops between Kalinin and Kursk for a suicidal frontal assault on the capital. On October 15 the Nazi radio in Norway said: "The Germans do not envisage a long siege of the Russian capital." On October 28 the Nazi radio station at Prague said: "Moscow will fall immediately Hitler considers it necessary."

If Hitler did not yet consider the fall of Moscow necessary he would not have chosen to pin down two million soldiers in the Central Sector when they might otherwise have been switched to the South. For it is in the Donetz Basin drive that the Germans have come within an ace of overwhelming victory. At all costs, this Russian central core must be broken, both for reasons of prestige at home and abroad and to cover the left flank of von Runstedt's advancing army in the South. But, in reply to Moscow's scorn—just as in the case of Leningrad—Hitler can only say:—"Leave it to me. I shall do it in my own way and in my own time."

When the world contrasts the speed of his advance in Russia with the speed of his other advances, Hitler retorts: "We determine the speed of our advance ourselves". He talks (November 9) about the task of the German infantryman who has to march "over impassable roads, through swamps and marshes." A military commentator on the Berlin radio (November 15) blames the "extraordinary weather" and draws attention to "torrential rains and mud and high winds", concluding: "The progress will therefore be much slower than last summer and the final victory will entirely depend on the morale of German soldiers."

Moscow remains the glittering prize. Five months of flaming carnage have produced a very small dividend—the development of a threat to the Caucasus. Hitler's position now is rather like that of the bidder at an auction who has almost reached the limit of his purse and feels that one more bid must surely outbid his opponent and cause the hammer to fall in his favour. Hitler has not conquered. But he must conquer or perish. That is why, however costly his Russian gamble proves, he must go on pushing up the stakes.

TO-DAY IN GREAT BRITAIN—(*Continued from page* 7)

in September 1939. The corn harvest is 50 per cent greater than in 1939. We shall have much greater crops of potatoes, sugar, beet-roots, and other fodder crops. The weekly quota of meat has been increased by 18 per cent. Game, poultry, and fish have never come under the umbrella of rationing. In July sugar ration was increased by 50 per cent. A similar rise is anticipated in November. Fats are to be increased by 25 per cent in November. And milk supply has never been artificially curtailed. There is nothing Hitler will dislike more than a recital of these prosaic facts."

RIGHT OF CRITICISM

Hearing criticisms on this and that, one is apt to forget the vast implication of this very right of criticism and to concentrate too much on the minor details set out by impatient dissentients. As Mr. Churchill has said: "It is very hard to bring about success and very easy to make mistakes. . . . Our universal resolve to keep parliamentary institutions in full activity has been proved. The Government bases itself on the House of Commons. . . . Those who vote against the Government will *not* be assaulted with rubber truncheons, sent to concentration camps or otherwise molested. We are fighting for Parliamentary institutions." Look on this picture and on that furnished by the States that Hitler wants to dragoon into his "New Order."

BURMA-CHINA COMMUNICATIONS

LASHIO-KUMMING RAILWAY PROJECT

Rangoon is linked with the Burma-China frontier—

(1) by railway to Lashio and thence by road;

(2) by road all the way from Rangoon following the same route;

(3) by river to Bhamo and thence by road; and

(4) by rail to Mandalay or Katha, thence by river to Bhamo and thence by road.

On the Chinese side there is only one first-class route in existence, the "Burma Road" to Kunming, but a second line will be available when the new railway from Lashio to Kunming is completed. Many pack routes, of course, exist which have long been used for trade between Burma and China.

There is also air communication between Rangoon and Chungking, via Lashio, a passenger and postal air service being operated by the Chinese National Aviation Corporation. Air freight services from Lashio or Myitkyina to China, which would relieve pressure on the Burma Road, have also been considered but have not yet been put into operation.

The focal point of Burma communications is the capital, Rangoon, situated on the Hlaing or Rangoon River, some 20 miles from its entrance into the Gulf of Martaban. Almost the whole of the trade of Burma passes into and out of Rangoon, and, to cope with this trade, reconstruction and improvement of the harbour facilities at Rangoon took place about 12 years ago and again within the last two or three years.

Rangoon is also the headquarters of the Burma railway system, controlled by the Burma Railway Board, a statutory corporation responsible to a Burman minister on matters of railway policy. The railways are entirely of metre gauge. The main line runs from Rangoon to Mandalay, a distance of 440 miles, and from there contnues to Myitkyina, a branch linking with the Irrawady River at Katha.

A branch line from Mandalay to Lashio, 120 miles long, takes the bulk of the China traffic. Between Mandalay and Maymyo, the Headquarters of the Army in Burma, this line mounts the escarpment to the Shan Plateau, and this section includes a stretch of 13 miles of a gradient of 1 in 25 containing four reversing stations. From Mandalay the line is in long switchbacks, since the Plateau is deeply scored by large valleys and gorges; one of these gorges is spanned by the famous Gokteik Viaduct, which is approximately 2,200 feet long.

Beyond this gorge the line continues through mountainous country to Hsipaw, the capital of the Hsipaw State, and from there, still climbing on the whole, to Lashio. Between Hsipaw and Lashio the Burma Corporation's private railway branches off to the Great silver and lead mine at Bawdwin, and the plant at Namtu. Lashio, the terminus, is the administrative headquarters of the Northern Shan States.

THE BURMA ROAD

A first-class motor road runs from Rangoon to Lashio following much the same route as the railway, and at Lashio the famous Burma Road to Kunming takes off. The section in Burma, 120 miles long, is a mountain road but in good condition. The total distance from the railhead at Lashio to Kunming is 738 miles and the journey takes on an average five days for private cars and seven for trucks.

The section in China to Kunming, the capital of the Province of Yunnan, was opened in 1938 and has remained open since then apart from temporary stoppages owing to landslides and Japanese bombing. The Road crosses the Salween and Mekong rivers by suspension bridges and contains some very steep gradients, particularly that beyond the Mekong Valley where the road rises in a short stretch from 4,000 feet above sea level to the great height of about 7,500 feet.

In view of the limitations of road traffic, which is not suitable for all types of goods, the Chinese Government has consistently pressed the need for railway communication between Burma and China, and early this year the decision was taken to build a railway from Lashio to link up with a railway from Kunming on which work had already been started.

The question of railway communication between Burma and China has been under discussion for many years. It was, in fact, first examined in the '90's. Some three years ago the construction of the whole line both in Burma and in China was under consideration by private commercial organizations, but this came to nothing as it was doubted whether the line would become a paying proposition from the point of view of private investors.

BRITAIN TO FINANCE RAILWAY

Similar considerations precluded the Government of Burma from undertaking the project from their own resources; but it has now been decided that as a long term project the railway will be constructed from funds provided by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, the Government of Burma to be given the option to acquire the railway at a later date.

(*Continued on page* 13)

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 8—15, 1941

THE SPIRIT OF BRITAIN

"And this brings us to the real subject, the war in the Atlantic, German attacks on shipping have made the whole food rationing scheme go to the bottom of the sea . . . And that is why we think that the British food position must be a good deal more serious than Lord Woolton cares to admit."—(*German topical talk in English, 11th November* 1941).

"The danger of inflation is hanging over every British head. England's economic situation is desperate. Paper money has increased of late. Great nervousness is evinced at the Bank of England's plight."—(*Italian news in English, 18th November* 1941).

Mr. Churchill said on November 12, that the dietary of the people "*is sufficient for their physical needs*" and soon "*a large share of supplies of meat to workers who need it most*" would be effected. "*We have amassed stocks*" he went on, "*of our bulkier articles of diet which amount to double what they were in September* 1939. *We shall have much greater crops of potatoes, sugar, beet-roots, and other fodder crops.*" Weekly meat quota has recently been increased by 18 per cent. Game, poultry and fish have never come under the razor of rationing. Sugar and fat rationing has in recent times been doubled and milk has always been free from any restrictive legislation.

Axis economics are as shaky as its tottering political structure. Cost of living index figures for England actually show a drop and increase in note circulation despite increase in employment for the whole year has been only about 17 *per cent.* The Bank rate has been steady and low and the money market has never been tight. In fact in one week Glasgow and Birmingham collected over £13 and over £10 million respectively for the construction of battleships bearing their names.

ROMAN REVERIES

"It is noteworthy that the English ships have to make a voyage round the Cape of Good Hope to reach the ports of North Africa, while Italian units merely cross the Mediterranean. As the British merchant fleet is avoiding the Mediterranean, while the Italian fleet is crossing it uninterruptedly, it is perfectly clear which of the two adversaries controls the sea. The domination of Italy in the Mediterranean is so strong."—(*Italian news in French, 12th November* 1941).

Mussolini's naval strength to-day is—

5 battleships.
10 6-in. cruisers.
45 torpedo boats.
4 8-in. cruisers.
37 destroyers.

Approximately 80 submarines.

When he tried to whisk 10 laden supply ships along the 500 mile route from *Taranto* to *Benghazi* on *November* 2, all 10 were destroyed before they got half way to their destination. Three escorting destroyers were sunk, two others were seriously damaged, and two heavy cruisers were put to flight. Admiral Cunningham accomplished this brilliant feat with two light cruisers, two destroyers, and one submarine. They did their work and withdrew without loss. In 92 days between August and October British submarines and aircraft have sunk 80 Axis ships (39,000 tons) and damaged 61 ships (267,000 tons). *The Mediterranean* is now Mussolini's *Night Mare.*

" Victory will give Italy all she has fought for. We cannot forget the betrayal of Britain. Now things stand better, much better. Germany is not Britain. We have at last found a friend we were looking for since 1848."—(*Italian news in English, 11th November* 1941).

Italy entered the war as a presumptious blustering equal, with a cry for Corsica, Tunis, and Savoy on her lips. Now a tattered lackey, she is not allowed to occupy a town in Savoy, much less cast covetous eyes at the French Empire in Africa. Hungary has slipped out of Italy's greasy fingers, and in the Vichy-Berlin negotiations Italy is not given even a dishonourable mention. Gestapo-ridden, starved of her agricultural products, she now depends abjectly for the very source of warmth and power on Germany—coal.

FEBRILE FABRICATIONS

" According to a report from Istanbul, the defence expenditure of the Egyptian Government has abnormally increased. To please the British military authorities the Government has so far spent about *two million Egyptian pounds* on the construction of shelters and on other air raid protection measures. More air raid shelters are now under construction."—(*Italian news in Arabic, 8th November* 1941.)

On December 10, 1940 due to indiscriminate Italian bombings, the Egyptian authorities hastened the construction of shelters and voted for the purpose credits to the value of £200,000.

On June 13, 1941, the *Al Masri* stated in an editorial:—" *We have received a huge number of letters from all parts of Egypt expressing the deep gratification produced throughout the country by the British Government's donation of* £1,000,000 for *A.R.P. The pleasure produced by this generous gift is heightened by the fact that the Germans and the Italians at the same time gave their friends the Egyptian Moslems, the gift of death, destruction, ruin. . .*" The British Government also sent several leading A.R.P. experts to Egypt to provide technical assistance.

" As the Spanish paper A.B.C. reports the British public still nourish false hopes about the possibility to continue the Soviet resistance by basing it on the alleged supplies from the Urals territory and Siberia."—(*German news in English, 10th November* 1941.)

Tula's factories have been evacuated, *Kharkov's* tractor and electrical plants have been moved away well in time. This is the positive aspect of the scorched earth policy that is burning the paws of the Panzers. The *Urals* have the largest steel plant, chemical factory, machine building works, copper smelter and heavy tractor plant in the country. And *Siberia* is rich in deposits of gold, platinum, silver, antimony and magnetic iron.

ANOTHER HITLER SPEECH

The Voice Today

" I wanted to spare further sacrifices but that was not understood by those who have never yet made a sacrifice in life."

" Certain Englishmen quite openly declared that war would last for three years. These people are the owners of armament industry."

" What could be more plausible than that one day that power which is the greatest servant of Jewry would rise against Germany."

The Voice Yesterday

" The world can only be ruled by fear . . . Terror is the most effective political instrument. *I recognize no moral law in politics.*"—(*Hitler Speaks.*)

" War is eternal. War is universal. *War is life.*"—(*Hitler Speaks.*)

" Neither the Russians nor the German government want to be drawn into war. It is in the best interests of both nations to have an understanding with each other."—(*Hitler at Danzig, September* 19, 1939.)

The Voice Today

" I gave the order to strike against the Soviet, *It was the most difficult decision of my life.*"

" You know our allies. To begin with that gallant little nation the Finns. . . the Slovaks, Hungarians, etc. The occupied territories are being fairly treated."

" South America is as remote as the moon as far as I am concerned."

" We have a goal which embraces the whole of this continent and the German state in particular."

The Voice Yesterday

" We see in Bolshevism a bestial, mad doctrine which is a threat to us. *We cannot negotiate with Jewish Communist leaders.*"—(*Hitler at Nuremberg, 13th September* 1936.)

" *The day of small states is past. We do not seek equality but mastery.* We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such idealogical abortions of sterile democracy."—(*Hitler Speaks.*)

" *We have a right to South America.*"—(*Hitler Speaks.*)

" We have no wishes or demands; we desire peace. *No people can need peace more than we.*"—(*Hitler at Saarbrucken, 9th October* 1938.)

HITLER SQUEAKS

"I don't like any bloodshed."—(*Hitler, Nov.* 9.)

BURMA-CHINA COMMUNICATIONS—(*Continued from page* 10)

The railway will follow a different alignment from the road for about two-thirds of its length, thereafter following much the same route as the road to Kunming. The length involved in Burma is 110 miles across the hilly plateau of the Federated Shan States.

In Burma the first half is comparatively straightforward, but the second half will involve many cuttings and bridges. The chief task in the Burma section is the bridging of the Salween, a river 500 feet wide at the point involved.

The first section in China is comparatively simple, running up the Namting Valley; thereafter comes a very difficult section in which immense ranges of hills 7,000 feet in height with precipitous sides have to be crossed, including a major bridge over the Mekong River. The eastern half of the Chinese section is easier; on this part a good deal of work has already been done. It is estimated that the Burma section will cost not less than £2,000,000 and will take about two years to complete. It is possible that both skilled and unskilled Chinese labour will be employed on the Burmese as well as the Chinese section.

Another line of communication to China is *via* Bhamo, goods being carried up the 870 miles of the Irrawaddy River from Rangoon on floats towed by steamers. The journey by boat takes 9 or 10 days, but this time can be shortened by taking the goods by rail to Katha and transferring them to the river at that point.

Bhamo lies on the old trade route from Burma to China which followed a pack road *via* Tengyueh to Kunming. In spite of difficulties trade flourished on this route for many years and as far back as 1894 a convention with China was concluded, which dealt with mutual trade and fostering of trade relations between Burma and Yunnan.

The Bhamo-Tengyueh route is not passable for trucks, but a motor road runs from Bhamo *via* Panghkam in Burmese territory to join the Burma Road near the frontier. The first section of this, though mountainous, is in fair condition but the second section, which is on comparatively low ground along the river Shweli, is indifferent, being liable to flooding in the rains.

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

22nd Nov.—The German air "ace" Moelders is killed in an air accident.

23rd Nov.—In Royal Air Force sweeps over Northern France, six enemy fighters are destroyed as against one British plane.

Scattered enemy raids on coastal places in South and South-West England cause neither casualties nor damage.

24th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raids the naval bases at Lorient and Brest, the docks at Dunkirk and aerodromes and factories in occupied France.

Two enemy planes are destroyed over Britain.

25th Nov.—Gen. Wilberd of the German air force is killed in a plane crash.

26th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raids Cherbourg and Brest beside bombing enemy vessels in the straits of Dover.

Enemy planes make stray raids on points in South-West and North-East England.

27th Nov.—Emden and other objectives in Northern Germany as well as the docks at Ostend are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

Nazi bombs dropped on the South Wales Coast cause slight damage but no casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

21st Nov.—In big tank clashes near Sidi Rezegh and Sidi Omar, the Germans lose over 130 tanks and are beaten off by the British forces advancing in Libya. British aircraft bomb Tripoli, Benghazi, Naples, Brindisi and Messina.

The British Imperial Forces, advancing on Gondar in Abyssinia, penetrate a fortified enemy position at Ioimariam.

22nd Nov.—Trapped in the triangle between Tobruk and the northern and southern ends of the Egypt-Libya border, the Germans lose half their tanks. The British Imperial Forces capture Fort Capuzzo. An enemy air-field is captured at Sidi Rezegh with all the aircraft and personnel there. The British garrison at Tobruk sallies forth to join the Empire forces.

The Italians at Kulkober and Ferrober, east of Lake Tana, surrender to the British forces closing in on Gondar. Ethiopian Patriot forces particularly distinguish themselves. In the north the Italian garrison at Girlia is surrounded.

23rd Nov.—The British Imperial Forces occupy Bardia and Sidi Omar, the Indians taking Sidi Omar Nuovo. Thousands of prisoners are taken by the Indian and other troops.

British planes score a direct hit on an enemy cruiser escorting a convoy in the Mediterranean. Another cruiser is torpedoed and possibly sunk by a British submarine. A destroyer is also hit by two torpedoes and probably sunk.

24th Nov.—The British Imperial Forces capture Gambut, an important enemy supply-centre.

Gondar comes under British artillery fire.

The Royal Air Force destroys 18 enemy aircraft in Libya and three over Malta for the loss of 13 British planes. Enemy troop positions in Libya are ceaselessly bombed.

25th Nov.—British forces capture the Gialo Oasis, 250 miles west of the Egyptian frontier, and Indian troops take Auglia close by. Fierce infantry battles are reported. The Royal Navy sinks two more enemy supply ships in convoy and withdraws all Australian forces from Tobruk and replaces them with British troops without rousing Axis suspicions. It is revealed that 119 enemy planes have been destroyed in Libya from the dawn of 19th Nov. to the midnight of 23rd Nov.

British Imperial forces capture Tadda Ridge, seven miles from Gondar.

26th Nov.—Indian troops capture Jalo. Fierce fighting is reported from Sidi Rezegh. An enmy column staging a diversion from Gabr Saleh eastwards is promptly tackled.

27th Nov.—British and Empire forces capture Bir el Hamid and recapture Sidi Rezegh which had changed hands many times. A junction is effected at El Duda with the British forces from Tobruk.

Ethiopian Patriots cut the Celga-Azozto Road west of Gondar.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

21st Nov.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, launches the new battleship *Indiana* (35,000 tons).

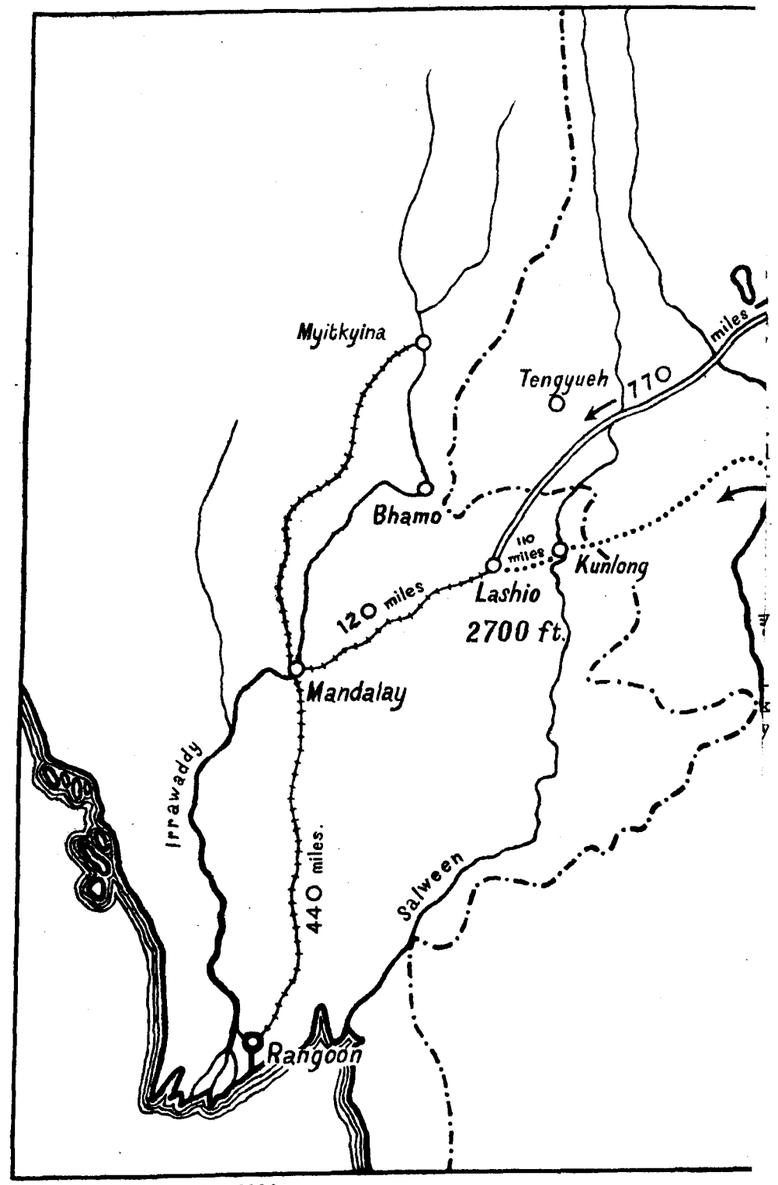
22nd Nov.—The United Mine Workers accept President Roosevelt's proposal for ending the coal strike, namely, arbitration to a board of three: Mr. John R. Steelman, head of the Labour department's Conciliation Service, as public representative, Mr. Benjamin Fairless, President of the United States Steel Corporation, and Mr. John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers' President, representing labour.

Two destroyers and a submarine are launched at Kearny (New Jersey) months ahead of schedule.

24th Nov.—It is officially announced that a contingent of United States troops will move into Dutch Guiana to protect the valuable bauxite mines at Surinam in close co-operation

BURMA

400 tons



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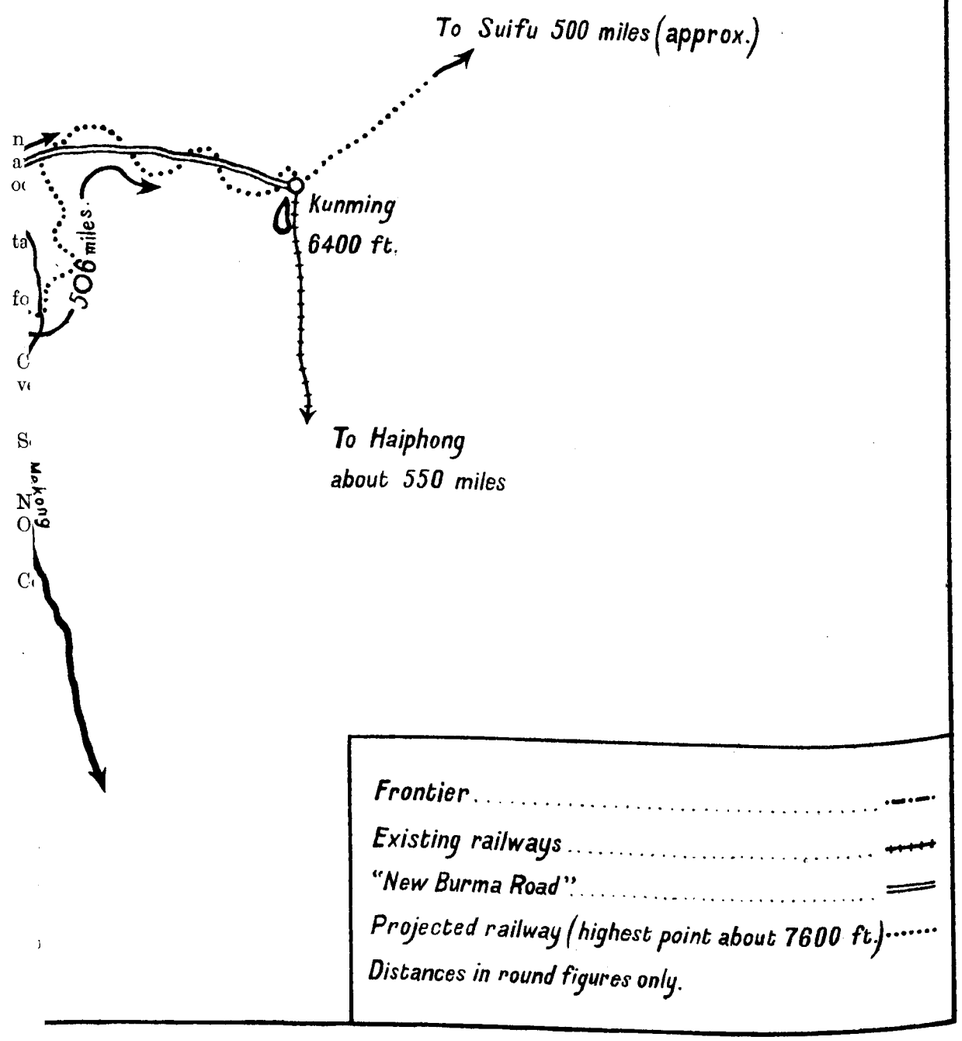
A ROAD

a day for China



with the Netherlands and Brazil Governments. Bauxite is vital to the American aluminium industry on which the defence of the Democracies rests.

Another Canadian armoured division arrives in Britain after crossing the Atlantic in the greatest troop convoy ever.

25th Nov.—President Roosevelt confers with Democrat and Republican Congress leaders on legislation to deal with labour troubles.

26th Nov.—The United States House of Representatives' Sub-Committee approves of a further appropriation of 8,000 million dollars for defence supplies.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

21st Nov.—Fierce fighting is reported both on the Moscow front and near Rostov on the Don. Three enemy transports (19,000 tons) are sunk in the Barents Sea and one tanker (5,000 tons). Another enemy tanker (9,000 tons) is sunk in the Black Sea.

22nd Nov.—The fiercest engagements of the war are reported at the distant approaches to Moscow, especially in the Volokolamsk and Tula sectors. The Russians take up new defence lines. A German communiqué announces the capture of Rostov after violent fighting and admits the death of General von Briesen.

23rd Nov.—The Germans make slight advances on the Moscow front in the Volokolamsk and Mojaisk directions and in an area south-east of Tula. They also approach Klin on the Kalinin-Moscow Road. But there has been no break-through. On the contrary, the Soviets exact a fearful toll from the Germans for every square inch of territory. The Russians also dislodge Germans from the town of Malaya-Vishera, 40 miles north-east of Novogorod on the Leningrad-Moscow Railway. The Russians report street battles in Rostov where the Germans have penetrated only the southern defences.

24th Nov.—The B.B.C. announces that "the terrific battle for Moscow reaches new heights of fury", the Germans throwing in all available tanks and nearly three-quarters of a million men. In the Mojaisk sector, 60 miles from Moscow, the Russians retire in good order to prepared positions; in other sectors they hold their own. The Russians register a 60-kilometres advance on the southern front in a brilliant counter-attack west of Rostov. And on the Leningrad front, the Russians take several important positions, two German infantry regiments totalling 3,000 men being completely smashed in one sector.

25th Nov.—The Russians register a 60 miles advance on the Rostov front. In the Leningrad sector, they re-enter Tikhvin. In the Moscow region they improve their position by counter-attacks at Volokolamsk.

M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, informs other states of the torturing of Russian prisoners by the Germans.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, says that the Finns are used by the Germans to cut the supply line from outside to Moscow.

26th Nov.—The German offensive on the Moscow front is generally held in all sectors in spite of its intensity. The Russians register a further advance of six miles on the Rostov front.

27th Nov.—The Germans make some progress towards Moscow at a fearful cost. Their offensive in the direction of Volkhov and Lake Ladoga in the Leningrad sector is, however, definitely broken.

THE BALKANS TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

21st Nov.—Two Turkish ships are sunk by an unknown submarine in the Black Sea.

25th Nov.—The Turkish Government prohibit the entry of Turkish vessels into the Black Sea in view of the recent torpedo attacks by unknown submarines.

26th Nov.—President Roosevelt appoints Mr. William Bullitt as his Special Representative in the Near East.

27th Nov.—Gen. Catroux, the Free French Delegate-General in Syria, proclaims Lebanon to be an independent, sovereign state, the Allies undertaking its defence for the duration of the war.

SHIPPING

21st Nov.—The Admiralty reports that one enemy E-boat was sunk, and two others probably so, in engagements with British naval patrols.

22nd Nov.—The French freighter Ville de Tamatave, captured by the British Navy, arrives in New York under the British flag.

23rd Nov.—President Roosevelt approves of legislation authorising the Navy Department to construct or acquire at least 500 small vessels for mine-sweeping, etc.

27th Nov.—The Royal Air Force sinks an enemy supply-ship off the Dutch Coast and another supply-ship and two anti-aircraft ships near France, beside shooting down two enemy fighters.

THE FAR EAST

21st Nov.—The Thailand press reports violation of the Thai frontier by planes and troops from the direction of Indo-China.

The official Russian (Tass) News Agency contradicts the Japanese report that Soviet soldiers violated the Manchurian frontier on 16th November.

22nd Nov.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, confers on the Far Eastern situation with the British and Chinese Ambassadors and the Australian and Netherlands Ministers.

It is announced that the International Settlement Police are taking over control of the American sector of Shanghai as from the departure of the American Marines.

23rd Nov.—Mr. Cordell Hull again confers with Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador, and Mr. Kurusu, Japan's Special Envoy.

Mr. Duff Copper states that there is not the slightest chance of the Burma Road being again closed.

The Chinese People's National Political Council decides to send a goodwill mission to Britain, United States of America and Russia.

25th Nov.—Some classes of reservists are called up in Thailand where the Bangkok Radio warns Thailanders that there is only faint hope of peace.

26th Nov.—The Japanese Premier and the Foreign Minister report to the Emperor on the negotiations with the United States of America.

27th Nov.—It is learned authoritatively that the United States of America and Japan have failed to reach an agreement. Mr. Cordell Hull hands over America's final terms to Japan.

Mr. Roosevelt, who receives the Japanese envoys, also confers with the Chinese Ambassador on Lease-Lend aid to China.

A mine-field is laid at the eastern approaches to Singapore.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

21st Nov.—Iraq breaks off diplomatic relations with Vichy.

22nd Nov.—It is stated that a German military and economic mission will shortly leave for French North Africa.

American press reports say that Hitler is to visit Marshal Petain in Occupied France and demand his consent to send troops to French North Africa.

23rd Nov.—Gen. Odic, former Chief of the French Air Staff, joins Gen. de Gaulle as a protest against Vichy's policy.

It is stated that Mussolini is to be present at the coming Hitler-Petain meeting.

25th Nov.—President Roosevelt authorizes Lease-Lend aid to Gen. de Gaulle's Free French forces as territory controlled by them is " vital to the defence of the United States ".

A successful British landing on the Coast of Normandy is reported, all the troops returning after finishing their task.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

21st Nov.—King George of Greece postpones his visit to the United States.

22nd Nov.—The Danish Minister in Iraq breaks off relations with the Copenhagen Government because it is dependent on the Axis.

An announcement from the White House says that Germany is planning a conference of European nations (from which England is to be excluded) in order to propose a high-sounding formula of economic rehabilitation and restoration of independence.

24th Nov.—It is revealed that over 2,000 " hostages " have been shot by the Germans in Yugoslav towns. Nevertheless, Yugoslav " guerillas " have re-occupied part of the country.

25th Nov.—The protocol extending the Anti-Cominteru Pact for five years is signed in Berlin by representatives of 13 states, including Finland and the Nanking Government. Tokyo reports say that the Soviet-Japan Pact is unaffected by this.

26th Nov.—The White House at Wahington says it has received information that the Germans are preparing to raze Belgrade to the ground because they think it is the base of Yugoslav guerilla fighters.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

22nd Nov.—The Argentine Parliamentary Committee complete their fifth report on Nazi activities in Argentine.

24th Nov.—Over 125,000 Cuban workers demonstrate in favour of full aid to Russia, Britain and China.

America revokes licences for exports of petroleum products to Spain and her possessions as well as licences for the export of any goods to French North Africa.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

Is the tide turning in favour of Russia? The Russians are now on the offensive near Leningrad, have driven the German army out of Rostov westwards and are mercilessly pounding the remnants. They have begun their counter-attacks in the Donetz basin. The two danger-spots are Moscow and Sebastopol where, however, not much progress has been made by the Germans.

M. Stalin has expressed his gratitude to Great Britain for sending planes and tanks, the quality of which he has greatly appreciated. " We would like," he said, " as many Hurricanes and tanks as you can send and could you limit the number of types sent to us? It would make everything much easier."

In Libya, the situation is much confused after the first successes of the British Imperial Army. The Germans have taken Sidi Rezegh and Bir-El-Hamid, and would appear to have further joined up their main forces, but a note of optimism prevails and, it is said, this penetration is only temporary.

Gondar, the last remaining stronghold of Italy in Abyssinia, has fallen. Twenty-three thousand five hundred prisoners have been taken, 11,500 Italians and 12,000 African troops. The attacking forces numbered less than half the enemy's and suffered comparatively small casualties. The amount of war material which has fallen into British hands is reported to be very considerable.

The attitude of Finland in regard to Russia is being strongly criticised in the United States. The State Department says that Finland's latest action has " confirmed our apprehensions that she is fully co-operating with Hitler's forces." In Washington it is believed that a formal declaration of war by Great Britain on Finland will shortly be made. This is confirmed by the Finnish Premier who informed Parliament on November 30, that Britain was now threatening Finland with war! Marshal Mannerheim, in a statement, said that while Finland did not want an imperialist war, she was determined to fight for the security of her eastern frontiers. Meanwhile, it may be noted that Finland is suffering reverses in the northern sector, the Russians counter-attacking them.

Marshal Petain has had important talks with Field-Marshal Goering. According to an official statement, it would appear that Marshal Petain desired Franco-German collaboration and that Field Marshal Goering would permit the French to look into the future with increased confidence. De Brinon, Vichy's Ambassador in Paris, in a statement said: " The meeting was not a negotiation but a very frank general conversation between the two men who respect each other as soldiers. It is nevertheless certain that something important may come out of it." It is not known precisely what points were discussed, but it is feared that Vichy might have consented to give Germany naval and air bases in North Africa.

American aid to China under the Lease and Lend Act has reached enormous proportions. Approximately fourteen thousand United States made lorries will soon be in operation along the Burma Road. A makeshift aeroplane factory was built in sections in the United States and shipped to an undisclosed site in Chungking area. The factory is equipped to make any part for any United States type warplane from medium bomber to pursuit and observation craft. Some four thousand trucks are already plying along the Burma Road from

Lashio to Kunming. Lease and Lend funds that will provide for a vast increase in the production of tanks and guns for Britain and Russia are included in an additional 8,243,839,000 dollar defence appropriation approved by the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday. This will bring the total cash and contract authorizations provided for defence since July 1, 1940, to 67,990,254,000 dollars.

The benefits of the Lease and Lend Act have been extended to Turkey. This would imply that United States of America is convinced that Turkey will resist German aggression.

MAN AND WOMAN POWER IN GREAT BRITAIN

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, drastic proposals for calling up more men and women to serve in the army, the defence forces and war industries. They are: the raising of the calling-up age for military service for men from 41 to 50; lowering of the calling-up age to 18½; registration of boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 18; and compulsory calling-up of single women betwen the ages of 20 and 30 with powers to require women to serve in the uniformed auxiliary forces or the several defence forces.

In explaining his scheme, Mr. Churchill made the following points:—

(1) Britain must have good supplies of tanks, which must be staffed fully, and must have a perfectly mobile armed service for home defence and foreign expeditions.

(2) Munitions production in the first year was nothing at all; second year, very little; third year, quite a lot; and fourth year, all we want. We are at the beginning of the third year.

(3) "In future our men would fight on equal terms and a little later, on superior terms. It is to this end that we have to make arrangements in good time. A heavy burden will fall on us in 1942. We must not be found unequal to it. We shall not be found unequal to it."

(4) "I promised eighteen months ago, blood, tears, toil and sweat. There has not been, thank God, so much blood as was expected. There has not been so much of tears, but there has been another instalment of toil which I am sure will be accepted cheerfully by all parties of the nation."

(5) The raising of the calling-up age to 50 would bring in roughly 2½ millions. The lowering of the age to 18½ would bring an additional 70,000 to the Home Force.

(6) "We have nearly one million seven hundred thousand men, a lot of them well-armed and spread over the country. We have several million more men who will fight in the event of an invasion."

(7) All women above eighteen are already directed by the Ministry of Labour into industry. The Government were asking power to require women to serve in uniformed auxiliary forces or civil defence. The number in the 20 to 30 age groups concerned would be 1,620,000.

(8) "Two vultures are hanging over us and would hang over us until the end of the war. The first is invasion and the second the air-raider. At some time or other, Hitler would have to recognize his defeat by the Russian Army and endeavour to cover his disaster in the west by wreaking his full fury on us."

GERMANY'S "NEW ORDER"

Has the Nazi project for a great gathering in Vienna or Moscow to announce the New Order dwindled into nothing better than the Anti-Comintern meeting in Berlin? It may or may not be so, but the point to note is that Herr von Ribbentrop has revealed to the world what the New Order would consist of.

He said at the meeting of Quislings, referring to the occupied countries rising in revolt; "The tank and the dive-bomber preclude the possibility of a revolt in the disarmed territory." This boastful statement is self-explanatory. There have been two similar statements. On November 7, the German radio said: "The execution of hostages must be considered to have been in the best interests of humanity." On November 18, Dr. Seyss-Inquart told the Dutch "Independence is incompatible with the comradeship for which the Germans strive."

On the signing of the Anti-Comintern Pact various countries have made their remarks which need no comment. The Copenhagen radio said "The Government found it opportune to accept the invitation." The Spanish radio stated: "The Anti-Comintern Pact will have to be revived as the adequate reply to the friendly relations between Britain and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics." The Tokyo Press said: "Japan's adherence to the Pact signifies no antagonism against any State or people." The Helsinki radio pointed out: "The Pact does not alter our relations with other States." The failure of Sweden to send a delegate has angered the Germans. The Germans have taken a stronger line in unproteced Denmark for, when they discovered that the majority in the Danish Cabinet were opposed to the signing of the Anti-Comintern Pact, they told the Danish Premier that if the Pact was not signed the Nazis would take over the full administration of the country. When, however, the Danes heard of the signing of the Pact, there were immediate popular outbursts and riots. There was also a report that the King of Denmark opposed the signature and threatened to abdicate.

THREATENED REPRISAL FOR LOSS OF ROSTOV

The German army which has been hounded out of Rostov has, as a reprisal, announced that the *Luftwaffe* would be directed to deal with Rostov as it had dealt with Warsaw, Rotterdam and Belgrade. Marshal Timoshenko has defeated the German army because of his superior strategy and because larger forces are at his disposal. Instead of gracefully acknowledging defeat, Germany wants to take revenge on innocent people in Rostov —a disgraceful way of waging the war.

Here is an account of what took place in the three cities mentioned above.

Warsaw.—Warsaw was raided repeatedly and many tons of bombs were dropped over the city. The most foul murders committed from the air, in the words of Mr. Biddle, the United States Ambassador at that time in Poland, were those bombings made on a clearly marked hospital train in Warsaw station, on a detachment of twelve girl guides in their hut which completely wiped them all, on a sanatorium involving the death of children, and on a refugee train on the way from Kutno. The casualties among the civilians, especially among women and children, between September 1 and September 3, 1939 amounted to over 1,500 killed and many thousands wounded and a total of 20,000 civilian deaths was estimated up to September 17.

Rotterdam.—War broke on Holland shortly before dawn on Friday, May 10, 1940, and by the evening of the following Tuesday, the avalanche of fire and steel of the Nazis swept over the Dutch land. There was heavy fighting in some of the principal streets of Rotterdam and by the evening of Saturday, May 11, the whole of the old town was ablaze. In the course of the afternoon of Tuesday, two squadrons of German bombers flew over the city in close formation, dropping delayed action bombs which "ploughed a veritable furrow of destruction." Again and again the planes repeated the operation, until they had completed which, was rightly described as "this monstrous work of destruction, horrifying as a nightmare." At least 10,000 people were killed and a third of the city destroyed in the course of the German bombardment.

Belgrade.—Yugoslavia's first experience of Nazi savagery was when at 3-30 on Sunday morning, the 6th April 1941, the first of many waves of German bombers appeared over Belgrade's roofs. The capital had been declared an open city by the Yugoslav authorities, but the claim was brushed aside and soon the German radio was gloating over the destruction caused by the Nazi planes. "Our target was the military and moral nerve centre of Yugoslavia." In a short time the Stukas had turned the city into a mass of ruins, and the streets were littered with the dead bodies of women and children and old men.

SEVERE LOSSES TO AXIS SHIPPING

Important and impressive successes for the Allies in regard to the sinking of Axis ships tell a tale of remarkable vigil and strategy on the part of the Allied air forces and the navy.

The following facts may be of interest:—

(1) Since the beginning of November, twenty-four enemy ships have been sunk, four probably sunk and thirteen hit by the Royal Navy and the Fleet Air Arm in the Mediterranean.

(2) Eight enemy ships have been sunk and five seriously damaged by British submarines in Arctic waters. They were transporting reinforcements of men and supplies to German armies on the Murmansk front. The British submarines concerned were H.M.S. "*Tigris*" and H.M.S. "*Trident.*"

(3) In 120 days British submarines, surface warships and naval aircraft have made 139 successful attacks on enemy shipping.

(4) A German merchant-raider in South Atlantic was sunk on November 22. H.M.S. "*Devonshire*" and her aircraft sank the raider.

(5) One Italian supply ship, one heavy destroyer and one tanker were sent to the bottom of the sea by British Navy in the Mediterranean. A Greek ship also sunk a supply ship on November 10.

It is a matter for profound regret; however, that the Australian cruiser "*Sydney*" has been sunk by enemy action with 42 officers and 603 men, after herself sinking the heavily armed merchant-raider "*Steirmark.*"

WAR IN LIBYA

The operations in Libya continue to be in a fluid state. They have, as Mr. Churchill warned us to expect at the start of the British campaign, approximated more to naval than to land warfare. Fast-moving tanks with the inevitable supply lorries roam over the desert as ships over the waters, challenging one another at widely separated tactical points. In this type of warfare, which has been going on for more than two weeks, territories count less than the destruction of the enemy's armoured forces. It is only when this is accomplished fully that the infantry can come into its own and consolidate the positions already gained. We have seen how Sidi Rezegh and Bir el Hamid have changed hands frequently; the Germans are now in possession but they will not long remain so! And one great thing the advancing British forces have achieved. They have raised the siege of Tobruk, with whose garrison they have formed a united front. And among the British "bag" of prisoners is General von Ravenstein, who commanded the 21st German Panzer Division.

There is no need to be unduly worried at the apparent hold-up of the British advance. It is not the Italians but the Germans they are fighting this time. General Bastico may be the titular commander of the Axis forces but it is General von Rommel, the experienced and clever German, who is really leading them. He may be expected to do his best to break out of the steadily closing British ring or to fight to his last tank. Earlier in the campaign, he tried to create a diversion by sending a flying column towards the Egyptian frontier. But both the British Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, and the Commander on the field, Major-General Sir Alan Cunningham, had expected some such move and were able to beat him off after inflicting heavy punishment on the Germans. Indeed, the destruction of enemy tanks remains the chief aim of the British Command and it is being achieved slowly but steadily.

The encircled German troops can hope for no reinforcements on such a scale as to threaten the British Imperial Forces. In this connexion, we have a right to rejoice at the daring march of the British column that, starting from the south of the Egypt-Libya frontier, reached the Gulf of Sidra between Jedabaya and Benghazi, and returned to prepared positions after taking a heavy toll of Axis supply columns. The Royal Air Force continues to range the skies in freedom, lending close support to the land forces and shooting down German planes in great numbers. In one battle alone, the British airmen brought down 15 German planes. And the British Navy stands guard in the Mediterranean. In one action, British ships have sunk one Italian supply ship, one heavy Italian destroyer and one tanker carrying 10,000 tons of petrol for von Rommel's forces. The Germans may put up a stiff fight but military observers in Cairo, who know what is happening, confidently expect a striking British victory.

The capture of Gondar, the last Italian stronghold in Abyssinia with 11,500 Italian and 12,000 colonial prisoners, means that the rear of the British forces in Libya has been entirely purged of all enemy elements.

RUSSIAN SUCCESSES

The best news from the war fronts this week has been the re-capture of Rostov-on-Don by the Russian Army. Marshal Timoshenko, Soviet Commander-in-Chief in the south, in the course of his masterly operations, did not attack Rostov directly but launched a weighty counter-offensive in the Donetz Basin. Advancing nearly 70 miles he threatened the flank of General von Kleist's Panzer and other forces in occupation of Rostov, forcing the Germans to evacuate this important oil-rail centre. The retreat has turned very nearly into a rout and the Germans, four of whose divisions have been smashed and much of whose equipment has been left behind in the hands of the Russians, have had no time to re-form even at Taganrog. They are said to be fleeing towards Mariopol with the Russians in pursuit. The German High Command is hard put to it to invent excuses for their first big reverse on land and forsooth! blame the activities of the civil population of Rostov for their precipitate retreat. The re-capture of Rostov, on which M. Stalin has deservedly congratulated the Russian Commander, has had the effect not only of checking the German drive into the Caucasus but of throwing the German military leaders into confusion. They must stop their rout in the south lest it tells on the morale of their troops in the centre.

In the central sector, indeed, the Germans are going all out to take Moscow but their progress has been so slow and achieved at such cost that it has been well said that they gain little more ground each day than to bury their dead! They claim the capture of Volokolamsk but apparently they have not been able to advance any further in that sub-sector. Both at Kalinin to the north, and at Tula to the south, of Moscow their pincer movements have been foiled and Soviet counter-attacks have been so successful as to threaten their flanks. The situation in the Moscow region is certainly grim but the Germans are as far as ever from taking that city.

In the north, Leningrad holds out against all German wiles. The Russians admit the evacuation of Tikhvin, a railway town in this sector, but further north they have just thrown back the Finns from four strategic positions in Karelia. Finland is apparently to fight on at the instigation of her German masters but she will soon repent her folly in alienating both America and Britain.

It is heartening to hear that British airmen have performed prodigies of valour in Russia; four of them have been awarded the Order of Lenin, the highest Soviet decoration. The British Navy guards the Arctic supply route to Russia and two British submarines, the *Tigris* and the *Trident*, have this week sunk eight enemy supply ships and seriously damaged five others in Arctic waters. In the course of a message to Lord Beaverbrook, M. Stalin expresses his profound appreciation of British help and has called for more Hurricanes and tanks. We need have no doubt that British workers will see that he gets them.

THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST

THE A. B. C. D. POWERS ALERT

The week has been full of talks, rumours and threats. The Special Envoy from Japan, Mr. Kurusu, and the Japanese Ambassador in Washington, Admiral Nomura, have met Mr. Cordell Hull and President Roosevelt on a number of occasions. The United States Government have handed a note regarding their final decision. The Japanese Cabinet has instructed its representatives to carry on the talks till the end—God knows for what purpose. Has this instruction been given in order to gain time for preparations against Japan's next victim? Japan's reply to the United States is now ready and is being handed over. That the situation is serious is recognized by everybody. Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador, has returned to Washington. President Roosevelt, who was expected to spend a few days in Warm Springs, has given up his special tour and has returned to the capital. He is conferring with his administrative and defence chiefs and also congressional leaders, while at the same time the Japanese representatives hope to have further talks with the Secretary of State and also perhaps with the President. In some quarters the fact that Japan has stopped sending further reinforcements to Indo-China is taken to mean that perhaps Japan does not contemplate a definite move in the near future. But she has already amassed troops on the western frontier of Indo-China, occupied the chief ports in that country and gathered a pretty strong air force. President Roosevelt has demanded an explanation as to why, in the midst of the negotiations, Japan has sent land and air forces to Indo-China in excess of what had been stipulated with the Vichy authorities. While, according to Thailand's Prime Minister, the Democracies have promised to observe her integrity and independence, Japan has told her that her troop movements in Indo-China did not signify any aggressive intentions on her part. But it should be remembered that Japan is a member of the Axis and a prominent feature of totalitarian tactics is to lull the victim to inactivity by fair promises and then embark upon a *blitz*.

Recent utterances of Japanese statesmen and the writings in the Japanese press have not been such as to justify hopes of an amicable settlement between America and Japan. The Premier has recently said that Anglo-American interference in the Far East should be purged. It is also stated that America does not understand the conditions in the Far East and that Japan is determined to follow her policy of bringing about a co-prosperity sphere, at the same time assuring the world that she would remain a member of the Axis and fulfil such obligations as lie on her shoulders on that account. A Japanese official has said that the Netherlands East Indies would soon be finished if war broke out.

THE ONLY REAL HOPE OF PEACE

The fact is that, as Mr. A. V. Alexander, the First Lord of Admiralty, pointed out the other day, Japan is trembling on the brink of a tragic blunder. The Army, and to a certain extent the Navy, are out for establishing, what they call, the Japanese supremacy in the Far East at any cost. These elements hold the key positions in Japan to-day and egged on by the Japanese press, they might possibly precipitate a crisis. On the other hand, there are old and wise statesmen who would hasten slowly, especially in view of the present extraordinarily weak Japanese position in regard to her finances brought about not only by the China affair, but by the freezing of Japanese assets by the democratic countries and the Netherlands East Indies. Her foreign trade upon which her life depends has now been reduced to a dangerously low level. The blockade has further cut off 75 per cent of her normal imports. A war in the Pacific, especially against the United States and Great Britain, would involve her in commitments which might possibly make it exceedingly difficult for her to recover. The following observations in *Oriental Affairs* (of Shanghai) upon this aspect of the problem are pertinent :

> " Only one authority could possibly override the Army's views, and that is the Emperor. Military and political extremists would probably have no hesitation in repeating the ' blood bath ' of February 26, 1936, if the civilian and naval elements in the Government endorsed a complete reversal of national policy. But the person and the authority of the Emperor are sacrosanct. Not even the fire-eating militarists and the Black Dragon organization would dare to lift a hand against them.
>
> " It may be, then, that the recent administrative changes in Japan, which are interpreted as placing the Army under the direct command of the Emperor have greater significance than is generally realized. His Majesty is understood to have made adhesion to the Axis conditional upon most positive assurances from his Ministers that under no circumstances would this move involve his country in war with the United States. The Army must have concurred in these assurances at the time, though its spokesmen have recently been recklessly advocating a showdown with America. Unless the Imperial authority is exerted there can hardly be any doubt that the Army, sooner or later, will embroil the nation in a conflict with the United States. Is that why the Emperor has taken direct command of Imperial Headquarters, and appointed a Chief of Staff directly responsible to the

Throne? One would like to think so. For it seems to offer the only real hope of the maintenance of peace in the Pacific."

There are inherent difficulties in the situation and the gap between the American and Japanese demands is very wide. The central point of difference is China, and unless Japan takes her hands off China and puts a stop to agression, a satisfactory agreement cannot be arrived at.

The United States of America, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand, China and the Netherlands East Indies are, however, prepared for all contingencies. They constitute a very strong combination and Japan might well ponder deeply before she ventures on agression again. There are many people in these countries who regret that they were not strong enough to prevent Japanese penetration into Indo-China. But any further forward move will, of course, be resisted. The following points may be noted :—

(*a*) In Thailand steps have been taken to pass necessary measures for dealing with the situation.

(*b*) The Burma Road is being strongly fortified by the erection of aerodromes at strategic points and it is even stated that the United States aeroplanes may patrol the area against hostile attacks by Japan.

(*c*) Burma is well prepared and her land and air defences have been greatly strengthened and reinforcements have arrived.

(*d*) A state of emergency has been declared in Singapore and troops have been asked to stand by in Singapore and in Hongkong. Troops in Malaya have been asked to keep ready and, as has been repeatedly remarked, Malaya is now very strongly reinforced, the latest troops to arrive in Singapore being from British India. A part of the British Fleet, including *The Prince of Wales*, has arrived in Singapore.

(*e*) All leave in the Philippines has been cancelled. The Corregador—island guarding the Manila Bay—is standing as a fortress against any attack. Conferences are daily taking place in the Philippines, attended by officers of the Army, Air and Naval forces of those islands and of the United States. Part of the United States Navy is now at Manila.

(*f*) A telegram from Washington states that the United States Government are co-operating with the British and Free French in the creation of a string of island military bases stretching 5,000 miles across the Pacific between Hawaii and Australia.

(*g*) Australia and New Zealand realize the gravity of the situation.

MR. SCHMIDT GOES TO ANKARA

The Nazis abhor the freedom of the Turkish Press. They have sent Dr. Paul Schmidt, Wilhelmstrasse Press Chief, to Ankara to see what can be done about it. He may try a favourite Nazi method—bribery. But he will find it difficult, because the Turkish Cabinet has adopted the following suggestion made by the Turkish Press Congress Association :—

" Any Turkish publisher or editor found guilty of accepting subsidies from any foreign government is to be charged with High Treason according to the penal code, while the guilty newspaper is to suffer permanent suppression."

Throughout the most difficult period in the first quarter-century of the Turkish Republic her Pressmen, as much as her Politicians, have remained as firm as granite in defence of their integrity. The friendship pact which the Turkish Government concluded with Germany has introduced not the slightest trace of pro-Axis bias into Turkish editorial comment.

In maintaining absolute impartiality, Turkish newspapermen have not hesitated to criticise their ally Britain when such criticism seemed to them justified. They have been sceptical about Russian and German communiqués alike, weighing the evidence for both sides carefully and drawing an independent conclusion.

The praise they have offered to the Soviet people was not bought with Russian roubles as the Nazis would like to buy fair words with German marks. Nor did British pounds buy this summing up by Huseyin Cahid Yalcin in *Yeni Sabah* on October 8, 1941 :—

" After two years of war Britain is facing victorious Germany erect, energetically, with her strength unimpaired and steadily increasing. . . Germany, with her excited demonstrations of military grandeur and might, reigns in a world of pompous appearances. But Britain works and grows stronger, undisturbed and in security, and becomes truly invincible."

THE JAPANESE NAVY

AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY

Between 1871 and 1893 Japan spent some £24,000,000 on her new naval forces, which first came into action with the Chinese, in the war of 1894–95. The larger ships of both Navies were of foreign—chiefly British—construction. There was little to choose between them in numbers and tonnage, but the morale and efficiency of the Chinese fleet had been undermined by corruption, and in all naval engagements the Japanese were uniformly victorious. Most of China's ironclads were destroyed or captured. By the time the Russo-Japanese War broke out in 1904 Japan had a compact but formidable fleet, some of the capital units of which were as large and as heavily armed and armoured as those of any other power. She had not, however, by any means a safe margin of superiority over the Russians in the Pacific, and the nature of the naval operations in which she had to engage, resulted in the loss of or damage to several valuable ships, by mines. These included the battleship *Hatsuse*, which was sunk, and the *Itsukushima*, and *Fuji*, which were badly damaged. But in the Straits of Tsushima, on May 28, 1905, Admiral Togo won one of the world's most decisive naval victories over the Russian Fleet that had been sent out from the Baltic in an attempt to relieve Port Arthur. All but two of the larger Russian warships were sunk, and this crushing blow was achieved with the loss of only three Japanese torpedo-boats.

Japan came into the Great War of 1914–18 as an Ally of Great Britain, but her main Fleet was never in action during this conflict. One of her latest Battle Cruisers, the *Kongo*, participated in the hunt for Admiral von Spee's Squadron, and some destroyers were sent to European waters to assist in convoy and anti-submarine duties. Incidentally, the *Kongo*, like so many other Japanese capital ships of this period, was constructed in a British shipyard. For until quite recently the Japanese exhibited remarkably little initiative in the improvement of engineering designs. Their usual policy was to order a recent model from abroad, and then imitate it in their own shipyards. It is indeed only since the Great War that Japan has undertaken all of her own naval construction.

While Japan was an Ally of Great Britain she was allowed unusual facilities for acquainting herself with details of British Naval designs and equipment. During the Great War several of the Grand Fleet carried Japanese Naval observers. It is not to be supposed that her naval officers and designers were afforded the same privileges after the termination of the alliance, especially when it appeared uncertain whether the Japanese Fleet in any future conflict would fight on our side or against us. Post-Great War naval construction has been carried out almost entirely in Japanese dockyards, and the Japanese Navy has developed types of warships of its own, some of which have been reported to have been anything but satisfactory. Naval science has not remained stationary during the past twenty years, but there is no record of any Japanese mechanical invention of any consequence during that, or indeed any other period—the automatic loom alone expected. In the shipbuilding, automobile, aircraft and mechanized military equipment industries, Japan has imitated Western design and there is no reason to suppose that any modifications that have been made can be considered improvements on the original types. No other important Naval Power has such a poor record of originality and invention. In guns and torpedoes, in turbines and radio equipment, in aircraft and in submarine design, in fact in every detail of naval equipment, the Japanese have demonstrated that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Whether the imitation is as good as the original has yet to be demonstrated.

Although H.M.S. *Dreadnought*, which was to revolutionize battleship design, had been completed in 1906, and Great Britain had 19 battleships and ten battle-cruisers of the multiple big-gun type in commission at the beginning of the Great War, Japan's *Dreadnought* type of warships in 1914 numbered only two battleships and four battle-cruisers, of which the first, the *Kongo*, was constructed at Barrow. Of her total of 14 battleships, old and new, no fewer than three had been constructed abroad, as also had many of her coast-defence ships, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE AND AFTER

It has always been represented as a grievance that at the Disarmament Conference in Washington, Japan was prevailed upon to accept a ratio of three capital ships to Britain's and America's five apiece. The fact, however, is that unless Japan assumed that she could compete in naval construction with the Anglo-Saxon Powers, this was a great concession upwards on the part of the latter. When the Washington Treaty of February 6, 1932 was signed, the respective strength in completed capital ships of the *Dreadnought* type of Great Britain, America and Japan was 39, 27 and 12, respectively. Under the " scrapping " proviso, Great Britain had to dispose of 20 battleships forthwith, and stop construction of four others; America had to scrap 28; Japan had to scrap 11 and stop construction on 6. (These figures included battleships of pre-*Dreadnought* as well as *Dreadnought* types.) It will be seen, therefore, that the 5–5–3 ratio

increased the strength of the Japanese Navy relatively to that of the British and American Navies. If the Washington Treaties had provided for a holiday in naval construction, Japan would have been outnumbered by over three to one by Great Britain, and over two to one by America, in modern battleships. It would have taken years of construction and an expenditure of hundreds of millions of pounds for Japan to attain parity even if the Anglo-Saxon Powers had suspended further building.

Japan presumably adhered to her undertakings in regard to scrapping and replacement of Capital ships until she denounced the Washington Treaty. Since then much secrecy has been observed regarding her new construction, especially in the matter of Capital ships. She has refused to exchange information with other Naval Powers. In 1938, so far as is known, the strength of the Three Powers in battleships and battle-cruisers, heavy cruisers and light cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers and submarines was as follows :—

	Great Britain.	U.S.A.	Japan.
Battleships and Battle Cruisers	15	15	9
Heavy Cruisers	15	17	12
Light Cruisers	40	10	21
Aircraft Carriers	8	5	6
Destroyers	155	206	105
Submarines	54	85	59

Great Britain has probably completed five to seven new Battleships since the outbreak of war; America has at least another ten completed or under construction; Japan is reported to have three or four building, of considerably larger tonnage than was permitted under the Washington Treaty, which fixed the limit at 35,000 tons.

The largest Japanese battleships afloat prior to the outbreak of the present war were the *Nagato* and *Mutsu*, of 32,870 tons, with a main armament of 8 16-inch guns and a speed of 23 knots. The latest British battleships carry a main armament of improved 14-inch guns and are reported to have a speed of about 30 knots.

The British Navy is generally known as " the Silent Service." Of late no such description would have applied to the Japanese. Naval Spokesmen both at home and in Shanghai have vied with their Military colleagues in handing out information to the Press, and not infrequently, " warning " or " threatening " the Governments of other Powers. A typical example was Commander Hideo Hiraide's " warning " at a press conference on August 13 that " now is not the time to fuss whether Japan should enter the war. The present time is merely the calm before the storm. Therefore the people must be prepared. The Japanese were a peace-Gowing people but there was a limit to their trace nce, and they would explode when this commen.uld be reached."

COCKSURE ADMIRALS.

Perhaps the most revealing example of Japanese naval mentality, however, is to be found in the report of a Round Table Conference organized by the Editor of the *Hinode* Magazine, and attended by half a dozen Admirals on the Reserve or Retired List. A full report of the discussion appeared in the *Japan News Week*.

The Admirals waxed somewhat sarcastic over the alleged " facilities for pleasures " provided on British and American—especially American—warships, such as ice-water and soda-water plants, " splendid barber shops, coffee stands, etc." One Admiral stated " British Naval designers say that war does not occur very often, whereas warships must always be manned with sailors, and therefore it is not a wise policy to sacrifice facilities of pleasure for the sake of fighting power, which is used only at rare intervals." It would be interesting to know the names of these (mythical) designers.

As regards submarines, it is interesting to learn that the Japanese craft " in respect to tonnage and speed. . . are much superior to those of the German Navy." The submarines of the United States Navy, we are told " have a special appliance to save the lives of the crew in case of disaster. Their progress in life-saving appliances, however, is made at a considerable sacrifice of fighting power. They must have an advanced system of life-saving, *or else they cannot find a sufficient number of men to enlist.*" (The italics are ours.) To this another Admiral added " The Americans are suitable for attractive duties such as air service, for instance, but they dislike hard duties under water which attract no attention from anyone else. In this connection Japanese submarine crews are greatly superior to those of the United States Navy."

When the discussion turned upon torpedo attacks from aircraft, one of the Admirals ventured the opinion that " the German Air Force has not been properly trained in the use of aerial torpedoes, or else it would have been able to deal a deadly blow to the British Squadrons in the Mediterranean Sea." He went on to state that " In aerial torpedo warfare the British and United States Navies lead many other nations. Japan has learned the tactics of torpedo warfare from the British Air Force. At present, however, we are far ahead of the British Air Force in this special line of warfare." (Shades of Taranto!)

MODERN STRATEGY.

In spite of the self-assurance of the Japanese Admirals, the relative efficiency of the Japanese Navy compared to that of the British and American Fleets remains an unknown quantity. That officers and men undergo a most rigorous training, and that their morale and devotion leave nothing to be desired, may be granted.

But naval warfare of to-day is a matter of machines as well as of men. Every modern warship from the submarine to the super-battleship is a veritable maze of intricate machinery. The improvements that have been made in equipment and design since Jutland days are probably as radical as those between the beginning of the Century and the Great War. Japan may have evolved some specialities in design or equipment of her own, but her record in other fields of engineering does not suggest that she has kept pace with Western invention. Certainly she has not done so in the design or manufacture or aircraft or automobiles. Mechanical designs which she has imitated have often been out-dated before she could bring them into production. American and British naval experts do not belittle or under-estimate the efficiency of her Navy; but neither do they feel any apprehension as to the outcome of an engagement between anything like equal numbers of their own and Japanese warships. Actually, if a war between Japan and the Anglo-Saxon Powers broke out in the near future it is very improbable that there would be a Fleet engagement in the earlier phases. The main naval bases of the combatants are so remote from each other, and the effective operational range of Capital ships is still so restricted, that the Admirals on both sides would probably consider it suicidal to seek to force actions in enemy waters. If, as seems likely, a British Fleet was sent out to Singapore, and joined there by a portion of the American Fleet, Japan would hardly dare to risk a concentration in the direction of that stronghold while the main American Fleet remained based on Hawaii, or against Hawaii while Singapore remained intact. A naval war on two fronts must be considered just as hazardous as a military adventure of a similar kind. A large Fleet must have docking, fuelling and supply facilities on an enormous scale, within reasonable distance of its zone of operations. The provision of these facilities is a matter of years—not of months—of preparation. A Capital ship once seriously injured at a great distance from its base must in most cases be considered a loss—as was evidenced in the case of the *Bismarck*. An Anglo-American naval war against Japan would certainly not take the form of the Russo-Japanese campaign, where the Baltic Fleet was compelled to risk passage through narrow straits in the vicinity of Japan. It might, indeed, be ended without the main Fleets ever catching sight of each other, seeing that those of America and Great Britain would be so disposed as to be able to impose a long-distance blockade without moving a battleship out of the range of their fortified bases.

The Japanese Admirals who boast that their designs are superior to those of any other Naval Power, who sneer at the alleged " facilities for pleasure " on British warships—most of which are put over the side on the outbreak of war—and who claim that they are far ahead of the British Fleet Air Arm in torpedo-bombing, overlook one most important fact. The British Navy and Air Force have now been in continuous action under war conditions for nearly two years. The Japanese Navy and Air Force have never yet encountered a modern enemy counterpart, and unless they are relatively much better equipped and more efficient than their army, they are likely to receive a very rude shock when they come up against the warships and aircraft of the West—*Oriental Affairs* (*Shanghai*).

"A CLASH OF FLEETS AND FLOTILLAS"

SECOND LAND-FRONT OPENED UP IN WESTERN DESERT

With a majestic sweep forward on a line extending 120 miles across the Western Desert, General Cunningham's all-mobile Eighth Army have opened up a second land front. British, German and Italian armoured divisions are locked in mortal combat over a battle field covering close on 10,000 square miles. As dust clouds rise from the wadis and the air is filled with the din of steel hitting steel, as British aircraft drone ceaselessly across the desert sky and cruiser squadrons lob six-inch shells on to Mussolini's "Via Victoria" . . . Hitler faces a dilemma. Is he to sit back helplessly and watch General Rommel's forces being swept out of Africa and the Sicilian Channel converted into an Allied bridgehead, or must he despatch reinforcements and *Luftwaffe* squadrons which he can ill spare from the Eastern Front?

The objective of the Imperial forces is not the occupation of Benghazi or Tripoli, not the capture of thousands of prisoners, but the destruction of German tanks and mechanised equipment. "The conditions," Churchill has told us, "are in many respects like those of a sea war. The principal units involved keep wireless silence when preparing and making their rapid and extensive movements. The encounter, when it is achieved, is like a clash of fleets and flotillas."

The enemy land forces are putting up a stiff fight. But British superiority in the air and at sea has yet to be seriously disputed. In the air American Maryland and Douglas Boston bombers and Tomahawk fighters are operating alongside British Wellingtons and Blenheims, Hurricanes and Beaufighters. It is ironic that, less than a year ago, the German radio was saying two things: one, American aid cargoes would all be sunk before they reached the front line; two, American planes were "entirely unsuited for contest with German planes."

Last December Lord Haw-Haw went as far as to say: "The only usage for the American planes is in training or probably in Near Eastern operations." The implication was that American planes might be all right against the Italians, but would never be effective against German machines. The pilots of many a German Junkers could now tell a different tale.

The fact that American tanks and planes are operating in the Western Desert and British tanks and planes are already in action on the Eastern Front is an index of steadily mounting Allied strength. It also provides vivid proof of Britain's control of the seas. To reach the theatres of war, those tanks and planes had to cross one or more of three oceans—Atlantic, Pacific and Indian. They arrived safely.

Sea-power has enabled the Allies to snatch the initiative in Libya. In the race to accumulate supplies on either side of the Egyptian frontier, the Axis had the advantage of a supply line scarcely one twentieth of the length of the Allied supply line. Yet they lost the race. The same sea-power that made possible the evacuations from Norway, France, Greece and Crete will enable the Allies to land expeditionary forces wherever they choose and whenever they judge the moment apt. Meanwhile sea-power ensures the safe arrival of troops and equipment in the Middle and Far East and of urgently needed supplies in Russia.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 15–22, 1941

A PLAIN CASE OF DISTORTION

"It is reported from Delhi that the British Defence authorities in India have seized three large railway repair works for the manufacture of war materials. By this action the British authorities succeeded in forcing 13,000 Indian railway workers to manufacture war materials for Britain. This indicates the failure of the British to induce Indian workers to work *voluntarily* for them."—(*German news in Hindustani, November* 17, 1941.)

The Communications Member Sir Andrew Clow informed the authentic representatives of India's Railways on November 15, that 13,000 men, the number so carefully abused by Goebbels, are working in Railway workshops *voluntarily* on munitions and thousands of others are being trained in Railway military units. The Railway authorities handed over three large workshops for the production of war supplies in a spirit that would pass the understanding of the Nazis.

WHEAT AND COTTON

"The British military authorities in the Middle East are furious that Indian authorities have restricted the wheat export, and that Indian authorities have done nothing to avoid a rise in the price of wheat. The British are now threatening to seize all the wheat."—(*German news in English, November* 19, 1941.)

Reversing all his previous propaganda, Goebbels suddenly discovers, for his own purposes, that the Government of India is not, after all, the mouthpiece of His Majesty's Government in London.

India's restriction of her wheat exports is obviously designed to prevent acute shortage and check rising prices.

Finally, supplies of wheat for Middle Eastern countries as a whole are being exported from, for exemple, Australia and North America, in very much larger quantities than from India.

"A *Popolo di Roma* message states that the Egyptian Government has lowered the price for cotton. The only explanation is that Great Britain has been unable to take over her share of the Egyptian crop."—(*German news in English, November* 19, 1941.)

It is common sense to grow what can be sold to people who need it. Egypt's war-time difficulties arise chiefly from the loss of European markets under Axis domination. Britain is purchasing Egyptian cotton to the seed value of £25 million and 46 million bushels of Egyptian wheat from the 1941–42 crop. Britain could obtain both these commodities from America on Lease and Lend terms. The only explanation is that she wants to help Egypt to re-adjust her economy.

OUT OF GOOSE-STEP

This Picture

"No power in the world would be insane enough to invade India."—(*German news in Hindustani, 21st November* 1941.)

"British Propaganda is attempting to make the world believe that British troops in Cyrenaica surprised the Axis forces. There is no question of surprise action."—(*Italian news in English, 21st November* 1941.)

And That

"India will be invaded to oust the British from the country."—(*Italian news in English, 11th November* 1941.)

"Your Government must inaugurate some show of action but you know you can do nothing."—(*German broadcast in English to England, 19th November* 1941.)

This Picture

"The German radio says that German troops have repulsed the British attack in Cyrenaica and that a deluge of rain has prevented the continuation of the attack."—(*German controlled Vichy Radio, 20th November* 1941.)

And That

"One would expect the result of the new offensive to be favourable to the British. It is not to be ignored that operations will not be so easy . . ."—(*German News in Persian and Arabic, 21st November* 1941.)

AXIS PROPAGANDA FOR THE ARAB WORLD

Long before she declared war, *Italy* was using her Bari broadcasting station to *spread confusion in the Arab world*. Long before she declared war *Germany* sought to *embitter the Palestine problem* by the Nazi persecution of German Jews. It was this cold-blooded Nazi policy that increased the annual flow of Jewish immigrants into Palestine from *4,000 to 62,000* inside four years.

In war the *Axis* propaganda policy is to pose as the *champions of Islam* while the armies hold down a dozen once independent nations and their secret police *strangle religion* wherever they find it.

Disruption is to pave the way, as elsewhere, for domination. Read these authentic Axis statements and understand their methods. *In the same perjured mouth are two contradictory stories.*

"It is reported from Jerusalem that Emir Abdulla had several talks with the British High Commissioner, during the past few days.

It is stated that the question of amalgamating Transjordan, Palestine and Syria and establishing a government there under Emir Abdulla was discussed. *The Jews will be a minority in the new State.* The report is causing consternation. The Syrians are not ready to accept Abdulla as their ruler."—(*Italian News in Arabic, 17th November* 1941.)

"*Britain has again begun to make promises to the Arabs.* Mr. Eden has asked Emir Abdulla to propagate the news among the Arabs that after the war the Arabs will be formed into one national state including Syria."—(*Italian News in English, 10th March* 1941.)

"*Lord (sic) Lyttleton is striving to create an Arab Confederation.* The Emir of Transjordan is to get the title 'King of the Arabs.' Fakei Nasha Shibi is to have Palestine, and Nuri Said Iraq."—(*Italian News in Arabic, 13th November* 1941.)

"Britain is already taking steps to prepare the way for the *establishment of a Jewish State* comprising Transjordan, Palestine and Syria. In this connexion, negotiation took place between the Zionist leaders and British statesmen. To conceal the truth Britain is telling the Arabs that the proposed amalgamation is one large Arab State."—(*German News in Arabic and Persian, 3rd November* 1941.)

"*The Arabs must be driven out of Palestine and Transjordan to make the Jewish dream of a national home become an established fact,*" said Israel Sieff in New York. We find it difficult to believe that he would have made this preposterous statement without the *backing of the British Government.*"—(*German News in English, 18th November* 1941.)

"Rashid Ali Abbas, the former propaganda minister, said in an interview: '*The Arabs aim at an Arab Federation, but the British undermine it.*' The final triumph of the Axis powers is bound to bring doom to the British, *when the Muslims will enjoy freedom.*"—(*Italian News in Hindustani, 19th November* 1941.)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

28th Nov.—The Royal Air Force bombs industrial targets in Dusseldorf, the docks at Ostend and aerodromes in the Low Countries.

29th Nov.—Slight enemy activity over Northern Ireland is reported in the morning.

1st Dec.—Hamburg receives 150 tons of bombs from the Royal Air Force, which also raids Bremerhaven, Wilhelmshaven, Kiel and Lubeck.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

28th Nov.—British Imperial Forces establish junction with the forces that had sallied out from Tobruk.

Gondar, the last Italian stronghold in Abyssinia, surrenders to the British, the garrison being 23,500 strong under General Vasi.

The Royal Air Force bombs Naples and Derna.

29th Nov.—The British advance continues in Libya, where the re-formed Axis armoured forces offer stiff resistance.

30th Nov.—Gen. von Revenstein, commanding the 21st German Panzer Division in Libya, is captured along with 600 German prisoners. British patrols penetrate to the Cyrenaican coast between Jedabaya and Benghazi.

The Royal Air Force raids Derna, Benghazi and Tripoli.

1st Dec.—The Germans, after penetrating British defences round Sidi Rezegh, are driven back. Pockets of enemy resistance are being eliminated by Indian and other units.

Eighteen Axis planes are destroyed in air combats. Three British fighters are lost but all the pilots are saved.

Malta's 1000th alert passes off without any attack developing.

2nd Dec.—The operations in Libya continue to be in a fluid state, the Germans taking Sidi Rezegh and Bir-El-Hamid but failing in their attempts to isolate Tobruk again.

3rd Dec.—The tempo of the Libyan operations slows down, both sides pausing for rest.

An anti-Fascist conspiracy is reported to have been unearthed in Italy and 71 persons are put on trial at Trieste.

4th Dec.—Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson is appointed to lead the Ninth British Army in the Middle East.

The New Zealand Premier states that the New Zealand forces in Libya both inflict and suffer heavy losses.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

28th Nov.—United States troops arrive in Paramaribo to protect the bauxite mines in Dutch Guiana.

30th Nov.—In the course of an address at Warm Springs, President Roosevelt says that Americans may have to fight to defend American institutions.

1st Dec.—A German raider is sunk in the South Atlantic by H.M.S. "*Devonshire.*"

A settlement of the railway dispute in the United States is reached and the threatened strike warded off.

The United States freighter *Macbeth* (4,935 tons), flying the Panamanian flag, is torpedoed in the North Atlantic.

2nd Dec.—Following on Col. Knox's declaration that the United States Navy is ready to meet any emergency in the Pacific as well as the Atlantic, a Washington announcement says that 33 warships have been launched and 52 keels laid in connection with the Naval programme.

3rd Dec.—The United States House of Representatives passes the Strike Control Bill.

The House Appropriations Committee approves a new Lease-Land appropriation of about 8,250 million dollars for providing more tanks and guns for Britain and Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

28th Nov.—The Russian advance continues in the Rostov sector. The Germans make a slight but costly advance near Stalinogorsk in the Moscow region.

The Russians bring down 19 German planes and sink an enemy oil tanker and five troop-transports.

29th Nov.—The Russians re-take Rostov, smashing Gen. von Kleist's Panzer troops. The German thrust near Tula on the Moscow front is beaten off but the Nazis claim Volokolamsk.

Fifty-eight German planes are brought down by the Russians in the course of 48 hours as against the loss of 13 Russian planes.

30th Nov.—The Russians pursue the remnants of Von Kleist's army towards Mariopol. In the North, they evacuate Tikhvin but in the Moscow sector they beat off all German outflanking movements.

The Finnish Government's spokesmen indicate in Parliament that they will continue the war with Russia.

1st Dec.—The Germans are firmly held on the Moscow front. While the pursuit of Von Kleist's forces continues in the south, a new Russian thrust is reported in the Donetz Basin.

2nd Dec.—The Germans have already retreated 40 miles from Rostov. Russian counter-attacks drive the Finns from four heights on the Karelian front and threaten the German flank at Tula in the Moscow region.

3rd Dec.—Soviet troops take the offensive in various sub-sectors of the Moscow front.

4th Dec.—The Germans make desparate efforts to take Tula in the Moscow region but the Russians resist stubbornly.

In the north, the Germans report the capture of a Russian troopship as a result of its striking a mine but there is no confirmation of the Finnish claim that the Russians have begun the evacuation of the Finnish naval base of Hangoe.

In the south, the Germans continue to retreat to Mariopol.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, Etc.

30th Nov.—The United States State Department welcomes the grant of independence to the Lebanon.

3rd Dec.—President Roosevelt announces that Turkey has been brought into the Lease-Lend programme as her defence is vital to the defence of the United States of America.

4th Dec.—The Royal Yugoslav General Head-Quartes announces fierce resistence to the Germans in Yugoslavia.

SHIPPING

28th Nov.—The Royal Air Force makes succesful attacks on enemy shipping off the Dutch and Norwegian coasts.

29th Nov.—The British submarines *Tigris* and *Trident* sink eight enemy ships and seriously damage five others in Arctic waters.

2nd Dec.—After sinking a heavily armed German raider, the Australian cruiser Sydney is herself sunk.

The British Navy in the Mediterranean sinks one Italian supply ship, one heavy destroyer and one tanker carrying 10,000 tons of petrol for the German army in Libya.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command, in the course of surprise attacks on the harbour at Kristiansund, sets on fire several enemy supply ships.

3rd Dec.—The United States Maritime Commission reveals that launchings in American shipyards are at the rate of one per day.

THE FAR EAST

28th Nov.—The Thailand National Assembly accepts a Bill, authorizing the Government to make preparations "for the defence of the Kingdom".

The Japanese Cabinet considers Mr. Cordell Hull's memorandum.

29th Nov.—President Roosevelt confers with the Secretary of State and the Secretaries for War and the Navy before leaving Washington for Warm Springs for the week-end. Meanwhile Lord Halifax hurries from Philadelphia to confer with Mr. Cordell Hull on the Far East situation.

Reports circulate in Japan that the United States of America is to institute air patrols over the Burma Road.

Leave for British troops is cancelled in Singapore.

30th Nov.—British troops in Singapore are asked to stand by. American Nationals in Thailand are advised by the consular authorities to be ready to leave at a moment's notice. Large reinforcements of British Indian troops arrive in Rangoon.

1st Dec.—The United States–Japan talks are resumed in Washington. President Roosevelt, who hurries back to the capital after cutting short his holiday, confers with Mr. Cordell Hull.

The Saigon Radio says that Japan has decided temporarily to suspend the despatch of fresh troops to Indo-China.

The Japanese Foreign Minister reports to the Cabinet. Meanwhile, a State of Emergency is proclaimed in Singapore and precautions are taken both at Hong Kong and in the Philippines. Admiral Sir Tom Phillips is to be the British Naval Commander-in-Chief, China station.

2nd Dec.—The British battleship *Prince of Wales* and other units of the Royal Navy arrive in Singapore.

3rd Dec.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under-Secretary of State, reveals that President Roosevelt has asked Japan a few questions and expects a prompt reply.

4th Dec.—President Roosevelt confers with Congressional leaders on the Far East situation.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

29th Nov.—Official circles in Vichy deny the report that French air and naval bases in North Africa have been handed over to the Axis powers.

The United States Coast Guard increases its protection of French ships in American harbours, which may be requisitioned by America in the event of the Nazis gaining control of the French Fleet.

1st Dec.—Marshal Petain confers with Goering at a place 80 miles from Paris "on matters of interest to Germany and France.".

3rd Dec.—A German military officer is shot in Paris and the Nazis threaten fierce reprisal against the civil population.

4th Dec.—Bases in North Africa for German use and Spanish-Vichy co-operation in West Africa are reported to have been decided on at the Petain-Goering meeting.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1st Dec.—The Polish Premier, Gen. Sikorski, is welcomed by the Soviet President when he arrives at Kujbyshev in order to organize a Polish army on Russian soil.

2nd Dec.—The Danish Minister in London says he is unable to take orders from the Axis-ridden Government in Denmark.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1st Dec.—The Dublin mail-boat *Cambria* is unsuccessfully attacked by a German plane.

The Chilean Defence Council meets.

The Spanish Foreign Minister reports to Gen. Franco on his recent talks in Berlin with German and Italian Ministers.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The war clouds have burst in the Pacific. Japan has declared war on the United States and Britain. Japanese naval and air units have attacked the Pearl Harbour at Honolulu and Manila in the Philippines. Japanese landings in North Malaya are being hotly contested by the British Imperial forces but Thailand ceased resistance after five hours and a half of fighting and permitted Japanese troops to pass through. Great Britain and the Commonwealth, the United States, China, the Netherlands and most of the Latin American countries have taken up Japan's challenge and declared war on her.

Opinion in civilized countries has been outraged by Japan's sudden aggression even while her envoys were pretending to negotiate a peaceful settlement at Washington. President Roosevelt tried his best to preserve the peace in the Pacific and went to the length of addressing a personal appeal to the Emperor of Japan. It is a lengthy document in which he reviewed the situation which has been developing for some time in the Far East, with special reference to Indo-China. Such a situation, he said, could not continue. The peoples in the Philippines, the Dutch Indies, Malaya and Thailand could not sit down either indefinitely or permanently on a keg of dynamite. The message concluded with these words: "I address myself to Your Majesty at this moment in the fervent hope that Your Majesty, as I am doing, may give a thought to this definite emergency and to the ways of dispelling the dark clouds. I am confident that both of us, for the sake of the peoples not only of our own great countries but for the sake of humanity in the neighbouring territory, have a sacred duty to restore the traditional amity and prevent further death and destruction in the world."

One result of Japan's aggression has been the declaration of war by her Axis partners, Germany and Italy on the United States. The three Axis states have entered into a military alliance. Against them stand together the British Commonwealth, the United States of America, Russia and China (who has herself formally declared war on Germany, Italy and Japan). Hitler, in an address to the Reichstag this week, boasted that he had formed an unassailable front in Europe. But, speaking on the same day in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill rightly claimed that the four great communities ranged against Hitler would soon teach a much-needed lesson to him and his partners in crime. The American Congress, after deciding to accept Hitler's (and Mussolini's) challenge, gave the Administration power to send American Expeditionary Forces abroad.

In Libya and in Russia the Germans are hard pressed. The hitherto victorious enemy has been forced on the defensive. British and Imperial troops have dealt firmly with enemy armoured formations in Libya and are pressing all along the ring inside which General Rommel's forces are contained. He tries to avoid a decisive battle by moving westward but his hope may not materialise. Meanwhile, the British have re-captured Sidi Rezegh, strengthened the link with Tobruk and mopped up enemy detachments in the quadrangle—El Adem, El Gobi, Sollum and Bardia.

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that General Sir Alan Cunningham, Commander of the British (Eighth) Army in Libya, had been granted sick leave and had been succeeded by Major-General Ritchie.

The course of Russian operations also gives room for guarded optimism. The Russians are not only able to continue their stonewalling

tactics of defence but have obviously used the respite afforded by the autumn weather to gather strength for counter-strokes. In the north they have re-taken Tikhvin, in the centre they are pressing back the Germans both at Kalinin and at Tula, and in the south they have recovered hundreds of square miles of territory and are in a position to threaten both Kharkov in the Ukraine and the German line in the Crimea.

A joint declaration of friendship and mutual understanding between the Soviet Union and the Polish Republic has been signed in Moscow —by MM. Stalin and Molotov for Russia and General Sikorski and M. Khot for Poland. Both States, jointly with Britain and other Allies, with the support of the U. S. A. pledge themselves to wage war until complete victory and the final destruction of Nazidom. Polish troops on Soviet territory will fight hand in hand with Soviet troops. In peace-time their relations will be based on good-neighbourly collaboration, friendship and mutual honest observance of the undertakings assumed by both the parties. After the victorious conclusion of the war and the appropriate punishment of the Hitlerite criminal, it will be the task of the Allied States to ensure a durable and just peace, which can only be achieved through a new organization of international relations on the basis of unification of the democratic countries and durable alliance. Respect for international law, backed by collective, armed force, will be the decisive factor in such an organization.

Meanwhile, Great Britain and the Commonwealth have now declared war on the Axis Satellites, Finland, Rumania and Hungary, who had refused to stop their aggression against the Soviet Union.

The extension of the benefits of the Lease-Lend Act to Turkey, announced by President Roosevelt last week, is welcomed in Ankara as a friendly gesture, showing that the United States has understood correctly the developments of recent months in the Turkish foreign policy. The President's declaration now gives Turkey priority rights without which she has been unable to buy even non-military materials in the United States and she is now able to buy for her own industries also. It is expected that Mr. William Bullitt, President Roosevelt's special representative to the Near East, will visit Ankara. And it has been authoritatively stated that American Lease-Lend supplies to the Middle East will not be affected by the war in the Pacific. " Business as usual " is to be the motto.

Launchings in the United States shipyards will, for the first time, total one per day this month. The United States Maritime Commission predicts that the ultimate objective of two per day will be reached by the middle of next year. This rate will be continued " until the emergency need is met." The Commission in its long-range building programme anticipates completion of over 1,200 ships of approximately 13,500,000 tons by the end of 1943.

NAVAL LOSSES IN THE FAR EAST

As stated earlier, Great Britain and the United States have, owing to Japan's premeditated treachery, suffered heavy initial losses. The naval balance in the Far East has been tilted against the Democracies by the loss in action of the British battleships *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse*. These two were attacked by Japanese torpedo-bombers off the North Malaya coast and sustained direct hits. Before going down they accounted for seven enemy aircraft. Admiral Sir Tom Phillips, Commander-in-Chief of the Far Eastern Fleet is missing but luckily more than 2,300 sailors were saved.

Sister shop to King George the Fifth, the *Prince of Wales* was launched in 1939 and was completed after the war began. She had a displacement of 35,000 tons, a speed of over 30 knots, most modern equipment and a normal complement of 1,500. It will be recalled that she carried Mr. Churchill for the famous meeting with President Roosevelt at which the Atlantic Charter was drawn up. Previously, she had participated effectively in the action which culminated in the sinking of the German battleship *Bismarck*.

The *Repulse* was a battle cruiser belonging to the *Renown* class, with a displacement of 32,000 tons and a complement of 1,200 men. She was completed in August 1916.

The loss of these two battleships is a grievous loss at the present juncture, for they would have been a match for anything the Japanese could have sent against them but the latest published information shows that Britain has still 19 battleships afloat or building. *H.M.S. Lion* and *H.M.S. Temeraire*, 40,000-monsters are to be completed in 1943 and two sister ships the following year and after all the immense warship programme which the United States launched since the end of the naval limitation era has put her in a very powerful position to maintain a long war. Her main force already comprises 17 battleships, and in shipyards 15 are being completed. Any gaps that may be made in the fighting line in the early weeks of hostilities will be speedily made up by new construction.

American warships will soon be steaming to Malaya and Philippines where the main land battles must take place and the Japanese navy, which maintains temporary superiority and performs the important task of convoying Japanese troopships to Malaya and Thailand, will soon have to reckon with the American Navy.

And Japan, in her turn, has lost her crack liner *Haruna* of 29,000 tons with a complement of nearly 1,000 men. She was set on fire and sunk off the Philippines by American aircratf. And Japan has lost a cruiser, a destroyer, a number of submarines and three troops-transporters.

That Britain's confidence in the Royal Navy has not been shaken is evident from the first reactions of prominent public men to the loss of her two battleships. A member of the Cabinet said :" It has always been the British tradition to hear and receive hard news as a spur and as an indication of the gravity of the tasks lying before us and in that spirit we accept it to-day." Another Minister said : " The setback will in no way weaken in the smallest degree our confidence but will strengthen the will-power and the determination of the nation." Lord Chatfield, former First Lord of the Admiralty and Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence, said : " Considering the tremendous modern methods of war, we may consider ourselves blessed by Providence that we should only have lost three battleships in three years."

The citizens of Edinburgh, who have collected £12½ million for the Warships Week, have decided to replace the two battleships.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S CALL TO THE NATION

In a fireside chat to the nation on Tuesday night, President Roosevelt warned his countrymen that the war which had broken out in the Pacific " will not only be a long war, it will be a hard war." He said that the casualty list of the first few days would be large and that the American people must be prepared for the announcement that Guam, Wake and Midway Islands had been seized, but he rejected the Japanese claims that they have gained naval supremacy in the Pacific. The President's speech which only underlined his earlier message to Congress said : " We must begin the great task before us by abandoning once for all the illusion that we can ever again isolate ourselves."

The President said that the United States Government had known for weeks that Germany " has been telling Japan that if Japan did not attack the United States, Japan will not share in the spoil." He added that Japan was promised perpetual and complete control of the whole of the Pacific area, including " the strangle-hold of the west coast of North, Central and South America." He said that Germany and Japan were conducting military and naval operations, according to a joint plan. President Roosevelt added : " Remember always that Germany and Italy, regardless of any formal declaration of war, consider themselves at war with the United States this moment. Germany puts all the other republics of the Americas in the category of enemies." America expects to eliminate the danger to the world from Japan but " it will serve us ill if we accomplished that and found that the rest of the world was dominated by Hitler and Mussolini." All continents and all oceans are now considered by Axis strategists as one gigantic battlefield.

Mr. Roosevelt, like Mr. Churchill, had no illusions about the arduous nature of the task facing the Democracies but he was equally confident of the ultimate outcome.

" The United States can accept no result save victory, final and complete," said the President. " Not only must the shame of the Japanese treachery be wiped out but the sources of international brutality, wherever there exist, must be finally broken. We shall need and demand money and materials, doubled and quadrupled, and prodction ever-increasing. We must realize that Japanese success against the United States in the Pacific will be helpful to German operations in Libya and any German success in the Caucasus will inevitably be of assistance to Japan. We are going to win the war and we are going to win the peace that follows."

MR. CHURCHILL ON THE WAR

The position of Britain, the United States and her Allies following the Japanese declaration of war was reviewed by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons on Thursday.

Starting with the position in Libya, Mr. Churchill said : " The Libyan ocensive did not take the expected course but General Auchinleck set out to destroy the entire armed forces of the Germans and Italians. Now it seems very probable that he will do so. From the viewpoint of drawing weight from the vast Russian front, the continuance of the fighting in its severity is not to be regarded as an evil. The first phase is over. The enemy has been swept out of positions which barred our western advance. Tobruk is definitely disengaged. Substantial British reinforcements and fresh troops are close at hand." In the Battle of the Atlantic, the Prime Minister said that November fully maintained the great recovery of the previous four months. Paying a tribute to Russia's " glorious steadfastness ", Mr. Churchill said : " German losses have been immense. The Russians now have regained definite superiority in the air over large parts of the front. Although our position has changed in important ways, not all favourable, we must faithfully and punctually fulfil the very serious undertakings we have made to Russia." Mr. Churchill continued : " The Japanese onslaught has brought upon the United States and Britain very serious injuries to our naval power. I cannot remember a naval blow so heavy as the sinking of the *Prince of Wales* and the *Repulse*. The naval power of Britain and the United States is still largely superior to the combined forces of the three Axis powers. For the next few months at any rate, we must expect that the volume of American supplies reaching Britain and the degree of help given by the United States Navy will be reduced."

Concluding, the Prime Minister said : " Naturally, I should not be prepared to discuss the resulting situation in the Far East and in the Pacific or the measures which must be

taken to restore it. It may well be that we shall have to suffer considerable punishment but we shall defend ourselves everywhere with the utmost vigour and in close co-operation with the United States and the Netherlands Navy. The naval power of Britain and the United States was very greatly superior, and is still largely superior, to the combined forces of the three Axis powers. But no one can underrate the gravity of the loss which has been inflicted in Malaya and Hawaii or the power of the new antagonist who has fallen upon us, or the length of time it will take to create marshal and mount a great force in the Far East, which will be necessary to achieve absolute victory. We have a very hard period to go through and a new surge of impulse will be required, and will be forthcoming from everybody. We must faithfully keep our engagements to Russia in supplies and, at the same time, must expect, at any rate for the next few months, that the volume of the American supplies reaching Britain and the degree of help given by the United States Navy will be reduced. The gap must be filled and only our own efforts will fill it. I cannot doubt, however, now that 130 million people in the United States have bound themselves to this war, the flow of munitions and aid of every kind will vastly exceed anything that could have been expected on a peace-time basis. The British Empire, the United States, Russia and China are fighting for life. Behind these four great combatant communities are ranged all the spirit and hopes of all conquered countries in Europe, prostrate and under the domination of the foe. It would, indeed, bring shame upon our generation if we did not teach him a lesson which will not be forgotton in the records of a thousand years."

UNITED STATES PLANS TO DEFEAT NAZIS

Before the United States was forced into a war against the Axis, something like a sensation was caused in America by the publication in an Isolationist newspaper *The Chicago Tribune* of a confidential letter written by President Roosevelt to the Joint Army-Navy Board and the report drawn up by the Board in reply to the President. Mr. Roosevelt's letter, dated July 9, asked for a report on " overall production requirements required to defeat our potential enemies." The Army-Navy Board's report, dated September 11, stated as America's major objective " complete military defeat of Germany " and pointed out that an inconclusive peace would merely give Germany time to reorganize. The report advocated material support of the present military operations against Germany and their enforcement by active participation in the war by the United States while holding Japan in check pending future developments. The report said that at the present time the chief democratic strength, except for Russia, lay in naval and air power. Since only land armies are likely to win wars, effective strategic offensive methods other than an early land offensive in Europe must be employed, such as continuation of the economic blockade, prosecution of land offensives in distant regions while German troops can expend only a fraction of the total strength, air and sea offensives against Germany's resources and support of subversive activities in occupied territories. The report then classified the projected American operations into three phases, firstly, to assure delivery of supplies, second, active participation with Britain and other nations fighting the Axis, and third, the final defeat of Germany. The report continued that before any offensive against Germany could be taken, the Nazis must be driven from Norway and also predicted that by next July the Russian armies would be driven behind the line stretching from the White Sea to the Volga River. (As late as September the American War Department was pessimistic about Russian resistance but has since altered its view in the light of better information.) The Army-Navy Board further considered a land invasion of Germany possible by July 1943, but the Army and Air Intelligence Department disputed this, adding that if an air offensive was successful there might be no need for a land attack on Germany.

However, the United States Secretary for War, Mr. Stimson, at a press conference, denounced as " wanting in loyalty and patriotism " the publication of what purported to be a secret army plan for an American Expeditionary Force to Europe. Mr. Stimson said that the documents which the *Chicago Tribune* published represented " unfinished studies of our production requirements for national defence, which have been carried on by the General Staff as part of their duties in this emergency." He added, " They have never constituted an authorized programme of the Government. While their publication will doubtless be of gratification to our potential enemies, it will be a possible source of impairment and embarrassment to our national defence. The chief evil of their publication is the revelation that there should be among us any group of persons so lacking in appreciation of the danger that confronts the country and so wanting in loyalty and patriotism to their Government that they would be willing to take and publish such papers."

WAR ON AXIS SATELLITES

Great Britain is now at war with Finland, Hungary and Rumania. She sent notes to these three countries, informing them that if they did not cease hostilities with the Soviet Union, they would be considered as enemies. All of them rejected the ultimatum with the result that, from the midnight of the 7th December, a state of war exists between Great Britain and these three countries. What is surprising is that Finland should have embarked upon the invasion of the Soviets beyond her 1939 frontier. There is a good deal of sympathy for her in America and Great Britain but the adhesion of Finland to the Anti-Comintern Pact had widened the breach between that country and the Democracies. M. Rangell, the Finnish Prime Minister, did more than hint that the argument that Finland was fighting for the security of her frontiers might carry her beyond the old frontiers. American disapproval is certainly very bitter to the Premier but there was no alternative to the Democracies but to take the step they have taken. Of course, Finland does not like the course she is pursuing and Finns realize that there are serious dangers in the policy they have laid down for themselves but the trouble is that Finland, as well as Rumania and Hungary, is not a free agent but is bound to the German chariot-wheels. This declaration of war on these three countries, perfectly logical in the circumstances, may not have any direct military significance. Two things, however, have got to be remembered. One is that such a declaration is a demonstration that Great Britain is solidly behind the U. S. S. R. and the second is that, as stated in the British note, Geat Britain would be forced to treat Finland as an open enemy, not only while the war lasts but also when peace comes to be made.

GERMANY'S NEW ORDER

The " New Order " of Germany is, as everybody knows, nothing but a reversion to the rule of force that prevailed during the darkest periods in the Middle Ages—oppression, terrorism and slavery. Germany has utterly failed to keep up the pose of a crusade against Russia. The " New Order ", which makes so many satellites running round Germany, can only be sustained by force. The following account of what is happening in these countries is a fair sample of the kind of regime that may be expected in the " New Order " :

Czechoslovakia.—Savage reprisals have been taken against Czech students. Some who were already in prison have been killed while 8,000 have been sent to Germany for forced labour. Numerous executions for possession of arms and " economic sabotage " take place every day.

Poland.—On 10th October, 20,000 Jews from the Reich were deported at 10 minutes' notice to Poland. The Gestapo is forcibly transferring 9 million Poles from the western provinces, which have been incorporated in the Reich, to districts in Central Poland, while continual man-hunts in Central Poland secure forced labour to work in German factories. Eighty-two thousand people have been killed and dive-bombers too, have been used to disperse the Polish guerilla fighters.

Norway.—Prisons in Oslo and the suburbs are packed to the limit and people are sent to the concentration camps for refusing to part with their tents, bedsheets and blankets, which the Germans need for their soldiers on the Russian front. Executions for sabotage and mass arrests for economic disturbances are a regular feature of the Nazi Commissar, Terboven's rule in the country.

Holland.—The death penalty has been instituted for listening to B.B.C broadcasts and the people have been advised to eat raw food so that the Germans may take away the fuel. A forced loan has been instituted and heavy fines are imposed on an already starving population. The police have been ordered to fire on people who flock to the bakeries for food.

Belgium.—Belgian patients have been moved out from hospitals in Brussels, Ghent and Antwerp and now lie in the streets to make room for German wounded from the Eastern Front.

France.—Frenchmen are still being executed in considerable numbers for sabotage and possession of arms. Some 75,000 French labourers have been taken away to Germany " in order to banish unemployment in France."

Greece.—In Crete, villages have been plundered and burned and refugees fleeing for safety have been murdered. People have been forced to dig their graves before being executed. A hundred thousand Greeks have been driven from Eastern Macedonia. Some 15,000 were killed when a motorised division exterminated 6 villages as a reprisal for the death of 19 Bulgarian soldiers.

Serbia.—At Karlavatz, 700 men were shut up in cattletrucks for 8 days without food and drink. At Banalika, where 12,000 Serbians lived, not one is left to-day. In revenge for local sabotage, the town of Dabec has been razed to the ground. The number of people massacred on October 12 is estimated at about 340,000. Stuka dive-bombers are playing havoc in Serbian towns. Uzici has been completely destroyed.

Croatia.—Continued massacres in Croatia have led to a general exodus to Serbia where there are now half a million refugees. The Germans have threatened to destroy Belgrade by shell-fire as a reprisal for guerilla activity.

THE RUSSIAN WAR

All along the battle front the Russian troops are asserting themselves more vigorously than ever. They have re-captured the important railway centre of Tikhvin, north-east of Leningrad; the Germans are still trying their utmost to isolate the latter! On the Moscow front, the Germans have not only been able to make headway but have let it be known that they are giving up their idea of taking Moscow during the winter. Of course, they blame the extremely cold weather but it is Russian valour and determination that mainly turned the scale! In a week's continual fighting at Volokolamsk, north-west of Moscow, the Germans lost over 10,000 men killed or wounded. The Russians have launched a vigorous counter-offensive in Kalinin, north

of Moscow, and have thereby strengthened their positions on the Volga; at Tula, south of Moscow, the Germans have found their pincers movement beaten off and the Russians taking the offensive and regaining control of the highroad to Moscow. The Russians have re-captured Elets, due east of Orel, in the Moscow sector, routing two German infantry divisions and inflicting 12,000 casualities on the Germans. In the south, the Germans admit that their defences have been broken through on the southern sector of the Rostov front and at the approaches to Taganrog. The Russians are advancing in the Donetz Basin and have taken the mining town of Matveyev. On the eastern bank of the Miuess river which runs to the Sea of Azov, the Russians have retaken Kuibyshevo and are now pressing back the Germans on the southern front along the shore of that sea, desperate Nazi counter-attacks having failed. Hundreds of square miles of Russian territory have been liberated from the Germans, who are now purely on the defensive and have even reported Russian attempts to land on the west coast of the Crimea. It is too early to say that the Germans will give up the idea of taking Moscow and re-capturing Rostov during the winter but the Russians may well be expected to beat them off.

BRITISH PROGRESS IN LIBYA

Authoritative quarters in London state that the second phase of the Battle of Libya is nearing its end. The first phase consisted of preliminary moves and the second dealt with enemy armoured formations. Of these there is now only an isolated detachment east of the line from El Gobi to Tobruk. The eastern half of the Tobruk perimeter has been cleared of the main enemy forces, the German tank columns retiring westward after a series of running fights. The whole area north of Capuzzo Road is also practically clear of the enemy, the British seizing large quantities of material, ammunition and supplies. Patrols from Tobruk have again firmly linked up with the main British forces. In a hundred-mile long quadrangle between El Adem, El Gobi, Sollum and Bardia, only straggling parties of Germans and Italians are to be seen. As we confidently expected last week, the British have not only completed the capture of El Duda but have re-taken Sidi Rezegh and El Adem. It looks as if General Rommel is trying his best to avoid the now almost inevitable full-scale battle which would decisively go against him. The British forces containing his forces are pressing continuously; he has also been forced to realize the extreme difficulty of obtaining supplies. How long he can hold out without trying conclusions on a big scale remains to be seen! Meanwhile the Royal Air Force takes a heavy toll of his supplies, continuously bombs his bases both in Libya and in Italy and shoots down relentlessly such Axis aircraft as make their appearance in the sky. In one day's battle alone, 22 enemy planes were shot down in air combats in Libya. There is undoubtedly heavy fighting in score but the British Imperial troops—the Indians have particularly distinguished themselves in attacks on Rommel's armoured divisions—are now well placed to tackle any German attempt to break through. "The centre of gravity," said Major Lewis Hastings in a B.B.C. commentary on December 3, "shifts continually," but a striking feature of the operations is that they are still taking place within the strategic framework designed by General Cunningham. The struggle is still conditioned by the aims of the British advance at the beginning of the attack. "These were to outflank and paralyse the whole frontal defensive system of the Axis and to force battle within the area bounded by these defences and the Tobruk sally." In three weeks a great deal has been achieved, though General Cunningham has had to take sick leave owing to over-strain and has been succeeded by Major-General Ritchie. (1) General Rommel has lost his advance supply bases and aerodromes. (2) His offensive power has been seriously impaired. (3) His strong posts between Sidi Omar and Sollum are being reduced, and many of his coastal defences are isolated. These successes have not been achieved without very hard fighting, nor was it ever expected that they would be. General Rommel is known as a personal friend of Hitler and a fanatical Nazi, and it is probable that he has received orders to fight to the last bullet and the last drop of petrol. Outflanked as he has been, he has, indeed, no alternative between such a course and capitulation. The peculiar nature of desert tank-warfare, however, is such that (as at sea) an advantage of armament and numbers can be contrived at particular points by even a hard-pressed enemy who can alter his local dispositions under cover of darkness. This operates in places to the benefit of a concentrated defending force where, as in this case, it is virtually surrounded by forces disposed over a very wide area. As soon as the weather clears the battle will flare up again, and unless the Axis can successfully run the British aerial, naval and land blockade, General Rommel's resistance must find a limit. His supplies and reinforcements are all important, and it is good news that an Axis tanker, which tried to get about 10,000 tons of oil to Sollum, was sunk with its escort without loss to ourselves.

WHEAT AND THE WAR

Mr. Hudson, the Minister for Agriculture, forecast in September 1941, a record wheat harvest in Britain. Chief among the factors that have helped British agriculture have been the mobilization of the Women's Land Army, and the increase in acreage under the plough, roughly four million acres since the war began. Lord Woolton, Minister for Food, chimed in with the above sentiments when about the same time he said "Our greatest safeguard is bread" and later added that Britain has bigger stocks of wheat than ever before in the history of the country. In the wreckage of the most terriffic *blitz* not a single town ever went short of bread. On November 12, Mr. Churchill summed up the position. While the food situation in general gave good ground for reasonable optimism, the corn harvest of this year was 50 per cent greater than in 1939. What has secured England's grain position and exploded Axis propaganda is the special step taken by the Ministry of Food for putting through "the biggest warehousing scheme in the world." Every kind of building has been skilfully adapted for stocking food which in peacetime used to be stored in warehouses in the ports. An equally bright picture is presented by the other members of the British Commonweath. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa recently estimated that the total carry-over of wheat this year is by far the largest amount ever carried over from one crop year to the next. This year's figure exceeded the previous year's by 179,610,226 bushels. The official forecast of the Australian wheat crop predicts a yield of 5 per cent above average. In the United States of America, Mr. Claude Wickard, Secretary for Food, has aptly summed up America's attitude towards food: "Food will win the war and write the peace." On October 9, Mr. Wickard said that America would "furnish the amount of food necessary to take care of about one-fourth of the population of Britain." To achieve this a drastic scheme of agricultural reorganization has been put through and the "ever normal granary for the ever normal food supply" is rapidly assuming substance. The United States now has 400 million bushels of wheat carried over from last year. This year's crop, the fifth largest in history, will add 913 million bushels more to the carry-over. Let us now look at the enemy's supply. Europe's food-producing areas have suffered seriously and in several ways. The war has drained off many farm workers; mass flights of refugees, and waves of Nazi-compelled migration, have drained off thousands more. Bombs, battles, defensive inundation have devastated acres of crops, tons of stores. As the Nazi jack-boot tramps across Europe, the rigid Nazi system of food priorities is ruthlessly enforced. The army first, then skilled workmen in Germany, German civilians, then the new subjects of the Nazis, with prisoners, the insane, Poles and Jews at the bottom of the list. The most authoritative pronouncement regarding the German harvest was made by Dr. Darre, the Minister of Agriculture, in August last year. He said that the German harvest "is only 2 per cent below normal but Germany's bread supply is secured for a long period." But the manner in which "Germany's bread supply is secured" may be judged from the following examples:

(1) The *Volkrecht* (Switzerland) of September 1940 reported that fields of wheat in France are reserved for the Germans by swastika signs. About 300,000 tons of wheat were removed to Germany from occupied France.

(2) Dr. Dalton stated in the House of Commons (2nd August 1940) that Norway had in hand a year's supply of cereals and there was no doubt a large part of the stocks had been removed to Germany. A subsequent announcement that German military authorities had "bought" the grain confirmed the suspicion.

(3) "All grain for the whole of Europe has to go to Germany to be apportioned to the various countries. During the transaction the white flour manages to stay behind in Germany." (John Raynor, B.B.C. talk, 30th November 1941).

(4) In Rumania, one of the greatest wheat-producing countries in Europe, food is rationed and since May of this year bread riots have been frequent.

(5) In April this year Germany fathered wheat agreements between Russia and Norway, and between Russia and Belgium. This blatant piece of cynicism was undertaken to keep the hungry quiet. In June Germany declared war on Russia.

(6) While the number of grammes of bread permitted for the members of the Greater Reich is higher than that allowed in Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Poland and the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, it is less than the figure allotted for people in France and Norway.

GERMAN CYNICISM

Not only does Germany plunder ruthlessly in the occupied countries and use food-shortage as a weapon of domination. She has also found the subject of value in propaganda of the most cynical and often self-contradictory kind. To distant countries she harps on her unlimited reserves, as in a German broadcast to South America: "Enormous reserve stocks of all essential foodstuffs exist in Germany." At the same time she recently made a public declaration that she was not obliged to see to the feeding of the people who were the victims of her power. In almost the same breath she dismisses the British blockade as entirely ineffective and condemns it (for American listeners) as inhuman. The Dutch, laments Dr. Goebbels, are being starved by Britain, yet "many lines of produce are being sent to Germany from the Low Countries". (Zeesen broadcast, December 1940). It will be remembered that the Germans are adepts at converting foodstuffs into materials for armaments. Maize and potatoes can be converted into power alcohol and acetone, beans into casein for plastics, fats into glycerine (for explosives) and varnish.

In July of this year an International Wheat Conference was held in Washington. Mr. Welles said that in another year wheat surpluses totalling 1½ million bushes would hang

over the international markets; something more than talk was necessary to give the soldiers of peace full stomachs. The United States Government would suggest for all Governments to ponder over and give effect to the following points. Price-pegging of all major crops; accumulation of surpluses; Government encouragement of " basic crops." The goal for each Government is more consumption for the eventual establishment of a higher international standard of living.

WHEAT SITUATION IN INDIA

Two steamers have been allocated to bring to India 16,000 tons of Australian wheat, which will fully replace the 15,659 tons of Indian wheat shipped urgently to Iran, where the ill-conceived policy of the former autocratic Government had caused widespread wheat-shortage and acute distress. At the same time the Government of India, by preventing wheat prices from soaring above their already abnormal level, are endeavouring to check the bullish tendency in the market caused by irresponsible speculation. It should be reiterated that India has not been the only, nor indeed the chief exporter of wheat to relieve acute shortage in Middle Eastern countries. More wheat has been sent from Australia and North America than from India, and in the case of Iran, Russia also has played her part. The choice of India to meet the most immediate needs was due to her geographical position and to questions of speed and shipping facilities. The British Food Ministry, at the Indian Government's request, has now decided not to purchase any more wheat in India this year. The appointment of a Wheat Controller is under active consideration by the Government of India. The following facts appear to be insufficiently known.

(1) It is not rations for Indian troops in the Middle East that are provided from the food resources of India. These indigenous items of foodstuff are what the troops would normally consume in this country. Their export, therefore, has no effect on supply questions or market-rates in India.

(2) The cost not only of these rations but of all rations despatched to theatres of war is debitable to His Majesty's Government, and is not paid by the Indian public, but by the most heavily-taxed people in the world, the British.

(3) Australia continues to despatch food for both the British and Dominion troops in the Middle East, and no differences have ever arisen in this respect.

THE FLARE-UP IN THE FAR EAST

AMERICAN DECLARATION OF WAR

Following the receipt of a message from President Roosevelt, the United States Senate voted a War Resolution by 82 votes to 0 and the House of Representatives by 388 to 1, the solitary one being that of Mr. Rankin.

President Roosevelt has signed the resolution which runs as follows:—

" Whereas the Imperial Japanese Government has committed unprovoked acts of war against the people of the United States of America. Therefore be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that a state of war between the United States and the Imperial Japanese Government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States, is hereby formally declared and the President is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on the war against the Japanese Government and bring the conflict to a successful termination; all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The following is the text of Mr. Roosevelt's message:—

" Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States was suddenly and deliberately attacked by the naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its Government and its Emperor, looking towards the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in the American islands of Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to our Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message and while this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or of an armed attack. It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time, the Japanese Government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

" The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost. In addition, American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu. Yesterday, the Japanese Government also launched an attack against Malaya. Last night, Japanese forces attacked Hongkong. Last night, Japanese forces attacked Guam. Last night, Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands. Last night, the Japanese attacked Wake Island and this morning, the Japanese attacked Midway Islands.

" Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive, extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday and to-day speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and will understand the implications to the very life and safety of our nation.

" As the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, I have directed that all measures be taken for our defence, but always will our whole nation remember the character of the onslaught against us. (Applause.) No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people, in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory. (Cheers and applause.) I believe that I interpret the will of Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us. (Applause.)

" Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger. With confidence in our armed forces, with unbounding determination of the people, we will gain inevitable triumph, so help us God. (Applause and cheers.) I ask Congress to declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack on the United States on Sunday, December 7, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire." (Prolonged cheers.)

MR. CHURCHILL'S STATEMENT

Loud cheering greeted Mr. Churchill's arrival in the House of Commons on Monday afternoon, which was renewed when he said: " As soon as I heard last night that Japan had attacked the United States, I felt it necessary that Parliament should be immediately summoned. It is indispensable to our system of Government that Parliament should play its due part in all important tasks and at all the crucial moments in the conduct of war.

The following points in the Prime Minister's speech may be noted :—

(1) " With the full approval of the Nation and the Empire, I pledged the word of Great Britain about a month ago that should the United States be involved in a war with Japan, British declaration of war would follow within the hour. I therefore spoke to President Roosevelt on the Atlantic Telephone last night with a view to arranging the times of our respective declarations. The President told me that he would this morning send a message to Congress, which naturally can alone make a declaration of war for the United States and I then assured him that we would follow immediately. However, it soon appeared that British territory in Malaya had also been an object of Japanese attack and later it was announced from Tokyo that the Japanese High Command—not the Imperial Japanese Government, but the Japanese High Command—had declared that a state of war existed between Japan and Great Britain, and the United States. That being so, there was no need to wait for a declaration by Congress."

(2) " As the American time is nearly six hours behind ours, the Cabinet which met at 12-30 to-day, authorized an immediate declaration of war upon Japan. Instructions to this effect were sent to His Majesty's Ambassador in Tokyo and a communication was dispatched to the Japanese Charge d'Affaires at 10 o'clock to-day to this effect : ' On the evening of December 7, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom learned that Japanese forces, without previous warning or an ultimatum with a conditional declaration of war, had attempted a landing on the coast of Malaya, and bombed Singapore and Hongkong. In view of these wanton acts of unprovoked aggression, committed in flagrant violation of international law and particularly Article 1 of the Hague Convention relative to the opening of hostilities, to which both Japan and the United Kingdom are parties, His Majesty's Ambassador in Tokyo has been instructed to inform the Imperial Japanese Government in the name of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom that a state of war exists between the two countries.' "

(3) " Hostilities have already begun. The Japanese began landing in British territory in Northern Malaya at about 1 o'clock (local time) yesterday and they were immediately engaged by our forces, which were in readiness. Home Office measures against Japanese nationals were set in motion at 10-45 last night. The House will see, therefore, that no time has been lost and we were actually ahead of our engagements."

(4) " The Royal Netherlands Government at once marked their solidarity with Great Britain and the United States at 3 o'clock this morning. The Netherlands Minister informed the Foreign Office that his Government were telling the Japanese Government that in view of the hostile acts perpetrated by Japanese forces against two powers with whom the Netherlands maintained friendly and close relations, they considered that as a consequence a state of war now exists between the Netherlands and Japan."

(5) " I do not know what part Siam (Thailand) will be called upon to play in this fresh war but a report has reached us that the Japanese landed at Singora in Siamese territory on the frontiers of Malaya, not far from the landing they have made on the British side of the frontier. Meanwhile, just before Japan had gone to war, I sent the Siamese Prime Minister the following message early yesterday (Sunday) morning : ' There is a possibility of an imminent Japanese invasion of your country. If you are attacked, defend yourselves. The preservation of the full independence and sovereignty of Thailand is a British interest and we shall regard an attack on you as an attack on ourselves.' " .

(6) " It is worth while looking for a moment at the manner in which the Japanese have begun their assault upon the English-speaking world. Every circumstance of calculated and characteristic treachery was employed against the United States. The Japanese envoys Nomura and Kurusu were ordered to prolong their mission in the United States in order to keep the conversations going while a surprise attack was being prepared to be made before a declaration of war could be delivered. The President's appeal to the Emperor, which doubtless many members have read—it has been largely published in papers here—reminding him of ancient friendship and the importance of preserving peace in the Pacific, has received only this base, brutal reply. No one can doubt that every effort to bring about a peaceful solution has been made by the Government of the United States and that immense patience in face of the growing Japanese menace has been shown."

(7) " So precarious and narrow was the margin on which we then (after Dunkirk) lived that we did not dare to express the sympathy which we all along felt for the heroic people of China. We were even forced for a short time in the summer of 1940 to agree to the closing of the Burma Road. But later, at the beginning of this year, as soon as we could recover our strength, we reversed the policy and the House will remember that both I and the

(*Continued on page 20*)

THAILAND

KINGDOM OF THE FREE

[We are indebted to *Oriental Affairs* (edited by Mr. H. G. W. Woodhead, C.B.E., Shanghai), for the following account of Thailand] :—

By a decree issued by the Council of Ministers on June 24, 1939, the name of the Kingdom of Siam was changed to Thailand, or Muang Thai, " the Kingdom of the Free." The State then had an area of 198,247 square miles and an estimated population of some 14,500,000. It is so located as to form a buffer State between French Indo-China and Burma, save for a short strip of territory on the upper reaches of the Mekong. Thailand's extreme southern border is contiguous with that of British Malaya, across the Malay Peninsula. The intergrity of the kingdom was guaranteed by the British and French Governments in April 1904.

The Thai people originally lived to the north of the Yangtze in Szechwan. In the course of centuries they drifted through Yunnan Province (where some of their descendants are still to be found), to Burma and Siam, where in the 12th to 13th centuries they supplanted the aboriginal population. The people were mostly agriculturists, and though both climate and soil favoured farming, the extreme heat and humidity robbed the race of much of its vigour.

The first foreigners to start trading relations with Siam were the Portuguese, who arrived on the scene about 1518. They ingratiated themselves with the Siamese by aiding them in their wars with Burma in the latter part of the 16th Century. The Dutch arrived about 1598, followed by the British, in 1612. The first Treaty signed with any Europeans was in 1664, with the Dutch East India Company. The truculent attitude of the Netherlanders, however, lost them the favour of the Siamese, with whom their trade lapsed after 1706.

In the latter half of the 17th Century the country was ruled by an astute Monarch named King Phra Narai, who kept all trade in his own hands, and who used as his agent for all dealings with Foreign Powers a Greek adventurer, Constantine Phaulkon. His Capital was Ayudhia. Some Japanese, chiefly victims of religious (anti-Christian) persecution had arrived about 1620, and by the time the French appeared on the scene in 1662 Siam had become an important centre and clearing house for trade between China, Japan, Sumatra and India.

The first Frenchmen to arrive were members of a Roman Catholic Mission sent to the Far East to convert the Asiatic peoples. They had the support of Louis XIV, and also of the Greek, Phaulkon. Twenty-five years later six French warships and 1,400 French troops, intended to act as mercenaries for the King of Siam, arrived. French garrisons were established at Bangkok, Mergui and Ayudhia, ostensibly to protect Siam from the Dutch and the British. The undue zeal of the Catholic Missionaries, however, who attempted to convert King Phra Narai himself, led to a serious revolt among the nobility. Phaulkon and three possible successors to the Throne were killed; King Phra Narai, who was on his death-bed was allowed to pass away. The French troops were thereupon withdrawn, and it was not until the early part of the nineteenth century that diplomatic relations were re-opened with European States.

In the meantime there had been a change of Dynasty. A war between Burma and Siam in 1759–1767 resulted in the sacking and burning of Ayudhia in the latter year. A period of disorganization, during which several aspirants for power entered the field, resulted after five years in the ascendancy of Phya Tak, a Chinese military leader, who re-established the independence of Siam, and transferred the Capital to Dhonburi, a section of modern Bangkok. He did not himself found a Dynasty, but paved the way for the Chakri Kings, who reigned as absolute Monarchs from 1782 to 1932. Of the earlier rulers the most noteworthy was Mongkut, who should have succeeded his father, Phra Buddha in 1824. The Throne, however, was seized by his half-brother, and Mongkut retired to a Buddhist Monastery where he came into contact with the newly arrived American Missionaries, and from them learnt English, Latin and the rudiments of Western science. When he eventually came to the Throne in 1851, Mongkut proved to be an enlightened ruler. He regulated Siam's foreign relations by Treaties, encouraged commerce, and fostered Western educational ideas, even going so far as to engage an Englishwoman to live in the Palace, and tutor his heir, Chulalongkorn, as well as other royal children. Chulalongkorn, who reigned from 1866 to 1910 under the title of Phra Chula Chom Lao, was one of Siam's greatest historical figures. Under his rule the old feudal system was gradually abandoned, and a civil service was organized for the administration of the nation; slavery was abolished; the judicial system was revised; taxation was reformed; a postal service was established; railway construction was started; and public gambling was placed under control. His enlightened policy, however, did not prevent a clash with the French, who were anxious to expand their territories in Indo-China at Siam's expense. The French blockaded Bangkok in 1893, demanding large concessions, and garrisoned portions of Siam until 1905. When peace was finally restored,

and the integrity of what remained of Siam was guaranteed by France and Great Britain, Siam remained an independent State, but had lost nearly half her territory.

Chulalongkorn travelled extensively, visiting the Straits Settlements, Java, India and Europe, and becoming so impressed with Western knowledge that a number of Princes were sent to Europe to complete their education. All his successors received part of their education in Europe. But the result of this policy was that modern learning was mainly restricted to the Princes and nobility who held most of the higher offices in the Government, and this apparent nepotism was later to be the main factor in bringing about a revolution.

Chulalongkorn's son, King Vajiravuch, who reigned from 1910 to 1925 was noted for his artistic and literary tastes. He introduced a number of reforms, including the establishment of the Boy Scout movement, the adoption of a new Calendar, a national system of education, and compulsory vaccination. His successor was King Prajadhipok, a younger brother, who occupied the Throne from 1925 until his abdication in 1935. His death, near Virginia Water, in England took place on May 30, 1941.

POLITICAL UPHEAVALS

King Prajadhipok began to move towards constitutional government as soon as he ascended the Throne. One of his first acts was to appoint a Supreme Council of State, to act as an advisory body, and a Committee of the Privy Council was established in 1927. He introduced such reforms as the establishment of wireless and aviation services, and concluded Treaties which gave Siam full fiscal autonomy in 1927. The balancing of the Budget in 1926–27 was achieved partly by an extensive reduction in the number of Government officials, which was to be another source of discontent.

The revolution of June 1932 took the nation and the outside world completely by surprise. It began at 5 a.m. on June 24, with the seizure of the Capital by military forces, and the arrest and detention of some forty Ministers and high officials, who were escorted to the Throne Hall. King Prajadhipok at the time was staying in his Summer Palace at Hua Hin, and to him an ultimatum was despatched by three Colonels, announcing that the administration of the State had been taken over by the People's Party and that a number of members of the Royal Family were being held as hostages, and demanding the return of the King to the Capital to reign as a constitutional monarch. Failing acceptance of their demands the leaders threatened to appoint another Prince whom they considered efficient to act as King. Replying to the revolutionaries the following day, the King announced his willingness, in order to save useless bloodshed, "to co-operate in the establishment of a Constitution under which I am willing to serve." He gave as a further reason for compliance, the danger that if he declined to remain in office as King, recognition of the new Government might be withheld by the Foreign Powers.

Although the change from an absolute to a constitutional Monarchy was thus peacefully achieved, the revolutionaries circulated a leaflet, accusing the King of nepotism, of employing dishonest officials, and of treating the people as slaves or even animals.

The ultimatum to the King was signed by three military officers, but the ringleaders of the revolt also included several civilians. They were: Luang Pradist, who had obtained a Doctorate of Laws in France, and was Secretary of the Department of Legislative Redaction; Bahol, second in command of the Siamese Army, who had received his military education in Germany; Phya Sing, who had also served in the German Army and later became a Professor in the Educational Section of the Siamese forces; Phya Riddhi, an artillery officer; Luang Pibul, who had served in the French Army; Phra Prasasana, who had been educated in Germany and Switzerland and was head of the Military Training School; Chao Phya, a former Minister of Public Instruction and a Privy Councillor; Phya Manopakorn, Chief Judge of the Appeal Court; and Nai Charoen, a talented lawyer, who had been in prison for his revolutionary activities in the former reign.

What were the causes of the revolution? According to Dr. K. P. Landon's book, "Siam in Transition" from which much of the above information is taken, the immediate cause was news that thirteen expensive Diesel locomotives had been purchased by Prince Purachatra for use on the Siamese State railways, although the country was at that time in the throes of acute economic depression. Contributory causes enumerated by the same authority as a result of investigation and inquiry on the spot included:—

1. The preference shown by King Prajadhipok for members of the Royal Family in the selection of Ministers. (Eight out of twelve Ministries were headed by Princes, whose rank placed them above the law.)

2. The secretive policy of the administration, especially in regard to the causes of economic depression.

3. The rigid censorship over the Press and Radio.

4. The dismissal of so many subordinate officials, and the imposition of a salary tax, which hit officials more than any other group.

5. Opposition by travelled and educated Siamese to an absolute Monarchy.

The regime that came into office as a result of the revolution suffered from a lack of experienced administrators and political leaders, making it necessary for it to rely in a large measure upon members of the old Civil Service. A Provisional Constitution was accepted by the King on June 27, 1932, and on December 10, following a visit of the leaders of the People's Party to the King three days previously to ask pardon for any "lack of respect" shown to him during the revolution, a Permanent Constitution was accepted in a Ceremony at the Throne Hall.

The early months of the new Constitutional Government were beset with difficulties. Luang Pradist's economic policy of taking over the land and paying the farmers to cultivate it was denounced as Communistic, and the first Government lasted only until March 31, 1933. On June 20, 1933, there was another military revolt, headed by Colonel Phya Bahol, ostensibly for the purpose of reconvening the Assembly of People's Representatives, which resulted in the resignation of the Phya Mano Government, which had succeeded that of Phya Manopakorn, and the accession to power of Colonel Phya Bahol himself. In October 11, 1933, there was a Royalist rebellion, headed by Prince Bavoradej, former Minister of Defence.

The Prince, at the head of the forces that he had mustered at Korat and Ayudhya, marched on Bangkok, denouncing Phya Bahol as an autocrat at the head of an oligarchy that had violated the spirit of the Revolution.

Martial law was proclaimed in the Capital, a large reward was offered for the capture of the Prince and his associates, and the King was informed that he would be protected during the suppression of the revolt which was effected by the 18th. Though some of the ringleaders were sentenced to death or life imprisonment, they were in reality treated with extraordinary leniency. In the following December the first elections to the People's Assembly took place. Phya Bahol continued to hold the Premiership for another four years.

Early in January, 1934, despite the opposition of the State Council and the People's Assembly the King left Siam to undergo an operation on his eyes in America. In Sumatra he and the Queen had a reunion with a number of exiled Princes and Princesses. He was expected to return to Siam in the following October, but during his absence three pieces of legislation dealing with the Penal Code, which displeased him, were approved by the Assembly, and rumours of his impending Abdication began to spread. A delegation, consisting of the Chairman of the People's Assembly, the Secretary-General of the State Council, and a Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs was sent to England, where he was residing, to plead for his return. It was unsuccessful. On March 2, the King signed a letter of Abdication, in which he complained that administrative power had been monopolized by the People's Party, which ignored the voice of the people, and persecuted political opponents. His abdication was received with expressions of sorrow, and the Assembly agreed to invite Prince Ananda Mahidol, then a ten year old boy at school in Switzerland, to become King. During his minority the Regency was to be exercised by Princes Adityaib-abha and Anuvatna Caturanta, and Chao Phya Yomaraj.

The young King returned to Siam for a brief visit and a Coronation ceremony on November 15, 1938, and was greeted with enthusiastic professions of loyalty. When he sailed for Europe again on January 13, 1939, more than 300,000 of his subjects lined the banks of the River Chao Phya to witness his departure. King Prajadhipok, as already stated, died near Virgina Water a few months ago. The young Monarch, now sixteen years of age, is still in Switzerland. The Government has continued to be carried on by the State Council, the People's Assembly, and the Courts of Law, and to remain chiefly in the hands of military men.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Throughout the revolutionary period the Siamese were most careful to avoid incidents which would give any Foreign Power an excuse for intervention. At the end of 1937 revised Treaties which gave Siam full and equal rights as an independent nation were signed with Britain, France, Germany, Italy and America.

Siam's relations with Japan undoubtedly have grown closer since, in March, 1932 the Siamese Delegation at Geneva abstained from the vote condemning Japan's actions in Manchuria. The first diplomatic instrument signed between the two countries was a Declaration of Amity, concluded on September 26, 1887, during a visit to Japan of the Siamese Foreign Minister. A Japanese Legation was established in Bangkok in 1897 and a Treaty of Commerce was concluded in 1898. In 1924 Japan and Siam concluded a revised Treaty, under which extra-territorial rights were abandoned. A new Treaty of Navigation and Commerce signed in 1937 conceded full liberty to Japanese to reside in Siam on the same footing as native subjects. An Air Service agreement was concluded in November 1939, and on June 12, 1940, the two Governments concluded a Treaty in which each undertook to respect each other's territorial integrity, to exchange information and consult each other on matters of common interest, and to refrain from aiding any third Power which attacked the other. Since then official Japanese publications (e.g., the *Tokyo Gazette*) have referred to Thailand as a "new Ally."

A Non-Aggression Pact was signed with Great Britain in June 1939, but a similar Pact with France was never ratified.

The Siamese never forgave the French for their later annexations of Thai territory, and the collapse of France in 1940 afforded them a heaven-sent opportunity for recovering it. It is still uncertain whether the Thai Government moved with the previous concurrence, or even at the instigation, of the Japanese Government. After hostilities had been in progress for some time, however, Japan insisted upon adopting the role of mediator, and, in March, 1941 induced both parties to arrive at an agreement under which some 25,000 square miles of Indo-China territory were retroceded to Thailand.

In July 1941 the Vichy Government was coerced into permitting Japan to occupy naval, military and air bases in Southern Indo-China, on the pretence of joint defence against intended British and Chinese invasion. About the same time it was reported that pressure was being applied to Thailand to agree to a similar arrangement upon its territory. At the time of writing the phenomena usually preceding each fresh act of Axis aggression are much in evidence. Thailand is represented as being in danger of " attack " by Great Britain, as part of a plot to " encircle " Japan. So far the Thai Government has shown no inclination to admit Japanese troops into its country, but it has given sops to Japan by arranging for a credit of 10,000,000 *baht* with a Siamese banking syndicate, and agreeing to recognize Manchukuo.

Thailand has of recent years become an important producer of rubber, rice and tin ore. The latest statistics (for 1939) gives its production of rubber as 53,584 metric tons; of rice as 4,423,700 metric tons, and of tin ore as 16,700 tons. Until recently the bulk of Thailand's trade was with the British Empire and the Netherlands East Indies. In 1938, however, of total imports valued at 46,000,000 *baht*, Japan was responsible for 22 millions. Japan, however, in that year took only some 6 millions worth out of a total of 77 million *bahts*' worth of exports.

CHINESE IN THAILAND

Until as recently as 1888 China claimed that Siam was a tributary State. Chinese estimates place the number of Chinese in that country at 3,000,000, but Siamese estimates are much lower, owing presumably to exclusion from reckoning of all but Chinese of unmixed parentage. The Chinese, however, form the largest alien element in the population, constituting one-fifth according to some estimates, and about one-tenth, according to others. Curiously enough they remain without diplomatic or consular representation, or any kind of treaty rights. Though on the whole a peaceable community, they have from time to time resisted, and even rioted against, Siamese legislation. By many Siamese they are disliked as the " Jews of the East," because of their superior trading ability, and their " racial loyalty." The Chinese problem in Thailand has become more acute since immigrants have been accompanied by their own wives and children, and thus become less assimilable, and attempts have been made to restrict further immigration by the levy of progressively higher immigration taxes. The policy of the Thai Government towards Chinese is thus summed up by Dr. K. P. Landon in his recent work, " The Chinese in Thailand."

" In its dealings with the Chinese the Thai Government has reduced immigration, has forced Thai education upon Chinese in Thailand, is diminishing as rapidly as possible their important commercial position, and is attempting to destroy or at least control their secret commercial and political societies. The two races, Thai and Chinese, are playing out their historic drama. The Thai cannot now abandon home and field and move Southward to escape. This, then, is their last stand in a centuries-long contest. They are apparently devising a technique of living with the Chinese while maintaining Thai supremacy in the Thai national home."

WAR COMES TO THE PACIFIC

JAPAN'S CALCULATED TREACHERY

Japan has taken the plunge. She has cast her lot with Germany and Italy and the war (as Major Alan Murray, the B.B.C. commentator says) is in its truest sense a world war to-day. Every continent and every ocean is now engaged in a war to the death against world domination by the Axis powers. This has come about (in Mr. Churchill's words to Parliament announcing that Great Britain has taken up the challenge) by " calculated and characteristic treachery " on the part of Japan. The Japanese High Command gave orders to their bombers to attack American and British naval bases in the same breath in which their envoys at Washington were declaring their readiness to continue the negotiations for settlement.

It is now evident that Japan's intention all along has never deviated from her ambition to be top-dog in the Far East and the Pacific Ocean. That is why the Japanese were not interested in the proposals for a pact of non-aggression contained in Mr. Cordell Hull's note. That is why they pretended to negotiate and even give President Roosevelt what Mr. Hull was forced to call " infamously false and fraudulent " excuses for increasing their troops in Indo-China, on Thailand's border. This is familiar Axis technique and need cause no surprise. But as President Roosevelt, in his call to Congress to declare war on the aggressor, said, " the American people, in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory " and " will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us." The President had every justification for his indignation. He had tried every honourable means to keep the peace in the Pacific and had even made a last-minute appeal to the Emperor of Japan to curb his Generals.

Why has Japan thus cast to the winds every vestige of decency and honour? Again, Mr. Churchill with his innate shrewdness has laid his finger on the spot; Hitler's madness has infected the Japanese mind. Finding that he has lost the Battle of Britain, that the British forces in the Middle East are now strong enough to take the offensive and that his armies in Russia are moving deeper and deeper into the morass, Hitler has persuaded the Japanese militarists to throw in their lot with his and create a diversion in the Far East. They were more than ready to fall in with his wishes. Their previous adventures in aggression had already laid them open to the most severe economic pressure from the A.B.C.D. powers. They were certainly not prepared to check their high-vaulting ambition to overrun Eastern Asia and bring it into what they have been pleased to call the " Co-Prosperity Sphere."

And there is no denying that Japan has scored some initial successes. When a smash and grab raid is carried out, we expect to have our windows smashed and must expect to suffer some damage. The British Prime Minister has also warned us that " it is of high importance that there should be no underrating of the gravity of the new dangers we have to meet. The enemy has attacked with an audacity which may spring from recklessness but which may also spring from a conviction of strength ". Japan will be no mean foe. She is made up of an extremely dangerous mixture of fanaticism and progress and will take some beating. Her navy is powerful and up to date and she has prepared for this adventure by accumulating large stocks of supplies. The combined forces of the A.B.C.D. Powers and of Russia are strong enough to blast Japan's ambitious plans but we must not expect a quick victory over such a formidable opponent.

POWERS TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE

That these powers are determined to take up the challenge was evident on the morrow of Japanese aggression:

(1) Mr. Churchill announced in Parliament that Great Britain had informed the Japanese Government that a state of war existed between the two countries in view of " the wanton and unprovoked " attacks on Malaya, Singapore and Hongkong, " committed in flagrant violation of international law and particularly Article 1 of the Hague Convention to which both Japan and the United Kingdom are parties."

(2) The United States Congress approved President Roosevelt's request to declare war on Japan in view of her " unprovoked and dastardly attack " on the Hawaiian Islands and other United States possessions. The Senate voted unanimously for war and only one Pacifist voted against 388 supporters of a war-declaration in the House of Representatives. Isolationism is as dead as a dodo. The United States is fully in the war.

(3) Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, S. Africa and other parts of the Empire followed suit and, like Britain and America, took steps against Japanese nationals and property in their respective territories.

(4) The Royal Netherlands Government informed the Japanese Government that, in view of the hostile acts perpetrated by Japanese forces against two powers with whom the Netherlands maintained friendly and close relations, a state of war existed between the Netherlands and Japan. The Netherlands Indies Navy steamed into Singapore to join up with the British.

(5) All Latin American Republics promptly aligned themselves with the Democracies against Japan. Most of them declared war, others adopted " non-belligerency."

(6) China formally declared war upon Japan and rapidly threatend Canton and the rear of the Japanese troops attacking the British outpost at Hong Kong.

(7) Free France also declares war on Japan.

If we weigh up all the pros and cons, the dice is heavily weighted against Japan in the long run. She has, however, scored some striking initial successes before the Great Democratic Powers got ready to strike :

(1) Japan's air force—presumably based on aircraft-carriers—bombed America's bastions in the Pacific, viz., Pearl Harbour, Guam and the Philippines. President Roosevelt announced that the attack on the Hawaiian Islands had caused severe damage to American naval and military forces and that many American lives were lost. The United States of America admitted the loss of an old battleship, one destroyer and a large number of planes in Pearl Harbour. Other vessels were damaged. On the other hand, several Japanese planes and four submarines were accounted for, and a Japanese aircraft-carrier sunk off Honolulu.

(2) Japanese aircraft attacked Singapore, claiming the destruction of two cruisers. But it is revealed that the great Naval base sustained no damage and only civilian causalties were caused.

(3) Japanese troops made daring attempts at the invasion of the Malayan Peninsula, their objective being Kota Bharu, an important rail-head; but the Royal Air Force broke up enemy troop transports, causing them to flee, and those troops that had been landed were picked off by the British Imperial troops in Malaya. Fighting is, however, reported further south.

(4) The Japanese landed troops at Pattani in the Gulf of Siam, 60 miles to the north of the Britain border. Japanese ships shelled Bangkok, the Thailand capital. After resisting for five hours and a half, the Thailanders ceased resistance and agreed to allow the passage of Japanese troops through their country.

(5) The Japanese occupied Gnam Island but their attempts to take Wake Island were beaten off with the loss of one cruiser and one destroyer.

(6) Japanese torpedo-bombers sank the British battleships *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse* off the North Malayan Coast. But the balance was somewhat restored by the sinking of the Japanese battleship *Haruna* by American aircraft off the north coast of the Philippines.

Our immediate interest is in the struggle in Malaya and in the defence of Burma now that Thailand has given way to the aggressor. The Malayan coast is full of mangrove swamps and is one long stretch of sandy beach and it would be difficult for the Japanese to make much headway. The land-routes from the north—from Thailand to Malaya—are but three very narrow ones, all being heavily protected by Indian and Australian troops. The other approaches offer no threat to Malaya and Singapore, being only footpaths following deep ravines and dense forests. And Malaya's (and Burma's) air and fleet arms are now so well organized by Air Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham that any big success for the Japanese Navy or air force might be ruled out.

" Annalist," the well-known military commentator, also says that out of the multitudinous assaults with which Japan began the war, and with due regard to the uncertainty of all news, Singapore begins to emerge as her main objective. Hence—after the temporary advantage of a surprise attack on Pearl Harbour which cannot be repeated—the attacks on the American chain of stations westwards across the Pacific, the Midway, Wake, Guam and the Philippine Islands. The American Army should be able to hold the Philippines when it has destroyed the huge local Japanese Fifth Column accumulation of many years, but Japanese possession of the Carolines and the Marshalls further increases the risks of a voyage from Hawaii to Singapore. The southern route, however, through the Islands of New Guinea, though much longer, should be easy enough. Naval strategy keeps its own secrets but it would certainly seem that the American Navy's position must be to unite with the British Navy at Singapore. From that secure and ample base, the Allies could bottle up Japanese ships in the Gulf of Siam and gradually extend their operation up a well-known highway to cut Japan's communications with Indo-China and Thailand, now her main sources of various essential commodities. This the Japanese must at all costs prevent and since a sea assault on Singapore is scarcely practicable, it becomes a race between the Japanese Army and the American Navy to reach Singapore. The loss of Thailand, though not unexpected, is serious. The report that Japanese warships have been sighted around the Aleutian Islands suggests another attempt to shut out reinforcements reaching the Far East rather than a menace to Canada. The Aleutians are an important link for American aeroplanes flying to the Russian territories of Kamchatka, Northern Saghalien and the Maritime Provinces, where the use by the Allies of Russian aerodromes would strike terror in Japan.

"JUSTICE" OF THE JUGGERNAUT

EUROPE UNANIMOUS AGAINST THE NEW ORDER

Fourteen months ago—Nazi Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop—began hawking a new ' line '. Italy and Japan had obligingly signed the Three-Power Axis Pact. A Protocol to this document was now ready for the signatures of lesser fry. This collection of autographs was to signify the birth of Hitler's " New Order for Europe " which was to endure, so the Fuehrer said, for a thousand years. *In face of the resultant " United Front " against Britain, the Allied cause was intended to look hopeless and the ground for a " Peace Offensive " would be prepared.*

It took Ribbentrop five months to get four signatures—Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia and Bulgaria. Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Turkey stood aloof. Norwegians, Danes, Dutchmen, Belgians, Frenchmen, Poles, Czechs, Austrians, Albanians, Yugoslavs and Greeks were not consulted. They were already united—by a common bond of slavery. They were all Germany's prisoners; their assent was therefore given by proxy.

The world was not impressed by Ribbentrop's showmanship. This *ersatz* picture of peace and prosperity in the shadow of the Gestapo looked too good to be true. The world was more ready to believe Churchill's words :

" In every country into which the German armies and Nazi police have broken there has sprung up from the soil a hatred of the German name and a contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory."

Fourteen months have passed and Ribbentrop tries again. This time an Anti-Comintern Meeting is held in Berlin to demonstrate how happy the European family is under Nazi tutelage and how Europe's united strength is to be pitted against the wicked neighbours who live in London and Moscow. *But the smiling front is a mask held in place by naked and repressive violence. Ribbentrop admits it.*

Dive-bombers have already been in action in the Balkans and Poland to quell the activities of guerillas and saboteurs who refuse to accept the " New Order ". Eighty-two thousand Poles have been murdered in two years of " peace ". More than a quarter of a million Serbs have been massacred since the German occupation of Yugoslavia. Tanks have been in action in Greece, where a motorised division exterminated six villages in reprisal for the deaths of 19 Bulgarian soldiers. . . . The list has no end.

From Narvik to Nantes, from Stavanger to Salonika, rifle shots crack as Nazi firing squads impose the " justice " of the juggernaut....Resistance smoulders even in Italy; for every Italian soldier serving on the Eastern Front there are four German soldiers stationed south of the Alps. Mr. Eden draws attention to the fact that there are no Polish, Czech, Norwegian or Dutch divisions in action on the Eastern Front....On the other hand, Poland now has an air force twice as big as that which was crushed two years ago. Her airmen fly with the Royal Air Force. She has a growing army of liberation....Her soldiers have been fighting in the Middle East and will soon go into action in Russia.

THE SOMBRE MOOD: THE MINOR KEY

The internal situation in Germany, Russia's continued and valiant resistance and Britain's fine offensive in Libya have all shaken up Dr. Goebbels rather badly. *The braggart no longer can hope to dope his listeners with bombast. The tone is humble, apologetic, explanatory, and evasive.* The need to whip up enthusiasm has pushed the hardpressed doctor into his ancient well-worn device—the baiting of Jews.

RUSSIA

" As soon as the two immediately essential objectives are reached (the Don and Moscow), the German armies may either continue the offensive, or if the Fuehrer considers it more opportune create a sort of line constituting a solid barrage against the rest of the Soviet Union. It is only fear that impels Stalin to resist. *The Fuehrer's statement of October 3, that the Eastern campaign is already decided must not be construed in the sense that Stalin may be forced to surrender or capitulate. It* has a much deeper significance." (*Italian radio, November* 1941 *quoting a German General.*)

LIBYA

" As for the Libyan campaign the time is not yet ripe for a detailed statement." (*German broadcast to England, 21st November* 1941.)

" It is intended to encourage Stalin, intimidate Japan, impress Turkey, support Roosevelt, neutralize Vichy, help de Gaulle. . . . .all this explains Churchill's onslaught but cannot justify it from a military point of view." (*Italian news in English, 22nd November* 1941.)

" Churchill said the British forces had been preparing for five months, this is enough to give an idea of the exceptional importance of this campaign." (*Italian news in English, 22nd November* 1941.)

THE JEWS

" Why will not the British and the Russians admit that they are defeated as the Fuehrer said they were? The Jews are responsible."

" Every German soldier killed in this war must be debited to the Jews."

" The Jews are only longing for a chance to reward our simple-mindedness with blood and terror."

" The Jews have instigated and brought about this war."

" Even Gandhi is helping to safeguard the Anglo-Jewish clique." (*German broadcast of Goebbels talk, 14th November* 1941.)

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 22–29, 1941

STUKAS AND SWASTIKAS

" Never before has Europe been so at one in the pursuit of a common aim. By alleging that the great meeting in Berlin was to serve some peace aspiration, etc., the democratic politicians only prove that they lack the " *courage* " to face the fundamental fact—namely the formation of a united Europe." (*German news in English, 25th November* 1941.)

" The Danish Foreign Minister stated that the Danish Government has realized the threats to its culture and social order. As a natural consequence of this policy, Denmark has decided to act on Germany's invitation to sign the Pact." (*German news in English, 26th November* 1941.)

" 75,000 tons of wheat will shortly be sent to Finland from Germany. Germany has already sent 50,000 tons of wheat to the Finns." (*Italian news in English, 24th November* 1941).

Ribbentrop has blustered to the world that " The tank and the dive bomber preclude the possibility of a revolt in the disarmed territory ". The Turkish *Ulus* writes :—" The Conference, in Berlin cannot be given the name of a Conference of European countries. . . . . .nations fighting against Russia are not prepared to take the responsibility on their shoulders of the war against Britain".

Ribbentrop offers a mutilated Europe the chill-down-the-spine consolation of a Thirty Years' War. Has he the " *courage* " to face the results of the mass murder of 200,000 Serbs in Croatia, and 82,000 Poles?

The first four months of German occupation in Denmark cost the country £40 million. This the Government was asked to explain away under the euphemism : " indebtedness ". It cost the Minister of Commerce his job when he tried to lecture the people on the intracacies of this finance. The attitude of the people in general was editorially bemoaned in the Danish *Nazi Faedrelandet* : " It is impossible to understand why so many people including the many well educated, still believe that England must win ".

From where and for whom is the wheat? According to the *Volksrect* of September 24, 1940, the Germans had removed from occupied France 800,000 tons of wheat. And on the day pseudo-pathetic appeals for Poland were being launched by Germany to America, the Nazi Gauleiter Greiser ranted that in 1940 one Polish district (Warthegau) exported 700,000 tons of wheat to Germany. Why are the Finns still hungry?

MENACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

" The British blackmail the Iraqi Government. It shows once again that England really does not protect the freedom and independence of smaller nations. All England ever desired in Iraq was the country's exploitation for selfish British interests." (*German news in English, 22nd November* 1941.)

Britain's record in Iraq has been honourable and is therefore beyond German comprehension. In 1932 Britain recognized Iraq's independence and procured her admission to the League as a full member. During the mandatory regime Iraq's administration was organized, her army was trained; the irrigation system was improved; oil resources were developed; when the smudge of the Rashid Ali episode had been removed Iraq was accorded the rights of a treaty-partner. Improvement in the transport and communication system has brought money to her treasury and employment to her citizens.

" It is reported that 165 German passengers arrived in Istanbul yesterday from Afghanistan. While they were in Peshawar, the British forcibly took away all their belongings." (*German news in Hindustani, 26th November* 1941.)

The enemy subjects were relieved of unnecessary quantities of tinned food, furs and clothing which they intended to import into a starved Germany. They were allowed to keep their personal goods which amounted to 60 tons deadweight.

ROOSEVELTIANA

" It is officially announced from Washington that a contingent of U.S. forces will be sent to Dutch Guiana. . . . . .Roosevelt is now pursuing his imperialistic policy and no longer feels compelled to hide it." (*German news in Hindustani, 25th November* 1941.)

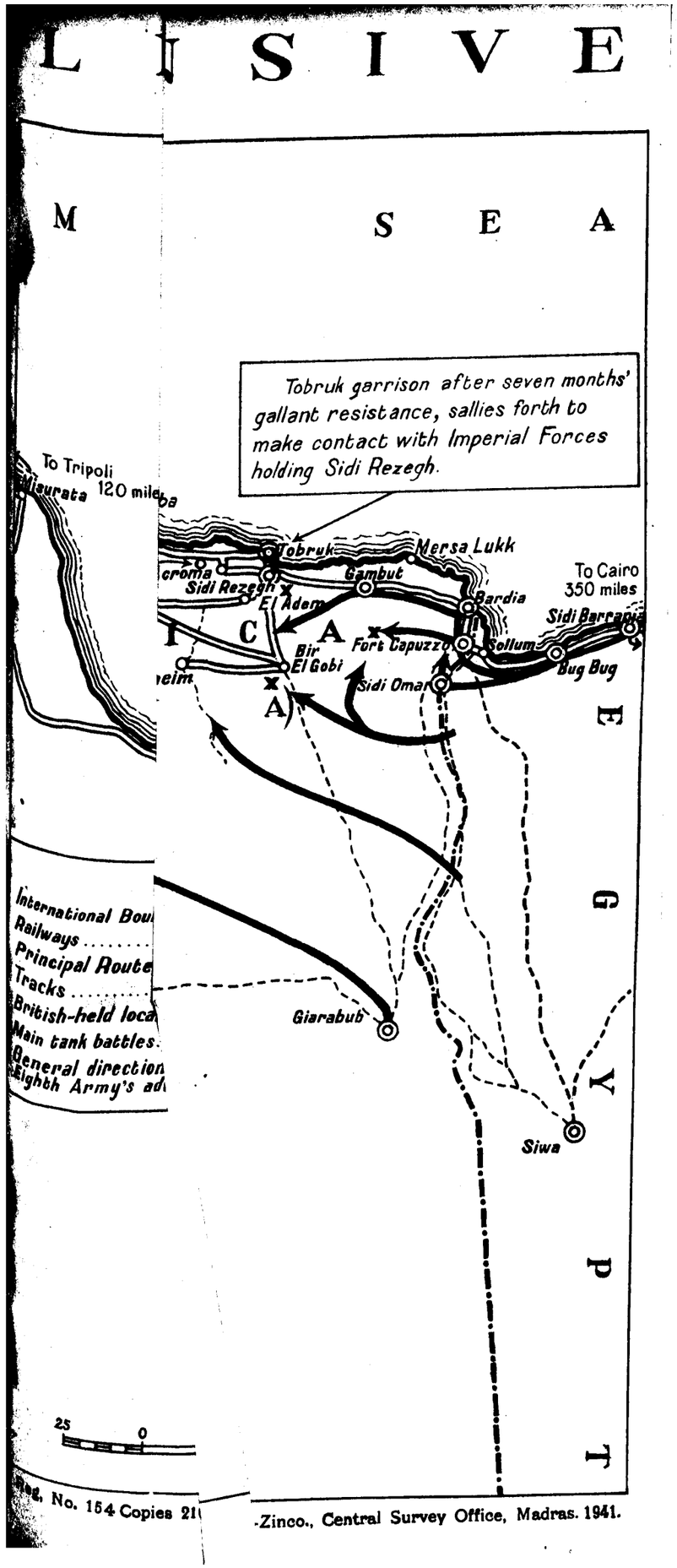
Gerbrandy, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, said over the radio on November 24, that U.S. co-operation was necessary to nip Vichy's vicious propaganda in French Guiana and Nazi activities elsewhere in South America. The Netherlands Government of their own accord invited the United States of America to co-operate with them in the protection of the bauxite mines in their territory. Brazil, the neighbour of Guiana, is also co-operating in its protection.

THE FLARE-UP IN THE FAR EAST—(*Continued from page* 10)

Foreign Secretary have felt able to make increasingly outspoken declarations of friendship for the Chinese people and their great leader, Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek. We have all along been friends. Last night I cabled to the Generalissimo, assuring him that henceforward we would face the common foe together."

(8) " Although the imperative demands of war in Europe and Africa strained our resources, vast and growing though they are, the House and the Empire will notice that some of the finest ships in the Royal Navy reached stations in the Far East at a very convenient moment. Every preparation in our power has been made and I do not doubt that we shall give a good account of ourselves. The closest accord has been established with powerful American forces, both naval and air, and also with the strong and efficient forces blonging to the Royal Netherlands Government in the Netherlands East Indies. We shall do our best."

(9) " When we think of the insane ambition and insatiable appetite which have caused this vast melancholy expansion of the war, we can only feel that Hitler's madness infected the Japanese mind and the root of the evil and its branch must be extirpated together. It is of high importance that there should be no underrating of the gravity of the new dangers we have to meet, either here or in the United States. The enemy has attacked with an audacity which may spring from recklessness but which may also spring from a conviction of strength. The ordeal to which the English-speaking world and our heroic Russian allies are being exposed will certainly be hard, especially at the outset and will probably be long. Yet, when we look around us over the sombre panorama of the world, we have no reason to doubt the justice of our cause, or that our strength and willpower will be sufficient to sustain it. We have at least four-fifths of the population of the Globe upon our side and we are responsible for their safety and their future. In the past we had a light which flickered; in the present we have a light which flames; and in the future there will be a light which shines over all land and sea."



DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

7th Dec.—A strong force of Royal Air Force bombers raids Western Germany, the chief objective being Aachen.

Some civilians are killed in an enemy raid on a place in Eastern England.

8th Dec.—The Royal Air Force, in the course of sweeps over Northern France, attacks factories and aerodromes.

9th Dec.—Places in the coastal districts of North-East England are bombed by the Germans but damage is nowhere extensive.

11th Dec.—Docks at Emden in Germany and an aerodrome in Holland are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5th Dec.—The tempo of activity in Libya quickens, the Indians attacking enemy positions near Bir el Gobi successfully. The Royal Air Force bombs Calabria.

6th Dec.—The British complete the capture of El Duda; many prisoners are captured and 22 enemy planes shot down in air combats in Libya.

7th Dec.—The Royal Air Force raids Naples and the Libyan bases of Derna and Benghazi.

8th Dec.—The British re-capture Sidi Rezegh. Fresh battle is joined with the German forces, an Indian division engaging General Rommel's armoured divisions.

9th Dec.—The eastern half of the Tobruk perimeter is cleared of enemy tank forces, which withdraw after a series of running fights. British and South African aircraft raid Tripoli, Castel Benito, Derna, etc.

10th Dec.—The British Imperial Forces occupy El Adem.

11th Dec.—It is announced that Major-General Ritchie has taken over command of the Eighth Army in Libya from Gen. Cunningham.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

5th Dec.—The United States House of Representatives passes the Bill for an appropriation of 8,244 million dollars under the Lease-Lend Act.

6th Dec.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary to the Navy, says that the naval construction programme is one year ahead of schedule.

7th Dec.—President Roosevelt addresses an appeal to the Emperor of Japan to help in preserving peace in the Pacific.

8th Dec.—The United States Congress approves President Roosevelt's request to declare war on Japan.

9th Dec.—The Pacific Coast of North America is blacked out as air raid alarms—mostly false—are sounded there and in New York.

11th Dec.—The United States Congress votes for war against Germany and Italy and passes a Bill to enable American expeditionary forces to be sent abroad.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5th Dec.—Soviet forces launch counter-attacks in the Klin, Volokolamsk and Tula sub-sectors of the Moscow front. In the south, the Russians break through the German defences at the approaches to Taganrog and take the mining town of Matveyev in the Donetz Basin.

6th Dec.—Many German positions are captured in the Soviet counter-offensive at Kalinin, north of Moscow. The Russians re-take Kuibyshevo, on the eastern bank of the Miuss river which runs into the Sea of Azov.

Great Britain declares war on Finland as the latter has refused to cry halt to aggressive operations against Russia.

7th Dec.—A German offensive in the centre of the Don Basin is repulsed.

8th Dec.—The Germans are ejected from the strategic Tula-Serpukhov main road to Moscow. The Germans are credited with the idea of stopping their attempt to take Moscow this winter.

9th Dec.—The Russians re-capture Tikhvin in the Leningrad sector, force back the Germans in the Tula region of the Moscow front and continue to press back the Germans on the southern front along the shore of the Sea of Azov.

10th Dec.—The Russians re-capture Elets in the Moscow sector.

11th Dec.—Tens of villages are captured by the Russians beyond Tikhvin.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

6th Dec.—Great Britain declares war on the Axis satellites, Hungary and Rumania, who have refused to stop aggressive operations against Russia.

9th Dec.—An Ankara message reports that Turkey will remain neutral in the Pacific war.

SHIPPING

5th Dec.—The Royal Air Force makes successful attacks on enemy shipping off the north coast of France.

6th Dec.—The British cruiser *Dorsetshire* sinks a German commerce raider of about 10,000 tons in the South Atlantic.

7th Dec.—The United States Navy Department takes into protective custody Finnish merchant-ships in American waters.

THE FAR EAST

6th Dec.—An authoritative statement issued in Melbourne warns Tokyo that " we are fully alive to the Japanese threat."

Japanese planes raid Lu Shih, 400 miles north-east of Chungking.

7th Dec.—The United States State Department reveals that more Japanese troops are being despatched to Indo-China.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, exposes Japan as being " infamously false and fraudulent in her recent professions of a desire for peace."

8th Dec.—Japan strikes without warning on American bases in the Pacific, attempts to invade Malaya and Hongkong and to bomb Singapore. Thailand, after resisting for 5½ hours, permits the passage of Japanese troops.

Great Britain and the Commonwealth and the Netherlands as well as the United States of America take up Japan's challenge. Mr. Churchill announces in Parliament the British decision to declare war on Japan.

9th Dec.—Severe fighting is reported in North Malaya as well as in the Thailand border. A Japanese attempt to land in North Borneo is beaten off. The Hongkong garrison beats off the Japanese. Air-raids on Manila are reported.

China declares war on Japan, Germany and Italy.

10th Dec.—The British batteships *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse* are sunk by air attacks off Northern Malaya. Admiral Phillips is missing, but over 2,300 sailors are saved.

The Japanese land at points in the Philippines but lose troop-transports, the American Air Force striking hard.

Heavy fighting is reported in North Malaya.

Chinese forces threaten the rear of Japanese troops attacking Hongkong, where British and Indian divisions resist the Japanese.

11th Dec.—The Japanese battleship *Haruna* is sunk by American bombers off the north coast of the Philippines.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

5th Dec.—A German officer is shot at in Paris.

9th Dec.—Five more Governments recognize Free France, viz., the Greek, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Yugoslav and Norwegian Governments. Free France has declared war on Japan.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5th Dec.—The Moscow Radio says that the Serbian army now fighting the Germans in Yugoslavia consists of five fully trained divisions under the command of General Mikhailovitch.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

6th Dec.—President Batista asks the Cuban Congress to declare a State of Emergency and grant the Cabinet extraordinary powers.

The United States of America enters into an agreement with Bolivia, who will get help under the Lease-Lend Act for strengthening her defences as part of hemispheric defence.

8th Dec.—Most of the Latin American countries declare war on Japan.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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GENERAL WAVELL OPTIMISTIC

REVIEW OF WAR SITUATION

RANGOON NOT BOMBED: ALLIES BOUND TO WIN

General Sir Archbald Wavell, the Commander-in-chief of India, made a frank and optimistic survey of the war situation in the different theatres, in the Far East, in the Middle East and in Russia. This authoritative statement should dispel the people of India of the spirit of pessimism induced especially by recent events in the Pacific and make them face the future with courage and confidence, albeit with some concern.

Here are the points urged in the Wizard's :

(1) *The Pacific.*—The situation is one which undoubtedly gives us a certain amount of anxiety. But there is absolutely no reason to think more than that the enemy has had a preliminary success. And we are taking measures to remedy that so far as we can. As a result of the sudden and treacherous attack made by them, the Japanese forces have obtained certain preliminary advantages in the air, on the sea and on land; but they are a very long way from overrunning Malaya or getting to Singapore. Our troops have been driven back some distance and we have had certain losses.

There is no doubt that both in the east coast and the west coast, the Japanese have suffered extremely heavy casualties. On the east coast, they have made little progress.

(2) *The Defence of India.*—As regards the defence of India, it is only the north-eastern portion of it—some parts of that portion—that is within extreme bombing range from Thailand. I don't think there is any serious danger of a large scale attack on India at present. Steps are being taken to supply our deficiencies as rapidly as possible. But there is, honestly speaking, no cause for any great alarm for the time being. The enemy undoubtedly will try to do everything possible to play on our nerves by spreading false information and by other means. He will spread false information—as in the case of the report that Rangoon was bombed—in the hope that its denial will give him information which will be useful to him and which he would not have got otherwise.

(3) *Russia.*—The news from Russia continues to be extremely encouraging. Germany has lost a good deal of men and material. The German air superiority is beginning to decline.

(*Continued on page* 10)

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The Nazi retreat from Moscow is proceeding. Klin has been re-occupied by Russians as well as Yasnaya and Polyana (south of Tula) and Dedilovo and Bogorditsk (both south-east of Tula). Russian attacks are now amazingly heavy. Kalinin, a key-town 100 miles north-west of Moscow, has been recaptured and six German divisions have been destroyed. The German armies in the Mojaisk area, 65 miles due west of Moscow, are also retiring.

British troops are advancing in the face of counter-attacks south-west of Gazala. In the frontier area, offensive operations against German and Italian detachments are proceeding. General Sir Claude Auchinleck, in a message, says that "the enemy is not yet destroyed, and must be given no rest." The enemy in Estern Cyrenaica is in full retreat.

Hong-kong is besieged. Heavy fighting is taking place in Malaya where the British forces are considerably outnumbered. The residents and garrison of Victoria Point in Burma have been evacuated and in the north-west corner of Malaya, Japanese have penetrated the British first line defences. A Japanese message says that Japanese forces have landed on Tuesday, on the coast of Sarawak in Borneo.

Col. Knox announced that in addition to *Arizona* five other United States Warships were lost at Pearl Harbour by Japanese attack. The total casualties were 2,729 officers and men killed and 656 wounded. The Japanese lost three submarines and 41 aircraft. Much of the havoc done at Hawaii was, in his opinion, due to fifth column work. The Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet and the air and military chiefs of the Hawaii district have been relieved and President Roosevelt has appointed a board to enquire into the circumstances of the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbour.

Mr. Togo, the Japanese Foreign Minister, has made a statement that there is no change in the Japanese Government's attitude regarding Soviet-Japanese relations. The Soviet had repeatedly enunciated their intention to abide by the Neutrality Pact with Japan. M. Litvinov, Russian Ambassador to America, states that Japan is the common enemy of Great Britain and Russia, but that does not necessarily mean an immediate declaration of war by Russia as such a declaration will involve problems of great complexity.

There is important shipping news in the week. The United States Navy has seized the world's largest oil-tanker, the French vessel *Scheherazade* and interned its crew of 40. There are 12 French vessels now in the United States ports under protective custody, including the *Normandie*. On Saturday, four Japanese troopships were sunk off Patani in Southern Thailand by submarines of the Royal Netherlands Navy. The troopships were steaming south and were fully loaded. It is stated that 4,000 Japanese on board the four transports sunk have been drowned. Two Italian cruisers have been sunk in the Central Mediterranean.

The Italian U-boat *Ammiraglio Carraciolo* has been sunk in the Central Mediterranean by a British destroyer.

Mr. De Valera has stated in answer to a question as to how American entry into the war affected Eire's policy; "We have answered that question in advance. The policy of the State remains unchanged. We can only be a friendly neutral. Any other policy would have been to commit suicide." The extension of war to America, he said, had brought anxiety and sorrow to every part of Eire.

The Netherlands Government announces that a force of Allied troops has landed in Portuguese Timor.

It is understood that no resistance was encountered when the Allied force entered Portuguese Timor. Deli has a good harbour and airport. The following is a communique on the subject of the landing at Timor published on Thursday afternoon by the Information Bureau of the Government of the Netherlands East Indies: "In view of Japanese submarine activities off Portuguese Timor, it became an unavoidable necessity to take steps to safeguard this territory against Japanese aggression and to forestall its being used as a base from which attacks could be made on Allied territory and communications. Accordingly a force of Allied troops has been landed in Portuguese Timor. The Portuguese Government having reaffirmed their desire to preserve neutrality, the local authorities in Portuguese Timor have objected to the action being taken. The Portuguese sovereignty remains intact and it has been made clear to the Portuguese Government that the troops will be withdrawn as soon as the threat from the enemy is removed, since their presence is purely a measure of defence on the part of the Allied nations at war with Japan." Portuguese Timor is strategically very important. The Island is half Dutch and half Portuguese and is situated within the air range of Port Darwin, 450 miles distance. The occupation of Timor knocks one of the potential stepping stones among the South Sea Islands from under Japan's feet. Japan established an airline between her own island of Palau and Timor, which aroused deep concern in Australia and Great Britain. But Japan clearly had other plans than commercial ones in mind. In North Borneo Japan has obtained an airfield at Miri which may have been wrecked but can be repaired. From Miri she no doubt plans to take Banjermasin, 500 miles away in South Borneo. From there it is 300 miles to the Great Dutch air bases at Sourabaya in Sumatra, a well-known station on the flight from Europe to Australia. Obviously the Japanese aim is to establish a series of stepping stones all over the South Sea Islands of which the Timor concession marked the first stage. Now Japan has lost it.

AMERICA IN THE WAR

America's entry into the war, both as against Germany and Italy on the one hand and against Japan on the other, comes for some notice in regard to the measures she is so rapidly taking.

1. The Bill enabling United States expeditionary forces to be sent to any part of the world is being passed with practically no opposition. While some time ago the passage of such a measure would have startling significance, to-day it is almost lost in the news columns. Of course one would not expect a spectacular armada to set out. The time is not yet for such an invasion force. America will choose her own time for it.

2. A White House announcement says that the "Lease-Lend programme is and will continue in full operation." Of course it cannot be expected that the full extent of the supply woud be kept up hereafter and there may be some interruption but her "Defence Programme" has now become a "Victory Programme." Longer hours, greater co-ordination, increased national effort over the whole field of production and the final effect will not only offset any temporary supply difficulties but will help to ensure that total victory on which America and her Allies are jointly resolved.

3. Legislation has been introduced authorising a 30 per cent increase in the vessel strength of the Navy. There will be an increase of 900,000 tons in the United States naval strength and these include seven or eight 45,000 ton battleships, 29,000 ton aircraft carriers, twenty-seven 7,000-ton cruisers and more than 80 submarines—all these in the Pacific. This of course will be complementary to the naval strength of Great Britain in the Pacific.

4. America, it was stated, can call up an army of over seven million men, if necessary, if Congress made men from 19 to 44 (inclusive) subject to military training.

5. The output of military aircraft will be well above the 2,000 mark and perhaps around the 2,400 mark this month. By the end of this month the current tank production would be one-third of 2,800 monthly.

6. Messages have been exchanged between President Roosevelt and Marshal Chiang Kai-shek. President Roosevelt says: "I am wholly confident that the struggle in which we are engaged in common with other gallant nations will forge stronger bonds of traditional friendship and will result inevitably in the complete destruction of the lawless forces against which your effort, our effort and the efforts of our associates are now individually and collectively directed."

7. The following are some points in President Roosevelt's lengthy message to Congress:

(*a*) Japan announced that 70 million Japanese were superior to seven or eight hundred million other inhabitants of the Orient.

(*b*) President Roosevelt would have travelled thousands of miles to meet the Japanese Prime Minister if there had been an assurance that there would be an agreement on the basis of principles, but he could obtain no such assurance.

(*c*) Japan's reply was delivered after Japan had actually attacked. The President disclosed that Japan was making protestations of peace three hours and forty minutes after the attack on Pearl Harbour had begun. The actual air and submarine attack began at 1-20 p.m. Washington time. At 5 p.m. the Japanese Foreign Minister called on the American Ambassador Mr. Joseph Grew and asserted that the Japanese Emperor so greatly desired the establishment of peace in the Pacific and the entire world that he had instructed the Japanese Government to "continue its earnest endeavours."

NAZI REPRISALS

The Vichy Government is very uneasy over fresh outrages by the Nazi authorities. It would appear that one hundred Jews, "Communists" and anarchists are to be shot, a fine of one million francs is to be paid by Jews in occupied territories and many Jews are to be sent to penal servitude. A plaintive appeal has been sent by the men of Vichy. They deplore that their request for a reduction in the number to be shot has not even been considered. And yet, the men of Vichy are not ashamed to give in to the demands of the Nazi agent, time after time.

There is no limit to Nazi crime. A mass crime has been prepared in Yugoslavia and according to a newspaper correspondent, there is a German plan for treating the whole population of Belgrade as hostages to be slaughtered by mass execution. General Simovitch estimates the probable number of intended victims to be 300,000. The object is to compel by terrorist methods the surrender of formations of the Yugoslav army which under General Mihailovitch are continuing the struggle for their country's freedom in the mountains running down the Dalmatian coast.

Artillery is being moved up around the Yugoslav capital and when these guns are all in position, Yugoslav troops will be called upon to make an unconditional surrender. If they refuse, a force of stuka dive-bombers will be sent to rain high explosive and incendiary bombs on Belgrade, and the surrounding batteries will open a converging fire on the city to destroy what still remains of its buildings after the terrible air onslaught last April and mow down fugitives trying to escape. It will be remembered that as a reprisal for the assassination of two German officers at Nantes and Bordeaux a hundred French hostages have been executed. And in Yugoslavia 12,000 hostages have been murdered in cold blood during the past summer. In the town of Kragujeva, in retaliation for the supposed killing of 26 German soldiers, 26,000 men, women and children were butchered.

GERMAN RETREAT IN RUSSIA

A special announcement by the Soviet authorities early this week revealed that the German plans for surrounding and capturing Moscow have ended in a fiasco and in the defeat of the German troops at the approaches to the city. The German offensive, which began on 16th November, was beaten back and, at the very gates of the suburbs, the Russians launched a counter-offensive (on 6th December). A Russian communiqué stated that, on 11th December, the following was the position of the respective armies :—

(*a*) The forces of General Liliushenko are smashing the First Tank and the Fourteenth and Thirty-sixth Motorised Infantry Divisions, and capturing Rogachey and surrounding the town of Klin.

(*b*) The forces of General Kuznetsov having captured the town of Yakhrona, are pursuing the retreating Sixth and Seventh Tank and Twenty-third Infantry Divisions of the enemy, and have emerged to the south-west of Klin.

(*c*) The forces of General Vlassov pursuing the Second Tank and the 106th Infantry Division, have occupied the town of Solnechnogorsk.

(*d*) The forces of General Rokossovsky pursuing the Fifth, Tenth and Eleventh Tank Divisions and an S. S. Division and the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division, have broken through the defences of the 252nd, Eighty-seventh, Seventy-eighth and 268th Infantry Divisions, and occupied the districts of Kulibyakin and Lokotnya.

(*e*) The Forces of General Boldin having routed, to the north-west of Tula, the Third and the Fourth Tank Divisions and an S. S. Regiment of the Germania Division, and successfully developing their offensive, have pressed on and surrounded the 296th Infantry Division.

(*f*) The First Guard Cavalry Corps of General Delov having routed the Seventeenth Tank and Twenty-ninth Motorised Infantry Divisions and the 167th Infantry Division of the enemy is pursuing their remnants, and has occupied the towns of Vincyev and Stalinogorsk.

(*g*) The forces of General Golikov, after pushing back in the south-west, the units of the Eighteenth Tank and Tenth Motorised Infantry Divisions, have occupied the towns of Mikhailov and Yetisan.

Since then Klin and Kalinin (100 miles north-west of Moscow) have been taken by the Russians and about 500 populated centres freed from the enemy, who is retreating from Mojaisk, 65 miles west of Moscow. The booty left behind by the Germans is immense. The Russians press back the Germans both on the northern and southern fronts, too; they have captured the railway from Tikhvin to Volkhov; and the Germans admit heavy pressure in the region of Lake Ladoga.

The Soviet Information Bureau states that while Soviet losses in killed and missing during the five months of war amounted to a total of 520,000 men, including war prisoners. Hitler's army lost up to 19,000 guns, over 15,000 tanks, and about 13,000 aircraft. This does not include losses at the approaches to Moscow between November 16 and December 10. The Bureau statement claims that in less than one month over 85,000 Germans were killed at the approaches to Moscow. In the course of the five months war on the Eastern Front a whole generation of Germans—over six million men—were killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

It will be recalled that the German Propaganda Ministry not long ago stated that the German High Command would consider Moscow as its main objective, even if M. Stalin should attempt to transfer the centre of gravity of the military operations to another sector. The German circles stated that the German advance on the Russian capital had advanced so far that the outskirts of the city could already be seen through good binoculars. It is now obvious that this boastful plan for surrounding and capturing Moscow has proved a complete fiasco. The Germans have quite obviously suffered a defeat here. And it is reported that Marshal Von Bock, their Commander-in-Chief on the Central Front, has been relieved of his duties. The Germans complain of winter and blame the cold for not allowing them to carry out their plans for capturing Moscow. But, first of all, real winter weather has not yet set in near Moscow, as frosts have not been much below three or five degrees below zero. The fact that the Germans are complaining so bitterly about the winter shows that they did not trouble to supply their troops with winter uniforms, despite the fact that they had been shouting to the whole world that they were long ago fully prepared for a winter campaign. Actually, they did not supply their army with winter uniforms, as they fully anticipated that they would finish the campaign before the approach of the winter.

The Nazis claim that they are withdrawing in order to dig themselves in suitable winter quarters, in which case the Russians will continually press in on them and keep them going without any rest. But it looks as if Moscow is more correct in claiming that the mighty German army is retiring in disorder because of the weight of the Russian counter-offensive. The Russian advance, as has been pointed out, " is of vital importance because Nazi Germany is the keystone of the totalitarian arch; any damage to that keystone is a menace to the whole Axis structure," despite temporary Allied reverses in the Far East or elsewhere.

BRITISH ADVANCE IN LIBYA

The advance of the British Imperial Forces this week in Libya has been vigorous and rapid. They have marched about 80 miles west of Tobruk, leaving an adequate force to obtain the surrender of the supply base of Gazala; the latter is now encircled and must fall. Lieut.-General Ritchie, the new British Commander-in-Chief, is going all out to beat General von Rommel's forces, which are apparently retreating to Derna after five days of intensive fighting. The British forces have now reached the Tmimi-Mekili Road. It is good to know that Indians are still the spear-head of the thrust and, according to a New Zealand soldier, are " doing a great job." British and Indian troops broke through a strong enemy position near Alem Hamza, 15 miles south-west of Gazala, and pursued the enemy for 30 miles.

Gen. Rommel is apparently fighting a delaying action in the hope of extricating his main forces. British tank forces are now trying to bring the remnants of General Rommel's Fifteenth and Twenty-first Armoured Divisions into battle and General Rommel is taking full advantage of the superior range of the six-pounder guns with which his tanks are fitted and holding them off as best he can while he withdraws gradually westward, covering the retreat of vast masses of transport. While British advanced forces are gradually rolling back Rommel's armoured troops, the huge rear organization of the Eighth Army has pushed forward well over a hundred miles during the last few days. At the same time, the Royal Air Force have pushed forward their advanced fighter formations. Thus is secured about 10,000 square miles in Libya in which no enemy remains except small comparatively harmless pockets of Germans, hiding in ravines and under cliffs along the coast who are being ferreted out by our supply columns roaming the desert from the coast to fifty miles inland.

The Empire forces, in one day's operations, took 700 prisoners, 70,000 gallons of fuel and several guns and tanks, beside destroying many more tanks. And Gen. Rommel cannot hope to receive adequate supplies across the seas where the British Navy, in addition to making a daring raid on Derna, has accounted this week for five Italian cruisers besides a number of supply ships. The British destroyer *Frandale* has sunk *Ammiraglio Carraciolo*, one of the latest class of Italian submarines (of 1,461 tons) which was carrying 20 Italian military officers. Fifty-three survivors of the crew are prisoners of war but General Guido Lami, chief executive of the Engineering Headquarters of the Italian Army in Rome, is missing and is believed to have been drowned. And the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force are not only shooting down Axis planes in numbers but ceaselessly bombing enemy supply bases in Libya, Sicily and Italy. Mr. Churchill is not wrong in claiming that the battle for Libya is going well for the Empire.

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Britain's Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, has sent the following message to Major-General Ritchie, the new Commander of the Eighth Army fighting in Libya : " After ten days at your advanced headquarters, where I have been able closely to follow the progress of the operations directed by you, I wish to tell you how deeply impressed I am by the skill and vigour with which they have been conducted and by the great success achieved by them. Such success would never have been achieved without the wholehearted and unceasing co-operation of our air force whose work has been magnificent throughout. During this period the enemy has been outmanoeuvred and outfought at all points and has been driven back over sixty miles and forced to abandon the siege of Tobruk. I cannot tell you how much I admire the way in which your subordinate commanders, Lieutenant-Generals Willoughby Norrie and Godwin Austin commanding the Thirtieth and the Thirteenth Corps, and Major-General Scobie, commanding the Tobruk Garrison, have carried out your orders and maintained relentless pressure on the enemy. For officers and men under their command, whether British, New Zealand, Indian, South African, Australian, Polish or Czech, no praise can be too high for their splendid spirit and unshaken determination to win in the face of danger, hardship and more than one setback. They have shown that when it comes to sticking it, they can outlast the Germans every time. The enemy is not yet destroyed and must be given no rest. I leave this task to you with the greatest confidence. Good luck to the Eighth Army and all in it."

THE FAR EASTERN FRONT

FIERCE FIGHTING IN MALAYA

A true picture of the military situation in the Far East was given by Mr. Richard Casey, the Australian Minister in Washington, who gave "a quick summary of the position" to President Roosevelt. "There are *plus* and *minus* factors" he said "but we are far from being down-hearted about it."

After the initial surprise Japanese attacks on the Hawaii and other bases in the Pacific, there has been a general stabilization of the front in all theatres of operations, except in Malaya where the Japanese are advancing, though slowly and at a terrific cost. The worst is now known of the United States losses in Pearl Harbour (Hawaii) in the first Japanese raid. Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, who inspected the naval base, has revealed that, in addition to the old battleship *Arizona*, an old target ship (*Utah*), three destroyers (*Cassin*, *Downes* and *Shaw*) and a mine-layer were lost. Other damaged vessels, including the battleship *Oklahoma*, were being repaired. The total casualties were 2,729 officers and men killed and 656 wounded. President Roosevelt has appointed a board, presided over by Mr. Owen Roberts, Justice of the Supreme Court, to enquire into the conditions that made such a surprise attack possible on the chief Pacific base of the United States Navy. Meanwhile, Admiral Kimmel, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Lieut.-Gen. Short, Commander of the Hawaii Army District, and Maj.-Gen. Martin, Commander of the Air Forces there have been replaced, respectively, by Rear-Admiral Nimitz, Lieut.-Gen. Emmons, and Lieut.-Gen. Tinker.

But it is heartening to know that (in Col. Knox's own, authoritative words) "the entire balance of the Pacific Fleet, with its battleships, aircraft-carriers, heavy and light cruisers, destroyers and submarines, is uninjured and they are all at sea, seeking contact with the enemy. The Japanese failed in their purpose of knocking out the United States before the war began." The Japanese also lost three submarines and forty-one aircraft during the raid.

JAPANESE RUSE IN VAIN

Since then the Japanese have been intermittently shelling Hawaii, Johnston Island, Baker Island, Guam, Wake and Midway; but all are holding out firmly except Guam. Situated right in the midst of the Japanese Mandated Islands and not equipped with full defence facilities, Guam has had to surrender. It is obvious that the hit and run attacks on these islands, in which the Japanese have risked valuable warships, are meant to decoy some of the offensive strength of the United States Pacific Fleet, which is searching for the main Japanese Fleet, into a hunt for the raiders. It is authoritatively stated in Washington that the American Fleet would not be distracted from its main task.

And till the arrival of that Fleet into the Western Pacific, the chief United States base in these waters, Manila, and the chief British bases, Singapore and Hongkong, are determined to beat back all Japanese attacks. Latest communiques report a lull in the fighting in the Philippines, where most Japanese para-troops have been wiped out. On Wednesday, 26 Japanese planes were destroyed in an attack on the Japanese air base at Vigan. American bombers are very active, keeping a ceaseless vigil. And Admiral Hart, Commander-in-Chief of the relatively small but keen and determined United States Asiatic Fleet based at Manila, appears to be very confident in his ability to beat off any further Japanese landings. Not only that. United States submarines are now reported to be in the waters around Japan and to have made some successful attacks on Japanese vessels. Several Japanese troopships have been sunk (and thousands of soldiers drowned) by the United States and Netherlands East Indies Navy. And a Netherlands aircraft scored a direct hit on a Japanese destroyer off Borneo.

HONGKONG SPURNS IDEA OF SURRENDER

The Governor of Hongkong has rejected the Japanese proposal to begin negotiations for the colony's surrender. The mainland of Kowloon has been evacuated according to plan by the British troops, who have now consolidated the Island's defences. The Japanese have launched a violent attack on Hongkong but the garrison is full of confidence. The Japanese are reported to have occupied the Portuguese island of Macao, about 45 miles south-west of Hongkong, but they will have to reckon with the Chinese, who are now attacking their rear and flank along the Canton-Kowloon railway. A British Military Mission is now busy at Chungking and joint Sino-British plans are being put into effect.

The Japanese have made a landing in the Sarawak territory in Borneo in which British troops had already destroyed oil installations. As a set-off to this we may point to the entry of British and Dutch troops into Portuguese Timor, on whose fine air-bases the Japanese High Command have been casting covetous eyes for some time. But very disquieting news comes from Malaya. True, the Japanese have been successfully halted in the Kelantan area but their drive through Kedah towards Penang is making progress. They have hitherto been able to exploit their numerical superiority in aircraft and mechanised equipment but a message from Singapore, received in Madras on Thursday, states that fresh British and Imperial troops are being sent to the Kedah front to relieve the tired British, Indian and Australian soldiers who have there given of their best in ceaseless action for a week. The reinforcements are supported by heavy equipment and they are expected to halt the Japanese mechanised forces which have been pounding their way down the main Kedah road. The fighting is at present in the region of the Muda river, forming the boundary between the State of Kedah and the Province of Wellesley, which drains into the sea just north of Penang island. The threat to Penang must be warded off, otherwise the Japanese might gain a foothold—although difficult and almost precarious—right in the Indian Ocean.

"SINGAPORE SHALL NOT FALL"

If Malaya is overrun, Singapore will be menaced. The Governor, Sir Shenton Thomas, addressing an emergency meeting of the Legislative Council, said, "The fate of Penang must depend largely on what happens in Kedah. The initial surprise attack has made things difficult for us. They have not gone as we hoped. We had some shocks—we expect more, but Singapore must not fall—it shall not fall. The decision of the Thailand Government not to resist invasion despite all its affirmations during recent weeks left us alone in the defence of the northern frontier of Malaya. We scrupulously respected Thailand's declared neutrality. The free passage given to Japan by Thailand has made possible a large-scale attack on Kedah." And, in another declaration, Sir Shenton said, "We will stand by the ship. From the sands of Egypt to the snows of the Antarctic, the British Empire looks to us—no, not only the British Empire, but all people who love freedom, justice, truth and fair dealing. Let us then steel ourselves to endure, let us fight for every inch of ground in the great task that lies before us, knowing—as we do know for certain—that ultimate victory will be ours: and to the people of my own race I say this: "In any withdrawal or movement of the population, there will be no distinction of race. No European civilian, male or female, will be ordered by the Civil Government to withdraw. We will stand by the people of this country, with whom we live and work, in this ordeal."

INDIA ALERT

And India is fully awake to the danger that lurks in the Far Eastern developments. The Japanese claim to have bombed Rangoon and to have occupied the Andamans is now seen to be a barefaced lie but we in India are not neglecting our defences in view of the Japanese bombing of Tenasserim and penetration into Victoria Point very near the Thailand border. Another big convoy of Indian troops with full equipment has just arrived in Rangoon. General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief, has this week completed important discussions with Lieutenant General Sir Charles Broad, General Officer Commanding, Eastern Command, India, in connexion with the latest developments in the Far Eastern situation and the Japanese offensive in Malaya. It is also understood that General Wavell is maintaining the closest touch with the Far East Command. In this connexion it will be recalled that shortly before the outbreak of the war in the Pacific, he paid a special personal visit to Singapore where he was able to discuss all questions relating to the possibility of a Japanese attack and the means of securing the utmost co-ordination between the Far East and Indian Commands in the event of such an attack being made. The defence of India is absolutely safe in the hands of General Wavell.

DEFENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

U.S. OUTPOST IN THE PACIFIC

Japanese strategy, after a fortnight's fighting, stands revealed as an attempt to subjugate both Singapore and the Philippines before the American Pacific Fleet steams eastwards from its base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii and foils Japan. Unless these two outposts—the one British, and the other American—are taken, Japan can hope neither to penetrate with safety into Burma nor to risk an invasion of the Netherlands East Indies or Australia. Singapore, we know, is heavily fortified and determined to hold out at all costs against the Japanese. Let us have a look at the Philippines.

The Archipelago lies between Indo-China to the west and the area of the Japanese Mandated Islands to the east, and between Japanese Formosa on the north and the Netherlands East Indies on the south. Outlying islets of the Philippines (as the *Bulletin of International News*, published by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, points out) are divided from Formosa only by the Bashee Channel, and on the south run close to North Borneo. The most northerly large island, Luzon, is 500 miles from China. The distance from Manila, the capital of the Philippines and the most important city in Luzon, to Hongkong is 640 miles; from Manila to Singapore the distance is 1,340 miles; the nearest American land Guam is 1,500 miles away—in the midst of the Japanese Mandated area—and is now reported to have been captured by the Japanese; and the distance from Manila, which is the headquarters of the small United States Asiatic Fleet, to the main Pacific base of the United States Navy at Pearl Harbour is 5,000 miles.

The country has an area of 115,000 square miles, nearly as great as that of the British Isles, and a population of over 16 million. There are some 7,000 islands and islets, the largest being Luzon on the north, with an area of 40,814 square miles; and Mindanao on the south, 36,906 square miles. Between them lie eight islands of considerable size, and to the west, the Calamian Islands and the long narrow island of Palawan stretch from Mindoro down to North Borneo. The range in latitude (1,000 miles), and still more the variety in altitude permits a wide range of tropical and sub-tropical climate and production. The northern part of the Archipelago lies within the typhoon area and the whole area is liable to seismic disturbance. The islands inland are mostly of volcanic origin, and are traversed by mountain ranges following on the whole a north and south direction. There are some active volcanoes, and the lower slopes and valleys have been enriched in the past by volcanic deposits, and are very fertile. It is estimated that 63 per cent of the area is fit for cultivation, but a great part of the country is still under forest and jungle, and only about 14 per cent of the total has been brought under the plough.

JAPANESE SETTLERS IN PHILIPPINES

When, however, one talks of the wealth of the Philippines, one thinks not of rice or other subsistance products but of gold, chromite, sugar, coconut products, Manila hemp (which comes from the abaca plant, a cousin of the banana, and makes the strongest rope in the world) and tobacco. And it is here (as the American journal, *Fortune*, emphasizes) that Philippine industry is "loaded with dynamite." The inhabitants of the Philippine Islands are of Malay race, with a great deal of Spanish and Chinese admixture in the northern and central islands, but in the interior of the larger islands there are some Negritos, possibly aboriginal. The Malay population consists of over twenty tribes which entered the country at different times. The overwhelming majority of the Filipinos, 90 per cent of the total population, are Catholic, having been converted at the time of the Spanish conquest. Of the foreign elements, excluding the American civil and military officers, traders and the floating tourist population of Manila, the most important are the Chinese (who hold the key-positions in most retail, and even in some wholesale trades and who have inter-married to some extent with the Malays); but potentially the most troublesome are the 30,000 Japanese. In Davao, the hemp centre of Mindanao, out of a total population of about 96,000, there are about 18,000 Japanese. A large part of the fishing industry of the country is in their hands and this has naturally caused uneasiness because of the insight gained into navigation in these waters. The Japanese are also big hemp-growers and have a considerable interest in iron, copper and manganese mining corporations. The land laws, theoretically, prevent outright Japanese ownership of great tracts of Davao land. But a swarm of Davao *Abogados*, or lawyers, have discovered practical loopholes in these laws; subsidiary companies have multiplied, Filipino and United States "homesteaders" have allowed the Japanese to work their holdings. Japanese have taken Filipino wives for purely business reasons, and Filipinos as dummy owners have placed their land corporation shares in Japanese safes. Where Americans were chary of putting money into the islands, the Japanese were building for the future and their fifth column activities have to be watched carefully.

THE ADMINISTRATION

The Philippine Islands (since 1934, the Commonwealth of the Philippines) came into the possession of the United States after the Spanish-American War of 1898. The pacification of the islands took some time to achieve, but by 1907, it proved possible to associate the Filipinos with the Government, and by 1913 some 72 per cent of administrative positions were held by them. Preparations went on for eventual complete self-government, and by the Independence Act of 1934, which came into force on 15th November 1935, a constitution providing for qualified independence was established. For ten years, that is, until 1946, the United States Government are to retain supreme control of foreign relations, finance and tariffs, and a United States High Commissioner is to remain at Manila. The United States can maintain naval and military bases during that period, and possibly after 1946. As 1946 draws near, however, even the most ardent Filipinos have shown some hesitation in accepting full independence, partly because their dependence on the free market of the United States will be gradually interfered with but even more because American protection is vital against Japanese aggression which has now materialized with such startling suddenness. On 10th August 1940, the Philippine Assembly granted President Manual Quezon practically unlimited powers. But, though he has declared his preference for a one-party system, the President disclaims any idea of a dictatorship. By amendments to the Constitution, the Presidential term has been shortened to four years and re-election permitted; a bi-cameral legislature was substituted for the single chamber. Washington endorsed these amendments. Both the President and the people of the Philippine Commonwealth are wholeheartedly supporting the United States against Japan.

DEFENCE

Until 1946, the defence of the Philippines rests with the United States, and there are few local resources and none of the industries necessary for modern defence, so that material must be imported. It is only in recent years that effective preparations for defence against serious attack have been made. The hands of the United States were tied by Article 19 of the Five-Power Treaty of 1922 on the limitation of naval strength, in which the United States, the British Empire and Japan agreed to maintain the *status quo* with regard to fortifications and naval bases in certain areas of the Pacific. This area included Hongkong and the Philippines. It is only since the denunciation of the Treaty by Japan in December 1934, taking effect two years later, that it has been possible to increase Philippine defensive works.

The naval defences available locally in the Philippines are the American Asiatic Fleet, which in peace-time amounted to one 10,000-ton cruiser, one 7,000-ton cruiser, 12 destroyers, and 12 submarines, with the usual fleet auxiliaries but it can be, and no doubt has, been reinforced from the main Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. At the end of 1939 the Asiastic Fleet was reinforced by one aircraft carrier, several large bombers, and more submarines. Many small 'mosquito' craft are being constructed locally.

In normal times the United States garrison consists of about 10,000 men, of whom 4,000 are American regulars and the remainder Philippine Scouts; it has been reinforced since the spring of 1941. Some 85 airports and landing stages for aircraft, recently improved exist and the small nucleus of war-planes in the islands has been constantly increased by arrivals from the United States. For example, the United States War Department announced in October 1940, that two Army Air Corps Pursuit squadrons were being transferred to the Philippines. It was reported at the same time that 70 aircraft ordered for Sweden had been requisitioned and were being sent to the Philippines. In May, 1941, it was expected that in the next six months the Air Force would be brought up to 1,000 'planes, and Brig-General Clagett was appointed to command the Air Force. Manila has air connexions with Singapore, Hongkong and Batavia and is rapidly becoming one of the greatest airports in the East.

Before the Commonwealth took over the administration from the United States, Major-General Douglas MacArthur was seconded as Military Adviser at the request of President Quezon, and a small Filipino force, capable of considerable expansion, was created. In peace-time the force is only of 7,000 men, but able-bodied young men must register, and some 40,000 are put into training each year. In March 1941 some 100,000 reservists were undergoing training. The annual military budget is for about 16 million pesos.

The greater part of the defences are concentrated in the island of Luzon, and the difficulties of transport and communication over the scattered archipelago would constitute a certain weakness if an attack were made elsewhere.

NAVAL BASE AT MANILA

Manila stands on a magnificent bay which would accommodate the whole United States Asiatic Fleet. It is defended by the fortress on Corrigidor Island, at the mouth of the bay, and by batteries on other outlying islands. In peace-time the garrison of Corregidor is 4,500 men, now increased. The island rises 650 feet from the sea in the narrow strait leading into the Bay, and is thickly honeycombed with defence works on the Gibraltar model. Just south of Manila, also in Manila Bay, is Cavite Bay, where there are marine barracks, fuel and ammunition depots, and dock facilities, but the repairing docks will not take the largest ships. At Olongapo, in Subic Bay, about 60 miles north of Manila, there is a good harbour and a floating dock, taking ships of 10,000 tons, but no fortifications unless newly constructed. The possibility of the use of Singapore by American ships must not be ruled out.

The thousands of small islands, among which many hiding places for submarines could be found, undoubtedly complicate defence and the problem is made more difficult by the Japanese occupation first of Hainan, and then of Indo-Chinese bases.

(*Continued on page* 11)

JAPANESE INFAMY RIVETS GREAT ALLIANCE

GERMANY'S SECOND JACKAL-ACCOMPLICE

Just eighteen months ago a jackal entered the arena of war. Italy was to squeeze the last drop of blood from the wounded and exhausted gladiator that Britain was supposed to be. The first result was the evacuation of British Somaliland. This is what Churchill said about it on August 20, 1940 :—

> Far larger operations, no doubt, impend in the Middle Eastern theatre and I shall certainly not attempt to prophesy their probable course. . . We intend to do our best to give a full account of ourselves."

Churchill did not boast of what he would do to Jackal No. 1. He does not boast now of what he will do to Jackal No. 2. He says simply : " We shall do our best." Mussolini's soldiers, sailors and airmen could tell the Japanese just what that " best " means.

Britain and the Empire do not face Hitler's new jackal-accomplice alone and unaided. The United States of America and the Netherlands East Indies are their active allies, while away to the north—where the Japanese warlords have failed to force a decision in four-and-a-half years of callous carnage—the heroic Chinese nation and the armed forces under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek continue to fight the common foe.

The calculated and characteristic treachery with which the Japanese launched their attack must inevitably lead to some early success, but in the long pull Tokyo has to face the strongest combination of powers in the world. That Japan should attack both Britain and America together is evidence of her patent failure to drive a wedge between these two great democracies as well as her anxiety to gain strategical advantages before it is too late.

Japan has wilfully and wantonly added to the load of suffering which the human race must bear before Axis aggression is finally curbed and crushed. She has challenged forces, both spiritual and material, which in the ultimate event are unconquerable and, in so doing, she has welded those forces into a mighty alliance.

The present bellicose men of Tokyo were formed into a Cabinet in October for the purpose of capitalising the imminent fall of Moscow. The Soviet capital is holding out and hitting back and it is significant that Japan has not succumbed to Nazi pressure so far as to wage war against the U.S.S.R.

Russia's inspiring stand has had the effect of turning the main weight of the initial Japanese offensive towards Malaya, Burma and India. The merits of the defence in depth strategy, on which the Indian Command has always based its calculations, now stand out stark. Troops guarding India's outer defence bastions, from Singapore to Rangoon and northward to Bhamo, are keeping the enemy at a distance from her eastern frontier. India's war factories are far behind the firing line and if India does her best they will continue to be so.

GENERAL WAVELL OPTIMISTIC—(*Continued from page* 1)

Still he is very formidable and things are not going to be too easy. We shall have a hard year in 1942 against the Axis powers. But you have got the greatest combination of nations in the world opposed to him—the United States, the British Empire, Russia and China, all banded together now.

(4) *Libya.*—The latest account I have had shows that it is going extremely well. I have never had any doubts at all—I know that theatre, having had charge of operations there for two years—that that battle will go all right in the long run. It has been slow and more expensive than we had hoped ; but the greater part of the Germans and Italians there will sooner or later be accounted for. Already a large proportion of them have been accounted for. We have taken between eight thousand and ten thousand prisoners. There is no doubt whatever that the casualties of the enemy in killed and wounded, especially in killed, have been on an extremely heavy scale.

The fourth Indian Division which is the first Indian division that went overseas from this country and which was the spearhead of the attack on Sidi Barrani and Keren, is an extremely fine division. I have had a telegram to-day from General Auchinleck that General Ritchie has written to him that the Fourth Indian Division has done most magnificent work and no praise can be high enough for their achievement. The casualties of this division have not been many. One brigade had a certain number of casualties, but the other two have not suffered many. There is also the Fifth Indian Division who have done very fine work.

(5) *The future.*—We shall have a hard year in 1942 against the Axis powers, but the " greatest combination of nations in the world " opposed Axis powers and the United States, the British Empire, Russia and China, all banded together, were bound to win.

STATISTICS OF WAR

A NAZI LIE

Not for the first time Nazi radio stations are trying to create a rift in the Allied front by broadcasting blatant falsehoods about the severity of casualties suffered by Empire troops.

The fact is that seventy of every hundred soldiers engaged in the present Libyan offensive are from the United Kingdom. The remaining thirty are drawn from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand as well as from India.

It is the British practice to announce casualties in full as soon as accurate figures are available. In contrast, German casualty announcements are made irregularly and without any detail. Their announcement in the newspapers is rationed, no German paper being allowed to publish more than 25 obituary notices at a time.

In a speech on October 18, 1941, Lord Croft showed that, while British casualties on all fronts were already 100,000, Indian casualties totalled 7,000, Australian 13,000, New Zealand 6,000 and South African 600.

When the Greek campaign was at its height, the Nazi radio tried the same trick, alleging that all the fighting was being done and all the casualties were being suffered by Australians and New Zealanders. When the accurate figures were eventually published this lie was firmly nailed by the revelation that, while 82·6 per cent of the Australian solidiers and 86·3 per cent of the New Zealanders had been safely evacuated from Greece, the percentage of British troops evacuated was 68·2 . No Indian troops were engaged in Greece.

DEFENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES—(*Continued from page* 9)

At first it was maintained by President Quezon that American responsibility included civil defence, but the Philippine Government have agreed to shoulder the responsibility. Since the spring of this year preparations have been made for civil defence, including increased production of foodstuffs, the acquisition of fuel stocks, the control of communications and air-raid precautions services. These services are co-ordinated by a Civilian Emergency Administration created by President Quezon in April 1941.

In recent months periodic conferences on defence have been held, attended by the High Commissioner, the Commander of the Asiatic Fleet, the Commandant of the 16th Naval District at Cavite, the Commander of the American Garrison, the President of the Philippines, his military adviser, Major-General Douglas MacArthur, and the Philippine Army chief of staff. In March, Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, came from Singapore and Mr. van Kleffens, Netherlands Foreign Minister, from Netherlands Indies, and, though the visits were unofficial, it is possible that questions of common defence in the China Seas were discussed.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 29—DECEMBER 6, 1941

AN OLD LIE RE-DRESSED

"The Indians are greatly worried at their heavy losses in North Africa. They have found out that the Indian soldiers are stationed in the most dangerous fronts. Among the prisoners taken during the fighting in North Africa were numerous Indians. As soon as the front line was reached the Indians were flung into battle to stem the advance of the German and Italian tank-formations. The losses of Indian troops were extremely heavy."—(*German News in Hindustani, November* 30.)

"As on the other battlefields the British are causing troops of the different colonies to bear the brunt of the fighting in North Africa. In Greece. . . Indians fought for the British. Time and again. . . Indians have shed their blood for the British."—(*German News in English, December* 5.)

The compliment that the Germans have unwittingly paid the Indian troops will no doubt be accepted. If the Indians were in the forefront of the battle, they have carried it a long way. Their bravery in comradeship with an "English County Regiment" whose feats are deathless, has been praised by the American observer Quentin Reynolds.

But the facts against which Axis propaganda dashes in vain are these:

Of the troops participating in the great Libyan offensive, 70 per cent are from England, as revealed by the Minister of Information, Mr. Brendan Bracken, on November 29. The whole of the armoured striking force which bears the brunt of the fierce tank battle is of United Kingdom composition.

The sad but noble story of Empire casualties was told in the comprehensive official figures quoted by Lord Croft in October 18. British casualties on all fronts up to that date were 100,000 in round figures. Indian casualties were 7,000. Dominion casualties were 20,000. Casualties must be heavy in the grim struggle now raging in Libya against Germany's picked troops and tanks. But the burden is shared without question by all the forces of Britain and the Empire.

As for Greece, the answer to that German lie is that no Indian troops were engaged there.

FICTION AND FACT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

"The number of pilgrims to Mecca has greatly diminished this year."—(*German News in German, 2nd December* 1941.)

"The number of pilgrims to Mecca has greatly diminished this year."—(*Italian News in Hindustani, 2nd December* 1941.)

From India alone, the Government of India are this year providing accommodation for 11,500 Haj pilgrims—a figure exceeding that of the last two years put together. The first three pilgrim ships have already arrived safely in Hedjaz. The number of pilgrims registering from Palestine is already more than twice as high as last year. The Germans have wisely confined their lies for local consumption, while the Italians have tactlessly blurted it out in Hindustani.

"British authorities have seized large quantities of wheat in Iran. This has caused unrest in the country. Wherever the British go famine follows their footsteps."—(*German News in English, 3rd December* 1941.)

Far from seizing wheat in Iran, wheat from Russia and the British Empire has gone into it. The estimated total is between 30 to 40 thousand tons. The Shah has recently given a munificent gift of £125,000 for distribution amongst the poor. Wheat production is being stepped up by a skilful policy of price priming.

"It will not be out of place to mention," said the Prime Minister of Iran on December 6, "that when the former Cabinet took over the Government about 2 months ago, warehouses in Teheran had insufficient wheat, but now I have the pleasure to mention that the wheat supply has been ensured."

BRAZILIAN NUTS

"There never existed the so-called German danger in Brazil." (*German News in English, December* 2, 1941.)

"We shall create a new Germany in Brazil." ('*Hitler Speaks*,' *pp.* 69—71.)

ROSTOV REVERBERATIONS

In Rostov Goebbels has dug his propaganda grave. He played up a Rostov victory, with premature and exaggerated glee. He has tried to cover the retreat of the Panzers with ill-tempered screams.

On November 22 the Germans claimed to have taken Rostov. Two days earlier they informed the Americans that "Further Soviet resistance is senseless and would not be conducted by any command with a feeling of responsibility."

In the last week of November the German home radio said "Rostov is in German hands and constitutes a barrier between the Caucasus and the rest of Soviet Union." In fact on November 19 the German home radio boasted about Rostov and added: "The setting up of a civil administration in occupied Russia proves the untruth of one of the most frequent propaganda lies of our enemies, that fighting with partisans occurs in these places."

The military retreat from Rostov has now sent Dr. Goebbels into a further retreat from reason. The official German communique of December 1 was read on the radio as follows: "According to orders, so that necessary retaliatory measures may now be ruthlessly carried out against a population which contrary to international law participated in fighting in the rear of German troops, the Army has withdrawn from Rostov."

The world was warned the same day:—"The Bolsheviks will now claim that they have captured Rostov. But there can be no question of this."

Reprisals are to be taken against the citizens according to "international law" by leaving the town. The citizens were attacking the 'rear' of the German army which was already inside the town and had set up a "civil administration." The Russians are "senseless enough to make Rostov an outpost of the British front in the Near East." (*German News in English, December* 3, 1941.) The jigsaw puzzle of lies had many gaps this time.

GOEBBELS HOPES IN 1940—ENGLAND

"The British Navy is invisible in the North Sea, powerless in the Mediterranean, absent in the Far East and repulsed in the Atlantic." (*German Broadcast, December* 2, 1940.)

"By March or April 1941 Britain will have no longer any ships to bring in food supplies." (*German Home Radio, November* 30, 1940.)

"The hopes placed by Britain in assistance from the United States are comparable to the attempts of a drowning man to clutch at straw." (*Zeesen Broadcast to America, November* 30, 1940.)

"England's fate is being sealed with mathematical precision." (*German News from Czechoslovakia, November* 30, 1940.)

"1940 is the greatest year in German history. Its end spells victory." (*Zeesen Broadcast, December* 6, 1940.)

(*Continued on page* 15)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

12th Dec.—The Royal Air Force raids Cologne and other areas in Western Germany, the docks at Le Havre and Brest and lays mines in enemy waters.

Slight enemy activity over Eastern England causes slight damage and no casualties.

13th Dec.—The Royal Air Force bombs oil refinery works at St. Nazaire in France, a supply ship off Texel and the docks at Brest and Dunkirk.

16th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacks Ostend and Brest.

It is revealed that only 89 persons were killed (or are missing) and 155 injured in air raids on the United Kingdom during November.

17th Dec.—The Royal Air Force raids the German naval mase at Wilhelmshaven, Bremen and other towns in North-Western Germany, the docks at Ostend, Dunkirk and Brest and aerodromes in Occupied France.

18th Dec.—Brest and Le Havre are bombed by the Royal Air Force.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12th Dec.—The British Imperial Forces in Libya reach Gazala, 40 miles west of Tobruk. It is revealed that the 361st German Africa Regiment has been destroyed during the Libyan operations.

A British submarine torpedoes and causes a violent explosion in an Italian cruiser in Central Mediterranean.

13th Dec.—British destroyers sink an Italian cruiser and severely damage another in Central Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force raids enemy bases in Sicily as well as the mainland of Italy while the Empire Forces continue their advance in Libya.

14th Dec.—The British Imperial troops encircle and attack enemy troops at Gazala and capture Ghirba.

Empire air forces destroy 18 enemy aircraft over Libya and set fire to two enemy cruisers in Central Mediterranean.

15th Dec.—The Empire Forces capture 700 prisoners, 70,000 gallons of fuel and several guns and tanks in Libya beside destroying many more tanks. Heavy fighting with Gen. Rommel's main forces is reported between Tmimi and Gazala.

Italy admits the loss of two cruisers and British raids on *Cirene* and *Derna*. British submarines sink by gunfire a supply ship, a schooner and a caique and torpedo another supply ship and a salvage tug.

16th Dec.—British and Indian troops break through a strong enemy position near Alam Hamza, 15 miles south-west of Gazala.

17th Dec.—The Admiralty announces that the British destroyer *Frandale* has sunk the big, modern Italian U-Boat *Ammiraglio Carraciolo* in Central Mediterranean.

18th Dec.—Axis forces in Libya are in full retreat to Derna after five days of intensive fighting. British Imperial Forces pursue the enemy for 30 miles and reach the Tmimi-Mekili Road.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

12th Dec.—The entire Pacific Coast of the United States is blacked-out at night as a precaution.

President Roosevelt reveals that Mr. Churchill and Lord Beaverbrook have offered to turn over to the United States the entire shell-making output of three factories in Canada.

13th Dec.—The three most influential American Labour leaders, Messrs. William Green, Philip Murray and John Lewis, pledge Labour's full support for war effort.

15th Dec.—President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, reviews the current year's negotiations between Japan and the United States of America and the former's treachery.

In a broadcast on the anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights, Mr. Roosevelt declares "We covenant with each other before all the world that, having taken up arms in the defence of liberty, we will not lay them down before liberty is once again secure in the world we live in."

Col. Knox, United States Secretary to the Navy, reports to the President on his return from an inspection of the Naval Base at Hawaii.

Mr. Wendell Willkie, after meeting Mr. Roosevelt, declares that the damage done at Hawaii has not seriously affected America's ability to defeat Japan.

16th Dec.—The United States House of Representatives grants President Roosevelt extraordinary wartime powers.

The United States Senate approves the Bill for the appropriation of 10,000 million dollars more for defence equipment that had been sent to it by the House of Representatives.

18th Dec.—The Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet and the Army and Air Commanders at Hawaii are replaced.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12th Dec.—A special Soviet communiqué announces the definite defeat of the German army before Moscow. The Russians continue to advance on all fronts. The Russians recapture Rogachav, Stalinogorsk and other towns and surround Klin. It is reported that Von Bock, the German Commander on the Central (Moscow) front has been relieved of his command.

A Soviet official reveals that Germany has sent out peace "feelers" to Russia, who will never conclude a separate peace.

13th Dec.—The Russians continue to press back the Germans all along the front and reoccupy a number of towns.

14th Dec.—Three more towns are captured by the Russians. An Italian General, Ugo de Carolis, is killed in Russia.

15th Dec.—In addition to taking the railway line from Tikhvin to Volkhov and capturing Klin, the Russians advance further along the entire front. It is reported that the Soviet Government are returning to Moscow.

16th Dec.—The Russians recapture Kalinin, 100 miles north-west of Moscow, and launch on attack on the Lake Ladoga front.

17th Dec.—The Germans begin a retreat on a large scale from Mojaisk, 65 miles due west of Moscow.

18th Dec.—The Russians recapture the towns of Aleksin and Shchekino.

Large scale Russian manœuvres are reported in the Far East.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

12th Dec.—Rumania declares war on the United States.

13th Dec.—Hungary declares war on America; and Bulgaria on both Britain and America.

14th Dec.—Turkey notifies that she will remain neutral in the Pacific conflict.

16th Dec.—The Iran Parliament passes a vote of confidence in the Government, who state that the signing of the treaty with Britain is imminent.

SHIPPING

12th Dec.—United States Coast Guards seize the French liner *Normandie* and other French ships in American ports.

18th Dec.—Another United States cruiser is launched.

THE FAR EAST

12th Dec.—More Japanese raids on American naval bases and attacks on Luzon are reported as well as an air-raid on an area in Tenasserim division of Burma and slight advances after bitter fighting in the Kedah area in Malaya and in the Hongkong region.

Australian bombers raid the island of Tobi and United States Naval patrol planes score hits on a Japanese battleship of the Kongo class off Luzon.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED—(*Continued from page* 13)

GOEBBELS GROPES IN 1941—GERMANY

"All purchase, sale or barter of wool is prohibited. Entire output is being used for Army purposes." (*German Home Broadcast, November* 1941.)

"Europe must realise essential principles of *ersatz*. It must live by its own production." (*German Broadcast to Belgium, November* 28, 1941.)

"The hostilities in Russia were not started only to suppress the danger which threatened civilization, they were to secure essential raw materials to European countries." (*German Broadcast to Belgium, October* 27, 1941.)

"Lorries may now only be manufactured if adapted to driving on wood gas." (*German Home Broadcast, November* 12, 1941.)

". . . increase in coal production in Slovak mines has only been 3½ per cent in the last year." (*German Broadcast to the Netherlands, November* 28, 1941.)

"Africa can provide raw materials and food: . . .that Europe needs." (*Nazi controlled Paris Radio, July* 1941.)

13th Dec.—There are more air raids on the Tenasserim area, on Penang and on Manila. Several Japanese troops landed in Luzon Island are wiped out. The island of Guam is taken by the Japanese but Wake and Midway hold out.

Submarines of the Netherlands Navy sink four Japanese troopships off Patani in southern Thailand and 4,000 enemy troops are drowned.

M. Litvinov, the Soviet Ambassador to the United States of America, characterises Japan as " the common enemy " and says complete understanding prevails among all anti-Axis powers.

14th Dec.—The Japanese cross the Burma border from Thailand into Point Victoria region and begin a general offensive against Hongkong which refuses to surrender. Fierce fighting is reported in Malaya. Japanese parachutists are wiped out in Luzon while four Japanese troopships are sunk by American bombers and three more are damaged, according to an American Army communiqué which says that the situation in the Philippines is " well in hand " at the end of the first week of military operations.

Chinese forces strike at the Japanese flank and rear in the Hongkong region.

15th Dec.—The Japanese gain ground at heavy cost in Kedah, shell Hongkong (where the British withdraw from Kowloon) and make more air-raids on Luzon.

16th Dec.—The Japanese land in Sarawak. Four Japanese planes are brought down over the Philippines and one Japanese transport is bombed by Untited States planes. Very heavy fighting continues in Malaya.

The Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Togo, states in the Diet his belief that Russia will abide by the Neutrality Pact with Japan.

17th Dec.—The Japanese caims to have bombed Rangoon and captured the Andaman Islands are revealed to be bare-faced lies. Twenty-six Japanese planes are destroyed by United States bombers in an attack on the Japan air base at Vigan.

18th Dec.—A big convoy of Indian troops with full equipment arrives safely in Rangoon.

Forestalling Japanese action, British and Dutch troops occupy the Portuguese island of Timor.

The Japanese suffer a big reverse at Vigan where they are thrown back many miles by Filipinos.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

12th Dec.—A Vichy despatch says that Admiral Leachy, the United States Ambassador, has taken leave of Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan.

13th Dec.—The Vichy Government notify their neutrality in the Pacific war.

The Germans announce that they will shoot 100 " Jews, anarchists and communists, " imprison a large number and impose a fine of 1,000 million francs on Jews in the occupied territory following attempts against German troops in France.

14th Dec.—Paris press reports foreshadow " protection of French merchantships in the Mediterranean by the French Navy."

The Vichy Government inform the German authorities of " the deep uneasiness among all Frenchmen " caused by the German " reprisals."

16th Dec.—The British Admiralty exposes a German U-boat attack on the French ship St. Denis off the Balearics and refutes Vichy's charge that a British submarine was responsible.

OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

12th Dec.—General Sikorski, the Polish Premier reviews Polish troops at the Polish Army Headquarters in Russia. Poland declares war on Japan and has requested the United States Government's help in recruiting Polish citizens in America.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12th Dec.—Cuba, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic declare war on Japan while Mexico breaks off diplomatic relations with her.

14th Dec.—Mr. de Valera says that Eire will be a " friendly neutral " in the new extension of the war to America.

Egypt severs diplomatic relations with Rumania and Hungary.

17th Dec.—The Admiralty reveals that the sinking of the Spanish steamer *Badalonia* was brought about by a German U-Boat.

The Spanish Foreign Minister, after a conference with General Franco, receives the British Ambassador, Sir Samuel Hoare.

The Argentine Government declare a State of Siege " in order to carry out their international obligations."

The next issue of the Madras War Review will appear on Friday, the 9th January 1942.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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SUPPLEMENT TO

THE MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Diary of the Second Great War

From September 1939 to September 1941

Saturday, August 30, 1941

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ENGLAND AND GERMANY

1939

1st Sep.—Germany invades Poland. Warsaw is bombed. British and French give ultimata to Germany.

3rd Sep.—British and French ultimata expire. Britain declares war against Germany. Australia and New Zealand declare war. War Cabinet is set up.

4th Sep.—Mr. Chamberlain broadcasts a message in German to the German people in which he makes it clear that Britain's quarrel is with the Nazi regime, not with the German people.

6th Sep.—By the passing of the Armed Forces (Conditions of Service) Act all units of the Regular Army, Territorial Army, Militia and other auxiliary forces merge into a single entity, the British Army.

27th Sep.—Sir John Simon introduces his War Budget in the House of Commons. The principal feature is an increase of income-tax from 5*s* 6*d* to 7*s* 6*d*.

1st Oct.—A Royal Proclamation calling up all men over 20 years of age and under 22 is made in Britain.

6th Oct.—Hitler announces his " peace " plan to the Reichstag. It includes the proposal that a conference should be held to discuss questions arising out of the collapse of Poland, Germany's claims to colonies and the limiting of armaments.

11th Oct.—Empire Air-training Scheme is announced.

12th Oct.—Mr. Chamberlain declares in the House of Commons that it would be impossible for Great Britain to accept Hitler's proposals since aggression cannot be the basis of peace, and no reliance could be placed upon the promises of the present German Government.

7th Nov.—Lord Halifax makes a world broadcast on Britain's war aims.

8th Nov.—In a speech in the Buergerbraeu beer cellar, Munich, Hitler makes a violent attack on Britain. An attempt is made on Hitler's life, a bomb explosion taking place shortly after he left the cellar. Nine persons are killed and more than 60 injured.

25th Nov.—Italy, Japan, Denmark and Sweden make representations to the British Foreign Office with regard to the policy of reprisals which was announced as counter to Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare.

27th Nov.—Reprisal Order in Council on the seizure of German exports is signed by the King.

17th Dec.—The first contingent of Canadian troops arrives in Britain.

20th Dec.—The Czecho-Slovak National Committee under Dr. Benes is recognized by the British Government.

1940

5th Jan.—Mr. Hore-Belisha, Minister of War, resigns from the Government and Mr. Oliver Stanley is appointed in his place.

8th Jan.—A commercial and financial agreement is signed between Britain, France and Turkey. By this Turkey obtains £25 million credits for armaments, a £15 million loan in gold and a trade loan of £3,500,000.

Rationing comes into operation in Britain, foods affected being sugar, butter, bacon and ham.

29th Jan.—Widespread German air raids on Britain are attempted extending from Shetlands to coast of Kent.

4th Feb.—Amendment of India Act is passed in the House of Lords.

18th Feb.—British Government complain to the Norwegian Government of the perfunctory manner in which "Altmark", a German prisonship, was examined and presses that the ship should be interned.

20th Feb.—The Prime Minister makes a statement in House of Commons in reply to Norwegian Foreign Minister's account of "Altmark" exploit in which British Navy rescued 300 British prisoners.

24th Feb.—Herr Hitler speaking from the Munich Beer Cellar, denounces the Allies and demands return of "stolen properties", meaning the colonies lost in the last war.

25th Feb.—Norway informs Great Britain that she will propose arbitration in "Altmark" dispute if the British Government maintain their position.

2nd Mar.—Air Liner "Hannibal" is missing near Jask, on the Persian Gulf.

5th Mar.—Sir Jhon Simon, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announces a war loan of three hundred million pounds.

10th Mar.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Assistant Secretary, arrives in London to get a first-hand view of the European situation.

18th Mar.—Herr Hitler and Mussolini meet at Brenner Pass on the frontier of Italy.

20th Mar.—Mr. Sumner Welles reports to President.

2nd Apr.—Mr. Chamberlain speaking in the Commons, announces the decision to ask for guarantees from neutrals regarding limitations of trade with Germany.

23rd Apr.—Britain's Budget Estimates for 1940–41 War-time Budget is presented in the House of Commons by Sir John Simon. Expenditure of £2,667,000,000 of war expenditure for 1940–41. Duty on beer, tobacco and matches is raised—Purchase tax to be introduced.

27th Apr.—German White Book on the origin of the War is issued.

8th May.—Commons vote confidence in Mr. Chamberlain by a narrow majority.

10th May.—Mr. Chamberlain resigns and Mr. Churchill forms a National Cabinet in which the Labour leaders join.

13th May.—Mr. L. S. Amery is appointed Secretary of State for India.

22nd May.—Emergency powers (Defence) Act is passed.

24th May.—King broadcasts a message.

26th May.—Sir Edmond Ironside is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces at Home.

3rd June.—Government of India Defence loans are announced.

5th June.—"Ironsides" or Local Defence Volunteers are formed in Britain.

17th June.—Mr. Churchill explains that Britain is unaffected by French defeat and would fight, if necessary alone, if necessary for years.

18th June.—Hitler and Mussolini confer at Munich.

22nd June.—Mr. Churchill expresses firm determination to continue the war with Hitler in spite of French surrender.

25th June.—New India Emergency Bill is introduced in the Commons.

28th June.—Viceroy promulgates new ordinance to conscript skilled Indian Labour.

4th July.—Britain takes control of French warships in her ports. Mr. Churchill announces Anglo-French engagement in the Mediterranean.

5th July.—Germany rejects "Monroe" doctrine as "untenable."

10th July.—Big air battle rages over English Channel.

19th July.—Hitler addressing the Reichstag asks Britain to accept his terms of peace in preference to a war of annihilation.

21st July.—General Smuts replies to Dictator's challenge.

According to the "Sunday Times" correspondent, British aircraft production now exceeds the rate of 1,800 machines produced monthly.

23rd July.—Second War Budget is presented in the House of Commons. Britain spends £57,000,000 weekly on war. Income-tax is pushed up to 8*s* 6*d* in pound.

24th July.—Lord Beaverbrook, Minister for Aircraft Production, in a broadcast discloses that the United States would produce 3,000 planes monthly for Britain in addition to present orders.

11th Aug.—Heavy German loss is incurred in air battle.

12th Aug.—Air battle takes place over wide area of English Channel. Slight damage to Royal Air Force aerodromes is caused. Sixty enemy planes are shot down.

13th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain—78 Nazi planes are shot down.

14th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain—30 Nazi planes are shot down.

15th Aug.—Mass air raid over Britain—German planes bomb Croydon aerodrome. 180 Nazi planes are shot down.

16th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain—75 Nazi planes are shot down. Terrific battle rages over Thames estuary.

17th Aug—Nazis threaten total blockade of England.

18th Aug.—Royal Air Force attack 26 enemy aerodromes.

Enemy air raid over Britain—144 Nazi planes are shot down.

20th Aug.—Mr. Churchill's statement on war situation; 99-year leaseholds are offered to United States.

21st Aug.—Entry of Bank of England notes into United Kingdom from enemy territory is prohibited.

24th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain—50 Nazi planes are brought down.

25th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain—Germany loses 55 planes.

Since the beginning of the war the total number of planes lost by Germany during raids over Britain is 1,175.

26th Aug.—Enemy air raid over Britain. Germany loses 46 planes.

According to Air Ministry figures Britain has lost a total of 943 aircraft in all fronts since the beginning of the war.

11th Sept.—Buckingham Palace is damaged by German bombs.

23rd Sept.—The news is released that the "City of Benares" conveying 90 children and 9 escorts to Canada under the Overseas Reception Board Evacuation Scheme has been torpedoed on the 17th September and sunk. Eighty-two children and 7 escorts have been lost; altogether 294 lives are feared to have been lost.

24th Sept.—Two attempts by masses of German planes to raid London fail completely. Over 150 aircraft participate in the first raid. The number of German planes shot down is 8 as against 4 British.

30th Sept.—Heavy air attacks are made on London, the Home Counties and Merseyside. Air losses—German 51; British 22 (12 pilots safe).

3rd Oct.—Mr. Chamberlain resigns from the Cabinet. The following are the members of the British War Cabinet; Mr. Winston Churchill, Mr. C. R. Attlee, Sir John Anderson, Lord Halifax, Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Lord Beaverbrook, Sir Kingsley Wood and Mr. Ernest Bevin.

8th Oct.—24 Indian pilots arrive in London and are welcomed by the British Government.

16th Oct.—It is reported that Britain spends £9,000,000 daily on war. Chancellor of Exchequer asks for £100,000,000 credit vote.

20th Oct.—Royal Air Force bombers stage terrific and spectacular attack on the French coast.

26th Oct.—Royal Air Force attack over Germany from Baltic coast to Leipzig and Cologne. Fourteen aerodromes are raided. Berlin is bombed for 90 minutes. Extensive destruction and damage is caused to factories, power-stations, oil refineries, etc.

9th Nov.—Mr. Nevile Chamberlain, ex-Prime Minister of England died after a serious illness.

23rd Nov.—Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour, describes a scheme for bringing hundreds of Indian workmen to Britain for training and their subsequent return to India armed with knowledge of trade unions and other organizations. This means the forging of a new industrial link between the East and the West and to raise the conception of the standard of living.

27th Nov.—It is reported that two famous London hotels, the Savoy and Carlton, have been damaged in recent raids.

22nd Dec.—British Cabinet changes. Lord Halifax has been appointed Ambassador to the United States and Mr. Antony Eden, Foreign Secretary. Captain David Margesson, Government Chief Whip, is appointed War Minister in the place of Mr. Eden. Viscount Cranborne becomes the Chief Foreign Office Spokesman in the House of Lords.

23rd Dec.—A dramatic appeal to the Italian nation to disavow Mussolini and to follow the House of Savoy is made by the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, broadcasting from London.

29th Dec.—Nazi raid on London. German raiders make "a deliberate attempt to set fire to the City of London." One thousand firemen spend the night in fighting a ring of fires. Several churches and historic buildings are damaged.

1941

3rd Jan.—The full force of the *Luftwaffe's* fire raid falls on Bristol.

18th Jan.—The Home Secretary announces the British Government's new compulsory scheme for incendiary bomb-fighting providing a maximum service of 48 hours per month for civilians between the ages of 16 and 60. Women are exempted but they can voluntarily undertake the work.

26th Jan.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrives in London from Lisbon.

29th Jan.—The King signs a Proclamation extending the application of the Nationalist Act to six new age groups.

30th Jan.—Hitler gives a warning to the United States to stay out of the war in a speech at the Berlin Sportspalast on the eighth anniversary of his coming to power.

4th Feb.—Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, while defining Britain's aims in helping Haile Selassie says that the British Government will welcome the reappearance of the independent Ethiopian State. He also added that the conduct of military operations in parts of Abyssinia will require temporary measures of military guidance and control. These will be carried out in consultation with the Emperor and will be brought to an end as soon as the situation permits.

28th Feb.—Mr. John Winant, new American Ambassador, arrives in England.

4th Mar.—It is announced in London that Sir Arthur Salter is to proceed at once to America to discuss shipping matters with the United States Administration; and that Mr. Roger Brand will lead a small mission to discuss with the United States authorities arrangements by which food-stuffs will be made available to Britain. Both are to be members of the British Supply Council in North America.

21st Mar.—One of the fierces air raids of the war is carried out by the Germans on Plymouth just after Their Majesties the King and Queen visited the town. Churches and hospitals are hit.

31st Mar.—The Royal Air Force makes a daylight sweep across the channel and over occupation ports in France, raining bombs on Bordeaux where are sheltering the two German warships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*.

1st Apr.—The Royal Air Force raid objectives in Bremen and Emden, employing a new type of high-explosive bombs which cause great damage.

4th Apr.—German bombers raid Bristol at night. Four enemy planes are shot down over England. The Royal Air Force again raid the naval base of Brest. An enemy aerodrome in Northern France is also raided.

7th April.—Royal Air Force Coastal Command aircraft score a direct hit amidships on a German destroyer in a daylight raid on the continent and also bomb another destroyer. Steel works at Ymuiden in occupied Holland are bombed and set on fire.

8th April.—The Royal Air Force make heavy and very successful raids on the German naval base of Kiel, also on Emden and Bremerhaven.

9th Apr.—A very powerful force of Royal Air Force bombers raid Kiel for the second successive night.

The German Air Force makes a savage raid on Coventry. Eight bombers are brought down by night-fighters.

10th Apr.—The Royal Air Force start big fires in Berlin after a three-hour raid. The German High Command admits heavy damage and neutral observers estimate the casualties to have been between 2,000 and 3,000. The Luftwaffe attack Birmingham, Coventry and Newcastle. Ten German bombers are shot down.

16th Apr.—The Royal Air Force makes a heavy raid on Kiel, also on Boulogne and Borkum. Many enemy ships are sunk off the French Coast.

The German Air Force concentrates its attack on Belfast.

17th Apr.—London experiences its worst air raid of the war but fire-fighters and rescue-workers reduce damage and casualties and six enemy raiders are shot down. Lord and Lady Stamp and their heir are killed.

The Royal Air Force makes widespread attacks on North Germany, particularly on Bremen. Brest, Heligoland and Belgian territory have also been raided.

18th Apr.—The Royal Air Force makes the heaviest raid yet on the German capital with the latest types of bombers and bombs. They also raid Cherbourg, Rotterdam and Cologne.

22nd Apr.—While the German air force attacks Plymouth, the Royal Air Force raids the docks at Le Havre and aerodromes in Northern France.

23rd Apr.—While the German Air Force makes a heavy attack on Plymouth, the Royal Air Force raids the naval base at Brest.

24th Apr.—German airmen raid Plymouth for the third night in succession. The Royal Air Force attacks industrial and military targets in Germany and occupied countries.

25th Apr.—The Royal Air Force bombs the German naval bases of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven. An enemy supply ship of 16,000 tons is sunk off the Dutch coast.

30th Apr.—Plymouth is raided by the German air force and there are many civilian casualties. Eight German bombers are shot down over England.

2nd May.—The Royal Air Force makes a daylight raid on the German submarine base of DenHelder in Holland. Two enemy supply ships are accounted for.

5th May.—Helped by the moonlight, the Royal Air Force takes a heavy toll of German shipping from the coast of Norway to the coast of Britanny. Direct hits are scored on an enemy supply ship in a convoy off Skaggerak.

Eight enemy planes are destroyed during a German raid on Liverpool and Merseyside. Belfast in Northern Ireland is also raided.

9th May.—Nearly 400 planes take part in heavy Royal Air Force raids on Hamburg, Bremen, Berlin, Emden and the Poznan region of Poland. A German escort vessel is set on fire off the Norwegian Coast.

The German air force loses 24 planes in night raids on Britain.

10th May.—The Royal Air Force makes concentrated and destructive raids on Mannheim and Ludwigshaven. Berlin, Calais, Ostend, Boulogne and other places are also bombed.

11th May.—In an indiscriminate enemy raid on London, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Hall, and the British Museum suffer damage, along with hospitals and churches. A record total of 33 Nazi planes is shot down.

The Royal Air Force retaliates with another heavy raid on Hamburg. Bremen, Emden, Berlin and Rotterdam have also been bombed.

12th May.—A communiqué issued from 10, Downing Street, states that on the night of May 10–11, Rudolf Hess (Hitler's Deputy and Nazi No. 3) had landed by parachute near Glasgow after the Messerschmitt war-plane which he was piloting had crashed; and that he had been taken to a Glasgow hospital with a broken ankle. The Nazi Party hint that Hess was suffering from "mental disorder."

15th May.—Mr. Eden issues a statement in the House of Commons regarding use of Syrian aerodromes by Germans and that Britain would take action against German aircraft in Syria.

31st May.—New devices against night-raiders are in operation when a few Nazi bombers visit Liverpool and the Merseyside. Two raiders are shot down.

9th June.—Several formations of the latest type of Messerschmits fighter planes that flew over the south-east coast of Britain meet with rough handling by British fighters.

10th June.—Mr. Churchill speaks on the Battle of Crete.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, British Air Minister, announces that over 450 enemy aircraft were destroyed in all theatres of war in May—240 in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, 63 over and round Britain during day and 144 by night.

14th June.—Mr. Anthony Eden assures Iraq, that Britain will respect her independence.

16th June.—The Royal Air Force attacks aerodromes in Occupied France and the Ruhr.

17th June.—The Royal Air Force raids the Ruhr for the sixth night in succession and also bombs enemy shipping off the Dutch and German coasts.

A German seaplane and ten fighters are shot down over Britain.

Mr. Attlee announces in the Commons developments of high promise in the detection and destruction of enemy planes.

21st June.—British para-troops land in Breek-sur-Mer, destroy Nazi aerodromes and planes, take many prisoners and escape by sea.

26th June.—The British Government give an unequivocal reply to certain peace proposals submitted to them through the Turkish Government.

27th June.—The Royal Air Force's latest type of bombers carry out a very heavy raid on Kiel, Cologne and Dusseldorf. One enemy fighter is shot down.

A German supply ship is bombed by a Blenheim in the Channel.

1st July.—Heavy daylight raids are made by the Royal Air Force on the Kiel naval base as well as night attacks on Duisberg, Dusseldorf and Cologne.

4th July.—Sixteen Nazi fighters are destroyed in operations over Northern France.

5th July.—The enemy naval bases of Brest and L'Orient are heavily attacked by Royal Air Force bombers.

Three German planes are destroyed during small-scale raids over Britain.

6th July.—Three German bombers are shot down over England. Bombs are dropped in the Midlands and South Wales but there is no great damage.

The German industrial town of Magdeburg, only 80 miles from Berlin, is severely damaged in a Royal Air Force raid. Many enemy vessels are sunk in the North Sea.

7th July.—Six ships in an enemy convoy are bombed by British aircraft.

8th July.—Five Nazi planes are shot down when the German air force raided Southampton.

9th July.—The Royal Air Force in their offensive over Germany, attack Hamm, Munster, Bielfeld and Leuna. The harbour at Haugesund is also bombed as also Bethune and the naval base at Wilhelmshaven. Thirteen enemy planes are destroyed during these operations.

Five Nazi planes are shot down when they raid the Midlands.

10th July.—The Royal Air Force raid Aachen, Osnabruck, Bielfeld and Munster. Lille is bombed as also Ostend. Six enemy ships, totalling 20,000 tons, are bombed and sunk at Cherbourg and Le Havre. Thirteen enemy aircraft are destroyed.

11th July.—The Royal Air Force deliver one of its heaviest bombardments on German-occupied ports and industrial targets in Rhineland. Fourteen enemy planes are destroyed. Sixteen German fighters are destroyed during operations over Britain.

12th July.—The German naval base of Wilhelmshaven and transport centres in France are raided by the Royal Air Force, who set fire to a German mine-sweeper off the north-west coast of France. Six enemy fighters are destroyed.

Enemy planes drop bombs on a place on the north-east coast of Scotland. The crack German air Ace, Captain Pingel, is forced to land in Kent by a British bomber.

The Royal Air Force, has in use a new type of Spitfire, capable of a speed of 400 miles an hour.

13th July.—The Royal Air Force makes a heavy raid on industrial areas and shipbuilding yards in Bremen.

14th July.—Mr. Churchill reviews a parade of London's Civil Defence Workers at Hyde Park and at a luncheon later at the London County Council Hall, pays a striking tribute to them. He promises that Royal Air Force attacks on Germany will increasingly grow in weight.

Many large enemy vessels are hit and destroyed by Royal Air Force bombers off the French and Dutch coasts. Bremen is again bombed.

15th July.—Extensive fires are caused when the Royal Air Force raided the industrial areas in Bremen and Hanover and the docks at Rotterdam.

The German Air Force confines its activities to Eastern England.

16th July.—The Royal Air Force raids Duisberg and other industrial objectives in the Ruhr. Rotterdam harbour is attacked and direct hits are scored on many ships.

Some damage and a small number of casualties are caused when enemy bombers attack a place on the south-east coast of England.

17th July.—Nearly 25 enemy ships are destroyed or put out of action when the Royal Air Force raided Rotterdam. Big fires are caused in Hamburg.

18th July.—The Royal Air Force attacks Cologne and industrial areas in the Rhineland. A supply ship is hit off the coast of France and nine German fighter planes are destroyed.

German bombers attack Hull in North-east England.

19th July.—The Royal Air Force makes a highly successful attack on an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast, destroying several vessels.

20th July.—The Royal Air Force bombs Hanover and enemy's coastal shipping. In all, eight ships totalling 48,000 tons are destroyed or very badly damaged.

21st July.—The Royal Air Force bombs the Rhineland, Cologne being the principal objective. The docks of Rotterdam are also bombed. During a daylight sweep across the Channel, a factory at Lille (in Northern France) is attacked and eight Nazi fighters destroyed.

22nd July.—The Royal Air Force attacks German military camps and other objectives on the west coast of Denmark as also the Rhineland and Northern France.

23rd July.—The Royal Air Force bombs Frankfurt, Mannheim, Dunkirk, Ostend and Rotterdam.

24th July.—Frankfurt and Mannheim are again bombed by the Royal Air Force, who also causes great havoc to enemy shipping off Norway and to enemy planes over Bethune. The German battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* are bombed at La Pallice and Brest respectively.

25th July.—The Royal Air Force bombs the enemy warship *Gneisenau* at Brest and hits again the already damaged *Scharnhorst* which has moved to La Pallice. Great damage is done to Brest dockyard where the enemy cruiser *Prinz Eugen* is berthed.

Royal Air Force attacks on Germany proper are chiefly concentrated on Kiel and Emden.

26th July.—The Royal Air Force offensive is mainly concentrated on Hanover and Hamburg, where docks, industries and communications are heavily bombed. A small force of four-engined bombers also raids Berlin.

27th July.—An Air Ministry Communiqué states that bombs were dropped on the port of Emden.

28th July.—On account of unfavourable weather, Royal Air Force activities over France are restricted but a small force attacks docks in Dunkirk.

German planes raid London in somewhat larger numbers than in recent weeks but the damage is slight.

29th July.—Bombs are dropped on a few places in East Anglia by German planes but little damage is done. No deaths are caused.

31st July.—The official German News Agency admits British raids on Western Germany. Cologne and Aachen are attacked as also shipping off the Heligoland Bight, many enemy vessels being destroyed.

A Hamburg paper reports that the Royal Air Force dropped over Germany imitation German clothes and other ration cards.

1st Aug.—Royal Air Force bombers score hits on three ships in an enemy convoy off the Belgian coast; two bombers and one fighter are missing.

2nd Aug.—A heavily laden German tanker is hit and set on fire in a torpedo attack by aircraft of the British Coastal Command.

3rd Aug.—Germany's capital city, Berlin, is subjected to one of the heaviest attacks by four and two-engined bombers of the Royal Air Force. Many fires are started there as also at Kiel and Hamburg, the German naval bases. Fighter aircraft of the Royal Air Force make low-level attacks on a number of objectives in Northern France. An enemy patrol ship is set on fire and sunk off the Dutch coast by aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command.

Slight enemy activity is reported over Eastern England. There are no casualties.

4th Aug.—The Royal Air Force attacks industrial targets in Hanover and Frankfurt-on-Main. Docks at Calais are also bombed.

There is slight enemy air activity over the East Coast of England and Scotland.

6th Aug.—The Royal Air Force makes conspicuously successful attacks on objectives at Mannheim, Frankfurt and Karlsruhe and scores direct hits on three patrol vessels and a 2,000-ton ship in an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast.

7th Aug.—An enemy tanker in the English Channel is set on fire by the Royal Air Force during offensive patrols over Northern France. An aerodrome at Cherbourg is attacked, as also objectives in West and South-East Germany.

8th Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombs armament factories at Essen and also raids Dortmund and Hamm. Offensive sweeps are carried out over France and shipping off the Danish and Dutch coasts is attacked.

9th Aug.—The Royal Air Force makes a highly successful raid on Kiel. Supply ships are attacked near Bergen in Norway. Eighteen enemy planes are destroyed in sweeps over France.

Bombs are dropped at a few places in East England but very little damage is reported.

10th Aug.—Attacks on German shipping and sweeps over Northern France are the main Royal Air Force activities.

12th Aug.—Germany is subjected to raids by both the British and Soviet Air Forces. While Berlin is raided by the latter at night, the strongest daylight attack is made by the Royal Air Force on Cologne.

Britain has an absolutely bomb-free night.

13th Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombs Berlin, Kiel, Bremen and Cologne.

Enemy activity over Britain is on a small scale.

14th Aug.—The Royal Air Force attacks Boulogne and other French ports.

15th Aug.—Over 300 bombers take part in heavy raids by the Royal Air Force on industrial targets and communications at Hanover, Brunswick, and Magdeburg.

Enemy air activity over Britain is slight but an unidentified plane over Dublin is fired on by ground defences.

16th Aug.—"Fortress" aircraft of the Royal Air Force bomb Brest while other planes carried out offensive sweeps over Northern France. A patrol vessel is bombed and set on fire off the coast of Holland. Nineteen planes are shot down.

Single enemy aircraft drops bombs in North-east Scotland.

17th Aug.—Cologne, Dusseldorf and Duisberg are heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force as also docks at Rotterdam and Ostend.

18th Aug.—Over a hundred Royal Air Force bombers raid Germany, the chief objectives being the port of Bremen and industrial districts of Duisberg. The town of Lille in Occupied France is also bombed.

The German Radio announces, after the Royal Air Force raid on Bremen, that the Admiral Reich Commissar of Bremen Harbour is killed at sea off that port.

German bombers raid Hull in north-east England.

19th Aug.—Cologne and Duisberg are bombed by the Royal Air Force as also the docks at Dunkirk. Three German patrol vessels are bombed and sunk off the Dutch coast.

Russian planes, operating from the Baltic, raid towns in Northern Germany. Berlin is attacked.

20th Aug.—Kiel and other objectives in north-western Germany are attacked by the Royal Air Force, also an enemy aerodrome in Holland. Coastal shipping off Ostend and a railway yard at Hazebruck are attacked by fighter squadrons.

Only two casualties are caused in a German raid on a south-east coast town in England.

21st Aug.—British bomber and fighter aircraft attack industrial targets and railway communications in Northern France and Holland. Several enemy fighters are destroyed and a supply ship sunk, also two E-boats.

Soviet planes raid Berlin and cause a number of fires.

A single enemy raider drops a high-explosive bomb at an East Anglan town. There are no casualties.

23rd Aug.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force attack Western Germany, concentrating attention on the industrial town of Mannheim. Harbours and aerodromes in Occupied France and Belgium are also bombed.

A German raider is shot down over England. Enemy activity is very slight.

24th Aug.—Royal Air Force fighters attack aerodromes and barracks, troops and gun-positions in Northern France.

25th Aug.—The Royal Air Force make a raid on communications and industrial objectives in Dusseldorf. Some enemy planes raid Eastern parts of England and Scotland. No casualties are reported and the damage is slight.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1939

4th Sep.—Egypt breaks off diplomatic relations with Germany.

6th Sep.—It is officially stated that South Africa is at war with Germany. General Smuts forms a new Cabinet.

23rd Sep.—Mussolini, in a speech to Fascist leaders at Rome, declares that the moment has come to cease hostilities, since Poland is liquidated and Europe not yet effectively at war.

1940

10th June.—Italy declares war on the Allies.

12th June.—South Africa declares war on Italy.

3rd July.—The British attack French capital ships at Oran.

4th July.—Italians occupy Kassala and Gallabut.

19th July.—The Australian cruiser *Sydney*, accompanied by destroyers, contacts two Italian cruisers and sinks the enemy cruiser *Bartolomeo Colleoni*.

4th Aug.—Italians invade Somaliland.

9th Aug.—A big air battle takes place over Libya.

15th Aug.—Italian troops launch a violent attack in Somaliland. British troops fall back.

19th Aug.—British troops evacuate Somaliland.

13th Sep.—Italians occupy Sollum.

18th Sep.—Italians occupy Sidi Barrani.

7th Nov.—A British column supported by Royal Air Force surprises and captures Gallabut on the Sudan-Abyssinian frontier and takes a number of prisoners.

13th Nov.—The aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm makes a daring attack on the Italian fleet lying snugly behind the shore defence at Toranto and strikes a crippling blow at the elusive Italian fleet. Out of the total six Italian battleships, two of which are of the "Littorio" class and four of the "Cavour" class, three are seriously damaged. Two of the British aircraft are missing.

6th Dec.—By a Royal decree Marshal Badoglio is relieved "at his own request" of his office as Chief of the General Staff of the Italian armed forces. General Ugo Cavaleiro is appointd in succession.

7th Dec.—General Cesare de Veechi, Commander of the Italian forces in the Aegean, is relieved of his command "at his request." General Bastico is appointed Governor of the Dodecanese and Commander of their armed forces.

8th Dec.—Admiral Cavagnari, Chief of the Italian Naval Staff and Under Secretary of State for the Navy resigns. Admiral Arturo Riccardi is appointed in his place.

9th Dec.—The British Imperial Forces in the Western Desert begin operations on a large scale. The British forces begin their attack on Italian positions just south of Sidi Barrani capturing within an hour an Italian armed camp.

11th Dec.—Sidi Barrani is captured with a large number of prisoners including three Generals.

12th Dec.—Sollum and Bardia are heavily bombarded by the British Navy. Other British Naval units bombard Kismayu in Italian Somaliland inflicting damage on Italian supplies.

17th Dec.—British occupy Sollum and Fort Capuzzo.

1941

5th Jan.—The Italian garrison at Bardia surrenders. Thirty thousand prisoners with quantities of tanks, guns, equipment and stores of all sorts are captured.

15th Jan.—Sicily is occupied by German troops, Air Force men and technicians.

19th Jan.—British troops re-occupy Kassala in Sudan. The Italian troops all along this front retreat pursued and harassed by mobile detachments.

22nd Jan.—Tobruk falls. The total number of Italian prisoners taken here is estimated at 20,000. The Royal Air Force raids barracks at Apollonia. The Italian cruiser *San Giorgio* in Tobruk harbour is in flames together with a number of dumps of stores, petrol and the like. Maritza in Rhodes and Adad and Assab in Italian East Africa are also attacked.

24th Jan.—Emperor Haile Selassie re-enters Abyssinia. A message from Khartoum says he crossed the Sudan frontier into his own country on January 15.

26th Jan.—Serious disturbances occur in Northern Italy, particularly in Milan and Turin. German troops occupy railway stations, post offices and large factories at Milan and restore order. Communications between Brindisi area and Sicily are stated to be under German control and censorship.

27th Jan.—Ankara Radio states that Marshal Graziani, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian forces in Africa, has been dismissed.

29th Jan.—British patrols enter Italian Somaliland. British pressure on the enemy froces in the Derna area increases. Operations in the Agordat-Barentu sector in Eritrea develop. The Army of the Nile surrounds the important road junction of Mekelle, south of Derna.

30th Jan.—Derna is captured. In the Agordat-Barentu sector in Eritrea, concentration of British forces proceeds smoothly. Intensive patrolling continues east of Metemma in Abyssinia. In Italian Somaliland, work progresses in all sectors on improved forward roads in support of British advance patrols.

1st Feb.—Contact with the enemy west of Derna is maintained and pressure on the Italian forces holding the area of Barentu is intensified. Agordat falls.

2nd Feb.—British Forces capture Barentu. In Abyssinia the enemy retreats on the Metemma-Gondar Road.

3rd Feb.—Driving west along the coast from Derna, the British forces capture the port of Cyrene. In Abyssinia, the British advance towards Gondar 90 miles from the Sudan frontier. Royal Air Force bombs Berka aerodrome and railway station at Barce. Castle Benito, an important Italian base in Tripoli is heavily bombed.

6th Feb.—In Libya, the British Imperial Forces capture Benghazi.

15th Feb.—The Sudan Defence Force captures Quessan in Abyssinia and in Italian Somaliland the South African troops occupy the important Italian port of Kismayu.

16th Feb.—Concentration of additional troops about Keren in Eritrea proceeds. The British reoccupy Kurmuk in Abyssinia.

18th Feb.—Italians evacuate Dangela and other important posts in the Gojjam area in Abyssinia. One million Senussi in Tripolitania, Egypt, Sudan, Hedjaz, Palestine, Syria and Sahara take up the fight on Britain's side.

19th Feb.—British pressure on the lines of the River Juba in Somaliland increases. British troops capture Enjabara in Abyssinia. The Italian post of Piccolo Abbai is also occupied.

20th Feb.—The garrison at Mega in Southern Abyssinia capitulates to the South African troops. The Imperial troops cross the Juba river driving off enemy counter-attacks. Bomber and fighter units of the Royal Air Force, the South African Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force destroy eleven enemy aircraft.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, and Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, arrive in Egypt.

25th Feb.—British Imperial troops continue their advance south of Cub Cub. British East African and West African troops, occupy Mogadishu, the capital of Italian Somaliland.

7th Mar.—The British forces occupy Ferfer in Italian Somaliland.

10th Mar.—The British Imperial forces in Abyssinia occupy Daghabur, 600 miles north of Mogadishu.

11th Mar.—British Imperial forces capture the Afodu escarpment in Abyssinia and advance towards Asosa. The Italian column retreating towards Addis Ababa from Burye is driven out of Dambacha. At Ozoza, the Royal Air Force fighters machine-gun and destroy two enemy bombers on the ground. The Royal Air Force raids Rhodes Island in the Dodecanese and Tripoli.

17th Mar.—The British forces recapture Berbera, the capital of British Somaliland in the Red Sea. Further advances are made in the Keren area in Eretrea. The Italian discomfiture extends to Abyssinia, where the general advance of the Imperial and the Patriot forces continues in all sectors.

23rd Mar.—British forces occupy the Abyssinian town of Neghelli, which dominates the cross-roads leading north, east and west. The Royal Air Force heavily raids Asmara and also the Djibouti-Addis-Ababa railway.

24th Mar.—The South African Air Force prepares the way for the advancing British troops, and a supply train near Diredawa is hit. Other trains are attacked at Miesso and Awash. British Somaliland is again completely under British control and the road from Berbera to Hargeisa is open.

25th Mar.—British forces approach Harrar, the eastern gateway to Addis Ababa, following a victorious action at Marda Pass. Operations north-west of Neghelli continue successfully and British troops repulse yet another counter-attack south-west of Keren. The South African Air Force continues its attacks on the Addis Ababa-Dijbouti Railway between Awash and Diredawa.

27th Mar.—Capture of Keren and Harrar is officially announced.

28th Mar.—The British submarine **Parthian** attacks an Italian convoy and sinks a 10,000-ton tanker and a 6,000-ton tramp steamer with a cargo of timber.

29th Mar.—The South African Air Force makes very successful attacks on the track, trains and stations in the Diredawa-Addis Ababa railway sector.

Four Italian cruisers and three destroyers are sunk and a battleship of the Littorio class (35,000 tons) is damaged in a naval action in Central Mediterranean. The British forces under Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham suffer no loss. Naval planes and the Royal Air Force, keeping vigil over the Ionian Sea, play a notable part in the fighting. About 1,000 Italian sailors are picked up and also a few Germans.

30th Mar.—The Italian High Command admits the evacuation of Diredawa (Abyssinia).

His Majesty the King sends a message to His Excellency the Viceroy congratulating India on the part played by her armed forces in the capture of Keren.

31st Mar.—The British Imperial troops occupy Diredawa. The Royal Air Force again attacks Tripoli.

1st Apr.—The British Imperial Forces capture Asmara, the capital of Eritrea.

2nd Apr.—A British submarine sinks an Italian U-Boat in the Mediterranean; an Italian destroyer, trying to escape from Massawa, is also sunk by naval aircraft, and a German ship is captured by H.M.S. "Kandahar."

3rd Apr.—British aircraft sinks another Italian destroyer that has escaped from Massawa. One more Italian destroyer is left sinking.

It is announced that the Royal Indian Navy has played a notable part in assisting the land operations in Eritrea.

British forward units are withdrawn from Benghazi.

4th Apr.—The South African Air Force heavily bombs retreating Italians on the Addis Ababa-Dessie Road and transport on the Diredawa-Addis Ababa Road.

Two Italian destroyers are scuttled by their crews off the coast of Soudi Arabia in the Red Sea, and a third destroyer left in a sinking condition on the previous days is also sunk.

5th Apr.—British Imperial forces occupy Adowa. South African troops, advancing from Diredawa, cross the Awash river.

6th Apr.—British Imperial forces reach Addis Ababa after marching 100 miles in two days, thus ending the five-year rule of Italy in the Ethiopian capital. The Empress of Ethiopia conveys her thanks to Britain.

Free French forces reach a point eight miles from Massawa.

The Royal Air Force makes heavy bombing attacks on Tripoli and Addis Ababa, destroying a number of enemy planes on the Addis Ababa aerodrome.

7th Apr.—Abyssinian Patriot forces capture Debra Markos, north-west of Addis Ababa. The Duke of Aosta, Italian Viceroy of East Africa, leaves Addis Ababa on his way northwards after conveying his appreciation of the British initiative to protect women and children in the Abyssinian capital. The Royal Air Force raids Calato aerodrome in the island of Rhodes.

8th Apr.—The Italians and Germans claim the occupation of Derna in Libya.

The Italians begin a retreat towards the Blue Nile, following the fall of Debra Markos in Abyssinia.

9th Apr.—The British troops capture Massawa, Italy's Red Sea port, and the Imperial forces march on to Dessie to tackle the remnants of the Italian army in East Africa.

The Royal Air Force raids Cyrenaica.

A British submarine attacks an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean, torpedoing two ships of 12,000 and 6,000 tons, respectively.

14th Apr.—A German attack on Tobruk is beaten back. Heavy casualties and great damage are inflicted on the enemy. Leaving Tobruk aside, the enemy seizes Bardia, and comes to the Egyptian border.

15th Apr.—Between two and three hundred German prisoners are captured, over a hundred Germans are killed, fifteen enemy tanks are destroyed and twenty-two enemy aircraft are brought down by the British forces at Tobruk when the Germans launch an attack on the town. The Royal Air Force raids Tripoli.

General Santini, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian army in Eritrea, is captured.

The military situation is discussed at a secret session of the Egyptian Chamber of Deputies which issues a statement later that the House is gald to hear from the Government that the conditions (in Libya and the Western Desert) cause no concern.

16th Apr.—The Duke of Aosta sends an emissary to the British Headquarters to discuss terms of surrender.

Lord Halifax says at New York that the set-back in Libya caused by the withdrawal of troops for Greece is being countered by speedy reinforcement of the British Imperial troops.

An entire enemy convoy consisting of five supply ships and three destroyers, bound from Sicily for Tripoli is sunk by the British Mediterranean Fleet. The British lose only one destroyer.

17th Apr.—The British forces at Tobruk repulse further attacks and a patrol penetrates enemy positions. The British Navy bombards Fort Capuzzo.

18th Apr.—A statement issued from No. 10, Downing Street, says that if either Athens or Cairo is bombed by the enemy, His Majesty's Government will authorize the systematic

bombing of Rome though the greatest care will be taken not to bomb Vatican City.

20th Apr.—Tobruk beats off a German mechanized assault, Indian mechanized troops taking part in the defence. Benghazi, Tripoli, Derna and Bardia are heavily raided by the Royal Air Force. The Imperial troops reach the outskirts of Dessie in Abyssinia where plans are being made for the return of Emperor Haile Selassie to Addis Ababa.

21st Apr.—The Italian Viceroy of Abyssinia is reported to have assured Mussolini that he will fight to the last and to have rejected the British offer of safe conduct for civilians if he and his troops surrender. The Royal Air Force bomb Derna, Benghazi and Gazala. A heavily laden enemy tanker is sunk on its way to Tripoli by the British submarine *Tetrarch*.

22nd Apr.—British forces begin their assault on Dessie; patrols are active in Libya and the Royal Air Force bombs enemy bases.

A heavy bombardment of the port of Tripoli is carried out by the British Navy; and six transport or supply ships, one destroyer, a naval headquarters power-station and military stores are hit. Four German troop-carrying planes are shot down in flames.

A tanker (8,000 tons), a supply ship (6,000 tons) and an ammunition ship (7,000 tons), all carrying supplies for the enemy in the Balkans, are torpedoed by British naval aircraft.

23rd Apr.—Military headquarters in London confirm to-day that a British force was landed in Bardia to demolish enemy positions.

During raids from Tobruk, Imperial forces capture 17 Italian officers and 430 other ranks. Royal Air Force fighters bring down four enemy aircraft at Tobruk and also attack shipping in Benghazi harbour.

24th Apr.—The Imperial Forces force the Italians forward defences at Dessie.

Eight enemy planes are shot down in an air battle over Tobruk.

25th Apr.—Viscount Gort is appointed Governor of Gibraltar.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey, Commander of the Australian Imperial Forces, is appointed Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Middle East.

26th Apr.—It is announced that Fort Mota in Abyssinia has been captured by the Empire forces.

27th Apr.—Enemy forces cross the Egyptian frontier at several places in the Sollum area.

28th Apr.—The British Imperial Forces capture Dessie, one of the last centres of Italian resistance in Abyssinia.

The Axis troops take the Egyptian frontier port of Sollum but British armoured divisions soon establish contact with the enemy.

The Royal Air Force machine-guns a number of German troop-carrying planes at Benina aerodrome near Benghazi.

29th Apr.—The Axis' thrust in Egypt is halted at Sollum.

Five thousand and five hundred Italians and 2,500 colonials are taken prisoners at Dessie.

30th Apr.—British Imperial Forces capture the Abyssinian town of Sokota.

1st May.—British forces converge on the Italian defensive position in the region of Amba Alagi.

3rd May.—General Smuts announces that South African troops will take part in the Battle for Egypt.

British Imperial forces in Abyssinia capture Waldia, 50 miles north of Dessie; Bahrdar at the extreme south of Lake Tsna; and Derbub near Amba Alagi.

5th May.—Indian troops advance 250 miles south of Asmara into the mountain fastnesses of Northern Abyssinia.

6th May.—Exactly five years after the Italian occupation of Addis Ababa, Emperor Haile Selassie returns in triumph to his capital city.

7th May.—British Imperial troops occupy Quoram in Abyssinia, taking a number of prisoners including one General.

8th May.—Emperor Haile Selassie offers the British Government the use of the Abyssinian forces on any front where they might be required.

The Italians evacuate Deberech in Central Abyssinia.

9th May.—Rome admits that Benghazi has been bombed by British Naval and Air forces. Two enemy supply ships are destroyed.

Abyssinian Patriot forces take Morchow, 18 miles from Toselli Pass in the Amba Alagi sector, where the Indian forces advancing from the north are fighting the Italians.

11th May.—British patrols capture a number of prisoners in the Tobruk and Sollum sectors.

Indian troops advancing from the North capture two vital points in the Amba Alagi region, taking 150 prisoners.

12th May.—Indian troops capture Gumsa in their march on Amba Alagi.

British mechanised patrols surprise and capture an enemy detachment at Tobruk; they continue their raids in the Sollum area. The Royal Air Force raid Tripoli and Benghazi and aerodromes in Sicily.

16th May.—British Imperial Forces recapture Sollum on the Libyan frontier. The important town of Sciasciamanna is occupied in Abyssinia as well as Alghe, north of Yavello. The Royal Air Force raids towns and bases in Libya.

The British Government announce the mining of Eastern Mediterranean adjoining Turkish territorial waters.

18th May.—British forces occupy Adela in Abyssinia.

19th May.—The Italian garrison, 7,000 strong, at Amba Alagi surrenders to the British, its Commander the Duke of Aosta, having agreed to the British terms. Dalle, an important road junction in Abyssinia, is also captured by the British. Enemy columns which cross the frontier near Sollum are beaten back.

21st May.—The Duke of Aosta surrenders to the British with 19,000 Italian troops.

22nd May.—Two Italian divisions are trapped in Abyssinia between two columns of British Imperial Troops. British advance patrols destroy a German post on the Sollum hill.

23rd May.—British Imperial troops capture Gelub, 25 miles north-west of Sciasciamanna, taking over 800 prisoners. Further west they establish a bridge-head over the river at Bilate and enter Warage, 30 miles south of Dalle, and Hula, 22 miles south-east of Dalle.

British submarines sink an enemy troopship (9,000 tons), a tanker (7,000 tons) and also a destroyer; they also account for an enemy schooner used for carrying ammunition and hit a smaller one.

24th May.—Two German columns that tried to advance through the "Hell-Fire" pass on the Egyptian frontier are knocked out, 11 tanks being captured by the British in 48 hours. The Royal Air Force makes a heavy attack on Benghazi.

26th May.—As a result of British operations round Soddu in Abyssinia, four Italian divisions cease to exist. General Liberatti and General Baccari are taken prisoners along with thousands of Italians. Abyssinian Patriot troops capture 800 prisoners in the Magdala area.

29th May.—Abyssinian Patriot forces surround Baco in Libya. The British make a successful sortie from Tobruk. The Royal Air Force bomb the harbour of Sfax in Tunisia. Britain rejects the French Government's protest on this question and warns Vichy against allowing enemy ships to use Tunisian waters.

30th May.—The Italians evacuate Debrach, 50 miles north of Gondar, to which they begin to retreat. The South African Air Force in Abyssinia harrys the Italians in the region of Jimma.

Rome admits the loss of the crack Italian liner 'Conte Rosso,' in a convoy south of Syracuse

31st May.—The Abyssinian Patriots, advancing from Debrach, take three forts east of it as well as Billio. The British and South African Air Forces and Free French air units are active over enemy concentrations.

The Royal Air Force visits Sfax harbour in Tunis and bombs the Italian merchantship 'Florida.'

1st June.—Air Vice-Marshal A. W. Tedder is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore, who is appointed Inspector-General of the Royal Air Force.

2nd June.—British forces cut the road from Debra Tabor to Gondar.

4th June.—Debrach, twice re-taken by Italians, is finally captured by the Allies.

The Royal Air Force attacks an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean, blowing up one ship of 8,000 tons and setting on fire another of 5,000 tons.

7th June.—Cyprus gets ready to face any possible German assault. The Germans mine the waters round the island.

8th June.—Benghazi is turned into a blazing inferno by Royal Air Force bombers. Derna aerodrome and barracks are also attacked and there are bombing and machine-gun attacks in Jimma area.

The Germans launch their savage air attack on Alexandria, subjecting the civilians in the city to an all-night blitz.

9th June.—Lieutenant-General Sir James Marshall Cornwall assumes command of the British Forces in Egypt.

10th June.—As a result of operations in the region round the Great Lakes and River Omo, 45,000 square miles of Italian territory are captured by the British Imperial Forces, who also account for four Italian divisions and take 3,900 prisoners.

12th June.—Indian troops, acting in co-operation with the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, make a surprise landing and capture the port of Assab. Two Italian Generals and a Captain of the Italian Navy are taken prisoners. Abyssinian Patriot forces occupy the important town of Nekemti.

Units of the French Fleet leave Toulon for the Eastern Mediterranean.

13th June.—The Italians in Jimma are encircled by British forces.

14th June.—The Royal Air Force and the Australian Air Force give full support to the Imperial forces in Syria and several German planes are shot down.

The first air raid on Gibraltar since September 1940 occurs to-day, but there is neither damage nor any casualty.

15th June.—Cyprus experiences its second air raid of the war when a few enemy bombers attack two villages on the western side of the island.

16th June.—The Italian General, Pralormo, surrenders with 2,000 troops in the Soddu area.

In the Assab area, the Allied forces capture the important aerodrome at Maccara.

17th June.—British Imperial forces penetrate as far as Fort Capuzzo in Libya and capture an enemy rear-guard position west of Latemti in Abyssinia.

18th June.—The Italian garrison in a fort in the Wolchefit sector in Abyssinia is surprised and captured.

22nd June.—The Rome Radio announces that Italy is at war with Russia.

The Ethiopian Patriot forces capture Jimma, taking 8,000 prisoners including many Italian Generals, and the Italians at Soddu surrender.

24th June.—British forces capture the two towns of Agaro and Bedelle, 60 miles beyond Jimma.

British submarines sink an Italian supply ship (20,000 tons) in a convoy in the Mediterranean.

25th June.—The Sudenese Government send a cable to the Viceroy of India, thanking the Indian Army for its gallant defence of the Sudan and placing £100,000 at the Viceroy's disposal as a token of their gratitude.

27th June.—Two 20,000-ton Italian merchantmen are hit by torpedoes when the Fleet Air Arm attacks an Italian convoy off the South Coast of Italy.

29th June.—In Abyssinia, the Italians evacuate Ghimbi. General Bartello surrenders to the British.

1st July.—In addition to a General and a Brigadier, 245 Italian officers, 1,941 Italian other ranks and 841 Askaris surrender to the British following the occupation of Ghimbi.

Captain Oliver Lyttleton, former President of the Board of Trade, is appointed Minister of State to represent the War Cabinet in the Middle East.

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, is appointed to succeed General Sir Archibald Wavell as Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, General Wavell takes Sir Claude's place in India.

2nd July.—British troops capture 375 prisoners, including one General, in the Badella area in Tobruk.

3rd July.—The Italian Commander and his garrison at Debra Tabor are forced to surrender.

4th July.—General Gazzera, Chief of the Italian forces in the province of Galla Sidamo, surrenders to the British forces in Abyssinia.

5th July.—General Wavell reveals to Press correspondents that the defences of the Middle East are in "a pretty satisfactory state."

6th July.—A British submarine sinks an Italian cruiser (10,000 tons) in the Mediterranean.

Nine more Italian Generals surrender in Abyssinia, along with 5,000 soldiers.

7th July.—The Royal Air Force makes a particularly successful attack on Palermo in the island of Sicily when a number of enemy ships are set on fire.

8th July.—Planes of the British Fleet Air Arm sink a German submarine off Gibraltar. The Royal Air Force bombs Tripoli.

A large contingent of South African troops reaches North Africa for active service.

10th July.—British aircraft raid Syracuse and Naples. Italian float-planes are destroyed.

The Italian Government announce that the Italian casualties for the last 13 months are 235,360.

The Royal Air Force bombs Benghazi, Derna and Gazzala.

11th July.—Naples is raided by the Royal Air Force.

12th July.—The Royal Air Force bombs Naples, Tripoli and Benghazi, destroying enemy seaplanes and fighter-planes. Several enemy raiders are brought down over Malta. Enemy planes bomb the Suez Canal area, six persons being killed. Slight damage to civilian property is caused in Cyprus by enemy raiders.

13th July.—British aircraft raid Benghazi and Derna.

14th July.—An enemy convoy is attacked by the Royal Air Force off Tripoli and supply ships are sunk. British submarines also account for a number of enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

15th July.—The Royal Air Force raids Messina in Sicily and on Derna, Bardia, Benghazi and Gondar in East Africa.

The British garrison at Tobruk inflicts severe casualties on the enemy and takes many prisoners in a violent patrol action.

16th July.—Enemy shipping is destroyed off the Tripolitanian coast in extensive raids by the Royal Air Force, which also attacks enemy aerodromes in Greece and Crete. Seven German aircraft are shot down by the Royal Air Force while trying to bomb British ships off the Libyan coast.

17th July.—A British force from Tobruk penetrates 16,000 yards into enemy positions in the course of offensive patrol-operations.

18th July.—The Royal Air Force bombs the Sicilian base of Palermo, destroying one enemy cruiser, as also the Libyan harbours of Benghazi and Tripoli.

British submarines sink several vessels in the Mediterranean carrying Italian and German troops.

19th July.—The Royal Air Force bombs Cyrenaica. An enemy bomber is destroyed when Cyprus is raided.

Indian troops particularly distinguish themselves in patrol activities by the Tobruk garrison.

20th July.—The Italians admit British air raids on Benghazi and Tripoli and the loss of one of their submarines in the Atlantic.

21st July.—The communiqué issued by the Allied High Command in the Middle East again pays a tribute to the work of Indian soldiers in the operations near Tobruk.

The Royal Air Force bombs Benghazi and Naples.

24th July.—An enemy convoy is attacked by the Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm off the fortified Italian island of Pantellaria and four vessels and a destroyer are hit. The Royal Air Force makes another successful raid on Benghazi.

25th July.—It is reported that two German divisions have left Libya.

Mr. Sumner Welles, the Acting Secretary of State, flatly denies the report that the United States intends to occupy Liberia.

26th July.—An E-boat attack on the port of Valetta in Malta is repulsed with heavy losses. Twelve enemy E-boats are sunk and five planes are shot down.

The British Government negotiate with the Italian Government about the evacuation of distressed Italians in Ethiopia.

27th July.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, discloses in a broadcast the safe and timely arrival of an important British convoy of troops and munitions that was involved in a two-day battle in the Mediterranean. The British destroyer "Fearless" is sunk but many enemy planes are shot down.

Slight damage is caused when bombs are dropped on Alexandria.

28th July.—The remnants of Italian forces in Abyssinia are reported to have been surrounded. Bengazhi harbour is raided by the Royal Air Force which also intercepts two Savoia 79's off Malta, and shoots down both.

29th July.—German patrols are beaten back on the Libyan frontier and the British capture many prisoners.

The Royal Air Force makes extensive raids on aerodromes in Sicily. Thirty-six Italian planes are destroyed.

30th July.—A German dive-bombing attack on British shipping off the coast of Cyrenaica is beaten off with loss to the enemy.

31st July.—The Royal Air Force destroys a large number of enemy aircraft in an attack on the Sardinian base of Elmas.

The Egyptian Cabinet resigns but the Premier Sirry Pasha forms a new one.

1st Aug.—The Royal Air Force makes a successful raid on enemy shipping in the harbour of Messina in Sicily. Palermo, Benghazi, Gazala, Bardia and Dura are also attacked without any loss of British aircraft.

Patrol activity is reported in the Tobruk sector as well as artillery activity on the Egypt-Libya frontier.

Enemy planes drop a few bombs in the Nile delta. There is one death but no damage.

Hussein Sirry Pasha, Egypt's Premier, reconstructs his Cabinet, including five members of the Saadist Party.

3rd Aug.—Besides beating off an enemy dive-bombing attack on British warships off the North African coast, the Royal Air Force destroys two merchant vessels off Lampedeusa Island, enemy aircraft at Borizoo in Sicily and petrol and munition dumps at Canadia and at Malemi in the Island of Crete.

In addition to torpedoing an Italian cruiser in the Mediterranean, British submarines sink two enemy supply vessels and damage a floating dock (within a mile of the Italian coast).

4th Aug.—The Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force attack airports of Catania in the Island of Sicily and Reggio on the Italian mainland in the Province of Calabria. Benghazi harbour in Libya is also bombed.

Mussolini addressing Italian volunteers for the campaign against Russia, exhorts them to participate in the struggle between Fascism and Bolshevism, "the fifth act of the world drama."

Seventeen persons are killed and 58 injured in an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal area.

5th Aug.—Italian harbours and aerodromes in Sardinia are subjected to British Naval and air attacks.

Ninety persons are killed and 106 injured in enemy air raids on the Suez Canal area. Enemy planes also raid Malta but there are no casualties or damage to military targets.

6th Aug.—Raiding parties from the British and Indian garrison at Tobruk seize a German post, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The Royal Air Force bombs enemy bases in Libya.

Mr. Eden reaffirms in the House of Commons Britain's intention to recognize the independence of Ethiopia.

7th Aug.—Three enemy bombers are shot down when they attempt to raid Malta.

8th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm's raid on the Italian submarine base at Augusta in the Island of Sicily is followed by attacks on an enemy convoy in the Mediterranean; two merchant vessels are sunk.

9th Aug.—Enemy-occupied ports in Libya are raided, Tripoli being subjected to a particularly heavy attack.

A small Italian patrol is captured while attempting to approach the British positions in Tobruk.

Eleven are killed and seven injured when enemy planes raid the Suez Canal area.

10th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids Corinth (Greece) and enemy aerodromes in Sicily and Libya.

11th Aug.—An Italian attack on an outpost in Tobruk is repulsed, the enemy being killed almost to a man.

Axis bases in Libya and Sicily are again attacked by the Royal Air Force. The Fleet Air Arm makes a torpedo attack on a large merchant ship in Syracuse harbour.

12th Aug.—Alexandria and the Suez Canal area are visited by enemy planes; the Royal Air Force raids Crotona and Catanzaro.

13th Aug.—While the enemy bombs Tobruk, the Royal Air Force raids Derna, Bardia, Benghazi and Tripoli.

14th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids Libyan bases and also strategic points in Sicily.

15th Aug.—The Corinth Canal is bombed and rendered unusable by Royal Air Force bombers. The aerodrome at Heraklion (Crete), the submarine base at Augusta (Sicily), the harbour at Syracuse and enemy military depots at Wolchefit (Abyssinia) are also bombed.

16th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm makes highly successful attacks on enemy ships in the Mediterranean. Two ships of 6,000 and 3,000 tons respectively in a convoy as well as an escorting destroyer are sunk. Two enemy ships are also sunk by a Netherlands submarine.

17th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids the Sicilian bases of Catania and Syracuse as well as Bardia, Derna and Benghazi in Libya.

18th Aug.—The Fleet Air Arm raids Syracuse and Cap Passaro while the South African Air Force bombs the last remaining enemy concentrations in Abyssinia.

19th Aug.—Half of an enemy convoy—five large merchantships and a tanker, escorted by six destroyers are sunk in the Mediterranean, beached or set on fire by the Fleet Air Arm.

The Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force bomb Tripoli, Benghazi and objectives in Abyssinia.

Three enemy bombers are shot down while attempting to raid Malta.

Field Marshal Smuts, on his return to South Africa from Egypt, expresses confidence in the successful outcome of the struggle in the Middle East.

20th Aug.—British and Empire Air Forces raid Tripoli and other Libyan bases.

21st Aug.—Enemy planes raid Cyprus and the Suez Canal area, causing a few civilian casualties.

It is reported that Vichy is negotiating a treaty with Germany by which military and naval bases in Africa as well as in France will be available to Germany.

22nd Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombs Benghazi. British artillery is active in Tobruk and on the Libyan frontier.

Slight damage is caused and three people are killed in an enemy air raid on Alexandria.

23rd Aug.—Royal Air Force makes a raid on Tripoli. An enemy merchant ship in the harbour is sunk.

24th Aug.—The British shell enemy patrols on the Libyan frontier, compelling them to withdraw.

25th Aug.—Royal Air Force bombers raid Tripoli.

GREECE AND ITALY

1940

28th Oct.—Italian troops cross the Greek frontier at 04-00 hours after rejection of their three hour ultimatum by Greece. Greece appeals to the British Government for assistance. Mr. Churchill sends a message of British assurance of help. H.M. the King sends messages to the Greek nation and to King George of Greece. Greek and Italian warships engage in action near Corfu.

29th Oct.—Italians advance in Greece. The naval aircraft from His Majesty's ships bomb Maltezana. The British Admiralty announces mining of Greek waters. Britain takes steps to fulfill her promise of financial aid to Greece. Rebellion breaks out in South Albania hampering Italy's Greek campaign.

3rd Nov.—British warships arrive at Crete and British troops land in Greek territory. The Greeks advance into Albania about 3½ miles. Italians raid Greek towns. Italian offensive in Janina is repelled by Greeks.

4th Nov.—Greeks capture the Frasheri range of heights (about 15 miles from Greco-Albanian frontier).

5th Nov.—Koritza (Albania), a key point in Italian operations, is dominated by Greek artillery. Greek Highlanders are relentlessly closing in. Greeks capture the village of Glorjal. Italians bomb Corfu, a defenceless town.

British troops land in Mytilene, Khios and Kythera in addition to Crete. British naval units patrol western coastlines of Greece.

6th Nov.—The British Government promise to render financial assistance to Greece and place £5 millions at Greek Government's disposal by way of advance.

8th Nov.—Greek forces improve their forward positions in the Pindus and Koritza sectors.

9th Nov.—General Soddu, Italian former Under-Secretary for War, takes over supreme command of the troops operating at the Greek front.

21st Nov.—Koritza falls.

24th Nov.—Two more Albanian towns, Moscopolis and Pogradetz fall to the Greeks. Greeks advance towards Santi-Quaranta.

1st Dec.—Pogradetz, the strategic Albanian town is taken.

5th Dec.—Greeks capture Premeti and take over 500 prisoners, six cannon and abundant material. They also occupy the very important strategic mountain group of Frasheri, north and north-east of Premeti. Italian troops retreat in the Tepeline-Kercyre sector.

6th Dec.—Greeks occupy Santi Quaranta.

9th Dec.—Greeks advance cautiously towards Chimarra, 22 miles west of Argyrocastro.

23rd Dec.—Greeks capture Chimarra.

1941

10th Jan.—Greeks capture Klissura and find it empty of inhabitants, sacked and burned.

29th Jan.—General Joannis Metaxas, Greece's great military leader and Prime Minister dies. It is announced that the new Prime Minister will be M. Alexander Korizis, Governor of the Bank of Greece.

24th Mar.—Royal Air Force bombers raid the Italian base at Berat in Albania.

Movements of German troops through the Struma Valley towards the Greek frontier are reported.

25th Mar.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a message to the Greek people on Greek Independence Day, pays a tribute to the valour that the Greeks have displayed in the sacred cause of freedom.

Many Italian local attacks are repulsed in Albania.

31st Mar.—Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill arrive in Athens to resume consultations with the Greek Government with the aim of preventing an extension of the war in the Balkans.

1st Apr.—Mr. Eden is received in audience by King George of Greece.

4th Apr.—The Royal Air Force raids the Italian base of Berat in Albania.

6th Apr.—German troops invade Greece, crossing the frontier at two points, and meet with stout resistance in the Struma Valley. The Greeks, in a successful counter-attack enter Bulgarian territory at one point.

7th Apr.—The Royal Air Force draws first blood in the air war in the Balkans, shooting down five German planes in the Ruper Pass area and bombing German military concentrations in Sofia and motor transport in the Struma Valley.

The British Government officially announce that British, Australian and New Zealand troops have landed in Greece and that the Royal Air Force in Greece has been strongly reinforced. General Wavell is to be the Allies' Supreme Commander in the Balkans.

9th Apr.—The Germans enter Salonika.

11th April.—The Greek forces withdraw intact from Salonika. The Royal Air Force renders magnificent help to the Greeks and inflicts very heavy damage on the Germans.

18th Apr.—The Greek and British Imperial troops begin a gradual withdrawal to a shorter line of defence in the face of increasing and reckless pressure by the German forces.

The Greek Prime Minister, M. Korizis, takes his own life, unable to bear the strain of his immense responsibility.

20th Apr.—The Allies evacuate Mount Olympus as part of a plan of retirement to a shorter line. Their rearguards inflict terrible casualties on the advancing Germans. The Royal Air Force plays havoc with troop concentrations.

It is announced that King George of Greece has formed a new Cabinet under his direction.

21st Apr.—The Imperial forces evacuate Larrisa and Trikkla in the course of their systematic withdrawal but the Germans failed to break through the allied line at any point.

M. Emmanuel Tsouderos is appointed Premier of Greece and he takes the oath of allegiance.

22nd Apr.—Empire forces occupy defensive positions south of Lamia, 50 miles south of Larissa.

23rd Apr.—The Greek forces in Epirus and Macedonia lay down their arms and surrender to the enemy. But King George and the Greek Government move the capital to Crete and announce that the fight will go on and that the surrender in Epirus is unauthorized. The main Greek army stands side by side with its British allies, who are in contact with the enemy at the historic Pass of Thermopylae.

25th Apr.—The Germans occupy the Greek islands of Lemnos and Samothrace.

H.M. the King, in an Anzac Day message, pays a tribute to the valour of the Empire and Allied troops in Greece.

27th Apr.—The German army enters Athens. A great part of the British troops and equipment are safely evacuated from Greece for service in North Africa.

28th Apr.—President Roosevelt orders the immediate "freezing" of Greek credits and cash in the United States in order to deny Axis agents access to them.

30th Apr.—The Germans claim to have reached the south coast of the Peloponnesus. It is announced that 80 per cent of British troops have already been safely evacuated from Greece.

The Germans set up a puppet Government in Athens under General Tsolakiglu, a renegade army Commander.

1st May.—The Italians claim the occupation of the Ionian Islands, of Caphalonia, Zante and Lenkas.

3rd May.—Two small British destroyers are dive-bombed and sunk during the evacuation from Greece.

Italy announces the annexation of the North-Western part of Yugoslavia adjoining the Italian border.

5th May.—The Greek Prime Minister, M. Tsouderos, announces that the Allied Forces in Crete will be under the command of Major-General Freybreg, Commander-in-Chief of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force.

6th May.—Greek submarines and torpedo-boats reach Alexandria to join the British Fleet there.

German troops occupy the Greek islands of Mitylene and Chios, south of the Dardanelles.

9th May.—The puppet Government in Greece arrests General Papagos, former Greek Commander-in-Chief, and other members of the Greek administration "for having instigated war against Germany."

The University of Rome is closed as the result of anti-German demonstrations by the students.

16th May.—The Greek Premier reveals that important units of the Greek Army are somewhere in the Middle East and that Greece's gold reserves are safe.

17th May.—German is made a compulsory language in all schools in Greece.

The Duke of Spoleto and nephew of the King of Italy is proclaimed King of the Axis-sponsored, puppet state of Croatia.

20th May.—Mr. Churchill announces in the Commons that 1,500 enemy troops, wearing New Zealand battle-dress, land by gliders, parachutes and troop-carriers in Crete. Their attempt to capture the Malani aerodrome is frustrated.

22nd May.—Mr. Churchill announces in the the Commons that one German convoy making for Crete was intercepted and two transports sunk.

23rd May.—German airborne troops landed at Heraklion and Retimo are accounted for by the Allied troops in Crete; the enemy continues to exercise control over Malemi aerodrome.

24th May.—The Allies clean up Heraklion and Retimo. British fighter-planes reappear over Crete and account for many German troop-carrying planes.

25th May.—The King of Greece and his Government move from Crete to Egypt in order not to hamper military operations. The Germans indulge in indiscriminate bombing of Canea, Heraklion and Retimo.

27th May.—German troops, reinforced by airborne detachment, launch an attack in the area west of Canea in Crete. Four British destroyers and two cruisers are sunk but the enemy's attempts to prevent seaborne reinforcements reaching the British troops in Crete are frustrated. The Germans also lose two caiques and two E-boats.

30th May.—The Royal Air Force raids the German-occupied island of Scarpanto.

1st June.—A War Office communiqué announces that the British are withdrawing from Crete and that 15,000 troops have already reached Egypt.

2nd June.—The King of the Hellenes appoints a smaller cabinet, M. Tsounderos remaining Prime Minister.

Mussolini, Ciano and General Cavallero meet Hitler, Ribbentrop and Marshal Keitel at Brenner on the Italo-Austrian frontier and have a long conversation.

3rd June.—The Greek Legation in Moscow is informed that Russia considers diplomatic relations between the two countries invalid in view of what is described as the loss of Greek sovereignty and the fact that the Soviet Government have ceased to have representatives in Greece.

5th June.—Germans establish military courts in Crete in order to try *franctireurs*, alleged to have "maltreated" German parachutists.

9th June.—It is officially announced that the British anti-aircraft cruiser *Calcutta* and the destroyers *Hereward* and *Imperial* are lost during the withdrawal from Crete.

10th June.—Mussolini declares that "the whole of Greece, including Athens, will be occupied by Italy."

Mr. Churchill announces in the Commons that while British losses in the Battle of Crete are about 15,000 men killed, wounded or missing, the German losses are 5,000 drowned and 12,000 killed or wounded in addition to 180 fighters and bombers and 250 troop-carriers lost.

12th June.—His Majesty the King telegraphs to King George of Greece "We share your grief but we also share your hopes."

15th June.—The Italian Government orders an immediate census of all United States property in Italy in retaliation of Mr. Roosevelt's order to freeze all German and Italian assets in the United States. Germany follows suit.

16th June.—The sudden death of General Grossi, President of the Italian Armistice Commission in France, is announced.

17th June.—A cruiser, seven destroyers, two torpedo boats and five submarines of the Greek Navy reach Alexandria and join the British Mediterranean Fleet.

18th June.—Sgr. Starace, former Secretary of the Fascist Party, is removed from office and Lieut.-General Enzo Galbiati appointed in his place.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

1939

5th Sep.—Argentina and Chile officially declare their neutrality.

10th Sep.—Canada declares war.
President Roosevelt addresses Congress on the neutrality statutes, urging the repeal of the arms embargo.

2nd Oct.—The 21 Republics of the Western Hemisphere meet at Panama to consider questions of neutrality, protection of Western Hemisphere countries and economic co-operations. The Panama Declaration is issued expressing solidarity of interests.

4th Nov.—President Roosevelt signs proclamation putting the new Neutrality Bill into effect.

1940

9th Feb.—President Roosevelt announces that he is sending Mr. Sumner Welles, U.S. Under Secretary of State, to collect information about conditions in Italy, France, Germany and Great Britain.

11th Feb.—Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada dies at Montreal.

25th Feb.—Mr. Sumner Welles arrives in Rome.

26th Feb.—Mr. Sumner Welles sees Count Ciano and Signor Mussolini in Rome.

26th Mar.—The Liberal Party in Canada under Mr. Mackenzie King is returned in an overwhelming majority at the general election.

3rd Apr.—The Earl of Athlone is appointed Governor-General of Canada in succession to Lord Tweedsmuir.

11th May.—President Roosevelt and the Pope express sympathy for Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg—victims of German aggression.

15th May.—President Roosevelt appeals to Mussolini to prevent the spread of war.

19th May.—Twenty-one American nations protest against the German invasion of the Low Countries.

22nd May.—The Emergency Powers (Defence) Bill becomes law giving United States Government powers to mobilize men and resources.

11th June.—President Roosevelt indicts Italy for "stabbing a neighbour in the back" and offers full assistance in supplies to the Allies.

2nd July.—President Roosevelt signs a bill providing authority to control exports from the United States of ammunitions, materials and machinery essential to the nation.

17th July.—Mr. Roosevelt is nominated Presidential candidate of the Democratic Party for the third time.

1st Aug.—United States of America bans export of aviation petrol.

17th Aug.—Canada and United States of America set up a Joint Board of Defence.

3rd Sep.—The Anglo-American Agreement is concluded: sea and air bases in New Foundland and Bermuda are leased free to United States of America and bases in Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Antigna and British Guiana are given to United States of America in return for 50 destroyers.

9th Sep.—First United States destroyers are taken over by Britain. A Canadian 3 per cent loan of $300,000,000 is sanctioned.

16th Sep.—President Roosevelt signs the Conscription Bill.

26th Sep.—President Roosevelt declares an embargo on the export of scrap iron to Japan.

28th Sep.—Destroyers taken over by Britain reach Britain.

5th Oct.—All reserves of the United States Navy and Marine Corps numbering over 27,000 officers and men are ordered to report for active duty.

12th Oct.—President Roosevelt gives a broadcast talk on the Triple Pact.

16th Oct.—A million American officials man thousands of registration offices to register the conscription of 16,500,000 men between 21 and 36 years. Mr. Roosevelt broadcasts that America prepares for total war. Young Americans register at the rate of over a million an hour. Forty Hindu seamen also register.

23rd Oct.—President Roosevelt issues an executive order decreeing priority for defence orders placed with private industry. Liners are commissioned by United States Government to pick up Americans in Japan and other places.

5th Nov.—President Roosevelt is re-elected for the third term.

26th Nov.—President Roosevelt allots fifty million dollars for the immediate development of a chain of naval and air bases on the sites acquired from Britain in exchange for destroyers.

30th Nov.—President Roosevelt announces a credit of a hundred million dollars to the Chinese Government in Chungking.

12th Dec.—Lord Lothian, British Ambassador at Washington, dies.

20th Dec.—A contract for the construction of 60 new merchantmen for Britain is signed by British representatives.

23rd Dec.—Lord Halifax is appointed British Ambassador in Washington.

1941

3rd Jan.—President Roosevelt discloses that he is sending Mr. Harry Hopkins, former Secretary for Commerce, to Britain as his personal representative until a new Ambassador is appointed to succeed Mr. Kennedy.

6th Jan.—President Roosevelt addresses Congress. He states that the purpose and pledge of the Americans to the Democracies are that the Americans are vitally concerned in the defence of freedom and that they would put forth their energies, resources and organizing powers to give the Democracies strength to regain and maintain a free world and that they would send them in ever-increasing numbers, ships, planes, tanks and guns.

7th Jan.—A supreme directorate for the United States defence programme to speed up arms production is established by President Roosevelt.

American troops occupy Greenland and American police are posted in the town of Ivigtul.

10th Jan.—President Roosevelt's Bill to aid Democracies known as "British Aid Bill" is introduced by the Administration leaders in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives.

12th Jan.—Final agreement is reached on the sites for the United States Naval, Army and Air bases in the Island of Trinidad. An agreement is reached between the United States and Britain on sites for eight American Air and Naval bases to be constructed in British possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

13th Jan.—Four different kinds of American bombers including the Lockheed Hudson long-range bomber and the four-engined Boeing bomber are flown to England in large numbers.

18th Jan.—It is announced that United States is constructing landplane and seaplane bases at St. Lucia Island.

23rd Jan.—Mr. Knudsen, Head of President Roosevelt's Supreme Defence Directorate, at a press conference says that, of the 33,000 military planes which are to be turned out by July next year, 14,000 are earmarked for Britain.

24th Jan.—Lord Halifax is welcomed in American waters by President Roosevelt himself.

30th Jan.—President Roosevelt's Lease and Lend Bill to aid the Democracies is approved by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

1st Feb.—Colonel Donavan, President Roosevelt's special representative, arrives in Turkey.

2nd Feb.—The Lease and Lend Bill comes up for discussion in the House of Representatives.

6th Feb.—Mr. John Winant is nominated the United States Ambassador in London.

8th Feb.—The House of Representatives passes the Lease and Lend Bill after a debate lasting six days.

The House votes to limit the amount of the military or naval equipment which might be devoted to the programme to aid Britain to about 1,300 million dollars worth.

9th Feb.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrives at New York after his return journey from England.

10th Feb.—Mr. Harry Hopkins concludes his mission to England and returns to United States.

3rd Mar.—The State Department advises the Treasury to "freeze" the Bulgarian funds in the United States as a result of the entry of German troops into Bulgaria.

4th Mar.—United States Senate leaders decide to oppose any amendments designed to confine the activities of United States troops to the western hemisphere. This follows a statement by Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, expressing the view that such amendments would encourage Japanese aggression.

6th Mar.—The United States ask Italy to close its Consulates at Detroit (Michigan) and Newark (Rhode Islands) and remove the personnel thereof from the Consulates.

8th Mar.—The United States Senate passes the Lease and Lend Bill by 60 votes to 31. An Administration amendment to the Bill making it definite that agricultural commodities may be included in defence articles which can be disposed of to other countries is approved by the Senate.

11th Mar.—President Roosevelt signs the Aid to Britain Bill. The House of Representatives passes the Bill by 317 votes to 71.

13th Mar.—The State Department 'freezes' all Hungarian funds in the United States.

President Roosevelt decides to permit export of unlimited quantities of aviation petrol to all parts of the British Empire.

14th Mar.—The United States House of Representatives passes and sends to the Senate the Bill for $3,447,000,000 to help finance the Two-Ocean Navy. Six battle-cruisers of a new type are to be built.

15th Mar.—The United States House of Representatives' Sub-Committee approves of the $7,000,000,000 appropriation asked for by President Roosevelt.

16th Mar.—Addressing the White House Correspondents' Association in a speech broadcasted throughout the world, President Roosevelt says that the United States is committed to unqualified, immediate, all-out aid to Britain, Greece, China and all the Governments whose homelands are temporarily occupied by the aggressors. He says that there can be no compromise with the Nazis whose "New Order" is neither new nor order.

20th Mar.—The United States Senate approves the £862 million Bill to help finance America's Two-Ocean Navy.

21st Mar.—It is reported that the next five United States battleships to be built under the Two-Ocean Navy programme will be from 60 to 65 thousand tons. They will be the biggest battleships in the world.

22nd Mar.—It is stated in Washington that a production schedule to supply 20,000 war planes to Britain in the next 18 months has been worked out by United States Administration officials.

It is reported from New York that President Roosevelt has granted the British request to use American Naval yards for repairing British ships.

24th Mar.—By 67 votes to 9, the United States Senate passes the Bill for authorizing an appropriation of seven billion dollars to implement the Lease and Lend Act. The Bill is sent to the President for signature.

25th Mar.—"The war in Europe must end in the eradication of Nazism", says Mr. Wendell Willkie in a broadcast speech at Toronto. He says that Britain and the United States must work together in post-war reconstruction.

Lord Halifax, in a speech to the Pilgrims' Society at Washington, defines Britain's peace and war aims as winning the war, preventing the repetition of such a tragedy and helping to ensure future prosperity.

Canada and the United States are to build army and navy vessels in the shipbuilding yards on the Great Lakes. The conclusion of an agreement on this point is announced by the United States Administration.

26th Mar.—The United States War Department requisitions two liners of 24,000 tons, *The Washington* and *The Manhattan*, for use as auxiliary transport.

The Dutch Foreign Minister, Van Kleffens, broadcasting from New York, says that United States plane-production would be fifteen times larger in June than at present and that the increase afterwards would be even greater.

At a Press Conference, Lord Halifax says that the duration of the war would depend on the speed of American help.

27th Mar.—The extension of the German counter-blockade to within three miles of Greenland is referred to by Mr. Sumner Welles at a Press Conference today. Col. Donovan, Mr. Roosevelt's Special Envoy, broadcasts to America. He says that the Lease and Lend Act is an act of war and that the Americans have to decide whether they will resist Hitler or merely keep quiet. He pays a tribute to the genius of Wavell and expresses deep admiration of the cool bravery of the Britons in face of a terrible enemy.

30th Mar.—President Roosevelt, broadcasting on Jackson Day, calls on the Americans to unite in the determination that "with all our resources and all our power, we shall help those who block the Dictators in their march towards the domination of the world."

Guards are placed on 27 Italian vessels in United States ports by the American Coast-Guard authorities to prevent their crews from attempting to destroy machinery. A German oil tanker is also reported to have been placed under guard in Boston harbour.

31st Mar.—It is revealed that President Roosevelt has authorized the transfer of additional war supplies to Britain, including torpedo boats. The *Journal of Commerce* (New York) reports that between 120 and 140 American warships are being transferred to British Registry.

President Roosevelt indicates that he has personally ordered the seizure of Italian, German and Danish ships at American ports (and at Manila). Mr. Cordell Hull explains that the United States Government are justified in their action because the attempted sabotage in the ships endangered American ports. Treasury Officials hint that these ships might be put in service with a view to help Britain to overcome shipping shortage.

1st Apr.—The Axis Powers protest to the United States against the seizure of their ships and demand their release. The United States authorities issue warrants for the detention of 100 German and 75 Italian members of the crews of 69 seized ships for violation of immigration laws. Reports of Italian and German sailors setting fire to their ships in South American ports are received.

2nd Apr.—The United States rejects the German and Italian demands for the release of the ships seized in United States ports.

The Government of Peru suspend the Lufthansa (German) air services and take over the planes.

3rd Apr.—The United States Government ask the Italian Government to recall Admiral Alberto Lais, their Naval Attache, from Washington. United States officials study the question whether the seized Axis ships could be forfeited to America.

4th Apr.—President Roosevelt announces that he has allocated another 500,000,000 dollars from the Lease and Lend Act appropriation for the construction of 212 merchantmen. He also discloses that the United States Government might soon remove the Red Sea area from the list of combat zones and permit United States vessels to ply thither with cargoes. The United States flatly rejects the Axis protest against the seizure of their ships and refuses their demands for the release of the ships and crew.

5th Apr.—Uruguay, following other Latin American countries, seizes Italian ships in Monte Video.

6th Apr.—Mr. Cordell Hull, after conferring with President Roosevelt, announces that the United States Government are proceeding as speedily as possible to send military and other supplies to Yugoslavia. The American Red Cross decide to send speedily a million dollars worth of aid to Yugoslavia.

8th Apr.—President Roosevelt sends a message to King Peter assuring all help to Yugoslavia.

Mr. Roosevelt says that he will ask the United States Congress for legislation empowering the Government to buy the Danish ships seized in United States ports; he indicates that the seized Axis ships could be forfeited.

The United States Naval Under Secretary arranges to leave for Britain to establish a close liaison between the Navy Department and the British Admiralty. Col. Knox, United States Naval Secretary, reveals that British warships are being repaired in American yards.

10th Apr.—The United States decides to establish air bases in Greenland. An Agreement to that effect is signed with the Danish Minister in Washington, the German-controlled Government of Denmark being ignored.

11th Apr.—President Roosevelt reopens the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden to American ships.

The President asks Congress for broad statutory authority to take over any foreign-owned vessels lying idle in American ports.

12th Apr.—In an address at Chicago, Col. Donovan pleads that American convoys should escort American ships carrying supplies to the Allies.

13th Apr.—The Danish Minister in Washington is recalled by the German-controlled Danish Government, but he refuses to go back. The United States continues to regard him as duly authorized.

15th Apr.—The United States, while rejecting the protest of the German-controlled Danish Government, states that the use of the Greenland bases will be available to all the American Republics for the common defence of the Western Hemisphere.

President Roosevelt places Mr. Harry Hopkins to be in charge of the purchasing and acquisition of war materials for all countries benefiting under the Lease and Lend Act.

A Bill increasing the officer and enlisted strength of the United States Navy and Marine Corps to 232,000 is passed by the Senate and sent to White House. The President, under the Bill, is authorized to acquire 200,000 tons of auxiliary vessels for national defence and raise the number of men enlisted to 300,000 if necessary.

Legislation authorizing President Roosevelt to purchase, requisition, or take possession of foreign merchant ships lying idle in United States ports is laid before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The British cruiser *Bonaventure* (5,450 tons) is torpedoed and sunk while escorting a convoy.

16th Apr.—President Roosevelt says that the United States will protect her merchantmen "wherever they go so long as they do not enter the combat zones proclaimed under the Neutrality Act."

Mr. Roosevelt states that Greenland would be restored to Denmark as soon as she has an independent government and not a government under duress.

The President says that American help will continue to be given to China in an increasing measure.

Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Premier, leaves for Washington to see President Roosevelt.

17th Apr.—Col. Knox, United States Naval Secretary says that British warships brought to the United States for repairs are given priority over everything else in the Navy Yards.

18th Apr.—United States troops leave for Bermuda to form part of the new garrison there.

19th Apr.—Lord Halifax has a conversation with the United States Secretary of State and says afterwards that the Atlantic Ocean remains the decisive theatre of war.

20th Apr.—President Roosevelt has a long conference at New York with Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Premier.

Mr. Roosevelt urges American doctors to volunteer for service in the military and civilian hospitals of "Our British friends."

21st Apr.—A joint statement issued in America after the King-Roosevelt talks reveals that agreement has been reached on the principle of joint mobilization of the resources of Canada and United States in aid of Britain and in the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

22nd Apr.—Mr. Mackenzie King announces that President Roosevelt will visit Canada in May.

23rd Apr.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, reveals that about 20 fast torpedo boats are ready for delivery to Britain.

Lord Beaverbrook states that nearly 1,000 assembled American and Canadian aircraft have already been delivered to the Royal Air Force and that only one aircraft was lost on the ferry service between America and Britain.

24th Apr.—The British submarine *Urge* torpedoes and sinks a heavily laden enemy tanker of over 10,000 tons which endeavours to run the blockade.

25th Apr.—Speeches by Mr. Cordell Hull and Col. Knox foreshadow United States' decision to convoy supply ships to Britain. President Roosevelt states that United States Neutrality Patrols will operate "as far into the waters of the seven seas as might be necessary," warning British ships of any prowling raider. He also strongly criticises "appeasers" like Col. Lindbergh.

26th Apr.—The Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, on which 21 American Republics are represented, recommends the seizure of 160 foreign ships lying idle in ports on the American continent.

28th Apr.—It is announced that Prof. J. M. Keynes, member of the British Economic Council, will visit Washington to confer with the United States Administration and the British Supply Council on the operation of the Lease and Lend Act and other related matters.

Col. Lindberg gives up his commission in the United States Air Corps Reserve as a sequel to Mr. Roosevelt's condemnation of his attitude.

29th Apr.—President Roosevelt states that United States warships may enter combat zones, if necessary, in the interests of the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

30th Apr.—Col. Knox says that United States is expected to build substantial numbers of high speed mosquito-boats for Britain.

1st May.—President Roosevelt asks the United States Maritime Commission for at least two million tons of merchant shipping to be used to supply all-out aid to the Democracies. The United States Senate passes the 3,400 million dollars Two-Ocean Navy Bill and sends it to White House for signature.

2nd May.—Lord Halifax confers with Mr. Sumner Welles.

3rd May.—President Roosevelt, in a letter to Messrs. Knudsen and Hillman, Defence Production Chiefs, asks that production of machine tools be expedited, that the defence industry work 24 hours a day and seven days a week and that the nation be combed for idle machine-tools to be placed in defence production.

Workers in United States defence industry are urged to forego their usual summer holidays in exchange for a bonus or a special increase in wages.

The British Broadcasting Corporation reports the arrival in Suez of 26 American merchant ships heavily laden with arms and ammunition for the British forces in the Middle East.

4th May.—Mr. Wendell Willkie urges that United States should convoy supplies to Britain as the present "sea patrol is inadequate."

Col. Knox, United States Navy Secretary says that, within 90 days, United States' production of military equipment will exceed that of any other country in the world.

Speaking at the dedication of the late President Wilson's birthplace as a national shrine. President Roosevelt says that the American people fought before and are "ever ready to fight again" for the existence of democracy in the world.

5th May.—The United States coast guard take certain precautions to ensure that Yugoslav ships in American ports remain loyal to King Peter and his Government in exile.

6th May.—The Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives expresses himself in favour of convoying arms shipments across the Atlantic by American warships.

The Mexican Foreign Minister pledges the help of his country to other American Republics in opposing totalitarian expansion.

President Roosevelt asks Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War, to obtain "a substantial increase in heavy bomber production" in order to see that "democratic superiority in the air is made absolute."

7th May.—Mr. Stimson, in a nationwide broadcast, urges the immediate use of the American Navy to make the seas secure for the delivery of munitions to Britain.

The Australian Premier, Mr. Menzies, declares on his arrival in New York that the war is as much America's as it is the British Empire's.

Senator Vandenberg states that only 8 out of the 205 ships that left American ports with supplies for Britain were sunk in the first three months of this year.

9th May.—President Roosevelt asks Congress for an appropriation of 61,477,750 dollars in order, among other things, to construct 149 new airports and enlarge 20 now under construction.

The United States Maritime Commission announces the inauguration of a service to the Red Sea area with ships of United States registry and an additional service to China.

11th May.—It is revealed that a United States Naval Squadron has been stationed in the Indian Ocean to guard the Red Sea route, to prevent German and Japanese shipping co-operating and to relieve the British Navy of additional duties.

12th May.—It is learned in Washington that the Government have planned to use the foreign ships taken over by United States to carry supplies to Britain through the combat areas.

16th May.—President Roosevelt in a forceful declaration condemns the Vichy Government's policy of collaborating with the Nazis especially in Syria.

The United States Senate approves the Bill enabling the Government to seize foreign ships in American waters.

17th May.—Lord Halifax confers with Mr. Cordell Hull on the developments in Syria.

18th May.—Mr. Harold Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, says that America must give "everything" to Britain. Mr. Cordell Hull, in a broadcast, says that America will find the means to ensure that Britain received adequate supplies; he also says that the peace settlement at the end of the war should give short shrift to extreme nationalism and encourage free international friendship and trade.

Mr. Hull states that he is able to confirm from diplomatic reports that the Franco-German agreement is a definitely military agreement and that it is dangerous to the Western Hemisphere.

It is revealed that American aircraft production is nearing 1,800 planes a month.

20th May.—It is announced that the Egyptian steamer Zam Zam carrying American missionaries and a British-American ambulance corps to the Near East was sunk in the South Atlantic by a German raider after the passengers and crew had been taken aboard a German warship. The United States Government ask Germany for full details concerning the 138 Americans involved.

22nd May.—Col. Knox urges the repeal of what he calls "the terrible blunder" of the United State Neutrality Act and says that America should preserve the freedom of the seas and allow her ships to serve in British shores and other war zones.

President Roosevelt predicts that "more and faster ships will be built" and that "they will carry through the open waters of the seven seas the implements of war which will help to destroy the menace to free people everywhere."

25th May.—Admiral Raeder, Chief of the German Navy, takes exception to the help rendered by American North Atlantic Patrols to the British Navy.

27th May.—Mr. Cordell Hull says that Raeder's threat is true to the Nazi pattern—an integral part of the programme of world conquest by force.

Mr. Knudsen, Chairman of the United States War Production Board, says that the United States must match the aggressor nations with tank for tank and plane for plane.

28th May.—President Roosevelt proclaims a state of unlimited national emergency. In a broadcast to the nation, he promises to take all possible measures to ensure delivery of supplies to Britain.

Mr. Roosevelt asks Congress for appropriations totalling 3,319 million dollars for new aircraft for the Army and the Navy. The House of Representatives passes legislation continuing Mr. Roosevelt's emergency monetary powers.

29th May.—Mr. Roosevelt confers with Lord Halifax and the British economic expert, Mr. J. M. Keynes. At a Press Conference, Mr. Roosevelt says that measures to enforce freedom of the seas are quite compatible with the Neutrality Act.

The United States Secretary for War announces that America will train 8,000 Royal Air Force airmen from June.

The Senate approves legislation permitting Government to take over 80 foreign ships lying idle in United States harbours and sends it to White House for signature.

30th May.—"You may completely dismiss all rumours of British readiness to make peace. You cannot make peace with a mad dog" says Lord Halifax.

31st May.—The first shipload of food sent by the United States under the Lease and Lend Act reaches Britain; it includes 1,000 tons of flour, over four million eggs and 12,000 lb. of cheese.

Mr. Harold Ickes is appointed "Petroleum Co-ordinator for National Defence" by President Roosevelt with instructions to keep oil flowing in an adequate supply for defence and civilian needs.

Police break up a meeting of the German American Bund in New Jersey. The German Government disown Dr. Kurt Reith, their former Minister in Austria, who is arrested by the United States authorities with a view to deportation.

1st June.—The President of Mexico pledges help to the United States of America in the event of the latter being involved in war.

Armed watch is enforced on ports, factories and docks along Hudson River following a huge fire in a railway yard near by.

2nd June.—" Hitler will not win," declares Mr. Harry Hopkins.

The House of Representatives approves legislation permitting Mr. Roosevelt to appoint an unlimited number of Vice-Admirals to have charge of " special and unusual missions " of the Naval forces.

The War Department requests Congress for legislation authorizing the President during the national emergency to requisition property of any kind " necessary to national defence " —a power similar to that assumed by President Wilson during the Great War.

President Roosevelt signs a Bill authorizing the grant of compulsory priorities for orders from foreign Governments under the Lease and Lend Act.

3rd June.—" Every available source that we have hitherto found accurate gives evidence that half the present output of American factories, combined with Great Britain's present production, exceeds the German output," declares Colonel John Jouett, President of the United States Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce.

5th June.—Provision for 40,000 planes is made in the Army Supply Bill recommended by the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

6th June.—President Roosevelt at a Press Conference states that Mr. Winant has not brought from England " even the tenth cousin of a peace offer."

Mr. Roosevelt orders the United States Maritime Commission to seize 80 foreign ships lying idle in American harbours.

Mr. Cordell Hull says at a Press Conference that America stands firm against any change in the Far Eastern *status quo*.

7th June.—The United States battleship, *South Dakota*, built at a cost of over 13 million pounds, is launched and immediately afterwards the keel is laid of a 10,000-ton cruiser.

President Roosevelt orders the seizure of the French liner *Normandie*.

8th June.—It is revealed that Martinique and Guadaloupe are patrolled daily by United States planes and boats, thanks to an arrangement with the French Government.

9th June.—President Roosevelt breaks the strike at the North American Aviation Factory by ordering the Army to take over.

10th June.—A report that the United States steamer *Robin Moor* has been torpedoed by a German submarine in South Atlantic is received by the Navy Department at Washington.

The United States House of Representatives passes the ten thousand million dollars Army Appropriation Bill.

11th June.—President Roosevelt reports on the operation of the Lease and Lend Act to Congress.

12th June.—Mr. Sumner Welles announces that the *Robin Moor* was undoubtedly sunk by a German submarine.

13th June.—The United States Senate approves of legislation, authorizing the President to seize defence plants in case of existing or threatened failure of production.

Mr. Sumner Welles denies the German claim that the *Robin Moor* was carrying contraband and accuses Germany of breaking the International Agreement regarding the safety of passengers of any merchantman attacked by a submarine.

Mr. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, declares that Canadian troops are ready to be used in any field decided on by the High Command.

14th June.—President Roosevelt renews his pledge of full material assistance to Great Britain and her Allies, in a message of greetings to His Majesty King George on his birthday.

A sharp attack on the Darlan-Laval group in France is made by Mr. Cordell Hull, who says that the Vichy Government are apparently fighting Germany's battle in Syria.

Mr. Roosevelt orders the immediate freezing of all German and Italian assets in the United States of America.

15th June.—Rear-Admiral Luctzow, broadcasting from Germany, complains bitterly of the United States Naval Patrol system.

16th June.—Broadcasting his thanks to Rochester University in America for conferring on him the honorary Doctorate of Civil Law, Mr. Churchill remarks: " United we stand, divided we fall."

It is reported that Danish ships seized in America would be placed on service with United States Merchant Fleet.

Mr. Sumner Welles hands to a representative of the German Embassy an order to close all German consulates in the United States and to remove all German nationals connected with them. He says that the step is taken because Nazi agencies are engaged in activities harmful to America.

It is reported from Washington that Mr. Ickes blocked a shipment of 252,000 gallons of oil to Japan. The reason given is the threatened shortage of oil in the Eastern United States.

The United States Senate passes the 250 million dollar Bill for the construction of highways for defence purposes.

17th June.—Mr. Roosevelt confers with War and Navy Department officials on ensuring the delivery of American bombers to the British forces in Africa.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, says that America must face the prospect of a long war.

18th June.—Mr. Sumner Welles indicates that the strong German protest against the expulsion of Nazi Consuls from the United States will be flatly rejected.

President Roosevelt orders customs officers and border patrols to ensure that no German national leaves the country for the present.

Naval reserves in the United States are ordered to stand by.

19th June.—Germany orders the closing of all United States Consular offices in Germany and occupied countries.

Mr. Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, announces at a Press Conference that proposals to exempt Portugal, Russia, Spain, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland from the United States " freezing order " are being considered. The Oxford University confers through Lord Halifax the degree of Doctor of Civil Law on President Roosevelt.

20th June.—President Roosevelt condemns the torpedoing of the American steamer *Robin Moor* by a German submarine as an infamous act and says that the United States will not yield to German threats.

21st June.—The United States Government order the closure of all Italian consulates in America.

22nd June.—Mr. Winant, American Ambassador, returns to Britain in a Boeing bomber.

23rd June.—Mr. Sumner Wells in a statement at a Press Conference, voices his Government's condemnation of the German invasion of Russia.

Italian nationals are forbidden to leave United States.

24th June.—President Roosevelt declares " all possible aid " to Russia.

The United States Treasury lifts the restrictions on Russian money assets in America.

Stricter control of immigration is announced by the U.S. State Department.

25th June.—It is officially stated at Washington that U.S. ships will be permitted to carry arms to Vladivostock as President Roosevelt does not intend to issue a " Neutrality " proclamation in connection with the Russo-German war.

26th June.—The President of the Mexican Government Party declares that Mexico is ready to fight if necessary for the defence of the Democracies.

27th June.—President Roosevelt says at a Press Conference that arms will be sent to Eire only on receiving an assurance that she will defend herself against the Germans, if attacked.

28th June.—The United States Administration is reported to have decided to ask Congress for a formal declaration of national emergency.

30th June.—It is announced that 900,000 men are to be drafted into the United States Army this year.

Mr. Herbert Hoover, ex-President of the United States, in a broadcast, advocates the fullest possible aid to Britain.

President Roosevelt signs the 70,000 million dollars Army Appropriation Bill.

Col. Knox, addressing a Conference of State Governors, says " The time to use our Navy to clear the Atlantic of the German menace is at hand. Now is the time to strike."

3rd July.—The United States supports Uruguay's proposal to back up any American country involved in a state of war with nations of other continents in defence of its own rights.

The United States of America undertakes to supply over 600,000 bales of cotton to Britain under the Lease and Lend Act.

4th July.—" I tell the American people solemnly that the United States will never survive as a happy and prosperous oasis of liberty in the midst of a desert of dictatorships " says President Roosevelt in his Independence Day broadcast to the nation.

All Canadian exports are ordered to be placed under control so as to send as much aid to Britain as possible.

5th July.—General Marshall, Chief of the United States Army Staff, announces that United States overseas garrisons have been more than doubled so as to keep American defences in readiness.

6th July.—Hostilities break out between Ecuador and Peru owing to a frontier dispute.

7th July.—The United States Navy Department asks for a further appropriation of 585 million dollars to augment its ship-building programme.

President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, announces that American troops have taken over Iceland from the British forces. He says that the United States has no intention at all of interfering with the sovereignty of Iceland.

General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, states that American man-power may be needed in bringing the war to a rapid and decisive conclusion.

8th July.—Mr. Roosevelt states at a Press Conference that there will be no hemispheric boundary on United States defence operations. All U.S. Air Corps reserve officers are ordered to active duty.

Chile offers to mediate in the Peru-Ecuador dispute.

9th July.—Mr. Winston Churchill declares in the House of Commons that the military occupation of Iceland by the United States is of first-rate political and strategic importance.

Mr. Wendell Willkie urges the establishment of United States military bases in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The United States, Argentina and Brazil ask Peru and Ecuador to establish a "No Man's Land" between their armies in order to facilitate negotiations.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt receives the Soviet Ambassador, M. Oumansky, who gives the President "Good news" about the Russo-German war.

The Premier of Northern Ireland expresses willingness to afford facilities for the construction of United States bases in Ireland.

Mr. Roosevelt asks Congress for a further appropriation of 4,770 million dollars for the War Department.

11th July.—The employment of United States workmen in the construction of British bases and the use of American steel for that purpose are characterised as "legal steps" by President Roosevelt at a Press Conference.

Mr. Roosevelt asks Congress for 3,323 million dollars in cash and contract authorizations for the United States Navy and Maritime Commission.

The British Government waive their belligerent rights concerning German and Italian ships seized by the United States.

President Roosevelt appoints Colonel W. J. Donovan as Co-ordinator of Information bearing on the Defence programme.

12th July.—It is announced that a brand new explosive will be manufactured on a large scale in United States and made available to Britain.

The United States Navy Department announces extensive mining operations at the entrance to New York harbour.

14th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, says that the United States is anxious that Portugal should retain her sovereignty over the Azores but it is vital that strategic Atlantic outposts should remain in friendly hands.

Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, declares that "a war of defence against Nazism will be infinitely preferable to a peace accomplished by surrender to Hitlerism."

Legislative steps are foreshadowed to retain existing United States Army units in service.

Col. Donovan, in a broadcast to France, says: "We are confident of victory. We made the tragic mistake of withdrawing after the victory in 1918. We shall not make that mistake again."

15th July.—Mr. Ickes, United States Secretary of the Interior, and Mayor La Guardian of New York warn the Americans against the activities of the Nazis, pro-Nazis and Crypto-Nazis directed towards the appeasement of Germany.

16th July.—President Roosevelt declares that "the disintegration" of the United States Army is threatened if Congress does not allow the Army to keep selectees and National Guardsmen in service over a year.

The German Reich is named as a co-conspirator in an indictment against 33 persons arrested in June for suspected spying.

17th July.—Mr. Roosevelt calls a conference of his Chief Naval Advisers.

The United States House of Representatives passes the 536 million dollar Bill for additional shipping and naval facilities.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, Lease and Lend Supervisor, arrives in London, calls on Mr. Churchill and attends a meeting of the British Cabinet.

18th July.—President Roosevelt states at a Press Conference that the sea lanes to Iceland will be kept open and shipping protected against an attack or threat of attack.

Mr. Roosevelt confers with his Chief Naval Advisers, presumably on the Pacific situation.

20th July.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, in a speech at Richmond (California) emphasises Britain's resolve to make an end of Hitler and says that if American workers speed up the shipbuilding programme, "we can bring this Nazi business to an end."

Arrangements are being made by the United States Maritime Commission to turn over a hundred oil-tankers to Britain.

21st July.—President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, asks it to authorize the extension of the one-year period of active service in the Army for selectees, National Guardsmen and Reserves. He declares that America is in infinitely greater danger than a year ago and that unless the extension is granted, the nation will be taking a grave risk and the Army will face disintegration.

22nd July.—House of Commons announces an American loan of 425 million dollars to Britain to pay for war supplies contracted for prior to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act.

The United States House of Representatives passes the 287 million dollars Defence Highway Bill while the Senate approves legislation permitting the President of the United States to take over private property for use in national defence.

23rd July.—Mr. Tom Mooney, the famous United States Labour leader, who opposed America's entry in the last war, comes out in favour of intervention in the present conflict.

While Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, receives the Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Nomura, Col. Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, declares that the United States Pacific Fleet is in a position to carry out American policy in the Far East.

Mr. Sumner Welles, in a speech, outlines American peace aims and pleads for an association of free nations.

President Roosevelt foreshadows the possibility of new steps by the United States to check German infiltration into Latin America.

The United States Senate unanimously passes and sends to the White House the Bill authorizing a 545 million dollars expansion in naval shipping repair and other facilities.

24th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, in a formal statement, condemns Japan's move against Indo-China.

The United States War Secretary, Mr Stimson, condemns Senator Wheeler's action, in writing to army officers and men, urging them to oppose United States' entry in the war.

A Norwegian ship in the Atlantic, carrying Red Cross nurses to Britain, is sunk.

The United States House of Representatives passes the 244 million dollars Bill for providing additional Naval share facilities. The House of Rerepresentatives' Appropriations Committee recommends an outlay of eight billion dollars for the expansion of United States defence services.

25th July.—President Roosevelt discloses that the United States will retaliate with specific action against Japan's occupation of bases in Indo-China.

Mr. Roosevelt says that the United States has allowed Japan to obtain oil from the United States so far in order to prevent Japan going to the Dutch East Indies to get it.

27th July.—Mr. Harry Hopkins, personal envoy to Britain of President Roosevelt declares in a broadcast that no enemy action can prevent American aid reaching Britain, Russia and China, namely, the supply of planes, food, oil and munitions.

28th July.—Mr. Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State, states at Washington that the United States and Great Britain are pursuing parallel courses in the Far East and intimates that the United States will welcome parallel action by other American nations in economic control measures against Japan.

The United States House of Representatives passed the 8,063 million dollar Defence Appropriation Bill.

29th July.—Col. Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, urges prompt decision by America to resist Japanese aggression in the Far East.

30th July.—President Roosevelt calls on the United States Congress to pass legislation, controlling prices and rents.

31st July.—Japan apologises to the United States for the bombing of the United States gunboat *Tutilla* during an air raid in China but Mr. Sumner Wells, acting Secretary of State, says that the apology is insufficient to close the incident.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, Mr. Roosevelt's Personal envoy, sees M. Stalin at Moscow and is handed a message for the United States President.

1st Aug.—Mr. Sumner Welles, acting United States Secretary of State, characterises as "barefaced impudence" Germany's action in urging Mexico to protest to the United States of America against the black-listing of certain Latin American firms working for the Axis Powers. Mexico rejects the German suggestion at once.

The sponsors of the United States Army Service Extension Bill agree to a compromise proposal providing that the maximum service for drafted men should be two years and a half.

President Roosevelt directs the Export Control Administrator to prohibit the export of motor fuels and oils for use in aircraft to destinations outside the Western Hemisphere, the British Empire and the unoccupied territories of the countries resisting aggression.

2nd Aug.—A third Canadian division, commanded by Major-General C. B. Price, arrives in Britain.

Mr. Sumner Welles declares that the attitude of United States of America towards the Vichy Government will be governed hereafter by the effectiveness with which France defends her territories against the aggression of the Axis Powers.

3rd Aug.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, in an international broadcast to England and Canada, expresses confidence that the Allies will win the war.

4th Aug.—On his return to duty from a holiday Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, expresses confidence in the victory of the free peoples of the world.

5th Aug.—The United States House of Representatives passes the 3,206 million dollars Tax Bill.

8th Aug.—Further American reinforcements arrive in Iceland.

A new American dive-bomber, much faster than the German Stuka, is examined at the Brewster factory by Mr. Knudsen, the Director-General of Defence.

9th Aug.—The British Supply Mission asks the United States' Office of Production Management to put tanks ahead of bombers on the priorities lists.

Strikes and other labour troubles are reported in some American shipping and aircraft factories and the Federal Government get ready to take over some shipyards.

10th Aug.—Her Majesty the Queen, in a broadcast to the United States, thanks the American people, especially the women, for all the help rendered to Britain. Her Majesty declares: "Hardships have only steeled our hearts and strengthened our resolutions. However great the cost, however long the struggle, justice, freedom, human dignity and kindness shall not perish from the earth."

11th Aug.—Mr. Cordell Hull contradicts Press reports that the United States of America has offered a plan of settlement, involving some concessions to Japan.

12th Aug.—Two huge air bases costing approximately 5,500 thousand dollars, are being established at Maine to serve as ferrying points for the delivery of warplanes to Britain.

13th Aug.—Washington reports state that the United States of America is negotiating air-base rights in Brazil to offset any German threat to Dakar.

The United States House of Representatives passes the Bill extending the period of training of conscripts by a margin of one vote.

14th Aug.—Mr. C. R. Attlee, broadcasting from London announces that Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt have met at sea and drawn up a joint Anglo-American Declaration, setting out the objectives for which the Allies were fighting and indicating the fundamental principles on which plans for permanent world peace must be based after the final destruction of the Nazi tyranny.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, who was present at the Churchill-Roosevelt conferences, proceeds to Washington to discuss supply problems with United States' officials.

Mr. Duff Cooper, Special British Envoy to the Far East, confers *en route* at Washington with Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State.

Mr. Roosevelt signs the Bill authorizing special protection to guard naval establishments from sabotage and espionage.

The United States Senate approves the Bill extending the period of conscription training.

15th Aug.—The Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration is warmly welcomed by the Dominion and Allied Governments.

16th Aug.—Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, in a talk at New York states that Britain has no need for United States' man-power to win the war.

Mr. Stimson, United States' War Secretary, as well as Mr. Cordell Hull, United States' Secretary of State, warn their fellow-countrymen against German designs in South America.

President Roosevelt, on landing at Rockland (Maine) from his cruise, says that he and Mr. Churchill have reached complete agreement on all aspects of the war situation.

It is revealed that Mr. Churchill handed over to President Roosevelt a letter from His Majesty the King and has taken a reply.

17th Aug.—President Roosevelt on his return to Washington confers with Mr. Cordell Hull.

18th Aug.—President Roosevelt confers with Mr. Cordell Hull for nearly two hours and a half. The President calls into consultation key-men in Congress connected with foreign affairs.

19th Aug.—Mr. Roosevelt announces that delivery of aircraft to the British forces in the Middle East will be speeded up by a "ferry" service to West Africa.

The President signs the Army Service Extension Bill.

Lord Beaverbrook confers with Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Harry Hopkins (United States Lease and Lend Administrator) on the question of expediting American war supplies.

20th Aug.—The Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mackenzie King, arrives in Britain for discussions with the British Government.

Heavy United States shipments of aviation fuel to Russia are reported in a San Francisco message.

Mr. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labour, says that the Federation is 100 per cent behind President Roosevelt and that Labour has a vital stake in winning the war against the Dictators, viz, the defence of free Trade Unions.

A German twin-engined bomber is chased out by British fighters when it attempts to raid Reykjavik, Iceland's capital.

21st Aug.—President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, reports on his meeting with Mr. Churchill and says that there will be no compromise with Nazism.

Mr. Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, states that the United States is ready to lend money to Russia to finance war purchases.

22nd Aug.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, arrives in London for conversations with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, indicates that some arrangement has been made with Japan for the gradual repatriation of American citizens from Japan and the Japanese from the United States.

President Roosevelt reveals that American Defence production is on an average up to estimates.

23rd Aug.—President Roosevelt directs the Navy to take possession of and operate, the strike-bound Kearney Federal Shipbuilding and Dry-dock Company as the strike jeopardises the construction of vessels essential to the defence of the United States.

24th Aug.—Mr. Churchill in a world broadcast from London, reports on his meeting with President Roosevelt.

American plans for production in 1942 of army tanks, valued at $1,000,000,000 are made public.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, returns to Britain after his talks with the United States Government.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1939

9th Sept.—The Soviet mobilize and concentrate on the Polish frontier.

17th Sept.—Russian forces cross Polish frontier.

18th Sept.—Soviet and German troops meet near Brest Litovsk. In a joint communiqué, the two Governments announce their intention of restoring order in Poland.

Soviet troops occupy the Rumano-Polish frontier in the south.

19th Sept.—Soviet troops occupy Vilna, advance beyond Brest Litovsk and in the south reach the Hungarian frontier.

24th Sept.—Oil wells at Drohobyoz, the centre of the Galician oil fields in Poland, are taken over by Soviet troops.

29th Sept.—Molotov and Ribbentrop, the Russian and German Foreign Ministers, sign a treaty in Moscow by which Poland is completely abolished and new and permanent Russo-German frontiers are established. The terms include a denial of the right of interference by any third Power and a declaration that the war should now stop.

Estonia becomes virtually a Soviet Protectorate by the signing of a ten-year mutual assistance pact and trade agreement. By this pact, Russia gets the right to maintain naval bases in the Baltic.

5th Oct.—A pact of mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and Latvia is signed at Moscow.

11th Oct.—The Soviet-Lithuanian Pact is signed in Moscow. Vilna is restored to Lithuania in exchange for the right to establish Soviet garrisons at any point in Lithuanian soil.

25th Oct.—Russia demands the withdrawal of Finnish troops.

31st Oct.—M. Molotov speaks on Soviet Foreign policy.

28th Nov.—The Soviet Government denounce their Treaty of Non-aggression with Finland.

29th Nov.—Russia severs diplomatic relations with Finland.

30th Nov.—The Soviet Union attacks Finland by land, sea and air; Helsinki is bombed.

1st Dec.—The Soviet sets up a puppet "Finnish People's Government" under Otto Kunsinnen.

2nd Dec.—The Soviet Government sign a pact of mutual assistance and friendship with the "Finnish People's Government."

8th Dec.—Russia declares a blockade of the Finnish coast along the Gulf of Bothnia.

10th Dec.—The Soviet Government hand a note to the British Ambassador in Moscow protesting against Britain's two-way blockade.

11th Dec.—The League of Nations urges the Soviet Union to cease hostilities against Finland.

12th Dec.—The Soviet Government refuse the League of Nations' offer to mediate in the Russo-Finnish conflict.

14th Dec.—The League of Nations Assembly adopts a resolution condemning Russian aggression and calling on the League members to help Finland.

1940

25th Jan.—Soviet planes sink the Finnish steamer "Notung" by bombing and machine-gunning the crew when they were taking to life-boats.

5th Feb.—The International Labour Office expels Soviet Russia from the Organization.

15th Feb.—Russians enter Mannerheim Line and capture Summa.

9th Mar.—A peace move in Finland is initiated by Sweden.

12th Mar.—The Finnish-Soviet Peace is signed.

20th Apr.—The German-Russian-Italian agreement regarding the Balkan area is concluded.

8th May.—Marshal Voroshilov, Soviet Commissar for Defence, gives place to Marshal Timoshenko.

15th June.—Soviet Russia occupies Lithuania.

28th June.—Soviet troops cross the Rumanian frontier.

29th June.—Bessarabia is occupied by the Soviet.

22nd July.—Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia join U.S.S.R.

16th Aug.—The Presidium of the Soviet issues decrees on nationalization of land and banks, industrial enterprises, railways, water transportation and communication facilities in Bessarabia.

19th Oct.—The Soviet Union sends two notes to Germany in regard to recent German moves in the Balkans.

7th Nov.—Russia's intention to stay out of "practically a world war" is affirmed in a statement by M. Kalinin, President of the Supreme Soviet.

10th Nov.—M. Molotov leaves Moscow for Berlin.

12th Nov.—Herr Hitler receives M. Molotov.

14th Nov.—M. Molotov leaves Berlin for Moscow.

31st Dec.—M. Stalin in a signed article in the *Red Star* says: "The danger of war for Russia has increased. The whole nation must hold itself in a state of preparedness. We are facing danger of military aggression and we must leave no opportunity for our enemies to catch us unawares."

1941

10th Jan.—A Soviet-German agreement on Soviet-German frontier between River Igork (Lithuania) and the Baltic is signed. The agreement fixes the Polish, German and Lithuanian frontiers. An Agreement for the mutual repatriation of Germans and Russians in each other's territories is also signed.

13th Jan.—A barter agreement between Russia and China is concluded. Soviet military supplies will be supplied to the Chinese Government in exchange for tea to the value of a hundred million Chinese dollars. The Agreement also provides for the exchange of Chinese mineral products for Soviet machinery.

22nd Mar.—Red Army manoeuvres take place in Siberia and Kiev, reproducing actual war conditions.

29th Apr.—Russia speeds up her defences all along her western frontier as a counter to new German concentrations on the German-Soviet frontier in Poland.

7th May.—M. Stalin succeeds M. Molotov as Chairman of the Council of the Peoples Commissars.

8th May.—It is reported that a Soviet military mission is negotiating for the use of 12 air bases in Iran should Turkey be involved in war.

31st May.—Russian military manoeuvres take place in the Ukraine.

10th June.—Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador to Russia, arrives in London.

22nd June.—Hitler orders his troops to march into Soviet Russia, accusing her of breaking the Non-Aggression Pact of 1939. The German Army marches from East Prussia to the Carpathians and Rumanian troops occupy Bolgrad.

M. Molotov announces that the Soviet would crush the Fascist bandits of Germany.

Mr. Churchill, broadcasting from London, promises all possible British aid to Russia.

23rd June.—The destruction of 76 German planes is claimed in the first war communiqué issued by the High Command of the Red Army. The Germans also claim to have brought down several Soviet planes.

24th June.—Mr. Eden announces in the Commons that, in response to a request from the Soviet Union, a British Military mission will be sent to Russia.

The Germans occupy Brest-Litovsk, but Moscow claims that elsewhere German attacks are repulsed, the Nazis losing 300 tanks and many planes.

It is announced that Hungary has decided to break off diplomatic relations with Russia.

25th June.—The Soviet Air Force makes many retaliatory raids on German towns. The German advance is stiffly contested by the Red Army but the Germans manage to enter Vilna, the ancient Lithuanian capital. Leningrad and Helsinki are subjected to air raids.

26th June.—The Germans make only sporadic advances on the eastern front and admit stiff resistance by the Russians, who recapture the Polish town of Przemysl. The Soviet Air Force bombs Bucharest. Two German submarines are sunk.

27th June.—German armoured forces start a drive towards Minsk, the capital of White Russia. Attacks from the Rumanian frontier are repulsed by the Soviet.

Hungary declares war on Russia.

German troops are reported to have captured Riga.

The Rumanian oil fields of Ploesti are set ablaze by the Soviet Air Force.

The British military mission in Moscow are introduced by Sir Stafford Cripps, the British Ambassador to M. Molotov, Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

28th June.—Fierce fighting is reported near Minsk, the Russians hitting back effectively.

The Germans are reported to have launched an attack on Russian territory in the Arctic, the port of Murmansk being their objective.

The Moscow Radio states that 457 German planes have been destroyed.

29th June.—The Russians inflict heavy losses on German tanks. Not only do they stop the German tank attacks, but they also launch effective counter tank offensives. Fierce fighting continues near Minsk.

A German communiqué claims the loss so far of 4,000 Russian planes and 2,000 Russian tanks. It claims also that German advance forces have gone beyond Minsk and are now on the road to Moscow.

30th June.—The Germans claim the capture of Lwow and Libau.

The German offensive from Finland is thrown back by the Russians.

1st July.—The Russians claim to have stopped the German advance eastwards near Luck and Murmansk despite a withdrawal of Soviet troops to prepared positions.

Russian aircraft inflict heavy losses on enemy tank and motorized units; Moscow has its first air raid warning.

The Germans claim an advance in the Pripet marshes and say they have reached River Beresina. They also claim the capture of Luck.

A Supreme Defence Council is formed in Russia with M. Stalin as President.

2nd July.—The Germans claim the capture of 100,000 prisoners in the region east of Bialystok. They also claim that they have taken Windan.

The Russians announce the sinking of seven German U-Boats in the Baltic and Black Seas in the first week of the war.

3rd July.—M. Stalin broadcasts to the Russian people on the war situation, expressing confidence in victory.

The Germans claim that they have crossed River Pruth, and also that advance units are near Smolensk.

The Soviet forces prevent the Germans from crossing River Beresina.

4th July.—Stiff resistance is offered to Nazi advance in the Dvinsk, Bobruisk, Roono and Tornopol sectors.

5th July.—A German High Command communiqué announces that Germans have reached the river Dnieper and that Kolomea and Stanisla are captured.

In the "Battle of the Rivers", the Russians claim to hold Beresina.

6th July.—According to a German communiqué, 5,000 Soviet lorries are destroyed and some islands on the outskirts of Russian defensive positions round Hangoe are occupied by Finnish troops.

Counter-attacks by the Red Army, with guerillas active in the rear, hold up the main Nazi advance.

7th July.—Two German destroyers are sunk in the Gulf of Riga and a German submarine is destroyed in the Gulf of Finland.

Russian troops repel German attacks with heavy losses in the Ostrov, Lepel and Novograd-Volynsk sectors. German land attacks definitely slow down and the Germans are hurled back across Dvina River.

8th July.—A Soviet Military Mission arrives in London.

M. Litvinov, former Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs, broadcasting to Britain, declares that Hitler shall not have a moment's respite.

Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, says that plans for aid to the Soviet are proceeding rapidly and effectively.

While the German Radio claims to have broken the Stalin Line at several points, the Russians report the destruction of at least 7,000 German troops and the capture of 15,000 in one engagement when German tanks are allowed to advance seven miles and then isolated and destroyed.

The German paper *Angriff* reports that the Russians have destroyed Minsk before evacuating it, thus carrying out M. Stalin's directions to leave only "scorched earth" behind.

9th July.—The Red Army has inflicted a big defeat on the German mechanised forces in the Lepel sector. It is reported that two German motorised regiments are destroyed, that 102 German planes are destroyed against the loss of 10 Soviet planes, and, that the Russians still hold the German drive directed at Kiev. Soviet bombers raid Helsinki.

The Germans claim the occupation of Besserabia.

M. Stalin receives the British Ambassador, Sir Stafford Cripps. The Russian military mission in London is received by Mr. Eden and Captain Margesson.

10th July.—The Russians wipe out a German motorised division in the Lepel sector; the Soviet Air Force destroys 100 German tanks; the Russians inflict a serious defeat on the Germans in the Borisov sector; enemy attacks in the Novograd-Volynsk sector are halted; the Russian Air Force bombs the Rumanian port of Constanza; and Russian parachutists are dropped in the outskirts of Helsinki.

The German High Command announces the capture of Salla on the Finnish front.

The Russian military mission in London is received by Mr. A. V. Alexander and Sir Archibald Sinclair.

11th July.—Reports from Moscow indicate that the Nazi drive into Russia is brought to a stand-still along the whole of the 2,000 miles front from the Arctic to the Black Sea. The Soviet claims to have destroyed 179 German aircraft.

A German High Command communiqué states that in the double battle of Bialystok and Minsk, the greatest amount of war material in world history is captured.

12th July.—While the German High Command states that German troops have broken through the Stalin Line and are advancing from Lake Preipus towards Leningrad, Moscow does not confirm these claims. The Russians claim that the Germans have suffered over a million casualties in 19 days.

Eight million Soviet troops are said to be marching to the front.

13th July.—Great Britain and Russia sign a joint agreement at Moscow, undertaking to render support of all kinds to each other in the prosecution of the war and neither to negotiate nor conclude an armistice or treaty of peace except by mutual agreement. M. Molotov and Sir Stafford Cripps sign the agreement in the presence of M. Stalin.

A Soviet communiqué states that, while a Nazi mechanised regiment is annihilated in the South-Western sector, Russian planes have bombed the Rumanian oil centres of Ploesti, Constanza and Sulina and a hundred German aircraft are destroyed during the day; there is no change in the dispositions on the front.

The Germans, on the other hand, reiterate their claim to have stormed the Stalin Line and to be advancing swiftly on Leningrad and Kiev.

14th July.—While the Russians are adjusting their Bessarabian front, Finnish and German troops register an advance in the Leningrad sector. Railway lines in the neighbourhood of Smolensk and Leningrad are bombed by the enemy.

The Soviet claim that German casualties in the campaign are over a million, 2,300 German planes are destroyed and 3,000 armoured vehicles lost. The relative Russian figures are not more than a quarter of a million casualties, 1,900 planes and 2,200 armoured cars.

The British Government entertain the Soviet Military Mission to a luncheon in London.

Russia refuses to apply the rules of the Hague convention to German hospital ships as the Germans systematically violate international rules.

15th July.—The Russian Air Force bombs Bucharest and destroys enemy aircraft in attacks on German aerodromes.

Two enemy destroyers and 13 transports are sunk and one destroyer and a further 13 transports are heavily damaged when Russian planes help the Soviet Baltic Fleet in a battle with German naval units.

A German infantry and an artillery regiment are wiped out by the Soviet forces.

The Soviet Military Mission in London receives representatives of the Indian and Empire Press.

Russia and Britain are formally proclaimed Allies by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons.

16th July.—The Germans once again claim the capture of Tallinn and Navogorod but the Soviet High Command states that no substantial change has occurred on the front. The Russians announce the cutting up "section by section" of German motorised and mechanised units in the Peskor and Porkhor sectors.

The Soviet Air Force bombs enemy oil stocks at Ploesti.

17th July.—The German News Agency's claim to have captured Smolensk is not confirmed even by the Nazi Radio. It is revealed that neither Kiev nor Tallinn has fallen to the Germans.

One Rumanian battalion goes over to the Russian army in the South-Western sector and many Axis pilots also desert to them. The Russians recapture Rogachev. The Soviet Fleet bombards Riga.

18th July.—The Germans claim the capture of strategic positions in Bessarabia, including the occupation of Kishinev. There is violent fighting in Smolensk but the Soviet state there is no change in the front. The German General Otto Lancelle is reported to have been killed in action.

19th July.—The Germans announce the capture of Novograd-Volynsk and the crossing by German and Rumanian troops from Bessarabia of the River Dneister.

The Soviet Air Force inflicts heavy losses on Nazi motorised units.

The Soviet contradict the "absolutely mendacious and infamous invention of the Rome Radio" that the Red Army is using poisonous substances.

20th July.—M. Stalin is appointed People's Commissar for Defence, Marshal Timoshenko to be his Deputy. M. Stalin remains Premier.

The Soviet Air Force, in conjunction with the Red Navy, sinks twelve enemy vessels sailing in a convoy in the Baltic.

The German High Command claims further successes on the Finnish front and in Bessarabia, where, however, the capital, Kishinev, is said to have been left blazing by the retreating Russians.

21st July.—While the Germans claim an advance in the Southern sector, Soviet guerilla forces are reported to be very active and to have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

22nd July.—Twenty-one German planes are destroyed during an air raid on Moscow when only slight damage is caused. An attempted enemy air raid on Leningrad is beaten off.

It is reported that Marshal Timoshenko has recaptured Smolensk with his storm detachments.

23rd July.—While the Germans and Finns claim some progress on the Northern front, the Soviet reiterate that there is no essential change in the position of the troops and that Smolensk remains in Russian hands.

Moscow has its second air raid but no military objective is hit. Fifteen German planes are shot down.

The Soviet publish the contents of secret German documents which are seized from the enemy, clearly indicating that Germany is planning to use poison gas.

The Archbishop of Canterbury blesses the Russian people fighting for national freedom against "the evil embodied in the rulers of Germany."

24th July.—The Moscow Radio reports that Gen. Branchitsch has been removed from the Nazi High Command as also General Keitel.

Moscow is raided again by the German air force.

The Germans, calling for reinforcements from their troops in the Balkans, admit stiff Soviet resistance.

25th July.—Soviet planes bomb Ruschuk, Pleven and Lovetz in Bulgaria.

Soviet anti-aircraft guns and fighters disperse German bombers that have attempted to raid Moscow in two divisions.

26th July.—Constanza is heavily bombed by Russian planes.

The Finns claim an advance North-east of Lake Ladoga.

27th July.—Reports indicate no change in the Soviet front from the Arctic to the Black Sea. Two German divisions are wiped out. The Finns claim the occupation of Salmi.

A Soviet Military Mission arrives in New York *en route* to Washington.

28th July.—Constanza is again bombed by the Russian Air Force.

The destruction of German naval units in the Baltic is claimed by the Russians as well as of 109 enemy planes. The Russians lose only 36 planes.

The Soviet foreign office asked the Swedish Government to make representations to Helsinki, regarding illegal detention of Soviet diplomatic representatives by Finland.

The Soviet Military Mission, after being received by the Acting Secretary of State at Washington, confers with the Chief of the Staff of the United States Army.

29th July.—An attempt on another mass raid by enemy planes on Moscow is defeated by Soviet counter-attack.

The Battle for Smolensk and the Battle for the Ukraine continue with unabated fury.

Finland, as a "co-belligerent with Germany" requests the severance of diplomatic relations with Britain.

30th July.—A Russo-Polish Agreement is signed in London in the presence of Mr. Churchill, by which the territorial changes made in Poland as a result of the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 are declared void.

British torpedo bombers, from an aircraft-carrier in Arctic, make a strong attack, coinciding with the appearance of Russian planes, on a northern Norwegian harbour.

31st July.—Extensive activities by the Russian Air Force are reported: an enemy attempt to raid Leningrad is foiled.

Four enemy supply ships are sunk when British Naval aircraft make heavy raids on the harbours of Kirkenes and Petsamo in Northern Scandinavia.

1st Aug.—Diplomatic relations are broken off between Great Britain and Finland.

Stubborn fighting in the Smolensk region sees the Germans thrown back with heavy losses.

Following the loss the previous day of one patrol ship in the Baltic and damage to another caused by Russian dive-bombers, Germany loses a destroyer and two large transports.

President Roosevelt describes the Soviet resistance to the German onslaught as magnificent. His Special Envoy, Mr. Harry Hopkins, has a second conversation with M. Stalin at Moscow while the President himself receives the Soviet Ambassador and the head of the Soviet Purchasing Mission at Washington.

2nd Aug.—The Soviet forces route the 137th German Infantry Division in the Smolensk sector as also the 253rd German Division. There is no substantial change in the position of the troops at the front but many German ships and planes are destroyed.

3rd Aug.—Russian activity on the entire Finnish front is increasing. In other sectors there are no substantial changes. The Germains claim the capture of 10,000 prisoners in the Lake Peipus region; and also report that "a great battle of annihilation" is in progress 150 miles south of Kiev. A combined German-Rumanian move over River Dniester is reported in the direction of Odessa, the Black Sea port.

Mr. Harry Hopkins leaves Moscow, where absolute confidence reigns in the Russians' ability to beat off the third German offensive which is being launched.

4th Aug.—Fierce battles rage in the Ukraine in the south and in Estonia in the north, where the Germans make fresh attempts to reach Leningrad and Odessa, respectively. A German submarine is in the Baltic and a Soviet submarine sinks a German munitions ship in the vicinity of the Norwegian port of Vardo. A German tank column is wiped out by the Russians, over a thousand soldiers being killed.

5th Aug.—Fierce fighting is reported on the northern front in Russia where the Germans claim the capture of the Estonian town of Pabst as well as Kholm and Byelaya—Tserkov. The Russians, however, state that bitter fighting is raging for these two later cities. An attempt by German planes to raid Moscow is dispersed by Soviet night-fighters and anti-aircraft fire.

The annual trade agreement between Russia and the United States is renewed.

6th Aug.—The German High Command claims a break-through at three points on the Russian front—south of the Pripet Marshes, in the direction of Smolensk and south of Lake Peipus. But the Germans have not advanced substantially and have taken heavy punishment. Their pincers movement in the Ukraine is successfully held by the Russians. The Red Air Force is very active and a submarine of the Red Navy sinks a German transport with troops and munitions in the Baltic Sea.

The United States unfreezes millions of dollars worth of Soviet orders in America and sends the first consignment of arms to Russia.

7th Aug.—Six enemy planes are destroyed in the course of an air raid on Moscow.

8th Aug.—Russian planes raid Berlin for the first time in the war. A number of incendiary bombs are dropped.

The Germans claim to have made rapid advance towards the Black Sea port of Odessa and to have captured 30,000 prisoners, including an Army Commander, south-east of Uman.

The Soviet Information Bureau exposes the hollowness of the claims put forward by the Germans last week.

9th Aug.—The Germans announce the capture of the railway junction of Korosten and over 100,000 prisoners in the Ukraine.

Soviet planes again bomb Berlin. Marshal Timoshenko, Commander-in-Chief on the Central Front, calls on Russian guerillas in occupied territory "to wreak merciless, complete and continuous vengeance on the enemy."

10th Aug.—The Finns claim an advance in the region of Lake Ladoga.

Eight German planes are shot down in an attempted mass raid on Moscow.

11th Aug.—The Russians withdraw to the Dnieper river in the giant battle in progress in the Ukraine.

Berlin is again raided by the Soviet Air Force.

12th Aug.—A German armoured force is 70 miles from Nikolayev. An attempted German air raid on Murmansk is broken up by Soviet fighters.

Besides raiding Berlin, the Soviet Air Force bomb a number of towns in Finland and drop parachutists behind the Rumanian lines.

More men are called up in Finland for service in the army.

13th Aug.—The German High Command claims a rapid advance in the Ukraine towards the Black Sea.

The Soviet Information Bureau announces the annihilation of the 68th German Division in a bloody battle.

14th Aug.—The Nazi claims to have encircled Odessa are described by M. Lozovsky, Deputy Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, "as wishful thinking."

It is announced that Hitler has moved his headquarters to Ukraine.

15th Aug.—While the Germans claim to have encircled the Black Sea port of Odessa, the Russians report stern resistance to the invader along the whole front from the White Sea to the Black Sea.

M. Stalin accepts the joint proposal put forward by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, that high British and American representatives should meet him in Moscow to discuss the allocation of war supplies to Russia.

A Polish-Russian Military Agreement is signed in Moscow.

16th Aug.—Fighting intensifies as the Soviet offer determined resistance to Hitler's all-out effort to force a decision in Russia before winter sets in.

While a few Nazi air-raiders manage to reach Moscow, Soviet planes bomb Berlin and Stettin. Many fires and explosions are caused and all Soviet planes return safe.

17th Aug.—While the Finns claim the capture of Sorbavalla, north-east of Lake Ladoga, the Germans announce the capture of Nikolayev and Kirovograd in the Ukraine.

An Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement is signed in Moscow, providing for supplies of considerable quantities of British goods to Russia as well as Soviet goods to the United Kingdom.

18th Aug.—On the northern front the Germans resume their thrust towards Leningrad. In the south the Germans capture the iron-ore centre of Krivoirog, the Russians falling back to the Dnieper. Force fighting rages on the entire front and many German regiments are smashed up. The Russians not only break up a raid on Moscow but also bomb Berlin and Constanza.

19th Aug.—The German High Command claims to have occupied the entire region west of the Dnieper and to have captured or put out of action several Russian warships and

transport vessels in the Black Sea. The Russians evacuate the town of Kingisepp in the Leningrad sector but both Marshal Voroshilov in the north and Marshal Budenny in the south, while retreating in orderly fashion, exact a bloody price from the enemy for his territorial advance.

20th Aug.—Stubborn fighting is reported in the directions of Novogorod and Gomel. The Germans attack bridgeheads on the Dnieper.

21st Aug.—A German communiqué announces the occupation of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper. It is reported that the Russians have blown up the dam over the river at Dniepropetrovsk, releasing tons of swirling water to check the German advance.

Marshal Voroshilov makes a dramatic appeal to the people to defend Leningrad to the last man.

22nd Aug.—While the Germans claim the capture of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper and a general advance along the entire front, it is made evident that Marshal Budenny has safely withdrawn the Southern Russian Army across the Dnieper river.

Soviet bombers bomb and sink Nazi troop-carrying transports off the Rumanian coast.

23rd Aug.—The Nazi drive to Leningrad is halted.

In the Central Sector, in a counter-attack the Russians under General Koniev capture nine villages in the course of 48 hours.

The Soviet Information Bureau announces that in two months of war, Germany has lost over two million men (killed, wounded or prisoners) 8,000 tanks, 10,000 guns and 7,200 aeroplanes. The Soviet losses are 150,000 men killed, 440,000 wounded and 110,000 missing (total 700,000), 5,500 tanks, 7,500 guns and 4,500 aircraft.

24th Aug.—The Germans claim the capture of the Dnieper bridgehead at Cherkassy and of the Black Sea port of Ochakov between Odessa and the mouth of the Dnieper. The former claim is not confirmed.

It is revealed that the Russians have completely destroyed Kexholm on the shores of Lake Ladoga before evacuating it.

The Russians rout a Rumanian division in the Odessa region while General Koniev's men in the Central Sector smash a German infantry division, killing at least 3,000 officers and men.

Two German transports are sunk by the Soviet's Northern Fleet.

25th Aug.—The main fighting in the Battle of the Dnieper continues to be still west of the river in spite of German claims.

Marshal Timoshenko, in a Special Order of the Day, congratulates the Russian Army of the Centre which is triumphantly counter-attacking in the Smolensk-Gomel area.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

1939

5th Sept.—Yugoslavia announces her neutrality.

7th Sept.—Iraq severs relations with Germany.

21st Sept.—M. Calinescu, Rumanian Prime Minister is assasinated in Bucharest by members of the Iron Guard. General George Angeseanus appointed to succeed him.

19th Oct.—Anglo-French treaty with Turkey is signed at Ankara. The terms provide for mutual assistance in the event of an act of aggression by a European Power against any of the signatories leading to war in the Mediterranean area.

23rd Nov.—The Rumanian Cabinet resigns.

25th Nov.—A New Rumanian Cabinet is formed by M. Tatarescu with smaller pro-German element.

1940

2nd Feb.—The Balkan Conference meets at Belgrade.

4th Feb.—Balkan Conference concludes a Pact.

1st July.—The Rumanian Cabinet unanimously approves of Rumanian renunciation of the Anglo-French guarantee of Rumanian integrity.

12th July.—Rumania leaves the League of Nations.

17th Aug.—The Rumanian Grand Council considers Hungary's demand in regard to Transylvania.

21st Aug.—Rumania offers part of four frontier districts of Transylvania to Hungary and agrees to the cessation of southern Dobrudja to Bulgaria.

24th Aug.—Rumano-Hungarian negotiations are broken off.

30th Aug.—Rumania accepts the Axis award on Transylvania.

6th Sept.—King Carol abdicates in favour of Prince Michael. General Antonescu becomes Totalitarian Prime Minister-Dictator.

7th Sept.—Southern Dobrudja agreement is signed.

9th Oct.—Picked German troops "the Panzer Korps" arrive in Rumania.

10th Oct.—British Legation advises all Britons to leave Rumania.

11th Oct.—General Antonescu gives an evasive reply to the British Minister in Bucharest about German troops in Rumania.

14th Oct.—Military and Naval attaches of the British Legation with their staff leave Bucharest.

15th Oct.—Turkish Ambassador in Bucharest informs United States and Soviet representatives that Turkey will respect all engagements towards Greece and that modifications of the status quo of Greece will be regarded as a direct menace.

Germans in Rumania tell Iron Guards that their intention is to make Rumania a base for advance against the Soviet Union.

16th Oct.—The British Government cease to maintain normal trade relations with Rumania as it is under German domination.

26th Oct.—By a new decree the Rumanian Government gain control over all British-owned and British-chartered vessels in Rumanian territorial waters. It is feared these vessels will all come under German control.

1st Nov.—In the Turkish Assembly, President Ineunu makes a statement that Great Britain and Turkey are studying the Balkan situation and that, though Turkey will not enter the war now, she will remain loyal to her friendships and obligations.

20th Nov.—Hungary adheres to the Triple Pact.

23rd Nov.—Rumania joins the Axis Pact.

24th Nov.—Slovakia joins the Tripartite Pact.

27th Nov.—The Ex-Rumanian Premier, General Argesianu, and ex-Minister of Public Security, Marinescu, are executed.

3rd Dec.—The need for keeping Bulgaria out of the war is stressed in the Bulgarian Parliament by the Foreign Minister. The Minister states that the return of Dobrudja has improved relations with Rumania and that the recognition of Bulgarian rights has also contributed towards friendly relations with the U.S.S.R.

4th Dec.—A ten-year agreement between Germany and Rumania providing for "economic reconstruction" of Rumania is signed in Berlin.

12th Dec.—A Hungaro-Yugoslav Friendship Pact is signed at Belgrade.

1941

22nd Jan.—Bucharest is in a state of siege following the unsuccessful Iron Guard Putsch. General Antonescu dismisses General Petrovicescu, the Rumanian Minister for the Interior, replacing him by General Popescu. The military are in complete control of the city and curfew is imposed. General Antonescu broadcasts to the nation but suddenly the broadcast is cut off. General Antonescu proclaims military dictatorship in Rumania. Thirty thousand peasants and workers are said to be pouring into Bucharest from the provinces to joint the revolt against General Antonescu's Government. Many provincial garrisons join the insurgeants in various provinces.

24th Jan.—General Antonescu orders the army into action against the rebels. Six hundred rebels led by General Petrovicescu, lately Minister of Interior, are captured. The attempts to seize complete power by the Iron Guards fizzles out when the Rumanian Army goes into action.

27th Jan.—General Antonescu forms a new military Cabinet. All portfolios except Justice, Labour and Propaganda are entrusted to Generals. No member of the Iron Guard or representative of the King Carol regime is included in the new Government.

General Antonescu, the Rumanian Dictator, declares in a statement on his new Cabinet that Rumania will march without hesitation on the side of the "Great Fuehrer and the Duce." It is reported that M. Horia Sima has fled from Rumania.

13th Feb.—The Yugoslav Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister leave for Germany at the invitation of the German Government.

14th Feb.—The Yugoslav Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister meet Hitler and Von Ribbentrop.

15th Feb.—The Yugoslav Ministers report to the Regent, Prince Paul, their talks with Hitler and Ribbentrop.

17th Feb.—A non-aggression agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria is concluded.

26th Feb.—Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, and General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, arrive in Ankara. They are received by M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Foreign Minister.

28th Feb.—A communiqué issued in Ankara announces that complete agreement has been reached on all problems arising from the international situation during Mr. Eden's conversations with President Ineunu and high Turkish officials.

1st Mar.—Bulgaria signs a protocal adhering to the Three-Power Pact. Press office of the British Legation in Sofia is closed. Mobilization of new classes of Army continues. Germans occupy the Bulgarian port of Varna on the Black Sea.

2nd Mar.—German troops enter Bulgaria with the "consent of the Royal Bulgarian Government."

5th Mar.—The British Government break off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria and declare Bulgaria as enemy territory. The British Consulate in Belgrade advises all Britons in Yugoslavia to leave the country.

15th Mar.—A Belgrade message states that Yugoslavian Ministers will not journey to Berlin, that Yugoslavia will not sign the Tripartite Pact but will maintain strict neutrality and that all rumours of an ultimatum or Yugoslav capitulation thereto are baseless.

19th Mar.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Britain's Foreign Secretary meets M. Sarajoglu, Turkey's Foreign Minister, in the Island of Cyprus for the second time in a fortnight and has a "highly satisfactory" talk on the situation in the Balkans and in the Near East.

21st Mar.—The Turkish Foreign Minister, Mr. Sarajogulu, reports to President Ineunu the substance of his talks with Mr. Eden at Cyprus.

Germany's 'compromise' terms cause a split in the Yugoslav Cabinet.

22nd Mar.—The Turkish Ambassador in Moscow interviews the Deputy Commissar for Foreign Affairs and it is understood that Turkey and the Soviet Union will exchange assurances of goodwill.

Prince Paul, the Yugoslav Regent, confers with the Premier, following the resignation of three Serbian Cabinet Ministers, who will not agree to any compromise with Germany.

24th Mar.—It is announced that the Yugoslav Premier and the Foreign Minister will leave for Vienna to sign a pact with the Axis Powers. The British Minister in Belgrade, Sir Ronald Campbell, presents a note to the Yugoslav Government making an eleventh hour appeal and sounding a note of warning. It is announced that the Yugoslav Minister of Justice has withdrawn his resignation and that the two other vacancies in the Cabinet have been filled.

25th Mar.—The adherence of Yugoslavia to the Axis Tripartite Pact is announced from Vienna. In two written assurances, the German Foreign Minister affirms Germany's intention to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia and says that the Governments of the Axis Powers will not make any demands on Yugoslavia to allow the passage or transit of troops through Yugoslav territory. Hitler has a talk with the Yugoslav Ministers at Vienna.

Popular demonstrations against the Government are banned in Yugoslavia, all army leave is cancelled and the army is confined to the barracks.

The Soviet Government inform the Turkish Government that should Turkey be the object of aggression and be led to go to war for the defence of her territory, Turkey might count on the entire understanding and neutrality of the Soviet. Turkey gives a similar assurance in return.

26th Mar.—There are country-wide demonstrations in Yugoslavia against their Government's decision to line up with the Axis Powers. Rioting is the order of the day in Yugoslavia towns, including Belgrade. Prince Paul's broadcast to the country has to be postponed. The German Radio announces that the German army may march into Yugoslavia to restore order.

In a message to a meeting of the Anglo-Hellenic League in London to celebrate the Greek Independence Day, Mr. Eden reaffirms British aid to Greece till the final victory.

The Dutches of Kent (Princes Marina of Greece) broadcasts a message of congratulations to the Greek nation.

President Roosevelt, in a message to the King of Greece, feels sure the final victory of the Greeks.

27th Mar.—The Regent, Prince Paul flees Yugoslavia and the Prime Minister and his colleagues are arrested. The boy King, Peter, assumes full control and appoints General Simovitch of the Air Force to lead the country and form a Government.

28th Mar.—King Peter of Yugoslavia takes the oath of his exalted office.

There is stupefaction in Berlin and in Rome at the *coup d'etat* in Belgrade and the German Government asks the Yugoslav Government whether they will adhere to the Tripartite Pact.

29th Mar.—President Roosevelt sends a message of greetings to King Peter.

30th Mar.—The frontier between Yugoslavia and Austria is closed by the Yugoslav authorities.

31st Mar.—Extra military classes are called up in Yugoslavia as a precautionary measure, following a German radio campaign against Yugoslavia. Germans and Italians leave the country under orders from their home Governments. Germany sends an ultimatum to Yugoslavia, asking for immediate demobilization of the army. The new Yugoslav Premier appeals to the nation to keep calm in face of provocation, but resolves to guard the Fatherland against aggression.

1st Apr.—The Yugoslav Premier replies to Germany. It is stated in Belgrade that Yugoslavia will not agree to demobilization.

2nd Apr.—The Turkish Ambassador in Washington begins negotiations with the U.S. State Department in order to facilitate Turkey receiving war material under the Lease and Lend Act.

3rd Apr.—Dr. Matcheck, the Croat Leader, joins the Yugoslav Cabinet as Vice-Premier.

Italy's efforts to mediate between Germany and Yugoslavia proves a failure. All the Germans in Yugoslavia leave except the Military Attache and the Charge d'Affairs. Yugoslav armies take up their positions to resist any invasion. Belgrade is declared an open town.

Yugoslavia sends two envoys with a special message to Moscow; and one of her Cabinet Ministers also visits Ankara.

The Hungarian Premier, Count Teliki, commits suicide because he cannot resist Nazi pressure to break away from Yugoslavia.

4th Apr.—Dr. Matcheck, the Croat Leader, joins General Simovitch's Government as Deputy Prime Minister and, in a manifesto, appeals to the Croats for loyal co-operation.

The Italian Minister in Belgrade has conversations with the Yugoslav Foreign Minister in an effort to avert war between Germany and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia requests the United States to supply her with certain types of war material.

M. de. Bardossy takes the oath of office as Prime Minister of Hungary, whose active military help is sought by Germany.

The Nationalist leader, Rashid Ali, stages a *coup d'etat* in Iraq when the Regent is absent from the capital.

5th Apr.—German motorised divisions march to the Yugoslav frontier through Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary. The German radio and press accuse Yugoslavs of anti-German excesses though the German Consul-General at Ljubljana says that the allegations are baseless.

The new Iraq Premier declares that his Government will fulfil all international obligations and especially the Anglo-Iraq Treaty.

The British Ambassador at Baghdad is instructed that His Majesty's Government consider the Iraq *coup* as completely unconstitutional.

Bulgaria opens consultations with Hungary with a view to presenting joint revisionist demands to Yugoslavia.

6th Apr.—The German troops invade Yugoslavia. Hitler, in a proclamation to his troops, abuses both Britain and the new Government in Belgrade.

German bombers raid the open town of Belgrade.

It is announced that Russia and Yugoslavia have signed a Pact of Friendship and Non-aggression.

The British Military Mission, after their talks with the Turkish General Staff at Ankara, leave on an inspection of Turkish defences in Thrace. The Turkish Cabinet holds a meeting after the Foreign Minister has received the British, Greek and Yugoslav Ambassadors.

7th Apr.—The Germans claim a 20 to 25 miles advance near the Greek-Yugoslav frontier. Belgrade is bombed again. Italian planes raid Split and Kotor, Yugoslav ports on the Adriatic. Yugoslav artillery opens operations on the Yugoslav-Albanian frontier. The Italian News Agency reports Yugoslav air raids on the suburbs of Sofia and on three towns in Western Rumania.

The British Government break with Hungary and at the same time pledge all help to Yugoslavia.

The Soviet Ambassador calls on the Turkish Foreign Minister at Ankara.

The Regent of Iraq, in a broadcast from Basra, calls on the Iraqi people to reject the new Premier and his Government, who have seized power. Many arrests are reported in the country.

8th Apr.—The Yugoslav Government move south from Belgrade, which is again raided by the German Air Force.

Yugoslav troops occupy the Italian town of Fiume, Sentari and Zara.

The Royal Air Force makes a successful raid on Sofia as reprisal for the raid on Belgrade.

An exclusively military cabinet is formed in Iraq. Turkey withholds recognition from the new Iraqi Government.

9th Apr.—The Yugoslavs evacuate Skoplje but take another town, Leshe, in Albania. The Turkish Cabinet considers the Balkan situation for two hours. The Turkish Foreign Minister receives the British, Greek and Yugoslav Ambassadors.

10th Apr.—The Turkish Government will maintain a policy of non-belligerency, declares M. Sarojoglu, the Foreign Minister, addressing the People's Party.

Yugoslav forces capture Alessio, 25 miles south-east of Scutari, and reach the outskirts of Mamuras. But the Yugoslavs evacuate their northern frontier region.

Mr. Attlee declares in the House of Commons that the British Government hold that the *coup* in Iraq is unconstitutional.

11th Apr.—The Germans capture Zagreb. They declare Croatia an " independent " state. Hungary makes haste to recognize the new state.

The Hungarians enter Yugoslavia and proceeded to occupy territories up to the old frontier before the Treaty of Trianon.

12th Apr.—The Italians claim that the Axis forces have established contact with each other in Northern Albania.

Rumanian forces also enter Yugoslavia to " protect " the Rumanian minority in that country.

The U.S.S.R. rebuke Hungary for entering Yugoslavia four months after the signing of a Treaty of Eternal Friendship between the two countries.

The resolution, deposing Regent Prince Abdul Illah and appointing Sheriff Sharaf instead, passed by the Iraqi Parliament, is considered in London to be of doubtful legality.

13th Apr.—The Germans bomb Sarajevo.

In a broadcast, Mr. Churchill pays a high tribute to Yugoslav valour.

14th Apr.—The Germans enter Belgrade.

The British Ambassador to Turkey is received by President Ineunu. Mr. Sarajoglu is present during the interview.

The Royal Air Force and Greek Air Forces hammer the Germans in the Monastir area.

15th Apr.—A Cabinet is announced for the German-sponsored State of Croatia.

Hungary replies to the Soviet, saying that the latter has " misapprehended " her change of policy towards Yugoslavia.

Hitler appoints civil administrators for German-occupied Yugoslavia.

16th Apr.—There is an end of unified resistance in Yugoslavia.

Diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are broken off and Bulgarian troops begin to occupy that part of Thrace between Alexandropolis and the Struma river.

18th Apr.—The Germans claim that the Yugoslav army has capitulated. It is revealed that 12,000 people are killed in the brutal Nazi air-raids on the open town of Belgrade.

19th Apr.—The Yugoslav Premier, General Simovitch, in a statement says that " the fight imposed on us was too unequal." Bulgarian troops enter Yugoslavia " to preserve peace and order among the people " in the " Bulgarian " territory " liberated " by the German army.

It is officially announced that strong British, Indian and other Imperial forces have arrived in Basra to open up lines of communications through Iraq and that the new Iraq administration is affording them full facilities in the spirit of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty.

21st Apr.—King Peter of Yugoslav and General Simovitch arrive in Jerusalem. In a proclamation to his people, King Peter says he will not abandon the struggle against Germany and Italy.

Conversations between the German and Italian Foreign Ministers begin at Vienna to chalk out the main lines of a new territorial settlement in the Balkans. An armed band of 8,000 in the Skoplje region fights its way south in an endeavour to reach the Greek lines.

The Nazis make more demands of the Rumanian Premier and threaten to back the Iron Guard against him. General Antonescu, however, holds out. Hungaro-Rumanian frontier clashes are reported.

22nd Apr.—It is stated Hitler and Mussolini will discuss the partitioning of Yugoslavia after the preliminary talks going on in Vienna between their Foreign Ministers.

23rd Apr.—Mr. Eden assures the House of Commons that Britain will take firm steps to eradicate all possible German infiltration into Iraq.

24th Apr.—Bulgarian troops occupy almost the whole of Thrace.

Hitler receives the Regent of Hungary at his Balkan headquarters. The Hungarian Premier foreshadows an anti-Jewish drive in his country.

25th Apr.—Yugoslav planes and troops arrive in the Middle East to join the Allied forces against the Axis.

It is announced that the United States will continue to recognize the Yugoslav refugee Government.

26th Apr.—President Ineunu of Turkey leaves Ankara for Smyrna on a tour of inspection of the Turkish coast facing the Greek islands threatened by Germans. A general evacuation of Istanbul by civilians is ordered.

27th Apr.—The British Ambassador in Baghdad calls on the Iraqi Ministers.

29th Apr.—A new Turko-German trade pact is ratified by the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Turkey agreeing to sell tobacco in exchange for machinery.

1st May.—The Yugoslav submarine *Nebojsea* and two Yugoslav motor torpedo-boats arrive safely at a British port.

Despite the Iraq Government's protest against the landing of further contingents of British troops at Basra, more troops arrive in Basra without any incident.

2nd May.—The British are compelled to take counter-measures when Iraqi artillery start shelling the British air base at Habbaniyah.

The Iranian Ambassador to Turkey denies reports of troop movements on either side of the Iran-Soviet border.

President Ineunu returns to Istanbul after inspecting the Western Anatolian defences.

The Royal Yugoslav Government issue orders to all Yugoslav ships at sea to go to British or U.S. ports.

3rd May.—The Ankara Radio reports that Iraqi forces are in control of oil-wells and installations in Mosul and that they have flooded oil-fields. The lawful Regent Abdul Illah is stated to be gathering forces in Transjordania with a view to marching into Iraq and ousting the military clique who have usurped power. Turkey moves troops and planes into defensive positions in the Taurus Mountains (through which the Baghdad Railway line runs into Turkey).

4th May.—Hitler, addressing the Reichstag defends German moves in the Balkans in a jejune speech. Vigorous action by the Royal Air Force in Iraq is reported as well as the expulsion of Iraqi forces from Basra.

5th May.—The Yugoslav Government, in their first authoritative statement after leaving the country, declare their determination to fight on by the side of the Allies. Sir Reginald Hoare is appointed British Minister to the Yugoslav Government.

The Egyptian Government, in an appeal to the Iraqi authorities, urge a speedy settlement of the dispute with Britain. It is announced that the British Government have rejected the Turkish Government's offer to mediate, pointing out that Iraqi troops must be withdrawn from Habbaniyah before any negotiations can be undertaken.

6th May.—Turkey takes measures to fortify and secure the Turko-Iranian frontier.

7th May.—British forces in Iraq capture Fort Rutbah.

8th May.—The Royal Air Force bombs Baghdad airport. Rashid Ali hurriedly leaves Baghdad after a public demonstration against his movement.

9th May.—British troops occupy the plateau overlooking the Habbaniyah aerodrome in Iraq and the Royal Air Force raids the rebels' principal air-base, starting a huge conflagration. The British occupy Rutbah aerodrome.

Sayid Shaukat, Minister of Defence in Rashid Ali's Cabinet, has a talk with Turkish Ministers.

10th May.—Serbian guerilla fighters are reported to be waging relentless war on German troops in Yugoslavia.

It is announced that Lieut-Gen. Maitland Wilson has assumed command of the British forces in Palestine and Transjordan.

11th May.—King Ibu Saud of Arabia is stated to have informed the Iraqi usurper, Rashid Ali, that he is unable to offer any kind of assistance to the anti-British movement in Iraq, and also to have refused protection to Rashid.

12th May.—The Tass Agency announces the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet and Iraq but the Moscow Wireless rebukes Rashid Ali and his followers for being "instruments of foreign powers."

13th May.—Ankara reports state that Rashid Ali's terms for Turkish mediation between his followers and Britain are "contrary to the terms of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty" and not likely to be acceptable to Britain.

14th May.—Mr. Eden states in the Commons that the Imperial Forces at Basra are being rapidly reinforced.

The German Ambassador to Turkey has an interview with President Inenu; the Turkish Foreign Minister is also present.

Ankara reports state that Von Papen has conveyed an assurance to the Turkish President that Germany will not ask Turkey for the right to send troops across Turkish territory.

15th May.—Mr. Eden announces in the Commons that the French authorities are allowing the Germans to use Syrian aerodromes as "stepping-stones" for flights to Iraq and that Britain will take action against German aircraft in Syrian aerodromes.

It is officially announced in Cairo that a certain number of German planes arrived in Iraq, bringing Axis propagandists, agitators, etc., in response to an urgent appeal from Rashid Ali.

16th May.—The Royal Air Force attacks German aircaft on three Syrian aerodromes—Palmyra, Damascus and Rayak. Reinforcements of British and Imperial Troops arrive both in Iraq and Palestine.

17th May.—King Ibu Saud reiterates his view that the only course open to Arab nations is to support Britain.

19th May.—The arrival of British reinforcements in air-transports has a satisfactory effect on the Iraq situation. While General Dentz, the Vichy Governor of Syria, says he will "meet force with force" Gen. de Gaulle, in a broadcast from Brazzaville, urges Frenchmen to rise in revolt against the Vichy Government's betrayal of their former Ally, Britain.

20th May.—British Forces capture the town of Fallujah on the Euphrates, thus preventing the Royal Air Force at Habbaniyah from being cut off by British land-borne reinforcements in Iraq.

21st May.—The Royal Air Force bombs the Rashid aerodrome in Iraq while German planes raid Habbaniyah.

Free French Forces enter Syrian territory where many members of the Vichy armed forces are deserting to them.

23rd May.—The Lawful Regent Abdul Illah returns to Iraq with a view to forming a new Government. The British forces beat off an enemy counter-attack on Fallujah and are themselves within 20 miles from Baghdad.

Col. Callet, the brilliant French Commander and creator of the Circassian Legion, leaves Syria for Palestine in order to join the Free French Forces.

24th May.—The Royal Air Force machine-guns the aerodrome at Mosul.

The Ankara Radio announces that the frontier between Syria and Palestine has been closed.

25th May.—Rashid Ali, the Iraqi usurper, flees from Baghdad; other rebel Ministers, make for Iran. The Regent Abdul Illah, in a proclamation to the people of Iraq, asks for assistance in overthrowing the rebels. The British gain control of all the dykes of the Upper Euphrates. Some hundreds of French troops cross from Syria to Palestine to join the Free French Forces.

28th May.—Syria and Lebanon are declared enemy-occupied territories in an announcement by the British Ministry of Economic Warfare.

29th May.—It is officially announced that the Imperial troops are closing in on Baghdad.

30th May.—Rashid Ali, the Iraqi usurper, is reported to have fled to Iran. The British forces occupy Ur.

The Royal Air Force attacks German air bases in Syria.

31st May.—The Iraqi rebels ask for an armistice, which is granted by Britain.

1st June.—Fighting ceases in Iraq at 8 a.m.: the lawful Regent H.R.H. Emir Abdul Illah enters Baghdad following the signing of the armistice. The boy King Feisal is reported to be safe in Baghdad.

2nd June.—Baghdad is reported to be rapidly returning to normal; all is quiet in Basra.

General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, proclaims a state of seige in Eastern Syria; the French Government suspend telegraph and telephone communications with Cairo. The Royal Air Force bombs German air bases at Aleppo and other Syrian centres. The Ankara Radio reports the arrival of the first contingent of German troops in Syria.

3rd June.—Jemil Madfai, well-known and popular pro-British statesman, accepts the Iraqi Regent's invitation to form a new Government.

4th June.—The Turkish Foreign Minister makes a statement on foreign affairs, including Syria, at a secret meeting of the People's Party.

British troops occupy Mosul. Law and Order are restored in Baghdad after serious rioting.

British forces are reported to have taken up positions in readiness against any possible move by the Germans in Syria. The Royal Air Force raids Beirut.

General de Gaulle, the Free French Leader, is stated to have taken up his headquarters at Haifa in Palestine.

It is learned that Rumania will become a totalitarian state without a Parliament.

5th June.—The French air force bombs Amman, the Capital of Transjordan "as a reprisal for the Royal Air Force bombing of Beirut."

6th June.—General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, broadcasting from Beirut, justifies Franco-German co-operation by saying "We must live."

A serious difference of opinion is reported between General Weygand and Admiral Darland regarding Syrian policy.

8th June.—Free French and British Imperial Forces under the Command of Gen. Wilson enter Syria and the Lebanon.

Gen. Catroux issues a declaration on behalf of Gen. de Gaulle guaranteeing the liberty and independence of Syria and the Lebanon and undertaking to negotiate a treaty with these objects. The British Government associate themselves with this promise.

Gen. Wavell in a proclamation to the soldiers of France in Syria says that British action was necessary because Syria and the Lebanon are meant by the Germans to be a first stage in the conquest of French colonies. "We have come in considerable force and any resistance on your part would be useless" adds the proclamation.

9th June.—In their penetration into Syria, the Allied forces advance beyond Tyre. Four thousand French troops with modern equipment join the British in the Djebel Druse area. The Free French Forces capture 140 German parachutists.

The Iraqi Government break off diplomatic relations with Italy.

10th June.—British forward troops reach a position 15 miles from Damascus, crossing the Litani river. The R.A.F. gives magnificent support. A mechanized division from Iraq marches on Aleppo.

11th June.—British Naval landings take place on the Syrian coast. The Allies continue to progress into the interior of Syria.

12th June.—The Allied troops occupy the airport of Der-ez-Zor and Merd-Ayoum. The Royal Air Force raid Aleppo and Beirut.

14th June.—Vichy troops evacuate Kiswe.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, assures Iraq that Britain will respect her independence and support her against any aggressors.

15th June.—The British capture the Syrian port of Sidon.

The Swiss Radio announces the adherence of the puppet State of Croatia to the Three-Power Pact; the ceremony takes place at Venice in the presence of Ribbentrop and Ciano.

16th June.—It is confirmed in London that Kiswe, eleven miles from Damascus, is in Allied hands.

18th June.—A Turkish-German treaty of friendship is signed at Ankara. It is held to be only a non-committal undertaking as Turkey has refused to abrogate the Anglo-Turkish treaty or to open a way for German penetration.

Allied forces capture Queneilia.

21st June.—It is officially announced that Damascus is in Allied hands.

The Turkish Foreign Minister assures the British Ambassador that no foreign troops will be allowed to cross Turkey. He also declares that the recent Turko-German Pact will not affect Turkey's Pacts with Britain and Russia.

23rd June.—The British forces in Syria reach Palmyra. The Allied forces capture Mezze air port near Damascus and Khiam fort in the Merj Ayoum section.

24th June.—The Turkish Government inform the British Government that the Anglo-Turkish Treaty stands intact and remains first and foremost among Turkey's engagements.

Two Vichy destroyers attempting to interfere with Syrian operations are heavily damaged by British Naval forces and another is sunk by torpedoes from Naval aircraft.

Mr. Churchill states in the Commons that the High Command in the Middle East has been authorized to take all measures, however drastic, to occupy Syria.

25th June.—British and Imperial troops in Syria reoccupy Merp Ayoum. The Royal Navy bombard the Damour area, south of Beirut. Nazi planes raid Damascus. The Royal Air Force attacks enemy destroyers in Beirut harbour.

The Turkish Government inform the Soviet Government that they will maintain neutrality. The Turkish Grand National Assembly ratifies the Turkish-German Pact.

26th June.—Britain exposes the German-inspired canard that she is bringing pressure to bear on Turkey to cede certain Dardanelles bases to Russia.

Iran informs Russia of her decision to remain neutral in the latest phase of the war.

Four Vichy Generals are superseded as a sequel to the Allied advance in Syria. The Syrian Premier condemns the Nazis' barbarous air raid on Damascus.

A Turkish ship on its way to Alexandria is torpedoed and sunk, 173 passengers being drowned.

27th June.—The Soviet Government deny Nazi reports that they have demanded bases in Turkey.

28th June.—The Allied forces in Syria capture Nebrek.

29th June.—Allied forces occupy Saba Biyar, sixty miles south-west of Palmyra.

The Moscow Radio contradicts fantastic German reports of Soviet threats to Iran.

2nd July.—Gen. Catroux, the Free French leader in the Middle East, announces that Syria will be independent of France.

3rd July.—The Allies capture Palmyra.

The Turkish Government are reported to have rejected Vichy's request for permission to send arms to Syria *via* Turkey.

4th July.—In Syria Indian troops occupy Deir ez Zor.

5th July.—Aircraft of the Imperial Air Forces attack Vichy aerodromes, shipping and other military targets and severely damage them.

In Syria the Allies cross Damour River and occupy Rhariff between Damascus and the coast.

6th July.—The Allies close in on Beirut, Vichy's key-port on the Lebanese coast.

The British and Free French forces capture the strategic village of El Boum.

8th July.—While the vital battle for Beirut is about to commence, the British forces continue to advance from Deir ez Zor towards Homs.

The Turkish Government protest to Britain with regard to the Vichy vessel Saint Didier, which was attacked and sunk by British aircraft while abusing Turkish territorial waters and flying the Turkish flag. The vessel carries reinforcements and arms to Syria.

9th July.—General Dentz, French High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in Syria, sues for armistice.

The Imperial forces occupy Damour in Syria.

Mr. Churchill announces in the House of Commons that the defence of Iraq will be transferred to the Indian Command under General Wavell.

10th July.—British Imperial troops occupy Beirut after an ultimatum broadcast by General Wilson expires. In the north-east Indian troops reach Kamechli adjoining the Istanbul-Baghdad railway.

The Italian News Agency report that the Vichy Government has decided to reject the British terms for an armistice.

12th July.—"Cease Fire" is ordered in Syria, General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner, sending a delegation to Allied Headquarters to negotiate an armistice.

13th July.—Armistice terms are initialled at Acre by the Allied and Vichy representatives.

15th July.—A 22 points Armistice Agreement is signed at Acre by Allied and Vichy delegates.

Allied troops enter Beirut.

16th July.—The Allied forces are accorded an enthusiastic welcome in Beirut.

19th July.—It is emphatically denied that Turkey is selling chrome to Germany and it is affirmed that the entire exportable surplus will be purchased by the United Kingdom.

21st July.—General Wilson places Syria under Martial Law in order to round up Germans and Italians regarded as dangerous.

It is thought in Ankara that the German Foreign Ministry was planning to reorganize the Balkans by forming a new Macedonian State, consisting of Western and Eastern Thrace as well as the Dardanelles region.

23rd July.—Italo-Bulgarian talks in Rome relate to a proposal that Bulgaria should share with Italy "the task of keeping Greece alive and reconstructing the country." The Bulgarian Premier and Foreign Minister are taking part in the conversations.

Rashid Ali, the Iraqi rebel leader, leaves Iran for Turkey.

Major-General John Chrystall is appointed Chairman of the Armistice Control Commission in Syria, the Vichy representative being General de Verdillac.

26th July.—The Syrian campaign comes to a close with the entry of General de Gaulle in Beirut.

28th July.—The official German News Agency denies the Soviet allegation that Hitler has planned an attack on Turkey. This is apparently in reply to the Soviet's charges, based on documents, seized from German troops, that comprehensive directions have been issued by the German High Command for an attack on Turkey.

31st July.—Turkey notifies the Vichy Ambassador that she will not, until the end of the war, release the Vichy ships interned in Turkish waters.

1st Aug.—The Iran Government affirm their detefmination to safeguard their neutrality and condemn alarmist rumours.

2nd Aug.—The Iran Consul at Karachi, in a statement to the press, characterizes as being entirely without foundation the story that four German merchant ships now anchored at a Persian Gulf port are expected to slip out to the Indian Ocean to become raiders against British shipping off Indian and Arabian coasts.

8th Aug.—A broadcast report from Ankara states that the German Government have threatened the Iran Government with the rupture of diplomatic relations if the latter expel the German subjects in Iran as a result of Anglo-Russian representations.

It is officially announced that General Dentz, former Vichy High Commissioner in Syria, and 35 officers have been interned by the Allied authorities in view of the non-release of 75 British and Indian officers who have been flown to an unknown destination before the signing of the Armistice.

9th Aug.—Rumania, which has already lost 100,000 troops in the Russian campaign, is reported to be war-weary.

Over 2,000 Vichy soldiers join the Free French forces in Syria.

Germany denies any application of pressure on Iran.

11th Aug.—Germany put off negotiations with Turkey for a trade pact and German commercial experts in Istanbul are ordered to leave for Bucharest.

The Soviet Government make a *demarche* to the Iran Government, calling attention to the importance in Iran's own interest of reducing the number of Germans there and to the relevant portion of the Treaty of 1921 under which the Soviet army is entitled to march across Iranian frontiers in certain circumstances.

12th Aug.—The Turkish National Assembly passes a Bill, allowing 19 and 20-year old youths to be called up for service without a formal declaration of mobilization.

Free French Headquarters announce that Syria and Lebanon are again open to tourist traffic.

13th Aug.—A joint Anglo-Soviet *demarche* is made to Turkey in which the two countries declare they have no aggressive intentions or claims towards the Straits and, while scrupulously respecting Turkish integrity, will assist Turkey if she were attacked by a third power.

The German Ambassador, Von Papen leaves Ankara for Berlin.

15th Aug.—A contingent of Allied officer-prisoners taken to France during the Syrian campaign is returned by the French authorities.

17th Aug.—While the Press in Teheran denies reports that certain foreign agents were hatching a plot against the Iranian Government, it is reported in London that the British and Soviet Governments made a *demarche* to Iran, repeating their recommendation that effective measures should be taken forthwith to reduce the excessively large number of Germans in the country.

18th Aug.—Iraqi army officers, suspected of complicity in the Rashid Ali revolt, are placed on the retired list.

21st Aug.—H.M. the Shah calls on the Iranian army to be ready for every sacrifice. He announces that the cadets passing out of the Military Academy at Teheran will not have their usual annual leave.

22nd Aug.—The Iran Government hand to the British Minister at Teheran their reply to the British Memorandum of August 16 on the German infiltration in Iran.

The Turkish Ambassador at Berlin is reported to have seen Hitler at the latter's headquarters. German troop movements in South Bulgaria and concentration of troop-transports in Bulgarian ports are stated to be part of Germany's "war of nerves" against Turkey.

23rd Aug.—Iran's reply is held to be unsatisfactory in London where a grave view is taken of the situation.

The British Ambassador at Ankara is received by the Turkish Prime Minister. Germany is stated to be sounding Turkey on her attitude in the event of peace in the Near East—particularly Iran—being disturbed.

25th Aug.—It is officially announced that joint military action is taken in Iran by the British and Soviet Governments. The two Governments emphasise that they have no territorial claims on Iran. What they desire are security measures against German intrigues. Iran's independence and integrity will be respected and food will be supplied to the people who are famine-stricken.

British and Indian troops enter Southern Iran from Baluchistan and from the sea; and the Russians enter Iran from the Caucasus. It is announced that the British and Indian troops will be under the Indian Command (H.E. Sir Archibald Wavell).

The British Government have previously notified Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia of their decision to enter Iran and have given a pledge to Turkey that they would do nothing that would damage Turkey's interests. The United States Government are also kept informed.

The Iranian Premier tries to justify his Government's attitude at a special session of the Iranian Parliament.

SHIPPING

1939

4th Sept.—The passenger liner " Athenia " is sunk and 128 lives are lost.

9th Sept.—The torpedoing of three merchant ships—two British and one French is reported.

17th Sept.—The British aircraft carrier *Courageous* is sunk by an enemy submarine and 518 of her crew are lost.

14th Oct.—The Admiralty announces that H.M.S. " Royal Oak " has been sunk presumably by a U-boat.

23rd Nov.—The H.M.S. " Rawalpindi " sunk.

The Mine-sweeper *Aragonita* is sunk by a mine.

13th Dec.—H.M. Cruisers Exeter *Ajax* and *Achilles* attack the German pocket battleship *Graf Spee* in the South Atlantic. *Exeter* receives damage and drops out; the other cruisers continue the fight; the enemy ship is hit repeatedly and seeks shelter in Montevideo harbour.

17th Dec.—The " Graf Spee " scuttles herself.

1940

21st Jan.—The Admiralty announces that H.M. destroyer " Grenville " has been sunk in the North Sea.

23rd Jan.—The Admiralty announces that H.M. destroyer Exmouth has been sunk by mine or torpedo and that there are no survivors.

13th Feb.—The Admiralty announces that the German steamer *Wakama* has been scuttled off the coast of Brazil after interception by a British warship. It is reported that the German steamer Wolfsburg has also been scuttled off the Brazilian coast.

17th Feb.—H.M.S. " Cossack " rescues 300 British prisoners from the " Altmark."

19th Feb.—The Admiralty announces that H.M. destroyer *Daring* has been torpedoed and sunk with loss of nine officers and 148 ratings.

3rd Mar.—The British India steamer, the *Domala*, with 143 British Indian subjects is hit by a bomber in the English Channel.

14th Apr.—The German Pocket Battleship, " Admiral Scheer ", is hit by a torpedo from a British submarine.

19th July.—H.M.A.S. *Sydney* sinks the *Bartolomeo Colleoni*.

5th Oct.—The Royal Mail *Highland Patriot* is torpedoed in the Atlantic. The survivors are landed at a northern British port.

The Donaldson liner *Corrientes* is sunk. The members of the crew are picked up by a frighter.

12th Oct.—H.M.S. " Ajax " makes contact with three Italian destroyers and engages and sinks two. Shortly afterwards she sights one heavy cruiser and four destroyers and engages them. One destroyer is crippled and the remainder escape in darkness. The damaged destroyer is sunk by gunfire after the crew are allowed to escape.

21st Oct.—H.M.S. " Kimberley " blows up the Italian destroyer " Francesco Nullo."

25th Oct.—The British destroyer " Venetia " is sunk by enemy mine. A British submarine sinks a German torpedo boat and an Italian supply ship.

28th Oct.—The " Empress of Britain " is sunk by enemy aircraft. Out of a total of 643 on board 598 are saved.

24th Nov.—The British steamer " Port *Hobart* is shelled by a raider off the West Indies. H.M. *Trawler*, *Kingstonalalite* and drifter *Reed* are sunk by enemy action.

27th Nov.—The British merchantman, *Port Brisbane* is, it is reported, sunk in the middle of the Indian Ocean by a German raider.

British naval forces in the Mediterranean make contact with the Italian Fleet, the enemy retiring at high speed. Italian destroyer *Lancere* and cruiser *Fiume* are hit.

20th Dec.—The British steamer *Carlton* is torpedoed by a German submarine.

1941

4th Jan.—A new anti-submarine weapon is being used by the British navy. The *Corvette*, a small speedy ship, is specially built to protect merchant shipping.

10th Jan.—German dive-bombers aid the Italians in the Central Mediterranean in an attack on an important British convoy taking supplies to Greece. The aircraft-carrier, *H.M.S. Illustrious*, and cruiser *H.M.S. Southampton* are hit. *H.M.S. Southampton* is a total loss. Twelve enemy planes are shot down and the convoy gets through.

17th Jan.—Italian liners " *Liquria* " (15,000 tons) and *Lombardia* (20,000 tons) carrying troops to Albania are torpedoed and sunk in the Adriatic.

18th Jan.—The British Naval trawlers *Chestnut* and *Desiree* are sunk.

19th Jan.—The British auxiliary cruiser, *Asturias*, captures the French steamer, *Mendoza*, which attempted to run the British blockade.

22nd Jan.—Two trawlers, *Manx Prince* and *Refundo*, are sunk by enemy action. There is no loss of life in *Manx Prince* but there are casualties in *Refundo*.

The British destroyer *Hyperior* is damaged by a torpedo or mine. It is sunk by British forces as it has been rendered incapable of steaming.

24th Jan.—British shipping interests buy twelve cargoships from the United States' Maritime Commission's laid up fleet.

30th Jan.—The loss of a Netherlands submarine in Allied war operations is announced. The British trawler *Pelton* is also sunk.

4th Feb.—The British Trawlers, ' Relonzo ' and *Luda Lady* are sunk.

10th Feb.—Trawlers *Almond* and *Arctic Tripper* are sunk.

22nd Feb.—The South African Defence Department announces the loss of the patrol vessel *Southern Flow* through enemy action.

28th Feb.—The British destroyer *Exmoor* is sunk in the North Sea in repelling an attack on a convoy.

4th Mar.—Nine German merchant vessels and one Norwegian vessel under German control are sunk during the British Navy's raid on Lofoten islands.

7th Mar.—The Admiralty announces that the *New Royal Ark* has been sunk.

It is reported that the Italian submarine *Amfitrite* which attempted to attack a British convoy in the Aegean is sunk by the British escort craft.

10th Mar.—An Italian cruiser of the Condottieri " A " class is torpedoed and sunk by a British submarine.

13th Mar.—The Admiralty announces that the auxiliary vessel, *Manistee*, of 5,300 tons, has been sunk.

19th Mar.—The famous German liner *Bremen* of over 51,000 tons is totally destroyed by fire.

20th Mar.—The submarine *Triumph* sinks two deeply-laden Italian supply ships, each about 2,500 tons; the submarine *Unique* torpedoes a fully-laden Italian supply ship of 3,000 tons, and the submarine *Utmost* attacks another convoy of two deeply-laden Italian transports of about 6,000 and 4,000 tons, which are crowded with troops.

23rd Mar.—A spokesman of the United States Maritime Commission states that the United States of America will build 400 merchantmen for Britain under the Lease and Lend Act at a cost of £500,000,000.

25th Mar.—The German merchantship *Oder* (8,516 tons), trying to escape from Massawa, is intercepted by the British sloop *Shireham*.

27th Mar.—The Anglo-American agreement for the lease of Atlantic bases to the United States is signed to-day in London.

4th Apr.—It is reported that Sir Arthur Salter, who is on a mission to Washington, will request America to send more ships to Britain.

8th Apr.—The British drive against U-boats in the Battle of the Atlantic is reported to be registering many successes. The famous German U-boat Commander *Kretschmer* is taken prisoner.

9th Apr.—The Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission announces that contracts for the construction of 2,000 more ships for Britain have already been given to United States yards.

15th Apr.—It is learned that in future British merchant shipping losses will be published monthly instead of weekly, making it difficult for the enemy to deduce what proportion is due to submarines or mines.

An armed and heavily laden enemy tanker of about 10,000 tons, bound for a port in occupied France is sunk by the British submarine *Tigris*.

19th Apr.—Yugoslavia announces that approximately 120,000 tons of her shipping, now in American waters, will be made immediately available to Britain for " the common cause."

24th Apr.—The second of Britain's new battleships, *The Prince of Wales* is reported to be in commission.

28th Apr.—The Greek Minister in Cairo reveals that the entire merchant fleet of Greece, consisting of million tons of shipping, has been placed at the disposal of the British Government and that the Greek Air Force is continuing the struggle against the Axis Powers.

1st May.—The U.S. Maritime Commission places fifty oil tankers in special service to aid Britain.

2nd May.—It is revealed that the German U-boat commander who sank the battleship *Royal Oak* and 200,000 tons of merchant shipping, is missing.

3rd May.—The Admiralty announces the loss of the armed merchant cruiser *Voltaire* (13,245 tons).

9th May.—An Order-in-Council says that Mr. F. G. Leathers, new British Minister of Shipping and Minister of Transport, will henceforth be known as Minister for War Transport.

A German armoured merchant cruiser is sunk in the Indian Ocean by *H.M.S. Cornwall*. The British cruiser rescues 27 British seamen held aboard the raider; and 53 of the German crew who survive are taken prisoner.

11th May.—A German merchant vessel, and a Norwegian tanker, are intercepted in the Indian Ocean and captured by the Australian cruiser *Canberra* and the New Zealand cruiser *Leander*. A number of Norwegians and Chinese are rescued and 17 German officers and 47 ratings are captured.

13th May.—The German Radio warns ships against navigating in certain " dangerous " areas in the Red Sea.

16th May.—The United States Maritime Commission announces that the construction of the first 200 merchant-ships under the shipbuilding programme began two weeks ahead of schedule.

22nd May.—It is stated that Britain is negotiating with the Latin American nations for the purchase of some foreign ships lying idle in their ports.

24th May.—The battle cruiser *H.M.S. Hood* is blown up due to an unlucky hit in the magazine when British naval forces attack German naval forces off Greenland. The German battleship *Bismarck* receives damage.

26th May.—The pursuit of the *Bismarck* and other German warships in the North Atlantic continues and British torpedo bombers score a hit on the *Bismarck*.

27th May.—The *Bismarck*, Germany's latest battleship, is sunk after a grand chase by British naval forces, torpedoes from aircraft on the *Ark Royal* finding their mark. The British battleship *Prince of Wales* receives slight damage in the operations and a destroyer is sunk.

The United States Maritime Commission places a contract for the building of 123 merchant ships at a cost of £60,000,000.

President Roosevelt signs the Auxiliary Naval Ships Bill, authorizing the construction of about 58 naval auxiliary vessels, totalling 550,000 tons at an estimated cost of 350 million dollars.

30th May.—The United States Government take over 13 passenger liners as military auxiliaries.

4th June.—The U.S. Maritime Commission announces that American merchantmen will take over all British shipping services from Canada and the U.S. to Australia and New Zealand, thus releasing 12 British vessels for Britain's own war effort.

6th June.—British naval forces encounter and sink three enemy supply ships and an armed trawler.

9th June.—Mr. Charles Kettering, the famous American engineering magnate, refers to the development of a device to catch the German submarines on the surface at night.

The British Admiralty announces the sinking of two enemy supply ships.

12th June.—Many U.S. cargo ships are transferred to the Panamanian registry enabling them to operate between New York and the United Kingdom without violating the U.S. Neutrality Law.

13th June.—A German pocket' battleship is hit by a British aerial torpedo off the Norwegian coast.

14th June.—The Admiralty announces the successes of the British submarines in the Mediterranean where ten Italian ships were sunk or damaged in port or on the high seas.

In the Central Mediterranean, Royal Air Force bombers attack a convoy of enemy merchantships, escorted by destroyers and auxiliaries. An enemy merchantship of 7,000 tons is a total loss.

A Hungarian 4,000-ton ship is intercepted by a warship of the Netherlands East Indies in the East Indies waters.

15th June.—Royal Air Force Beaufort torpedo-carrying aircraft attacks an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast. A supply ship of about 6,000 tons is hit by a torpedo and sunk.

16th June.—The Ministry of Economic Warfare gives notice that any vessel carrying on transhipment of enemy goods arriving at South American ports from Europe will be placed on the black list and refused all navicert facilities.

18th June.—In view of the incursion of German troops in Finland the British Government stop the issue of navicerts to Finnish ships bound for Petsamo, three of which are intercepted and detained.

19th June.—The British ship " Empire Warrior " with coals from Portugal is sunk by aeroplanes near the Spanish border.

23rd June.—An Admiralty Communiqué, states that the German supply ship " Babitonga " of 4,422 tons was intercepted in the Atlantic by British patrols.

25th June.—Mr. Churchill makes a statement on the shipping position in a secret session of the House of Commons.

The German liner " Elbe " (9,000 tons) is sunk by aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm.

28th June.—The British Navy intercepts the 3,000-ton German steamer " Alsterton " which is acting as auxiliary to a German raider, and rescues British officers and sailors of the Mercantile Marine, who are held prisoners therein.

1st July.—British warships capture the French liner ' Oregon ' in the South Atlantic.

7th July.—Britain recognizes the transfer of Danish ships to a neutral flag, following conversations between British and American authorities in Washington. The British Government gratefully recognize that the use to which these ships are to be put would contribute directly to the war effort of the Democracies.

10th July.—It is announced that over 105,000 tons of enemy shipping were gravely damaged by British forces in the week ending July 7. At least 40,000 tons were sunk.

The Chief of the U.S. Naval Bureau of Ships says that America will be producing a hundred destroyers a year by 1943.

11th July.—Three German vessels are mined and sunk off Sweden.

The German ship, " Hermes " (7,209 tons), which tried to evade the British blockade in a dash from South America to Germany is intercepted and its captain and crew taken prisoner.

12th July.—It is stated that the United States will construct 566 merchantmen, the work beginning in August.

The United States Maritime Commission takes over 16 more Danish cargo ships laid up in United States ports.

15th July.—The merchant shipping losses in June total 79 British, Allied and neutral ships representing 329,296 tons, being the lowest for the last twelve months excepting January.

16th July.—The Australian Government requisition 63 ships in inter-State trade, to be operated by the Shipping Control Board.

17th July.—It is stated that one ship per day had its keel laid in American yards during the forty days ending July 10.

18th July.—Mr. Harry Hopkins, Special American Envoy, states in London that the United States is building a million tons of merchant shipping this year, six millions next year and substantially more than that in 1943.

22nd July.—The United States Maritime Commission estimates that its emergency shipbuilding programme would be 60 days ahead of schedule.

23rd July.—A German bomber that attempted to attack a British convoy, is shot down into the sea.

25th July.—Speaking at Ottawa the Canadian Minister of Munitions states: " June and July have been the best months for the number of ships reaching Britain safely. I believe that the worst of the battle of the Atlantic is now over for Britain."

27th July.—The German ship " Erlangen " (6,101 tons) which attempts to run the blockade is intercepted by British vessels.

2nd Aug.—One of the largest convoys to cross the Atlantic reaches London safely with food and munitions.

The great increase in United States shipbuilding activity is stressed by the Navy Department, which reports that 109 shipyards are building naval vessels on July 1, compared with only 12 shipyards one year ago.

3rd Aug.—A Netherlands warship intercepts the French steamer " Dupleix " (7,135 tons), coming from Indo-China, and conducts her to Java for inspection of her cargo.

4th Aug.—The German steamer " Frankfurt " (5,529 tons) is intercepted by British patrols while attempting to run the blockade.

6th Aug.—Mr. Attle declares in the House of Commons that the Battle of the Atlantic is definitely going in Britain's favour and

announces that, in July, 69 enemy ships totalling 291,000 tons have been destroyed on the North Sea and off the Atlantic coast.

8th Aug.—The Cunard—White Star liner Georgic sustains damage by enemy action.

11th Aug.—The Canadian Minister of Merchant Services, in an interview in London, says that the Canadian Navy has grown since the war broke out from 13 ships to 250 and the personnel from 1,800 to 22,000. Canada is planning a ship-building programme, including the construction of destroyers and the launching of a million tons of merchant shipping next year.

13th Aug.—A big British Convoy arrives safely in an Uruguayan port.

15th Aug.—Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, answering a question whether the American Navy had been forced to do any shooting in patrolling the waters between the United States and Iceland, says "Not a shot has been fired, not an Axis flag sighted."

16th Aug.—Speaking at the launching ceremony of the first of 60 freighters for Britain, Rear-Admiral Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, says that the aim of the United States is "Two ships every day for the next two years."

The German steamer *Nordeny* (3,667 tons) and the Italian steamer *Stilla* (4,272 tons) are intercepted by British patrols while carrying valuable war supplies.

19th Aug.—It is officially estimated that the total enemy tonnage lost (captured, sunk or scuttled) up to August 18, is 4,007,000, comprising German 2,321,000 Italian, 1,533,000, Finnish 34,000 and other ships useful to the enemy 1,19,000. The enemy has lost, since 6th June, 796,000 tons.

The Japanese Government decides to exercise State control of shipping.

The Admiralty announces that the British submarine *Cachalot* is overdue and must be considered lost. It is learnt that the entire crew have been rescued and are prisoners of war.

21st Aug.—It is revealed that the Atlantic is slowly but surely being cleared of German submarines and surface-raiders and that convoys are going to Britain in increasing numbers and in perfect safety. The United States Department of Agriculture announces the purchase of a huge quantity of foodstuffs to be transported to Britain.

22nd Aug.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty in a broadcast, says that there are now 190 Allied ships (of which nearly 50 are French) manned by 1,200 officers and 13,000 men, fighting side by side with the British Navy. They are "not merely token forces but strong and welcome reinforcements at a critical time."

Mr. Alexander gives the following figures of merchant tonnage which the Allies have brought to the common cause: Dutch: 480 ships (2,250,000 tons); Norwegians: 720 ships (3,250,000 tons); French: 92 ships (400,000 tons); Belgians: 54 ships (200,000 tons); Greeks 240 ships (1,000,000 tons); Poles: 32 ships (100,000 tons).

23rd Aug.—The First Lord of the Admiralty says that the decrease in British shipping losses in July constitute easily the best news since he went to the Admiralty in May 1940.

24th Aug.—An enemy bomber is shot down into the sea by a British trawler when it endeavoured to attack the ship.

25th Aug.—The loss of the British submarine *Union* is announced by the Admiralty.

President Roosevelt issues an executive order which will allow British officers and crews to man foreign ships taken over by the United States Maritime Commission and to operate under its jurisdiction.

Seven ships out of a convoy of 25 ships are sunk by enemy aircraft and submarines off Cadiz. Survivors are landed at Lisbon.

THE FAR EAST

1940

22nd Jan.—Japan makes formal protest against action of British warship in stopping Japanese liner "Asama Maru" on January 21 and removing 21 German passengers of military age.

28th Jan.—British reply to Japanese protest over the *Asama Maru* episode is handed over to Mr. Arita. Japan tightens blockade.

31st Mar.—Japanese Premier in a broadcast commemorates the inauguration of the new Central Government of China under Wang Ching Wei.

19th June.—Anglo-Japanese agreement on Tienstsin question is signed.

29th June.—Japan proclaims Monroe doctrine for the Far East.

6th July.—Chiang appeals to U.S.A. and Russia for material assistance.

16th July.—Japanese Cabinet resigns—New National Cabinet is formed.

17th July.—Anglo-Japanese agreement is reached about use of Burma road.

10th Aug.—British troops withdraw from North China.

22nd Sept.—The Japanese invade French Indo-China. After two hours fighting the French sign an agreement bringing hostilities to an end.

27th Sept.—A ten-year military, political and economic pact is concluded between Germany, Italy and Japan.

8th Oct.—Mr. Churchill announces that the agreement to close the Burma Road will not be renewed when the present agreement expires on October 17.

10th Oct.—The Foreign Minister of Japan asserts that the Three Power Pact was a 'Peace Pact' and that it was directed 'for' and not 'against' the United States of America.

16th Oct.—Americans in China are advised to return to America.

17th Oct.—Traffic in the Burma road is resumed. High powered American trucks carrying war supplies set off on the 700 miles road.

20th Oct.—Japanese bomb Chinese portion of Burma Road. Serious damages to bridges are inflicted.

22nd Oct.—British subjects are advised to leave Japan owing to difficult business conditions and uncertain situation.

23rd Oct.—Japanese Government take a census of Japanese subjects in U.S.A.

29th Nov.—A train carrying Japanese and Japanese-dominated Chinese officials from Shanghai to Nanking is blown up just outside Soochow and it is reported that a hundred persons have been killed and injured. Chinese guerilla fighters are believed to be responsible.

30th Nov.—Japan recognizes Wang Ching Wei's Japanese-controlled Government at Nanking as the "National Government of the Republic of China."

9th Dec.—Mr. Matsuoka, Foreign Minister of Japan states in regard to Japan's future policy since she signed the Three-Power Pact that "Japan would certainly have to fight if the United States went to war with Germany."

10th Dec.—Britain agrees in principle to lend £10,000,000 to China.

22nd Dec.—A Japanese military mission leaves for Germany and Italy to study the experiences of the present conflict on the spot.

1941

8th Jan.—The Thailand (Siamese) Government proclaim "a state of war" on the frontier with French Indo-China.

21st Jan.—Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, speaking at the reopening of the Diet says that the United States should "reflect deeply on her attitude with truly God-fearing piety" in order to avoid risks of a world war which might "spell the downfall of civilization."

24th Jan.—Thailand and France accept the Jappanese Government's proposal for a truce and its offer for mediation in the conflict between them.

31st Jan.—The Armistice between Indo-China and Thailand is formally signed.

4th Mar.—After a surprise landing Japanese forces occupy Pakhoi on the Gulf of Tonkin, 70 miles from the Indo-China border.

6th Mar.—A joint communique issued by Japan, France and Thailand announces that an Agreement on the principal points of the Japanese mediation proposals for settlement of the Thai-Indo-China dispute has been reached.

11th Mar.—The peace terms between Thailand and Indo-China are signed in Tokyo.

12th Mar.—Japan's Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka, leaves for Berlin and Rome for talks with Hitler and Mussolini.

23rd Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka, Japan's Foreign Minister, arrives in Moscow.

26th Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka arrives in Berlin.

27th Mar.—Hitler receives Mr. Matsuoka.

In an interview given to *Angriff*, Matsuoka complains of Britain and the United States interfering with Japan's constructive work in the Far East!

30th Mar.—Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Far East, announces the arrival in Singapore of army and air force reinforcements from Britain and India.

31st Mar.—Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, arrives in Rome in the course of his European tour.

2nd Apr.—Discussions begin in the Philippine Islands between British and American defence chiefs in the Far East.

4th Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka arrives in Berlin from Rome and has a second talk with Hitler.

Sir Robert Craigie, British Ambassador to Japan, discusses Anglo-Japanese relations with the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokyo.

6th Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka arrives in Moscow on his return journey to Japan.

The British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East is on his way to Manila to meet President Quezon as well as the Netherlands' Foreign Minister.

9th Apr.—" A fresh, big crisis may develop in East Asia at any moment " on account of the British and American economic blockade of Japan, says Baron Hiranuma, the Japanese Home Minister.

Sir Robert Brooke Popham expresses satisfaction at the strength of Hongkong's defences.

13th Apr.—A Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact is signed at Moscow. It is agreed that in case one of the contracting parties is attacked by a third power, the other party will observe strict neutrality.

14th Apr.—The Chinese Government formally repudiate the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact, refusing to recognize the authority of any foreign power in Outer Mongolia or in Manchukuo. The clauses in the recent Soviet-Japanese Pact recognizing Soviet rights in Outer Mongolia and Japanese rights in Manchukuo will have no binding force on the Chinese Government.

Mr. Matsuoka leaves Moscow for Tokyo.

16th Apr.—The British Ambassador to Japan called on the Japanese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokyo to discuss the situation arising out of the Soviet-Japanese Pact.

17th Apr.—Evidence that Japan is contemplating a southward drive is found in her declaration of a blockade of the South China Coast and in the meeting between the Thailand Premier and Japan's Minister in Thailand.

19th Apr.—Japanese forces land at Ningpo and other ports on the Chekiang coast in order to cut off seaborne supplies to China.

21st Apr.—The Australian Foreign Minister contradicts Tokyo reports that a military pact, for the encirclement of Japan, has been signed by Britain, United States, China, Australia, India and the Dutch East Indies.

22nd Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka returns to Tokyo; he maintains that Japan's Pact with the Soviet does not conflict with the Tripartite Pact.

The United States Secretary to the Treasury foreshadows an early agreement, by which America would advance £12½ million to stabilize Chinese currency.

Japanese forces enter, Foochow, capital of the Chinese Province of Fukien and the last of the treaty ports in the possession of the Chungking Government.

24th Apr.—Mr. Matsuoka reports on the Soviet-Japan Pact to the Privy Council at Tokyo.

25th Apr.—Both the U.S.S.R. and Japan ratify the Neutrality Pact reached recently at Moscow.

29th Apr.—Mr. James Roosevelt, eldest son of the United States President, arrives in Chungking with a letter from his father to Marshal Chiang Kai-shek.

1st May.—The Japanese occupy the port of Kiatze.

5th May.—The Chinese Military Mission that toured India and Burma, arrives in Malaya on a visit to Singapore.

6th May.—Japan and Indo-China sign an economic agreement at Tokyo, incorporating "the most favoured nation" treatment.

10th May.—A new Pan-American Airways Clipper Service is successfully inaugurated with the arrival of the first plane from San Francisco in Singapore.

12th May.—The United States House of Representatives' Military Affairs Committee approve legislation designed to stop supplies to the Axis powers of war materials produced in the Philippines.

14th May.—Mr. Eden states in the House of Commons that he is taking a firm line with Japan with regard to the treatment of British interests in China.

Large numbers of troops arrive in Singapore from Britain, consisting of British Army, Navy and Air Force reinforcements.

18th May.—It is announced that the Sino-Soviet barter agreement will be further extended.

19th May.—A Japanese Military Mission arrives in Rome.

22nd May.—The Japanese Foreign and War Ministers report to the Emperor on their conference with the heads of the Defence Services.

23rd May.—The Chinese recapture Chuki in Eastern Chekiang while Chinese columns reach the outskirts of Foochow.

2nd June.—The United States gives an assurance to the Chinese Government that she would relinquish her extra-territorial rights as soon as peace and order are restored in China.

6th June.—The Netherlands Indies representative in the economic negotiations with Japan at Batavia refuses to take part in Japan's so-called " New Order in East Asia."

Seven hundred persons die of suffocation in a huge underground tunnel owing to poor ventilation in Chungking during a night air raid by Japanese planes.

7th June.—There is considerable diplomatic activity in Tokyo. Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, is visited in turn by the British, Vichy and German Ambassadors.

12th June.—Two trade agreements between the Soviet and Japan are reported.

16th June.—The United States Embassy and the American gunboat *Tutila* has a narrow escape when 27 Japanese aircraft dropped bombs south of Yangtse River opposite Chungking City.

The British Ambassador in Tokyo protests to the Japanese Government against the bombing of the British Embassy in Chungking.

The Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, in a speech, urges the stoppage of raw material exports to Japan.

17th June.—The United States Ambassador in Tokyo has a long discussion with the Japanese Foreign Minister.

A Japanese Naval spokesman says that the bombing of foreign property in Chungking by Japanese planes was purely accidental.

Mr. Wang-Ching-Wei, Premier of the puppet government in Nanking, arrives in Tokyo.

The Japanese delegates decide to leave the Netherlands Indies following the breakdown of the Batavia talks.

The Sino-Burman frontier is finally fixed by agreement.

19th June.—The Thailand Assembly unanimously ratify the Thailand-Indo-China peace treaty.

Wang-Ching-Wei, head of the puppet government at Nanking, declares joint Sino-Japanese defence against communism.

20th June.—President Quezon of Philippines pledges the whole-hearted support of his country should the United States enter the war.

22nd June.—General Pai Chung-hsi, Chief of the Chinese General Staff, speaking before the National Finance Conference, says that the Chinese Army can hold out against Japan for at least 3 to 5 years.

23rd June.—Prince Konoye, the Japanese Premier, reports to the Emperor on the political situation and the Japanese Government confer with the army leaders to consider the steps arising from the German-Soviet war.

24th June.—Japanese women and children in Moscow are ordered to return home.

25th June.—The Japanese Cabinet holds a meeting after representatives of the Government have conferred with the chiefs of the fighting services. Later the Premier has an interview with the Emperor.

26th June.—A Chinese Air Mission arrives in Singapore.

27th June.—Japanese naval forces evacuate the South China port of Shingchuan.

30th June.—The British Embassy in Chungking receives two direct hits during an air raid. Several persons receive injuries.

1st July.—Germany and Italy announce recognition of the Japanese-sponsored Nanking Government in China.

2nd July.—The Emperor of Japan presides at an Imperial Conference to decide Japan's foreign policy.

4th July.—The Chinese Foreign Office notifies the German News Agency in Chungking of the cancellation of their Press privileges; China has already broken off diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers.

The western outskirts of Chungking are bombed by Japanese planes.

7th July.—Japanese naval planes raid Chungking and other points along the Yangtze.

8th July.—A scroll, carrying a message of appreciation of Mr. Churchill from 100,000 Chinese, is handed over in Shanghai for transmission to London.

The destruction of the British Embassy at Chungking is completed by raiding Japanese bombers.

10th July.—Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador in London, states that China is determined to continue her struggle against Japan.

12th July.—The Japanese Consul at Vancouver says: "Japan is not going to pull Germany's chestnuts out of the fire."

13th July.—Protests against alleged ill-treatment and victimisation of Japanese nationals in Indo-China are made in the Tokyo press.

15th July.—Britain gives an assurance to China that she will negotiate for the abolition of her extra-territorial rights when peace is restored.

16th July.—International tension in the Pacific is underlined by the resignation of the Konoye Cabinet, ostensibly to make room for a stronger Government. Pending the formation of a new Cabinet, Prince Konoye is asked to carry on by the Emperor of Japan, who cuts short his holiday and returns to Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the British and American Governments take all precautionary measures; Sulu Bay near Manila is mined by the United States Navy; and the British Far Eastern Commander-in-Chief says "We are fully prepared, come what may."

Chinese diplomatic and consular staffs in Axis countries are ordered to return home immediately.

17th July.—Prince Konoye is directed by the Japanese Emperor to form a new Cabinet.

Japanese pressure on Vichy for the cession of naval and air bases in Indo-China is revealed.

18th July.—Lord Halifax, in a speech at San Francisco, says that he sees no reason for any Anglo-Japanese clash but Britain will not allow her interests in the Pacific to be ignored.

Prince Konoye forms a new Cabinet dropping Mr. Matsuoka and appointing Admiral Toyada as Foreign Minister.

19th July.—The Japanese Foreign Minister announces that Japan's "basic policy" is "unchanged."

It is officially announced that Thailand and Indo-China have reached an agreement on the exchange of currencies in the territory ceded to the former under the armistice.

21st July.—The Japanese Cabinet confers with the High Command of the National Defence Services, the Prime Minister presiding.

Train services in Korea are reported to have been cut down for military reasons.

22nd July.—Disquieting reports come from Japan where a large-scale mobilization is stated to be proceeding. While the Foreign Minister gives assurances of continued friendship to Axis Ambassadors, the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs who has given the most categorical assurances to the British Ambassador regarding Japan's policy towards Indo-China, is relieved of his office at his own request.

23rd July.—Japan is reported to have imperatively demanded of Vichy the cession of strategic bases in Indo-China. Censorship is imposed in Japan on radio and cable communication.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, contradicts Japanese reports of British designs on Indo-China and Thailand.

Certain Japanese circles charge the United States with discrimination against Japanese vessels by preventing their passage through the Panama Canal.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo Tai-chi, welcome Britain's assurance to help China defend her freedom.

24th July.—American press reports state that Vichy has yielded to Japan and ceded naval and military bases in Indo-China.

New visa regulations close Japan to all foreigners except the Chinese.

25th July.—Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, condemns in the House of Commons the Japanese Government's action in presenting demands to the Vichy Government who yielded to them, for the occupation of air and naval bases in Southern Indo-China. He announces that Britain and United States are consulting each other on the steps to be taken, also that the Malayan defences are strengthened.

Mr. Eden receives M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador and Dr. Wellington Koo, the Chinese Ambassador.

The Thailand Premier declares that Thailand will definitely remain neutral.

26th July.—The freezing of all Japanese assets and credits is ordered by the United States of America and the British Commonwealth of Nations including India. Chinese

assets are included in the ban, at the specific request of the Chunking Government in order that Japan may not exploit occupied countries to defeat the American and British moves.

The Japanese Foreign and Finance Ministers report to the Emperor on the international situation. Japan freezes American and British assets in her territory.

The United States Pacific fleet leaves Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, for an unknown destination.

27th July.—President Roosevelt announces that all American forces in the Philippines will be grouped under one command, designated the United States Command in the Far East, and that Lt.-Genl. Douglas MacArthur, former United States Chief of Staff, will be the Commander-in-Chief.

28th July.—The Japanese Privy Council ratifies the agreement with Vichy, and Japanese troops begin disembarking in Southern Indo-China. The Japanese will be allowed to use nine air bases under the agreement, including Saigon.

The Dutch East Indies suspends foreign exchange transactions with Japan and makes all exports to Japan and Japanese-occupied countries liable to special licences.

29th July.—The Japanese occupy Camranh Bay. The number of Japanese troops in Indo-China exceeds 40,000.

The Dutch East Indies suspends the Oil Pact with Japan.

A continuous radio campaign is launched by Japan against Thailand, similar to the recent press campaign against Indo-China, alleging British influence in Thailand.

The Japanese air force makes an indiscriminate attack on civilian property in Chengtu in the Chinese province of Szechwan.

Further military precautions are announced in Australia.

30th July.—A special broadcast from the Bangkok radio expresses complete confidence in Britain's friendship for Thailand.

31st July.—The Chinese Foreign Minister appeals for joint action by Britain, United States of America and China against Japanese aggression in the Far East.

1st Aug.—Following an extraordinary meeting of the Thailand Cabinet, it is reported that Japan offers Thailand the Province of Laos and the ancient city of Angkor (in Indo-China) in exchange for a virtual monopoly of Thailand's production of rubber, tin and rice and the right to use certain naval and air bases. It is also stated that Thailand recognizes the Japanese puppet regimes in Manchukuo and occupied China and that a Thai banking syndicate agrees to grant a credit of 16 million yen to the Yokohama Specie Bank.

2nd Aug.—Vice-Admiral Seichi Miimi, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Fleet in South China Waters, enters Saigon aboard his flagship while Major-General Sumita, head of the Japanese Military Mission in Indo-China, makes a formal entry into the naval base at Camranh Bay.

3rd Aug.—Large Japanese troop movements towards Manchukuo are reported.

The Australian War Minister warns Australians to be alert to the danger from the north; and the Australian Navy Minister declares that the help that the United States of America is giving Great Britain in the Atlantic will enable the latter to send a fleet to the Pacific, if needed.

4th Aug.—Over 1,700 Japanese soldiers are killed in a Chinese counter-attack on the Yangtse River above Hankow. Heavy fighting is reported north of Ichang. American and Russian pilots and planes arrive in increasing numbers to help China.

Japanese ships suspend sailings to the United States.

5th Aug.—That Japan is making economic demands on Thailand, is reported.

A.R.P. exercises are ordered in Singapore. Two U.S. cruisers arrive in Brisbane on what is described as a training cruise.

6th Aug.—Mr. Eden (in the House of Commons) and Mr. Cordell Hull (at Washington) warn Japan that Great Britain and America will react swiftly to any movement by her, aimed at the integrity of Thailand.

8th Aug.—A considerable British Naval force is reported in the vicinity of Singapore, where an official statement declares that high-speed American fighter planes have arrived to defend the Burma Road.

Tokyo denies Italian reports that Japan has presented certain demands to Russia.

9th Aug.—The Japanese Foreign Minister, Admiral Toyoda, states that "no encirclement, whether already realized or in preparation, can turn Japan aside from the road which she is treading."

An official communiqué issued in Bangkok reaffirmes Thailand's neutrality, also her readiness to defend it by force of arms.

Japan decides to raise her Legation in Bangkok to the states of an Embassy.

Chungking experiences five Japanese air raids in the course of 24 hours. Scores of people are killed and houses destroyed but no military target is damaged.

11th Aug.—Over 3,000 bombs have been dropped by 400 Japanese planes in four days raids on Chungking.

Japan decides to send a special envoy to Indo-China with the rank of Ambassador.

While the Japanese Foreign Minister receives the British Ambassador in Tokyo, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies says that Australia will defend Singapore against any attack.

12th Aug.—It is announced in Melbourne that the Australian Prime Minister is going to London again as soon as possible at the unanimous request of his Cabinet colleagues.

The Japanese Minister for War is received in audience by the Emperor.

Four Imperial Ordinances, designed to gear Japan right up to a total wartime economic footing, are approved by the National Mobilization Committee. Prices and shipping will be controlled in future.

13th Aug.—It is reported that 180,000 Japanese troops in all have arrived in Indo-China and that Japanese aircraft, operating from bases in Indo-China, raid key-points in the Chinese hinterland including Kumming.

14th Aug.—Baron Hiranuma, Minister of State and former Prime Minister of Japan, is shot at by a young man in Tokyo.

Admiral Toyoda reports to the Emperor.

The U.S.A. (it is stated at Chungking) is sending 80,000 tons of supplies to China. American transport experts have surveyed the Burma Road with a view to increasing the tonnage that can be carried over the road.

16th Aug.—It is disclosed that the Japanese Government had refused to grant clearance papers for the American liner *President Coolidge* if it sought to remove the hundred private citizens now in Japan in addition to American official personnel.

Japanese naval planes bomb Chungking and other Chinese towns.

The British Minister to Thailand states that His Majesty's Government have presented no demands of any kind whatsoever to the Thailand Government.

Mr. Cordell Hull declines to comment on the London report that as the result of the Churchill-Roosevelt conference, the United States is expected to become "the chief guardian of the Pacific."

17th Aug.—His Excellency Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, describes as "a typical flight of fancy," the Japanese report that he has threatened Thailand with the use of force.

Japan opens new trade talks with the Netherlands East Indies to end the "freezing" war.

Mr. Frank Grady is appointed Special Economic Investigator for President Roosevelt in order to survey south-east Asia and report as to how raw materials from the Orient could be moved to the Democracies and out of the hands of the Axis powers.

18th Aug.—A second detachment of Japanese troops is reported to have embarked at Saigon.

The Thailand Minister in Tokyo interviews the Japanese Foreign Minister.

The Batavia Radio denies the Japanese report that trade talks are proceeding between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies.

19th Aug.—A spokesman of the Japanese Information Board says that Japan could not remain indifferent to the supply of American war materials to Russia by way of Vladivostock.

An authoritative statement issued in London contradicts rumours of negotiations for a barer trade agreement between Great Britain and Japan.

Cabinet changes are announced in Thailand, Lieut.-Gen. Luang Prom Yothi being made Minister of Defence.

21st Aug.—It is announced that representives of Manchukuo and Mongolia will meet at Harbin on September 22, to sign a final frontier agreement.

22nd Aug.—President Roosevelt issues an executive order declaring Manila Bay, a defensive area and warning ships that they operate there at their own risk.

The Chinese Government are stated to have despatched troops to strengthen the Burma Road defences. It is revealed that 120 Chinese volunteers have been sent to Manila for air training under American experts.

Japanese aircraft raid Chunking in several waves.

24th Aug.—Chinese fighter planes drive off Japanese bombers which attempt to raid Chentu, the capital of Szechuan.

Mr. Churchill, in the course of his world broadcast, warns Japan that, though every effort will be made to secure a peaceful settlement of her claims, her aggressive policy "has got to stop".

25th Aug.—More reinforcements for the Indian Expeditionary Force in Malaya arrive and disembark at different ports.

VICHY

1939

26th Sep.—The French Cabinet suppresses the Communist Party.

10th Oct.—M. Daladier replies to Hitler's "peace" proposals in a broadcast and states that France would continue the fight till security in Europe is established.

27th Dec.—Indian troops arrive in France.

1940

20th Mar.—M. Daladier resigns. M. Paul Reynaud forms new Cabinet.

10th May.—M. Reynaud broadens his Cabinet by the inclusion of right-wing leaders.

16th May.—Franco-British troops help Belgian resistance to German forces.

18th May.—General Weygand supersedes General Gamelin as Commander-in-Chief.

21st May.—Arras and Amiens are occupied by Germans.

M. Reynaud makes a statement on the German advance and refers to "incredible mistakes" made by the High Command.

22nd May.—French recapture Arras.

3rd June.—Paris is bombed by the Germans.

10th June.—Paris is placed in a state of defence. Italy declares war.

13th June.—M. Reynaud makes a final appeal for American aid.

It is announced that Paris is not to be defended.

14th June.—Germans enter Paris.

16th June.—M. Reynaud resigns. Marshal Petain becomes the new Premier.

17th June.—Marshal Petain, New Premier of France, announces cessation of fighting between France and Germany.

19th June.—France appoints Plenipotentiaries to open Armistice talks with Hitler.

20th June.—Marshal Petain in a broadcast explains why France collapsed.

21st June.—Hitler hands over his terms for an Armistice to France.

23rd June.—Armistice terms between France and Germany are announced.

24th June.—Marshal Petain's Government signs the Armistice with Germany.

Terms of Armistice with Italy is signed by France.

Day of mourning in France.

5th July.—Petain Government breaks off diplomatic relations with Britain.

9th July.—French National Assembly agrees to revise the Constitution.

11th July.—French National Assembly votes for a new Constitution by 569 to 80 votes.

M. Petain becomes Dictator.

12th July.—Petain announces new 12 member Cabinet.

30th July.—Demobilization of French North African and Syrian armies is announced.

23rd Sep.—To rally the numerous Free French people to continue the fight at his side General deGaulle, the leader of the Free French forces, proceeds to Dakar, the seat of the General Government of French West Africa to assist those elements which support his cause.

The naval authorities at Dakar order fire to be opened on General deGaulle's emissaries. General deGaulle withdraws his forces and the ships not wanting to be a party to a fight between Frenchmen.

5th Oct.—General Weygand leaves for North Africa for co-ordinating the administrative and political activity throughout the French African Empire.

22nd Oct.—Hitler receives Mon. Laval. Nazi terms for giving Alsace Lorrain to Germany, Nice and part of Tunis to Italy, North Morroco to Spain, Indo-China to Japan, French Mediterranean fleet and air force to Axis powers for use against Britain and for joint exploitation by Axis powers of French colonies are rejected by Vichy Government. Vichy Government also announce that France would not fight against Britain.

24th Oct.—Marshal Petain meets Hitler on French territory.

26th Oct.—Hitler and M. Petain agree on collaboration in regard to means of reconstructing peace in Europe. Hitler's peace terms are: (1) The French Fleet is to be placed at the disposal of the Axis; (2) Cession of Alsace-Lorraine to Germany; (3) air and naval bases in unoccupied France to be at the Axis disposal for the duration of hostilities; (4) France to cede Indo-China to Japan; (5) cession of greater part of Morocco to Spain; (6) Italy to receive Tunis and a substantial portion of Algeria, together with the department of Alps Maritimes; and (7) the French colonies to be

placed under a Triple mandate, in which Germany and Italy would participate with France.

28th Oct.—M. Laval is appointed Foreign Minister in succession to M. Baudouin who has been appointed Secretary of State to the Prime Minister.

28th Nov.—Hitler's peace terms for France are rejected after a Vichy Cabinet meeting.

30th Nov.—Germany annexes Lorraine from France.

14th Dec.—Petain broadcasts dismissal of Laval; Flandin becomes Foreign Minister.

24th Dec.—German demands both for military co-operation and the reinstatement of M. Laval as Foreign Minister are refused. M. Petain counters the German demands with an ultimatum of his own, namely, with a threat to resign.

1941

3rd Jan.—Vichy Cabinet is reorganised. A Triumvirate, consisting of Admiral Darlan, General Huntziger and M. Flandin, has been formed to direct the affairs of the country under Marshal Petain's orders. M. Baudoin resigns his office as Secretary of State to the Presidency of the Council.

23rd Jan.—The Vichy Government accept in principle the offer by Japan to mediate in Thailand-French Indo-China dispute.

24th Jan.—Marshal Petain appoints National Council of 188 members—a purely advisory body.

5th Feb.—French Cabinet meets. Admiral Darlan reports on his conversation in Paris. M. Laval, it is reported, demands the post of the Minister of the Interior with "far-reaching powers."

9th Feb.—M. Flandin, Foreign Minister in the Vichy Government, resigns. Admiral Darlan becomes the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and remains the Navy Minister.

13th Feb.—Marshal Petain and General Franco confer at Montpellier.

15th Feb.—Admiral Darlan takes over also the port-folio of the Minister of Interior from M. Peyrouton, who resigns.

24th Feb.—Marshal Petain re-forms his Cabinet which consists of five Ministers and seven Under Secretaries.

9th Mar.—Admiral Darlan announces that French cargo vessels in future are to be escorted by the French Navy.

12th Mar.—Following quickly upon Admiral Darlan's threat to convoy French foodships comes the authentic information that unoccupied France is actually producing war materials for Germany.

22nd Mar.—Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, states that the British Government has agreed to allow the French foodships from America to pass the blockade to a port in unoccupied France as, they had received assurances from Vichy Government that the food would not reach the Germans and that the ships would return immediately to America.

26th Mar.—Four Muslims from French North Africa are appointed by Marshal Petain to seats in the newly-formed French Consultative National Council.

27th Mar.—A food barter agreement between the Vichy Government and German-occupied France is reported. The United States Government ask Admiral Leahy, their Ambassador at Vichy, to report on the situation.

30th Mar.—The British Admiralty reports an incident in which a convoy of four French merchant ships carrying contraband for Germany defied the British Blockade control. Though fired on by French shore-batteries and fully justified in attacking the convoy and its escort, the British in the interests of humanify do not do so. French bombers are also said to have attacked the British but without inflicting any damage or casualties.

4th Apr.—The Syrian President and the Secretary of State resign following the appointment of Khaleb Bey Alem as head of the new Syrian Government.

7th April.—Marshal Petain, while expressing confidence in Admiral Darlan, says "It is a matter of honour for us to do nothing against our former Ally."

20th Apr.—Admiral Darlan suspends 22 Town Councils for adopting "a hostile attitude towards the State."

26th Apr.—Admiral Darlan reports to the Vichy Cabinet on his visit to occupied France.

27th Apr.—Vichy reports the massing of Free French forces on the southern border of French Somaliland and the French Government says "There can be no question of our colonly entering into negotiations with the dissident French." Free French circles in London, however, state that the Vichy report is intended to cover up growing public feeling in Somaliland in favour of General De Gaulle.

29th Apr.—The United States Ambassador warns Marshal Petain that the Vichy Government must stay neutral and avoid a display of hostility towards Britain if they hope to receive further food supplies from America.

7th May.—An agreement between Admiral Darlan and the German emissary is announced at Vichy, involving a modification of the boundary line between occupied and unoccupied France and a reduction in France's daily payment to Germany.

14th May.—The Vichy Cabinet approves Hitler's terms to France.

It is revealed in the Commons that Germany is sending small torpedo-boats through France to the Mediterranean—*via* the Rhone to Marseilles and the sea.

15th May.—Marshal Petain, in a broacast, states that he approves the understanding reached by Admiral Darlan with Hitler.

18th May.—Most savage penalties are imposed by the Vichy Government's War Tribunal on followers of General de Gaulle.

20th May.—The Vichy Ambassador protests to the United States of America against "an unfriendly gesture"—the placing of French vessels in American ports under protective surveillance.

23rd May.—The United States receives specific assurances that French co-operation with Germany would not extend into the Western Hemisphere.

26th May.—Laval has a ten-hour interview with Hitler.

28th May.—The French Government reassures the United States Government in writing that the French Fleet and Colonies would not be surrendered to Germany or any other power.

2nd June.—The French ship *Winnipeg*, (8,379 tons) is intercepted by the Royal Netherlands warships *Van Kinsbergen* in West Indies waters.

4th June.—The Vichy Cabinet decides to defend Syria "single-handed" (under General Weygand's leadership) against any British attack.

5th June.—Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, warns Vichy that its policy of collaboration with the Nazis is inimical to the rights of the United States and that a basic policy of the United States is to aid Britain against Germany.

13th June.—The British Government inform Vichy that they have no territorial designs in Syria or elsewhere in French overseas possessions. The statement adds that "the responsibility for the consequences of the assistance which the French authorities were ready to render to the enemies of His Majesty must rest with Marshal Petain's Government."

16th June.—General Delhomme, former Governor of Damascus, is appointed War Minister in the Vichy Cabinet.

26th June.—Germany releases 10,000 French seamen, who were prisoners of war, but insisted on the payment of occupation costs in gold.

28th June.—General Gamelin's escape from custody is reported by the German Trans-Ocean News Agency but denied by authoritative circles at Vichy.

30th June.—The Vichy Government breaks off diplomatic relations with the Soviet. Russian credits in France are blocked by the Vichy Government and Soviet consulates ordered to be closed.

1st July.—Thousands of communists are arrested in Paris.

5th July.—The Vichy Cabinet meets under the Presidency of Marshal Petain to examine the report presented by M. Benoit Mechin, the Vichy envoy in Ankara.

Admiral Darlan announces measures to be taken to suppress communist activities.

9th July.—A message to the Independent French News Agency states that the French Government are determined to carry out peace negotiations with Germany. Under the proposed Axis terms, adds the message, Germany may get Alsace, Lorraine, and certain Channel and North Sea ports, giving parts of Belgium to France.

10th July.—General de Gaulle, the Free French leader, arrives in Brazzaville, in French Congo.

General de Larminat, Commanding the Free French in Syria, is condemned to death (*in absentia*) at Vichy and all his property ordered to be confiscated.

The Vichy Government protest to the British Government against the sinking of the French ship Saint Didier off the Turkish coast. A Vichy armed merchant ship of 6,000 tons and a trawler are interned in a Turkish port while fleeing from Beirut with troops and armaments.

12th July.—Differences between Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan are reported over the Syrian question.

Marshal Petain calls on the French nation to think on its National Day (14th July) of its dead, its prisoners and its ruins.

14th July.—Free France celebrates the National Day, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Eden and other British and American statesmen sending messages affirming their faith in the resurrection of France.

16th July.—The Vichy Government appoint General Weygand as Governor-General of Algiers in succession to Admiral Abrial.

19th July.—Changes are announced in the Vichy Cabinet, M. Pierre Puchen taking the post of Minister of the Interior.

Admiral Darlan receives the Japanese Ambassador while Admiral Leahy, the United States Ambassador, is received by Marshal Petain in the presence of Admiral Darlan.

22nd July.—Various acts of sabotage are from Occupied France and the Paris Police Chief offers a reward of 20,000 francs to anybody who can hand over to the military authorities those responsible for disaster to an army train resulting in the death of many German officers and soldiers.

23rd July.—" We shall perhaps again have to defend our colonies," says Marshal Petain, obviously referring to Indo-China.

24th July.—Free French authorities repudiate the concessions made by Vichy to Japan.

26th July.—M. Max Dormoy, former Socialist Minister of France, is killed in his room at a hotel in Mont Elimar, owing to an explosion believed to have been caused by a time-bomb.

The Vichy Cabinet meet presumably to give final touches to the agreement with Japan, granting the latter air bases and other facilities in Indo-China.

29th July.—Vichy publishes the Protocol to the agreement with Japan, in which Japan undertakes to " respect " French sovereignty and interests in Indo-China.

1st Aug.—Admiral Leahy, United States Ambassador, warns Marshal Petain against further concessions to Japan in the Far East.

5th Aug.—Comte de Brinon, Vichy's representative in Occupied France, states that the French Government are absolutely decided not to break off the policy of collaboration with Germany.

6th Aug.—The Vichy Government hand over to the American Ambassador their reply to Mr. Sumner Welles' strong strictures on their surrender to Japan in Indo-China. They emphasise Indo-China's isolation from France and its consequent helplessness.

8th Aug.—General Weygand arrives in Vichy from North Africa for consultation with Marshal Petain and Admiral Darlan. The Germans, it is reported, demand the use of French bases in North Africa.

9th Aug.—The Vichy Cabinet discusses the future of the French African Empire " within the framework of the principles laid down in Vichy's note to the United States."

It is reported that the corporative system of Government will be introduced in Vichy with wider powers for the Head of the State.

11th Aug.—General Weygand leaves Vichy for Algiers.

12th Aug.—The Vichy Cabinet is reconstituted, Admiral Darlan becoming Minister for National Defence in addition to being Vice-Premier, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Secretary for the Navy. The Secretaries of States for War, Air and the Colonies are placed under him.

13th Aug.—Marshal Petain, in a broadcast to the French, outlines a Fascist programme for France. All political parties are to be dissolved.

15th Aug.—General de Gaulle appoints General le Gentilhomme as Commander-in-Chief of the Free French forces in Africa and General de Larminat as Second in Command to General Catroux in Syria and the Lebanon.

16th Aug.—A New decree of the Vichy Government orders every citizen of France to take the Oath of Allegiance to Marshal Petain and not to France.

Broadcasting from Beirut, General de Gaulle replies to Marshal Petain's plea for collaboration with the Axis and says that Free France will fight on for revenge, greatness and freedom.

A " T for Traitor " campaign is inaugurated by Free French broadcasters in order to enable the population of France to deal severely with Quislings and time-servers.

18th Aug.—Admiral Darlan arrives in Paris for a conversation with the German occupation authorities.

19th Aug.—Marshal Petain, appealing to the Council of State to give him their undivided support, says " You are either for me or against me."

20th Aug.—The Vichy Ambassador to U.S.A. calls on Mr. Cordell Hull " to relieve apprehensions regarding signs of closer collaboration between Vichy and the Nazis."

22nd Aug.—The German Commander-in-Chief in Occupied France issues an order, stating that all Frenchmen under arrest in Occupied France " for any cause " are now considered as hostages following the killing of a Nazi soldier in Paris.

23rd Aug.—The French Cabinet meet twice to consider internal policy. The Official Journal publishes a new drastic law, threatening communists with imprisonment and hard labour and in certain cases, with death. A thousand arrests have been made in Paris. Nevertheless, sabotage on the railways continues to be reported.

24th Aug.—Mr. Connally, Chairman of the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, declares: " If the Vichy Government permit German control of Martinique or other French territory in the Western hemisphere, we shall seize that island or any such territory and hold it by armed force."

25th Aug.—The Canadian Government ban the export of coal to the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in order to forestall any possible attempt to use the islands as Axis fuelling bases.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1939

1st Sep.—Germany invades Poland.

19th Sep.—Hitler enters Danzig.

The British issue a blue book on Poland.

25th Sep.—President Moscicki and Marshal Smigly Rydz, Polish leaders, are interned in Rumania.

27th Sep.—Warsaw announces that surrender has been agreed upon and that conditions are being negotiated. It is reported that the Poles are still holding out at Modlin and on the Hel Peninusula, overloking Danzig.

30th Sep.—M. Moscicki resigns the Presidency of Poland. A statement from the Polish Embassy in Paris announces the constitution of a new Polish Government with M. Raczkiewicz as President and Genersal Sikorski as Premier and Minister of War.

1st Oct.—The Polish garrison of Hel Peninsula surrenders.

18th Oct.—The Kings of Norway and Denmark and the President of Finland arrive in Stockholm to confer with the King of Sweden.

7th Nov.—Queen Wilhelmina and King Leopold issue a joint appeal for peace with an offer of their good offices to the belligerent Powers.

18th Nov.—Martial law is declared in Prague and other big Czech towns.

1940

18th Jan.—A Dutch royal decree proclaims state of siege in several coastal areas.

8th April.—Allies lay mines in Norwegian waters to intensify the blockade against Germany.

9th Apr.—Germany invades Denmark and Norway. Denmark is cccupied while Norway resists.

11th Apr.—Mr. Churchill gives a thrilling account of the naval war and the occupation of the Faroe Islands.

13th Apr.—A vigorous sea battle takes place in Narvik Bay. British forces land at several points in Norway.

16th Apr.—Norwegian White Paper on the German invasion of Norway is issued.

17th Apr.—Polish Black Book on German atrocities in Poland is published.

27th Apr.—German White Book on alleged Allied plans to invade Norway is released to the Press by Ribbentrop. The British and French Governments issue a categorical denial.

2nd May.—Mr. Chamberlain announces the withdrawal of British troops from South Norway.

5th May.—Mr. Lloyd George indicts the British Cabinet for the failure of the Norwegian Campaign.

10th May.—Germany invades Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg. Allied troops rush to rescue Belgium and Holland.

13th May.—Queen Wilhelmina of Holland arrives in England.

14th May.—General Winkelman, Dutch Commander-in-Chief, broadcasts a proclamation announcing the cessation of hostilities in Holland.

15th May.—Holland surrenders—Amsterdam is thrown open to the Germans.

17th May.—German troops march into Brussels.

18th May.—British reinforcements stream to Sedan region in North France.

28th May.—King Leopold of Belgium surrenders.

31st May.—Belgian Deputies and Senators repudiate the action of King Leopold, at a meeting held in France.

1st June.—Over 335,000 officers and men of the Allied armies withdraw from Dunkirk.

4th June.—Mr. Churchill makes a statement in the Commons on the withdrawal of the B.E.F. from Flanders.

9th June.—Fighting ends in Norway. British troops are withdrawn.

25th Sep.—Terboren deposes the King of Norway and institutes the Quisling Government.

28th Nov.—The Paris University and the University of Leyden in Holland, are closed by the Nazis following demonstration by students.

20th Dec.—A Dutch newspaper published in London reports that Nazis in Holland have introduced compulsory labour service for all Dutchmen. The Dutch are being compelled to work six months every year.

25th Dec.—A fine of one million francs is imposed by the German Military authorities on the population of Orleans following the cutting of a German Military telephone line.

27th Dec.—The Germans confiscate about 10,000 lb. of meat daily in Oslo.

1941

5th Mar.—Dr. Benes broadcasts a message to the Czech people warning them against making any concessions to the Germans.

21st Mar.—The German Commissioner in the Netherlands threatens to impose martial law, if necessary, for the maintenance of public order and safety. Widespread disturbances and strikes in the Netherlands, with heavy fines on the cities concerned, are reported. Fifteen Dutchmen, alleged to be involved in sabotage and espionage, are shot by the Nazis.

31st Mar.—Nearly a quarter of a million people, including 90,000 children, are attending Warsaw soup kitchens, declares an official of the American Commission for Polish Relief.

5th Apr.—The Royal Netherlands Government in London are reported to be spending large sums of money for buying and storing food and materials necessary for replenishing the stocks in Holland after the war.

15th April.—In a daring raid on a northern Norwegian port by Norwegian and other Allied warships, communications are cut, local "Quislings" rounded up, stocks of fish oil seized and harbour works blown up. A factory is also destroyed. The Germans are taken completely by surprise and the Allies leave the port without a single loss.

16th Apr.—A Russo-Belgian agreement for the supply of foodstuffs to Belgium is reached in Moscow.

21st Apr.—The German authorities threaten severe reprisals against the Belgians as a sequel to the numerous acts of sabotage and "hostility towards the army of occupation" in the Hainaut province of Belgium.

27th Apr.—A fine of a million francs is imposed on the Channel Port of Dieppe by the German authorities as a sequel to demonstrations by a picture-house audience against Hitler and Mussolini.

2nd May.—The Germans announce the arrest of Patriarch Gavrilo, head of the Orthodox Church in Yugoslavia.

5th May.—The French Nazi leader, Jean Fontenoy, is reported to have been killed in a Paris street.

9th May.—The Soviet withdraw diplomatic recognition from the Norweigian, Belgium and Yugoslav Legations in Moscow as their countries "are no longer sovereign States."

19th May.—The Polish Premier, Gen. Sikorski, returns to London after his visit to the United States and Canada, where he helped to organize a Polish volunteer army.

21st May.—The Nazi Police Chief, Himmler, is on his way to Oslo, where dock workers have come out on strike.

24th May.—Himmler, the German police chief, returns to Germany after establishing the familiar terror apparatus of the Nazi machine in Norway.

28th May.—An Anglo-Norwegian agreement concerning the employment of Norwegian armed forces in the United Kingdom is signed in London.

31st May.—The German Naval Commander-in-Chief in Norway, Admiral Boeham, is reported to have committed suicide, following the recent visit of Himmler, Chief of the German Secret Police, to Norway.

4th June.—It is learned that Dr. Matchak, the Croat leader, is interned at Kupenich.

Eighty-two thousand officials have been dismissed by the German authorities in Moravia and Bohemia because of increasing sabotage.

General Sikorski, the Polish Premier, addressing the Polish National Council in London, envisages offensive action by the growing free Polish forces next year on the continent.

6th June.—Growing unrest among all sections of the Norwegian people particularly against the brutalities committed by hired Quislings and Black Guards is voiced by 43 of the most prominent national organizations in a joint open letter to the German Commissioner Terboven.

11th June.—The Polish Cabinet in London approves of a declaration by General Sikorski, giving equal rights in the future Poland to all citizens, irrespective of nationality, race or religion.

16th June.—Flemish workmen, it is reported, are sent to Northern France by the Germans and forced to work on the fortifications there.

17th June.—It is reported that King Leopold of the Belgians refuses to treat with the Germans.

Januz Kuscocinski, the famous Polish long distance champion, is tortured to death by the Gestapo.

19th June.—Remarkable passive resistance is being offered by the Netherlands to the Germans.

23rd June.—The Norwegian Telegraph Agency reports a sudden increase of German activity along the south and west coasts of Norway; large-scale evacuations of Norwegians are ordered immediately.

The Finnish Radio reports an announcement by the Lithuanian Radio in the German language that a free Lithuanian Government has been set up at Kaunas and that the country has declared itself independent of the Soviet Union.

The Polish Cabinet meets to consider the situation arising out of the Russo-German war.

24th June.—In the course of a Commons debate, Mr. Eden renews Britain's pledge that Poland will regain her freedom at the end of the war.

Both Queen Wilhelmina and Dr. Benes voice support to Allied-Russian collaboration.

26th June.—A Dutch submarine sinks an enemy supply ship of 5,000 tons and an enemy tanker of 7,500 tons.

30th June.—The death occurs at New York of M. Padereweski, famous musician and Polish leader, who was President of the Polish National Council. The Polish Government, meeting in London, express the sorrow of the Polish nation at his passing.

8th July.—M. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador in London, and Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier, are engaged in conversations aimed at restoring friendly relations between Russia and Poland.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt, in a message to the President of the Polish Government in London, expresses confidence that the Poles will regain their liberty as a result of their heroic struggle and sacrifice.

13th July.—The Rumanian Vice-Premier states that Bessarabia and Bukovina will be re-annexed by Rumania after the war.

The Montenegrin National Assembly proclaims Montenegro a sovereign, independent State, taking the form of a constitutional monarchy; the King of Italy will be asked to appoint a Regent, who will frame the new constitution.

16th July.—Russia resumes diplomatic relations with the refugee Governments of Greece, Yugoslavia, Belgium and Norway.

18th July.—A Russo-Czech Agreement is signed in London under which the two countries agree to exchange diplomatic representatives and to carry on the common struggle against Germany.

20th July.—Mr. Winston Churchill, in a message to the people of the occupied countries, broadcast from London, announces the mobilization of the "V" Army. He says, that the "V" is a portent of the fate awaiting Nazi tyranny.

23rd July.—Scout groups in Czechoslovakia are ordered to be dissolved by the German authorities because their belts contain the monogram "V", the symbol of Allied victory.

26th July.—Dr. Benes, Head of the Czechoslovak Government in London, in a broadcast to his country, welcomes the British decision to grant full recognition to his Government and explains the value of the recent agreement arrived at with Russia.

27th July.—The German authorities in Yugoslavia blame Communists for numerous acts of sabotage and shoot a number of them.

The German Secret Police arrest a large number of railwaymen following a collision between a goods train and a German troop train near Warsaw in which over 200 casualties are reported.

31st July.—The Polish Foreign Minister and two other Ministers resign following the signature of the Polish-Russian Pact.

The United States of America accords recognition to the Czechoslovak Government in London.

2nd Aug.—The Reich Commissar for Norway proclaims a state of emergency throughout the country.

Resistance to the Germans is growing in Bulgaria and Rumania, also in Belgium where the Burgomaster of Brussels is sent to a concentration camp for asserting himself against the German military authorities.

3rd Aug.—The Royal Government of Greece decides to send a diplomatic mission to Moscow.

Marshal List, the German *blitzkrieg* specialist, is reported to be taking defence measures in Greece and other Balkan territories.

5th Aug.—An agreement signed by the Royal Norwegian Government (in London) and the Soviet Government announces the resumption of dipiomatic relations between the two countries.

Three trains are derailed by saboteurs in Bulgaria.

A big revolt breaks out in Montenegro.

6th Aug.—Acts of sabotage are increasing in Belgium where the German army's petrol stores disappear. Following a bomb explosion, a collective fine of a million francs is imposed on the town of Malines.

In Czechoslovakia, a consignment of arms at the Skoda works is blown up and, in the course of eleven railway accidents, 250 German officers and men are killed.

A revolt flares up in Belgrade.

8th Aug.—The German authorities suppress over 500 newspapers and periodicals in Czechoslovakia.

A Polish Military Mission arrives in Moscow; General Anders is appointed to command the Polish forces in Russia.

10th Aug.—Representatives of all Slav-nations meet in Moscow and declare their determination to continue the war against Germany.

The Czech Foreign Minister announces that a Czech military unit is being organized in Russia on the same lines as the Polish unit.

12th Aug.—The Polish Government decide to protest to world opinion against the compulsory mobilization of Poles in the German army in the occupied territories.

13th Aug.—Two more former Dutch Ministers are arrested and sent to concentration camps.

A Soviet decree grants amnesty to all Polish prisoners in Russia.

15th Aug.—The Polish Government in London decides to send an Ambassador to Moscow.

16th Aug.—The German authorities decree that all Netherlands Provinces and Municipalities shall lose their autonomy and function under specially appointed officers.

19th Aug.—The Tass Agency reports a large uprising of Albanian nationalists which greatly alarms the Italians.

22nd Aug.—Clashes are reported between the Italian troops and the members of the Peasant Party in Croatia.

23rd Aug.—Count Raczynski, Polish Ambassador in London, is appointed Foreign Minister of Poland in succession to H. Zaleshki, who resigned from General Sikorski's Cabinet on the signing of the Polish-Soviet Pact.

King Leopold, it is revealed, has twice refused to return to the Belgian Throne and act as a " Belgian Laval ".

25th Aug.—Nearly 200 guerilla fighters in the Bosinan Province of Yugoslavia have been executed by the German authorities.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1939

2nd Sep.—In the Dail, Mr. de Valera announces Eire's neutrality in the European War.

3rd Sep.—General Franco issues a decree declaring Spain's neutrality in the war.

4th Sep.—Lord Craigavon, Prime Minister, declares that Ulster will fight with Britain against Germany.

10th Oct.—The Estonian Government resigns. M. Uluots is appointed Premier.

13th Oct.—The King of Sweden invites the Danish and Norwegian Sovereigns and the President of Finland to a conference in Stockholm to discuss problems of security in North Europe.

15th Oct.—A German-Estonian agreement for the transfer of the German minority in Estonia is signed at Tallinn.

The Finnish Government resigns.

1st Dec.—A new Finnish Cabinet is formed with Dr. Risto Ryti as Prime Minister. M. Molotov refuses to negotiate with it.

4th Dec.—The Finnish Government announce their decision to fortify Aaland Islands.

1940

16th Feb.—The Swedish Government refuse the Finnish appeal for direct military assistance and also for the passage of foreign troops through their territory.

6th May.—Hitler assures King Gustav that he would respect Swedish neutrality.

11th May.—Mr. de Valera re-affirms the policy of neutrality and appeals to his countrymen to organize for defence.

24th May.—Sir Samuel Hoare is appointed Ambassador in Madrid.

23rd Oct.—Hitler and Franco meet on the Franco-Spanish frontier.

The Eire Government report readiness to receive British evacuees.

4th Nov.—Spaniards take over Government of Tangier.

1941

6th Feb.—The Government of Eire are arranging for the voluntary evacuation of children from Dublin city and Kingston borough in the event of a situation arising which would render such a course advisable.

12th Feb.—General Franco and Sgr. Mussolini confer at Bordighera.

26th Feb.—The British and Spanish Government come to a provisional arrangement with regard to Tangier; its important feature is that the Spanish Government have given an assurance that there will be no fortification of the zone.

8th Mar.—Mr. de Valera receives Col. Donovan.

16th Mar.—Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, confers at Lisbon with Col. Donovan (President Roosevelt's Special Envoy to Europe) on the question of supplies to Spain and Portugal and unoccupied France.

22nd Mar.—The German Ambassadors to Argentina, Peru and Bolivia hold a secret meeting at Santiago in Chile.

23rd Mar.—Spain's ability to retain her neutrality is emphasized by the Under Secretary of the Press and Propaganda Ministry.

24th Mar.—The Swedish Minister of Justice says that, owing to the uncertainty of the coming months, Sweden must be prepared for all eventualities.

26th Mar.—Sensational reports concerning Nazi infiltration into Chille are made by the Santiago paper *Defensa*, which gives details of fifth column activity.

29th Mar.—Mr. de Valera, in a speech at Limerick, warns the people of Eire that they will face complete starvation if the harvest is not up to standard.

1st Apr.—General Franco, the Spanish Dictator, signs a law, liberating 40,000 political prisoners, on the second anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

3rd Apr.—Mr. de Valera reveals in the Dail that Eire has protested to the German Government against Nazi air attacks on four Irish ships and demanded compensation.

Brazil protests to Germany against the bombing attack on the merchant-ship *Tanbati* off Alexandria.

4th Apr.—The Australian Premier, Mr. Menzies, has an interview with Mr. de Valera at Dublin.

9th Apr.—Dr. Dalton reveals in the House of Commons that very little, if any, oil has reached Germany from the Soviet since March 1.

13th Apr.—Mr. de Valera in a broadcast reiterates Irish neutrality but warns into the nation to be prepared for all eventualities.

18th Apr.—Eire's Defence Minister states at a meeting in Boston that Eire will not give up or lease ports to the belligerents. A German bomber crashes in Eire territorial waters off Cork; the crew come ashore and are interned. Penalties for the misuse of the rapidly dwindling stock of wheat flour are announced in Eire.

21st Apr.—The formation of a Basque National Council to continue the work of the Basque Government and to join the Democracies in their war with the dictators is announced by a Basque delegation in London.

24th Apr.—It is reported that Spain's Foreign Minister is supporting Hitler's demand for the right of passage for his troops through Spain to Gibraltar though General Franco is still hesitant.

26th Apr.—Reports of the arrival in Spain of Rudolph Hess, the Deputy of Hitler, causes considerable speculation.

Germany is said to be bringing pressure to bear on Spain and Portugal to fall in with Axis plans.

28th Apr.—The Rome Radio broadcasts a threat to Switzerland against allowing anti-Italian expressions of sentiment.

3rd May.—Sir Clive Liddell, the outgoing Governor of Gibraltar, in a farewell message, stresses the impregnability of the Rock.

5th May.—Spain takes over the Sherifian customs at Tangier.

6th May.—Reports reaching America show that Portugal is taking precautions to forestall German plans for a parachute invasion of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands.

9th May.—A Lisbon communiqué announces the reinforcement of three Portuguese islands in the Atlantic "as an affirmation of Portuguese sovereignty." The communiqué also states that assurances have been received from United States that Portuguese sovereignty over these islands will be respected 'absolutely.'

10th May.—Th appointment of Civil Governors for Madrid and other important centres is announced at the Spanish capital, indicating that General Franco is strengthening his position *vis-a-vis* his pro-Axis brother-in-law and Falangist leader, Serrano Suner.

12th May.—General Franco issues a number of decrees, making important changes in high posts in the Spanish Army.

13th May.—Swedish anti-aircraft guns drive back two German planes flying over Swedish territory.

19th May.—It is understood that Gen. Franco has refused to accept the resignation tendered by the Spanish Foreign Minister, Sr. Suner. Two important officials of the Falangist Party are, however, removed from their posts.

Lord Gort, the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar, calls on Gen. Grandes, Spanish Military Governor of Algeciras.

22nd May.—General Franco directs that Sr. Suner should have the fullest powers over the Falange party affairs.

23rd May.—Members of the Eire Government confer with the Opposition parties on the situation arising from the probable introduction of conscription in Northern Ireland.

26th May.—Premier de Valera, Mr. Cosgrave (Opposition Leader) and Mr. Norton (Labour Leader), speaking in the Irish Dail, appeal to Britain not to introduce conscription in Northern Ireland.

27th May.—Mr. Churchill announces in the Commons that conscription for Northern Ireland has been dropped. Mr. de Valera, Mr. Cosgrave and Mr. Norton welcome the British decision.

31st May.—Bombs dropped by foreign aircraft on Dublin cause many deaths and heavy damage to property. The house of Eire's President, Dr. Hyde, and the American Legation building suffer. Fierce anti-aircraft fire greet the raiders.

1st June.—The bombs dropped on Dublin are found to be of German origin and the Eire Government protest to Germany and demand compensation as also an assurance that German aircraft will not fly again over Irish territory or territorial waters.

4th June.—The Egyptian Premier reshuffles his Cabinet.

9th June.—It is reported from Algeciras that bombs were dropped on a Spanish town north-east of Gibraltar.

10th June.—All the five occupants of a German plane are killed when it crashes in Eire territory.

12th June.—Snr. Suner, Spanish Foreign Minister, receives the British, Portuguese, Italian, German and Chilean Ambassadors. He also sees the Papal Nuncio on the Turkish Charge d'Affairs.

18th June.—The German Government in their reply to Eire's protest say that there is "no conclusive proof" that the planes that bombed Dublin were German.

19th June.—It is believed that Mexico may close down German Consulates and propaganda centres at any moment. Germany expresses sincere regret to the Eire Government for the bomb-dropping on May 31, and agrees to pay compensation.

23rd June.—Sweden's frontier with Finland is closed and her ships are recalled to port. Her Cabinet meets in secret.

A Spanish Foreign Office spokesman states at a Press Conference that the Spanish Government have received the news of Hitler's attack on Russia with satisfaction and hint that Spanish volunteers might fight the Soviet.

25th June.—Sweden agrees to allow one German division to pass through from Norway to Finland.

Rioting, inspired by Nazi agents, occurs outside the British Embassy in Madrid. The British Government take up the matter with the Spanish Government.

26th June.—The Spanish Government undertake to give full satisfaction to Britain regarding the anti-British demonstration in Madrid and to guard against a repetition.

28th June.—Mr. Eden tells the Swedish Minister in London that Britain takes a very grave view of Sweden's action in allowing German troops to pass through her territory.

29th June.—General Franco expresses strong disapproval of the anti-British riots in Spain, in a long interview he granted to Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Ambassador. Speaking at Ennis, County Clare, Mr. de Valera gives a warning of Eire's increasing danger. Eire will continue to remain neutral, he says, but will defend herself against any invader.

8th July.—The international wireless installation at Tangier is taken over by the Spanish Government.

All military leave is cancelled in Mexico "in view of the present emergency in the world situation, particularly the Americas."

10th July.—The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in reply to a question in the Commons states that the Spanish Government have apologized for their recent attack on the British Embassy at Madrid and the persons responsible have been appropriately punished.

12th July.—Italian planes bomb La Linea, the Spanish town near Gibraltar, apparently mistaking it for the latter. Six persons are killed and a score injured.

13th July.—General Barron is appointed Commander of the Spanish Military area contiguous to Gibraltar in succession to General Grande, who is leading the Spanish volunteers against Russia.

16th July.—In reply to questions in the House of Commons, Mr. Anthony Eden indicates that the British Government are closely watching the Spanish Government's attitude.

17th July.—Both Peru and Ecuador accept the mediation proposal put forward by the United States, Argentina and Brazil.

18th July.—General Franco, addressing the National Council of the Falange, expresses sympathy with the Axis and makes a violent attack on the Soviet Union.

While Mr. de Valera reiterates Eire's decision to defend her neutrality at all costs, Mr. Dillon, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Dail, enters a forceful plea for aid to Britain.

21st July.—The Bolivian Government declare a state of siege throughout the Republic as a result of a Nazi *putsch* in Bolvia. At the same time, the German Minister receives an order to leave the country in 24 hours. Many Nazi sympathizers are rounded up.

22nd July.—It is disclosed in Washington that the United States has promised full support to Bolivia in the event of any international incident arising from the exposure of Nazi designs and the expulsion of the German Minister.

The German Government order the Bolivian *Charge d'Affaires* in Berlin to leave within three days.

23rd July.—It is disclosed that over a hundred persons have been recently arrested in Switzerland including a few foreigners, on charges of endangering Swiss neutrality.

24th July.—Mr. Anthony Eden, replying to General Franco's recent speech, warns Spain against alienating Britain.

27th July.—Afghanistan reiterates neutrality in the present war.

The Portuguese President, on a visit to the Azores, affirms Portugal's desire to live in peace but to defend herself against aggression.

The Germans protest to the Swedish Government against the blowing up of two troop trains on their way to Finland through Sweden.

27th July.—The German Consul in the Bolivian town of Cochabamba, is arrested for complicity in an attempted Nazi *putsch*.

The Argentine authorities seize further incriminating materials from the baggage of a Nazi diplomat.

30th July.—Mr. Eden states in the Commons that Britain has drawn the Iran Government's attention to the danger, in Iran's own interests, of continuing to permit an excessively large number of Germans to reside in their country.

1st Aug.—Hostilities between Peru and Equador cease.

Several arrests follow the discovery of another Nazi plot in Argentina. The Bolivian police also unearth a Nazi organization in Bolivia.

3rd Aug.—President Camacho of Mexico declares that Mexico will not intervene in the war except in case of aggression against her or against another nation on the American continent.

Peru decides to cancel her agreement with Germany on the exchange of diplomatic bags for official correspondence as the bags are being misused by German diplomats.

5th Aug.—Japan sends a note to Equador, demanding the suppression of anti-Japanese sentiment and the protection of Japanese nationals.

9th Aug.—The German Ambassador assures the Argentine Foreign Minister that the Reich Government had agreed to suspend Axis propaganda in Argentine.

10th Aug.—A Nazi plot is discovered in Southern Chile where several Germans are taken into custody.

12th Aug.—The United States Treasury unfreezes Portuguese assets in America.

14th Aug.—The Argentine Cabinet decides to take over 20 belligerent ships with a total tonnage of about 200,000.

17th Aug.—The majority group in the Mexican Senate urges the restoration of diplomatic relations with Britain which have been suspended from May 1938 following the dispute over the expropriation of the British-owned oil fields by the Mexican Government.

The Mexican Government are reported to be proceeding with the immediate construction of a railway across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in order to safeguard against the possibility of the Panama Canal being rendered unusable by an enemy.

Slight changes are announced in the Eire Cabinet.

20th Aug.—Mr. Frank McDermott, Eire Senator, says it is essential for the future of Ireland that Britain should not be defeated and indicates that air and naval bases in Eire must be made available to the British.

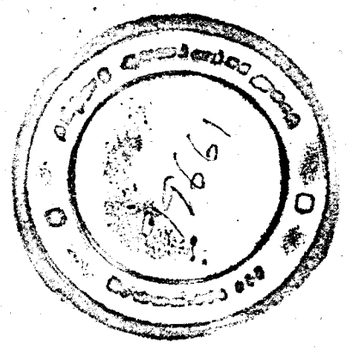
23rd Aug.—King Zahir Shah, speaking at the National Independence Festival at Kabul, reaffirms Afghanistan's neutrality.

24th Aug.—The Nazi Party newspaper *Voelkisher Beobachter* makes sharp attacks on Switzerland and Sweden for staying out of "the fight against Bolshevism".

The Mexican Government withdraws recognition of the German Consulate in Mexico in retaliation for the closing down of the Mexican Consulate in Occupied France by the German authorities.

25th Aug.—The Argentine Government acquire 16 Italian ships lying in their ports

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]



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