

NAZIS ENLIST SOVIET AID IN PEACE DRIVE

Holling Attended Dinner At DeFusto's, Says Friend

Mayor, Encountered in Adirondacks, Declared No Gambling Would Be Allowed.

By JACK MEDDOFF
Testimony of a dinner in the DeFusto home in the Adirondacks in July, 1938, attended by Mayor Holling and himself, was related by Dr. Charles H. McKee, dentist and personal friend of Mr. Holling, at the gambling conspiracy trial today.

Dr. McKee said he and the mayor, on a trip, accidentally encountered former Commissioner Higgins, Tony DeFusto and Julius Caputo at Old Forge and accepted DeFusto's dinner invitation.

Other developments today included:

1—Dr. McKee's recital of part of the dinner conversation in which DeFusto said Mr. Higgins, instead of Glenn H. McClellan, ought to have been named police commissioner by Mayor Holling on Jan. 1, 1938.

2—Mayor Holling's declaration at the dinner, according to Dr. McKee's testimony, that so long as he was mayor there would be no gambling if he could help it.

3—Justice Conway's refusal to permit Prosecutor Raichle to adduce evidence of DeFusto's bank accounts.

4—Testimony by John V. Mullane, former accountant for Defendant Dwyer, that Dwyer told him that to operate his bookmaking place it was necessary to pay Walter J. (Butch) Kramer and two precinct captains whose names were allowed to go into the record.

5—Insertion into the trial record of the extraordinary grand jury testimony on July 15, last, by Lieut. Mulligan, a defendant, that he never had received any money from Frank Gatta, former bookmaker.

DeFusto Invited Mayor.
Dr. McKee, called by Mr. Raichle, said he is a friend of Mayor Holling and knows Defendant Higgins and DeFusto. The latter, with Caputo, disappeared following the return of the gambling conspiracy indictment July 17.

Dr. McKee testified that in July, 1938, he and Mayor Holling were in the Adirondacks and ran into Mr. Higgins and DeFusto in a restaurant. They also encountered Caputo in front of the place. Caputo invited Dr. McKee to play golf the next day and DeFusto invited Mayor Holling and his friend to dinner the following evening.

Following dinner the mayor, Dr. McKee, Mr. Higgins, Caputo and DeFusto engaged in a general conversation.

(Dentist Testifies, continued on Page 7, Column 1.)

DODGE SUIT FORBIDDEN
TORONTO, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Justice J. G. Kelly of the Ontario Supreme Court today ruled the estate of the late Daniel Dodge, 21-year-old heir to Detroit motor millions, could not be sued in Ontario. His action followed hearing of an appeal brought by Mrs. Matilda Wilson of Detroit, Mr. Dodge's mother, against a ruling of Aug. 5 naming her to represent the estate in the province.

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MISS INGALLS FAILS TO CRASH
Senate Hearing on Embargo

Phier and Peace Leader Charge Dictatorship After Attempt to Storm Committee Session.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Laura Ingalls, noted woman flapper, and Catherine Curtis, chairman of the Women's National Committee to Keep States Out of War, tried without success today to crash the Senate Foreign Relations Committee meeting.

The women made a rush for the closed door of the committee room, but were halted by John D. Annelly, a committee clerk.

They said they wanted to urge the committee to hold hearings on the Administration proposal for repeal of the arms embargo.

Miss Ingalls, already in the bad graces of the Civil Aeronautics Authority for an unauthorized flight over Washington in which she dropped "peace" pamphlets on the White House grounds, led the assault.

When her way was blocked, she cried:

"And this is the government of the United States! Imagine! Holding hearings behind closed doors! This is a dictatorship already."

Bergdoll Children Called in Trial



ALFRED AND EMMA BERGDOLL

2 Children Verify Bergdoll In Story of Residence in U.S.

Son, 12, Recalls Father Visited Philadelphia a Long Time Ago; Sister Tells Same Story.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Two of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll's five children today corroborated their father's testimony that he lived secretly in Philadelphia during part of the 19 years he was supposedly a fugitive in Germany.

Bergdoll, on trial before a general court martial on charges of desertion and escape, testified Wednesday he slipped back into the United States twice, remaining four years the first time and three years the second. Both times, he swore, he lived in the home of his mother, Mrs. Emma Bergdoll, in Wynnefield ave., Philadelphia, but never ventured from the house.

His oldest son, Alfred, 12, who has attended the William P. Mann School in Philadelphia for the last four years, was called as the day's first witness after Army prosecutors agreed to stipulate that if Erwin Bergdoll, Grover's brother, were called he would corroborate the story of Grover's secret residence.

Alfred could not remember when he first saw his father in the Philadelphia house, but knew it "was a long time ago."

A fifth-grade pupil, he said he remembered his father lived with them in Philadelphia while he was in the second and third grades and part of the time when he was in the fourth grade.

This would have been on Bergdoll's second visit, from October, 1935, to October, 1938. His first visit lasted from June, 1929, to May, 1933. Alfred said he was constantly warned not to mention his father's presence in the house.

His sister, Emma, a blonde child of 11 with long braids, told the same story. Her Uncle Erwin, she said, came to the house every night while her father was there.

U. S. Asks Refugee Ships Limit Bookings to Americans

NEW YORK, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Officials of the United States Lines said today the State Department had requested that bookings on five refugee ships be limited to American citizens.

The vessels are the Orizaba, which returned Wednesday from Glasgow; the St. John and Acadia, sisterships; and the Iroquois and Shawnee.

The officials said the Shawnee had left Bordeaux with 452 passengers, but could have taken approximately 240 more had it not been for the State Department request. They also explained the St. John, Acadia and Iroquois, which will sail from Europe within a week, will not be filled.

Hitchhiker Arrested In Pennsylvania Slaying

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Sept. 28 (U.P.).—A 200-pounder, powerfully built hitchhiker was jailed today in the investigation of the slaying of Mrs. Clara Buchanan, 38, strangled with an apron and kitchen towels in her home Monday. Detectives said the man, described as 30 or 35, 5 feet 11 inches tall and having "unusually long arms," had been sought since Tuesday when residents reported seeing a man of his type in the neighborhood. No charge was placed against the prisoner.

GET FURLONGS TO FISH

PARIS, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The Naval Ministry today disclosed an undetermined number of mobilized French fishermen had been granted "fishing furloughs" to help restock markets with fresh fish.

ARMIS ASKED FOR MAINE

SOUTH PORTLAND, Me., Sept. 28 (U.P.).—U. S. Representative James S. Oliver, Republican of Maine, said today he had asked Army authorities to provide gas masks, automatic rifles and anti-aircraft equipment for Maine military forces because of the state's "proximity to a foreign belligerent."

SENATE GROUP ADVANCES BILL ON ARMS REPEAL

Measure to Permit Sale of Munitions to Belligerents Is Reported by Committee After Debate on Shipping.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved today the Administration Neutrality Bill to permit the sale of American armaments to belligerent nations.

By RENEAL G. VAN TINE
—Efforts of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to speed action on President Roosevelt's neutrality program bogged down today in debate over effects of the plan on the American merchant marine.

The discussion over shipping disrupted plans to report the measure promptly to the Senate.

Senator William E. Borah, Republican of Idaho, emerging from the committee session, said that members had become engrossed also in a discussion of several technical changes proposed for the bill.

Whether any considerable delay in reporting the bill was in prospect was uncertain, but Senator Alben W. Barkley, Democratic leader, said he expected the committee would continue deliberations this afternoon until a decision had been reached.

Want Powers Defined.
The Senate in its brief session voted unanimously to ask the attorney general for information on what powers were made available to President Roosevelt when he recently proclaimed a state of national emergency.

The resolution asking the information was proposed by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan. Senator Barkley commented that he had no objection and thought the information might prove helpful to the Senate in its consideration of neutrality legislation.

The resolution also requested the attorney general to inform the Senate what other extraordinary powers, if any, were made available to the President "under existing statute in emergency or state of war."

Propaganda Probe Urged.
Senator Bennett C. Clark, Democrat of Missouri, offered a resolution calling for the establishment of a seven-man Senate committee to investigate all persons or firms "acting for foreign governments and using propaganda or other means in an effort to effect a change in the neutral position of the United States."

War at a Glance

Clip for Your Historical Scrapbook.
THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

European hostilities lagged today with expectation that Warsaw's capitulation would bring a new "peace offensive" from Hitler.

A German communique reported that a heavy British cruiser was successfully attacked by a German air raider near the British coast. A British Admiralty spokesman termed the German claim "all poppycock."

Berlin said that Poland's capital, shattered by 20 days of German Siege, was prepared to surrender, probably tomorrow.

A German announcement of the city's unconditional surrender was borne out by a Polish news agency dispatch indicating further defense had been abandoned with German and Russian armies in virtually complete control of Poland.

The Warsaw radio was silent after telling the dramatic story of the city's valiant defense and ruin.

On the Western Front hostilities were slow-paced.

A French communique said "an enemy attack west of Saarbrücken failed" during a "calm night along the entire front."

Swiss dispatches said a French counterattack had driven back German troops which had thrust toward a rail junction east of Wissembourg.

The French communique declared British and French planes had "shot down several German fighting planes."

"There were no noteworthy fighting activities" on the West, said a German communique reporting "one enemy plane" had been downed near Saarbrücken.

The official Soviet agency reported the second attack in two days by an unidentified submarine on Soviet shipping near Estonia. The steamer Pioneer was forced onto the rocks without loss of life, Tass said.

Diplomatic circles in London and Paris expressed belief Hitler was preparing a new peace move, possibly backed by threat of a German-Soviet military alliance.

For a clue to the future diplomats looked to Moscow, where the foreign ministers of Germany, Turkey and Estonia were conferring with the Soviet government.

Moscow speculation mentioned the possibility of a Soviet-German military pact and of the formation of a new Balkan bloc with Turkey participating.

IN THE WAR ZONE

British Blockade Looks Like Winner

Churchill's Claims More Convincing Than Those of U. S. Sub Inventor.

By T. R. YEARRA
Special to the Buffalo Evening News

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Said Winston Churchill, Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty, in the House of Commons Tuesday:

"The British attack upon U-boats is only just beginning. Our hunting forces are growing stronger every day. By the end of October we will have three times the hunting force which was operating at the outbreak of the war, while at the same time the number of targets open to U-boats on the vast expanse of the seas and oceans will be greatly reduced by the use of convoys, and at the same time the U-boats' means of attacking them will be heavily clubbed and battered."

That—and further remarks by Mr. Churchill in the same speech—amounts to a declaration that he thinks Great Britain will beat Germany's submarine campaign against her, just as she beat the German U-boats that tried to starve her in the World War.

Said Simon Lake, American inventor of submarines, in a newspaper interview last week:

"Germany's undersea strength can destroy all enemy shipping in a long war. The Allies have no adequate defense against submarines in the open sea."

That—and other statements by Mr. Lake to the reporter who interviewed him—means, in substance, that he thinks Germany will win her submarine campaign against the British.

Those two diametrically opposed expressions of expert opinion provide excellent material for hot controversy. And ardent controversialists—as I know from first-hand knowledge, alas—are wildly rushing into it wherever one goes.

(In the War Zone, continued on Page 5, Column 5.)

Woman Jaywalker Slaps Policeman, Gets Ticket

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Pedestrians grinned in amazement Wednesday as 102-pound Gladys Grossman of New York resoundingly slapped Policeman C. W. Mitchell's face after he cited her for jaywalking. Grinning ruefully, Patrolman Mitchell said the 24-year-old woman had refused to identify herself. "As I took her arm to lead her to the call box, she slapped me . . . plenty! She said later she was sorry and accepted the ticket."

CANADA FORMS WAR BOARDS

TORONTO, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Formation of war advisory boards at the University of Toronto and Queen's University, Kingston, was under way today. Purpose of the boards is to instruct undergraduates as to how they can best serve Canada during the war.

NEW NAZI CLAIM OF SHIP BOMBING DENIED BY BRITISH

Report Airplane Hit Heavy Cruiser Off Scottish Coast Called "Poppycock" in London; First Attack Belittled.

By MELVIN K. WHITELEATHER
BERLIN, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The Supreme Army command, announcing for the second day a success for Germany's air force against Britain's naval might, reported today a British heavy cruiser had been bombed off the East Coast of Scotland.

German radio stations broadcast a hint, meanwhile, that Britain's 22,000-ton Ark Royal was the aircraft carrier the German high command Wednesday announced had been "destroyed" on Tuesday.

An airplane carrier of the most modern construction sustained a square hit of the heavy caliber in Tuesday's raid, the broadcasts declared. "A tremendous explosion was the result. Where is the Ark Royal?"

(The 22,000-ton Ark Royal, which carries a normal complement of 10 planes, was completed Nov. 16, 1938, at a cost of about \$12,000,000.)

In describing aerial activity Wednesday, the command's communique said: "Heavy British cruiser was successfully attacked off the Isle of May (at the mouth of the Firth of Forth) by one aircraft fighting unit. One 250-kilo (550-pound) bomb hit the prow."

The announcement failed to assess the damage, but added: "Of the heavy British naval forces which were attacked the day before (Tuesday), one airplane carrier was hit by one 500-kilo (1100-pound) bomb and one battleship was hit at the prow and amidships by two 250-kilo bombs."

Nazi Claim Is All Poppycock, Declares British Admiralty

LONDON, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—A report by the German high command that a British cruiser had been "successfully attacked" by a German aircraft near the Isle of May, off the east Scottish coast, brought this response today from the British Admiralty:

"It's all poppycock."

The British Press Association added that it "understands there is no truth whatever" to report of the attack. In respect to "suggestions of damage" to the Ark Royal, the association declared the vessel is "safe and sound at her allotted station."

The story issued today by the German radio is a repetition of a false claim made yesterday in connection with the North Sea episode, the association said. The latter reference was to the German command's assertion that on Tuesday Nazi airplanes "destroyed" a British aircraft carrier and severely bombed a British battleship.

An authoritative British account of the North Sea battle Tuesday between 20 German warplanes and ships of the British Home Fleet disclosed today that the warships were attacked while they were escorting a damaged British submarine home.

"Enemy bombers were able to take advantage of low-lying clouds to dive over the battleships," the account related. "Other airplanes flew at a height of about 12,000 feet and made a break in the clouds to deliver an attack on our cruisers."

"So effective, however, was the defense put up by the British Squadron, that the German planes found it impossible to find a target. The first attack, this account said, was a one-bomber attack aimed at a British aircraft carrier."

When the low-flying planes first dived through the clouds toward the aircraft carrier, the account said, they were driven off by anti-aircraft fire. Then the planes came to a 10,000-foot altitude attacked the cruisers.

BRAZIL BUYS SHIPS

Rails Also Included in \$5,400,000 Purchases in U. S.

BUFFALO EVENING NEWS New York Bureau.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—American manufacturers have closed a deal with the Brazilian Government for the delivery of \$5,400,000 worth of rails and ships and another transaction for \$6,500,000 worth of locomotives and freight cars is near conclusion, it was learned here today.

The contracts closed are \$1,900,000 for 22,000 tons of rails, to the United States Steel Corporation and Bethlehem Steel Company, and \$3,500,000 for 14 ships to be sold by the Moore & McCormack lines. Both deals call for 35 per cent cash payment in dollars by the Bank of Brazil and 65 per cent credit by the Exports-Imports Bank of Washington at 5 per cent interest, payable quarterly.

The deals nearing completion are with the Baldwin Locomotive Works for 17 locomotives and the American Car & Foundry Company for 1000 freight cars.

FREIGHTER'S CREW SAFE

STAVANGER, Norway, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The crew of the 3378-ton Swedish freighter Nyland, picked up from lifeboats off the Norwegian coast, asserted their ship had been halted by a submarine early today and torpedoed seven hours later. The entire crew of 29 was saved by Norwegian torpedo boats.

ADVICE TO FARMERS

ALBANY, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Agriculture Commissioner Holton V. Noyes advised farmers today to improve plants and equipment rather than increase production because of war-born price booms.

BERLIN TAKES VIEW OF CONTINUANCE OF WAR UP TO GREAT BRITAIN

French Regard von Ribbentrop's Visit to Moscow Hitler Effort to Intimidate Allies.

By JOHN ELLIOTT
Special Cable to Buffalo Evening News and New York Herald Tribune.

PARIS, Sept. 28.—Diplomatic attention here was concentrated today on the meeting of Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Josef V. Stalin at the Kremlin in Moscow, which is expected to have important consequences on the development of the war on the Western Front.

The conference between Nazi and Soviet statesmen is confidently expected here to be the prelude to Fuehrer Adolf Hitler's "peace offensive," which may be launched before the week-end.

Diplomatic observers here believe that the object of the German trip is to intimidate the British and French Governments into accepting Fuehrer Hitler's peace by holding out the spectre of a full-fledged Russo-German military alliance.

Der Fuehrer's peace plan, it was expected, would ask the Allies to recognize the German-Soviet partition of Poland and raise consideration of Germany's colonial demands.

Mussolini Is Threat.

The Russo-German agreement, it is thought here, may be broadcast by a joint declaration of the two powers declaring that Poland's fate is no concern of the Western democracies.

Behind this common German-Russian accord, observers also see the threat of Premier Benito Mussolini. The Rome-Berlin Axis still stands and the time is likely to come when the Fascist Government will decide to push its own territorial claims.

Finally, Fuehrer Hitler's "peace offensive" will be backed by the "mailed fist." The bulk of the 70 German divisions used in the Polish campaign and most of the 5000 German airplanes employed by the Nazis in the East will have been transferred to the Western Front. If the British and French reject Der Fuehrer's peace overtures, France will be threatened by an invasion of German armies, probably seeking to outflank the Maginot Line by pouring through Belgium and Holland to the north and Switzerland to the south. At the same time London and Paris will be menaced with the nightmare of the air bombardments.

Little Activity at Front.

Diplomats feel, however, that there is no likelihood that the British and French will yield to this "blackmail by arms."

(France Expects, continued on Page 2, Column 6.)

British Crew Escapes; Denmark Protests

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Count Einar V. S. C. Reventlow, Danish minister to London, protested today on behalf of the Icelandic Government to the British Government against the escape of a British military plane from Iceland.

The warplane, with a crew of nine, had made a forced landing at Raufarhoefnir, in Northern Iceland, Wednesday. They were interned, but the Britons flew away in their plane today, according to a dispatch to the newspaper Berlingske Aftenavis from Reykjavik.

5 Devil's Island Fugitives Arrive at Trinidad

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Five haggard and sunburned fugitives from Devil's Island, famous French prison colony, arrived Tuesday in an open boat. They said they had sailed for eight days through rough seas.

Death of Von Fritsch Laid To Aides on Orders of Hitler

Story Gains Some Support From Mysterious Disappearance Earlier of Another General.

By EDGAR ANSEL MOWBRER
Special Cable to the Buffalo Evening News and Chicago Daily News.

PARIS, Sept. 28.—A fantastic story describing the alleged murder, at Fuehrer Adolf Hitler's order, of his former commanding general, Col. Gen. Werner von Fritsch, has reached this correspondent exclusively. Were the background anywhere but Germany, one would believe it. It runs as follows:

At the opening of hostilities Fuehrer Hitler asked Gen. von Fritsch to choose what command he cared to be attached to as special headquarters observer. Gen. von Fritsch answered that if ordered he would command his old artillery regiment. Fuehrer Hitler answered that he should accompany the artillery regiment not as commander but as special headquarters observer. At his orders, Gen. von Fritsch received an adjutant, two aides and a secretary, all of whom belonged to

German High Command Announces Modlin Fortress Ready to Surrender

But Germany further strengthened her western defenses and informed sources said if Great Britain still wanted to fight it was to her. In an air fight over Saarbrücken one enemy plane was brought down, an official communique reported.

Triple Alliance Forecasts

Germany also was strengthening itself politically in the Balkans. Indications increased that the mission of Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop to Moscow might result in closer co-operation between Germany and her friends, Soviet Russia and Japan.

The newspaper, closely connected with the highest Nazi quarters and frequently regarded as a prophet of Nazi politics, published a cartoon showing Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain kneeling on the British Isles in prayer, umbrella in hand.

Jap Visit Significant.

Surrounding him were three huge military figures labeled Japan, U. S. S. R. and Greater Germany.

"The Encirclement," said the caption, "a masterpiece of English Diplomacy."

In this connection, some German sources saw as "highly significant" the visit of former Japanese War Minister Gen. Count Ichioka and a group of high Japanese staff officers to the Western Front.

The mopping up of scattered remnants of the Polish Army was reported progressing satisfactorily. The number of Polish prisoners taken in the 28-day campaign was said to have increased to about 600,000 with 600 officers and 60 men reported captured Wednesday east of the San River.

An unofficial but trustworthy source said Wednesday night the Ernst Thaelmann, former Communist chieftain in Germany, and others associated with him had been released from prisons and concentration camps as a result of the German-Soviet Russian cooperation. Placards and books attacking Communism have been removed from public view.

ARCHBISHOP SERIOUSLY ILL

VATICAN CITY, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—His Eminence Carlo Cardinal Kaspar, archbishop of Prague, was described as seriously ill today in a message received in the Vatican.

24-HOUR TEMPERATURES

On Sept. 28 the day before his death, according to this story, Gen. von Fritsch made two reports concerning the harsh treatment of Poles by Nazi troops and technical criticism of the maneuvers of motorized units. The Nazis declared that Gen. von Fritsch had gone further than he had the right to and that he lacked respect for Der Fuehrer. The next day the following is alleged to have happened:

Gen. von Fritsch stood near the observation post of the second battery, with raised field glasses. One of the S. S. aides shot Gen. von Fritsch in the back. The general turned and drew his revolver but fell dead before he could fire.

This amazing story is believed to be corroborated by the fact that Gen. Franz Halder, another big shot of the new German Army has not been heard of since the outbreak of war.

Force of Warsaw Radio Indicates Siege Has Ended

Polish Capital Described as City of Death and Ruin by Flier Who Escaped to Hungary.

BUDAPEST, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Except for strange, sputtered signals, the wavelength of the Warsaw radio was silent today. Its last message, broadcast at 3 P. M. (9 A. M. Buffalo time) Wednesday, was a new challenge to the Nazi besiegers.

"We will never give in while one of us is alive."

But Wednesday night the Polish Telegraph Agency carried a dispatch, dated Warsaw, which indicated that defense of the Polish capital had been abandoned.

From the picture painted by the radio announcers and by a Polish army flier who escaped through a barrage of German shells, Warsaw gave up only after it had become a city of ruin and tragedy.

The flier, Lieut. Col. Mateusz Jeyki, who flew out of Poland Monday, told of an ever-deepening black pall of smoke over Warsaw.

Under Constant Fire.

"The air the city is a horror," he said. "Hardly a day is intact. The city is being shelled by six divisions of German heavy artillery. The bombardment is incessantly aided by an army of 200 raiding planes a day."

Warsaw is a city where from 40 to 50 new fires start daily from the bombs. Only small fires can be handled; the big ones burn.

"It is a city where priests say mass in wrecked churches; a city of never-ending bedlam, where heavy bombs are crashing through the five floors and topple an entire building."

"There's a no-man's-land strewn with dead men, women and horses. There's some life in the streets. For the city must live but old people and children never leave their cellar refuges."

All Hospitals Hit.

Jeyki said Warsaw's death toll would rest "when the German time out for lunch."

Otherwise the bombardment was steady and methodical.

Hospitals have been hit and practically all medical administration on the city, Jeyki said. "In many places there was nothing to do with those who were wounded."

"I said he and six other Polish fliers made a dash from Warsaw to save the last seven planes in the city. He told of watching the others roar out from hiding places between houses near the airport and climb into the air. That was the last he saw of his comrades."

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ENGLAND HOPING FOR SOVIET SHIFT

British Counting on Kremlin to Stop Nazi Advance in Eastern Europe.

By WILLIAM H. STONEMAN
Special Radio to the Buffalo Evening News and Chicago Daily News

LONDON, Sept. 28.—There is still the persistent belief among the powers-that-be in England that some goodness is to be found somewhere in Russia, and that the lengthy and apparently involved negotiations now going on in Moscow may not militate entirely to the disadvantage of the allies.

There can be no more than a belief because it is not known what the Russians and Germans are talking about. In reply to a polite query to Moscow through the Soviet ambassador several days ago, the British have merely had their attention directed to the published version of the Soviet-German non-aggression pact and to two official communiques which have been put out by the Soviet Foreign Office since that time.

Depends on "Developments."

The Russians have refused to go into further detail regarding their future plans in Eastern Europe on the ground that these plans would depend upon "developments."

Britain's suggestion that the two countries might negotiate a trade agreement drew the answer that it might be difficult because of the British contraband-control system.

The British are comforting themselves with the belief that Russia has already taken more of Poland than Germany originally planned; that the Russians are determined to prevent Germany from reaching the Black Sea; that Turkey is still loyal, and that Turkey and Russia together will strive to check Germany's eastward progress and to maintain some semblance of neutrality in the Balkans which Germany might otherwise manage to overrun.

Real Co-operation Doubtful.

They bank on the natural vindictiveness of the Kremlin to prevent real co-operation between Moscow and Berlin in slicing up Eastern Europe to the advantage of Germany.

People here definitely foresee the possibility that the Russians and Germans may be cooking up a grandiose peace plan providing for a division of Eastern and Southeastern Europe into Russian and German spheres of influence, and for general disarmament. It is insisted, however, that no peace can be made with Hitlerism and that Britain and France will continue to fight and make preparations for fighting until Germany can, at least, produce a more reliable set of rules.

Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax Had Another Interview with Russian Ambassador Ivan Maisky Wednesday, apparently seeking light on enigmatic Russian policy.

Britain Says Subs Driven From Coastal Ship Lanes

LONDON, Sept. 29 (U.P.).—German submarines were said in an authoritative statement today to "have now been driven from thickly dotted shipping routes" around the British coast. "In less than a month," the statement declared, "they have found the pace too hot for them and have retreated from much-used shipping channels and are now forced to operate much further out in the open sea where the 'catch' is bound to be a much smaller one."

Flights Over German Soil Are Reported by London

LONDON, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The Ministry of Information announced today that during Wednesday and Wednesday night Royal Air Force aircraft carried out further reconnaissance over Germany and the Western Front. "In spite of opposition," the announcement said, "valuable information was obtained. All aircraft returned safely."

FRENCH FLY OVER GERMANY

PARIS, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Military dispatches today reported French scouting planes had carried out successful reconnaissance flights far into the interior of Germany. The French aviators went "as far as possible" eastward, flying over railroads and highways to observe German troop movements behind the Western Front, these dispatches said.

New Shift in Power Scale Feared as Reds, Nazis Dicker

Military Pact Considered Possible as Stalin Sits in on Molotov's Talks With von Ribbentrop.

By WITT HANCOCK
MOSCOW, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—In the presence of Josef V. Stalin, German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop consulted today with Premier-For-Comm. Vyacheslav Molotov and diplomats.

It was the second visit to Moscow of another quick move to shift Europe's balance of power. With two other foreign ministers here, representing Turkey and Estonia, Moscow was the proud center of intense diplomatic activity.

For Herr von Ribbentrop this was the second visit to Moscow in little more than a month. On Aug. 23 Soviet Russia and Germany concluded the rest of Europe when they negotiated a non-aggression pact.

Only a few hours after his plane landed, the German diplomat entered the Kremlin Wednesday night for his initial conference with M. Molotov. With Dictator Stalin sitting in, the meeting lasted until early today.

The length of the first talk—4½ hours—indicated that several problems were involved and the announcement that the conversations would continue today.

In addition to questions rising from the Russian-German partition of Poland, most observers believed other major issues confronted the conferees. They speculated on the possibility of some form of military pact to broaden present non-aggression ties and also on the chance of a new Balkan bloc, with Turkey participating.

Viewed as significant was Herr von Ribbentrop's arrival while Turkish Foreign Minister Sukru Saracoglu and his aides were here.

While Herr von Ribbentrop was being received Wednesday by a guard of honor, Estonia's foreign minister, Karl Selter, came back to Moscow for the second time in three days, ostensibly for negotiation of a trade pact. However, unofficial reports persisted that Russia was making demands upon Estonia for fortification concessions in Estonian waters on the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic.

Relations With Estonia Were Emphasized Wednesday Night by a Broadcast Reporting the Sinking of the Russian Freighter Metallist Near Narva Bay, off the northern coast of Estonia. The announcement said the Metallist was sunk by an unidentified submarine.

The Soviet press attacked once again the alleged German policy of "non-interference" in the Baltic.

Common Plan of Action For Any Eventuality Hinted

BERLIN, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The news service Dienst Aus Deutschland indicated today that the results of current German-Russian negotiations in Moscow would strengthen Germany's hand in any eventuality in Europe.

Pointing to what have been hailed here as successful German air attacks on British naval units in the last two days—although the British government has flatly denied German claims of such success—Dienst Aus Deutschland observed:

"The military risk of the war already has been emphatically demonstrated to the English. The political risk embodies itself in the foreign minister's second visit to Moscow. Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop opened a series of talks with Russian leaders in the Kremlin Wednesday night."

"Several conversations already have taken place between von Ribbentrop and Molotov (Russian premier-foreigner) which it is said fully support the satisfactory atmosphere of the first visit (Ribbentrop's trip to Moscow to sign the non-aggression pact) and permit the weight of German-Russian agreements to be put to account in coming developments in the most far-reaching form."

"The German strength, which becomes visible through these events, allows the Reich to put the alternative of war or peace to the western powers once more without danger of suspicion of weakness."

"Germany is prepared for either choice."

LATVIA PREPARES DEFENSE

RIGA, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The Latvian government today created a Council for Defense of the State, charged with correlating military, economic, financial and administrative activities.

Estonian Crew Reports Bremen Is at Murmansk

MALMOE, Sweden, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The crew of the Estonian steamer Kurestar, which arrived at Lindhamm, Sweden, from Murmansk, Russia, said today that they had seen the German superliner Bremen in Murmansk harbor. Capt. Koskela, master of the Kurestar, declined to make any statement.

The arrival of the Bremen at Murmansk was first reported on Sept. 11 by Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Paris correspondent of the Chicago Daily News and the Buffalo Evening News.

ATHENA SERVICES DROPPED

TORONTO, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Controller Dr. F. J. Conboy today advised Toronto clergy representing all religious denominations that the Board of Control has decided to recommend cancellation of the mass memorial service for Toronto's 13 victims of the Athena torpedoing.

GERMANS JAILED AS SPIES

ST. GALL, Switzerland, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—Two German citizens, one a former Austrian army officer, were sentenced Wednesday to six weeks in prison for espionage.

2400 Americans Stay In England Despite War

Special Cable to the Buffalo Evening News and Chicago Daily News.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—There are at least 2400 American citizens now in England who do not take the present war seriously. At least they do not take it seriously enough to want to return to America.

Immediately after the war broke out the American Embassy sent letters to 6000 Americans who were thought to be in England. Of this number only 4300 replied and 2400 of them indicated that they had no definite intention of returning to the United States. "We are going to wait and see what happens," was the stock reply.

FRANCE EXPECTS NEW PEACE MOVE

Ribbentrop Visit to Moscow Is Viewed as Hitler Effort to Frighten Allies.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Developments on the diplomatic front overshadowed reports of actual fighting, which was reported confined largely to artillery activity. French infantry was said to have done little during the past few days except to take cover from heavy artillery fire.

Dispatches said the French bombardment had definitely broken the Siegfried Line in some advance positions and threats against the underground Maginot defenses were said to have been removed by early advances into German territory.

Scouting Planes Active.

A communique issued this morning by the general staff said the night was "calm," but added that "an enemy attack west of Saarbrücken failed." French scouting planes were reported active during the night.

Although the exact location of the attack was not specified, it was believed the communique referred to the region near Forbach, where the Maginot and Siegfried Lines dip toward the southwest.

Wednesday, the communique said, French and British aircraft, operating together, shot down "several" German planes in a battle over the lines.

Commercial shipping was said to have resumed its "regular rhythm" under naval convoys and aerial patrols.

While the war in the west is not yet a month old, reports published here said that the French and British were satisfied that their armaments were superior to Germany's.

French Using U. S. Planes.

The Nazi air force, it was said, had not lived up to expectations in battles over the Rhine and the northern end of the front, where Allied planes at times fought against odds.

These reports acknowledged, however, that allied pilots have yet to face the full strength of Germany's seasoned airmen.

Presumably the French were using some of their American-built planes on the Western Front, but no details concerning their performance were available.

French reports said that their anti-tank guns in the Saar region had proved effective against German equipment. Success of German mechanized units in Poland was attributed to the Poles' lack of defensive equipment and their inexperience in defending a long frontier.

French tanks were described as more heavily armored, better equipped offensively and as much as 30 per cent faster than the Germans'.

Germans Reported Foiled In Rail-Junction Thrust

By CHARLES S. FOLTZ JR.
BASEL, Switzerland, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—French counterattacks during the night were reported today to have driven back German troops which Wednesday advanced east of Wissembourg in a thrust aimed at an important railroad junction.

The Germans, attacked on three sides, were said to have suffered heavy losses as they fell back to the French frontier village of Altenstadt near the Lauter River. The Nazi advance Wednesday, these reports said, carried to the slopes of Geisberg Hill, where a French army was defeated by the Germans in 1870.

There the Germans attempted to dig in but were caught in attacks from Ft. Wissembourg on the east, Geisberg Hill on the south and Wissembourg itself on the west. The junction which the Germans apparently sought to secure is the point at which three rail lines—from Lauterbourg, Landau and Haguenau—converge before entering Wissembourg. The scene of the fighting was the triangle formed by the junction of the Rhine and Lauter Rivers, near the center of the Western Front.

Nazis Say Biddle Was Asked To Aid F.D.R. on Neutrality

Bullitt Requested Warsaw Envoy to Report on Bombings and Advised Using Imagination.

BERLIN, Sept. 28 (U.P.).—The text of a purported telephone conversation between A. J. Drexel Biddle, United States ambassador to Poland, in Czernawitz (German), Rumania, where he had fled with the Polish Government, and United States Ambassador William C. Bullitt in Paris was published Wednesday night by DNE, official German news agency. The conversation was supposed to have taken place Sept. 17, the day Russian troops invaded Poland.

Mr. Biddle was said to have told Mr. Bullitt that at a meeting of the diplomatic corps in Warsaw he had recommended a protest against the bombing of Warsaw "but others refused to make a common protest so the matter was dropped."

Mr. Bullitt allegedly replied: "The President and secretary of state want immediately everything you can send them about the matter. From your military attaché and other members of your mission, understand? Categorical declarations, and categorical decisions."

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Charley Ross, as a boy of 4, was kidnapped in Philadelphia July 1, 1874, and was never seen again.

Mr. Bullitt—You know there's a fight on, which the President has begun. So you understand why it's so important to send all this. BIDDLE—I understand very well. BULLITT—The matter is simply this, they haven't enough material, not enough details or material from their reports in order to act, and they need it for their neutrality bill fight. . . . Think of imagination and put out something in the style of Charley Ross. BIDDLE—Yes, yes, I understand.

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