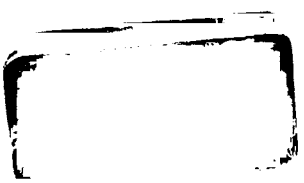

Embassy
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Friday, August 1, 1941

No. 16

THE FRONT ON JULY 31

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, July 31

Morning Communique

Last night our troops continued engagements against the enemy in the directions of Porkhov, Novorzhev, Smolensk and Zhitomir. No important action took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

In cooperation with ground troops our airforce struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops, infantry and artillery.

On July 30, enemy airplanes tried three times to raid Leningrad. All attempts of the Nazi planes to reach the city were repulsed by our anti-aircraft fire and pursuit planes.

On the night of July 29, Soviet sailors under the command of Captain Urassov captured "Z" island by a bold attack from the sea. They captured 125 Finnish officers and soldiers. Captured materiel included three anti-aircraft guns, six heavy machineguns and a large quantity of munitions. In this fighting Ensign Novikov and seamen Starostin, Pavlyukov, Cheburin and Sotnikov distinguished themselves. They killed 23 Finns with hand grenades and captured 11.

Evening Communique

On July 31 our forces engaged the enemy in the same directions mentioned in the morning communique. Particularly heavy battles developed in the Smolensk direction, where our troops made counter attacks, throwing the enemy back from his positions, inflicting heavy losses and capturing men and materiel.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, attacked enemy moto-mechanized units and infantry. In the air battles of July 30, 15 German planes were brought down. Our losses were eight.

SOVIET - POLISH AGREEMENT

The Soviet Information Bureau reports the signing at London on July 30, 1941 of an agreement between the Government of the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Government.

The agreement was signed for the U.S.S.R. by Ivan Maisky, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S.S.R. in Great Britain, and for the Polish Government by Premier Wladyslaw Sikorski.

The text follows:

1. The Government of the U.S.S.R. recognizes the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 as to territorial changes in Poland as having lost their validity. The Polish Government declares Poland is not bound by any agreement with any third power which is directed against the U.S.S.R.

2. Diplomatic relations will be restored between the two Governments upon the signing of this agreement, and an immediate exchange of Ambassadors will be arranged.

3. The two Governments mutually agree to render one to another aid and support of all kinds in the present war against Hitlerite Germany.

4. The Government of the U.S.S.R. expresses its consent to the formation on territory of the U.S.S.R. of a Polish Army under a commander appointed by the Polish Government in agreement with the Soviet Government, the Polish Army on territory of the U.S.S.R. being subordinated in an operational sense to the Supreme Command of the U.S.S.R., in which the Polish Army will be represented. All details as to command, organization and employment of this force will be settled in a subsequent agreement.

5. This agreement will come into force immediately upon signature and without ratification. The present agreement is drawn up in two copies, in the Russian and Polish languages. Both texts have equal force.

To this agreement the following protocol was appended:

The Soviet Government grants amnesty to all Polish citizens now detained on Soviet territory either as prisoners of war or on other sufficient grounds, as from the resumption of diplomatic relations.

A SINGLE FRONT OF LIBERTY LOVING PEOPLES

The authoritative Soviet newspaper Pravda under the above title today published the following editorial on the conclusion of the Soviet-Polish agreement in London:

The agreement between the Government of the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Government on reestablishment of diplomatic relations and common war against Nazi Germany is a document of enormous historical importance. It marks a new stage in the development of Soviet-Polish relations.

This agreement opens to the Polish people -- who are torn and physically exterminated by Nazi hordes, who all passionately love liberty and fight heroically for it -- great prospects for a rebirth of their creative strength, prospects for the reestablishment of their national independence and statehood.

The Polish people, powerfully supported by the great Soviet people, will bind the wounds inflicted by the barbarous German Nazis, will restore its strength exhausted under the Nazi yoke, and will enter on the broad path of national rebirth.

The great Russian people and all the peoples of the Soviet Union sympathize profoundly with the sufferings of the Polish people groaning under the Nazi German yoke. Poland's example clearly illustrates the Nazi policy toward the Slavic peoples. Poland is literally devastated; it is transformed into a prison where German jailers, whip in hand and bayonet pointed, create the famous "New Order" -- an order of brigandage, pillage and murder.

Nearly 3,000,000 Poles have been murdered by the Nazi bands. Polish cities and towns are reduced to cinders and dust. But ever greater flames the Polish people's hate for its enslavers -- as does that of other peoples enslaved by Nazi Germany: Czechoslovaks, Yugoslavs, Greeks, etc.

The powerful anti-Nazi coalition which Poland officially joins today already counts among its members the Republic of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. As a consequence of the agreement signed July 18 between the U.S.S.R. and Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak people received new, great possibilities of fighting with arms in hand for their national independence, for the liberation of their soil and of their country from Nazi captivity.

The reestablishment of normal diplomatic relations in all their plenitude between the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia is a concrete example of Yugoslav participation in the active fight against Nazi Germany.

The Soviet-Polish agreement demonstrates that the coalition against Nazi Germany is tightening and strengthening every day. At the foundation of this powerful coalition lies the agreement between the Soviet Union and Great Britain on common action in the war against Nazi Germany. The agreement between the Soviet Union and the Polish Republic published today marks a new extension of the anti-Nazi coalition. This agreement, of great international political importance, establishes solid foundations for fruitful collaboration between the U.S.S.R. and Poland in the common victorious struggle against the common enemy, against the most ferocious enemy of all humanity, Hitler.

The Soviet-Polish agreement establishes foundations for future good neighborly relations between two states with long common borders, bound together by common interests. Born in the fires of advanced humanity's sacred war against the German-Nazi

beast, the Soviet-Polish agreement offers new proof that the peoples of the U.S.S.R. are animated by an unshakeable will to conquer German Nazism.

The Soviet-Polish agreement, like the Soviet-Czechoslovak accord concluded some time before and the establishment of normal diplomatic relations between the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia, inaugurates a great work of unification of the Slavic peoples in their struggle against German Nazi barbarism.

The peoples of the U.S.S.R. salute the conclusion of the accord between the U.S.S.R. and Poland and call on the population of Poland and on Poles throughout the whole world to crush by their combined efforts Nazi Germany -- this ferocious and pitiless enemy of all Slavic peoples, this enemy of all progressive humanity.

Every day of war shows in clearer relief the great defeat of German policy, outlines more sharply the international isolation of Hitler's Third Reich. The extension and reinforcement of the anti-Nazi coalition increases the international isolation of Nazi Germany. A terrible blow is struck at the rear of the Nazi invaders.

The participation in the coalition of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia will powerfully stimulate guerrilla warfare far behind the Nazi armies and the anti-Nazi movement in countries languishing under the German Nazi yoke. The struggle will not cease until the enemy is defeated and annihilated, until the ultimate victory is won over Hitlerite Germany.

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The Soviet Information Bureau announced that on the night of July 31 several waves of German planes attempted to raid Moscow. Soviet anti-aircraft batteries and night-fighter planes dispersed the enemy planes as they approached Moscow.

One or two planes broke through to the city and a few incendiary bombs were dropped, but were promptly rendered harmless. Several small fires in residences were quickly put out. Military objectives suffered no damage.

CALDWELL REPORTS ON HOPKINS

Erskine Caldwell, well known American author now in the Soviet Union, radioed yesterday a report that President Roosevelt's envoy Harry Hopkins toured Moscow by automobile during his first day in the Soviet capital, "was in good spirits and seemed to enjoy his stay in Moscow." Caldwell said that a second interview between Mr. Hopkins and Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Joseph Stalin is scheduled immediately.

Of the first interview Hopkins said, as quoted by Caldwell: "I conveyed to Mr. Stalin President Roosevelt's great admiration for the fight being offered by the Soviet Union. Mr. Stalin said that the American people were not misplacing their confidence in the Soviet Union."

Caldwell added that Mr. Hopkins had said there will be no delay on the part of the United States in supplying materials to the Soviet Union.

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The Soviet Information Bureau announced early today that Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Joseph Stalin for the second time received President Roosevelt's personal envoy Harry Hopkins. The conversation lasted two hours.

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Vyacheslav Molotov, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs, yesterday received Harry Hopkins, personal envoy of President Roosevelt, the Soviet Information Bureau reported. American Ambassador Laurence Steinhardt was present.

BUDYENNY CALLS FOR GUERRILLA WAR

The Soviet press reported today that Marshal Semyon Budyenny, Commander of the Soviet Southwestern Front, and Nikita Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukrainian S.S.R., made the following appeal to the population of territory occupied by the enemy:

Having brought up fresh forces, our powerful Red Army each day deals heavier blows to the Nazi bands. To help the Red Army, a mighty people's force has arisen throughout the whole territory which the Germans managed to occupy in the first days of the war.

To you men and women of the districts occupied by the German Nazis we address ourselves. Those who are able to handle arms -- join guerrilla detachments. Create new ones. Annihilate the hateful German troops. Exterminate the Nazis like mad dogs.

Derail trains. Disrupt communications. Blow up ammunition dumps. No single bushel of grain is to be left for the enemy. Mow as much as you need for the near future and destroy the rest. Destroy the plantations of industrial crops -- beetroot, koksagyz (rubber plant), flax.

The hour of victory is at hand. Exert all efforts to fight the enemy and destroy him.

FOR SLAV UNITY AGAINST HITLER

In an editorial "The Russian People Will Never Become Slaves of the Fiend Hitler" the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda writes:

Hitler's sanguinary march through Europe began with suppression of the Czech people's independence, enslavement of the Slovaks and the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Poles, including women and children.

After the battles in the west, Hitler, sworn enemy of the Slavs, hurled his cutthroat gangs at the Balkans, attacking Yugoslavia and Greece. The Balkan peoples -- a branch of the great Slav family -- fell under a foul alien yoke incomparably worse than the horrors of the Middle Ages.

The suffering of the Slav people is indescribable, but their sacred hatred toward the brutal hordes of invaders will never pass and their will to fight for liberation is unbending. Salvation of the Slav peoples from the hovering danger means the liberation of Europe and the German people from the Hitlerite yoke.

The tragedy of the Slav peoples, like that of many other nations of Europe, consisted in that they were disunited and their common foe was able to strike at one nation after another. But the hour of unification and joint struggle for the sacred cause of freedom has come. In this struggle the great Russian people, bound by inseparable fraternal ties with all Slav and non-Slav peoples, fights in the vanguard. The Russian people is the most powerful people of the great Slav family. Narrow-minded Hitler and his underlings realize that as long as the Russian people is free and independent all Nazi plans for mastery over the Slav majority population on our continent and over the whole world are doomed to collapse.

The great Russian people raised the banner of liberation of their Slav brothers from the monstrous Hitlerite yoke. Patriots of all Slav countries who ardently love their land, their people, honor and freedom, arise for struggle. The heroic struggle of the Russian people against the perfidious and malignant Nazi foe inspires to new exploits all those who suffer under Hitler's heel. It inspires our Slav brothers to national war.

The bigot and brigand Hitler wants to exterminate the Slavs. The Slavs, led by the great Russian people in alliance with the peoples of Great Britain and other countries, will smash Hitler, the most dastardly, most heinous, most ferocious enemy.

* * * * *

The Moscow press announced today that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has decorated 159 persons for valor displayed in fighting German fire bombs in the city of Moscow.

Those receiving the awards included firemen, militiamen, anti-aircraft gun crews, anti-parachutist squads, and ordinary citizens organized in volunteer fire-fighting brigades.

AT THE FRONT
and
BEHIND THE LINES

"Greater Germany" Regiment Replacements Smashed by Red Army

The Soviet press reported today the capture near Smolensk of German troops belonging to the 485th Regiment of the 263rd Infantry Division.

Prisoners stated their regiment had replaced the "Greater Germany" Regiment previously smashed in this sector by the Red Army. During a few days at the front, they said, the 485th Regiment had in turn been practically annihilated.

The 485th Regiment, made up mostly of reservists, lost over two-thirds of its personnel. The companies were left with barely 60 men each. The survivors were said to be worn out by incessant Soviet air bombing and infantry attacks. For three days the regiment received no cooked food. The uniforms of the captives were in rags.

I Captured Thermopylae

(Written by the young Soviet author E. Gabrilovich for the Soviet press.)

A traction hauler was dragging a small black tank along a dusty road. Written in blue letters beneath a skull and crossbones on the side of the turret tower was the inscription: "Ich eroberte Thermopylae."

This German tank was hit in action at "P." It had been in Yugoslavia and Greece. Its crew, three sorry looking young men the worse for wear, were despondently dragging their feet along in the wake of the tank. Prisoners of war, they were being taken to Staff Corps "X" to be questioned.

At staff headquarters the tank is unloaded of its goods, the usual pile of looted and stolen property: Cloth, underwear and watches. This time an enormous number of galoshes was also found; the conquerors of Thermopylae had evidently stopped off at a "Rezinotrest" (Soviet

rubber trust) shop en route. Curtains torn from windows, rubber boots, even a child's doll -- the result of house looting.

Everything was dumped out and then followed sundry printed matter: books -- photographs of 100 German generals, published in Berlin; portraits of 25 chorus girls from the "Parrot" cabaret, published in Paris; a "Soldier's Song Book" with a few verses on various themes, from the pathetic to the lyric.

Here is a specimen of the lyrics: "Why does Elsa love the soldiers, why oh why? Because they've lots of grenades, that's why."

There is also a manuscript, the diary of one of the cutthroats which begins with the campaign in Yugoslavia and is filled with descriptions of battles in Greece. The entries form a detailed and vile narration of atrocities and lootings perpetrated by the tank crew and the whole German Army in occupied regions. The local population is tersely and uniformly termed "swine."

"Hanged 25 of these swine because they refused to display holiday flags on the occasion of our arrival."

"Dropped into a tavern and when swine of a host asked us to pay for wine we hanged him in his own store room."

"The swine of a woman began to shriek that she had children and a husband, but we had no time to find out as the Serbs were shooting at us from a hill. This made Willi nervous and he shot her to make her keep quiet."

Entries relating to Greece: "A land of swine and sheep where there is nothing worth while except olives."

"The old man cried out that it was an ancient chapel, but Willi didn't want to steer around it and plumped a shell into it to clear it from our path."

"Athens is a pig's town which in Germany would not be worthy of being called even a village."

Thus with knife and whip did the "heroes" of Thermopylae proceed across Europe until they encountered the men of the Red Army. Under armed guard they now follow their smashed black tank, which has been rendered harmless forever.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Saturday, August 2, 1941

No. 17

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 1

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 1.

Morning Communique

During the night of July 31 fighting continued in the directions of Novorzhev, Smolensk and Zhitomir. No major engagements took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, inflicted blows on enemy moto-mechanized units, infantry and artillery and bombed enemy truck columns carrying fuel.

In the Baltic Sea our airforce sank one enemy destroyer and seriously damaged two other ships.

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The Soviet Information Bureau reports that a German tank column supported by aviation attempted to outflank a Red Army division but was thrown back by Soviet aviation and artillery with a loss of 46 German tanks. Elsewhere five German tanks were destroyed with grenades and three by anti-tank guns. The crews of the latter were captured.

Evening Communique

On August 1 our troops continued battles against the enemy in the directions of Porkhov, Nevel, Smolensk and Zhitomir. There were no significant changes in positions of troops at the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued attacks on enemy moto-mechanized and infantry units and airplanes on their airdromes.

In the Baltic Sea, our planes sank an enemy patrol vessel and a 5000 ton tanker and seriously damaged four other enemy ships.

On July 31, fifteen German planes were shot down in air battles. We lost seven planes.

LOZOVSKY ON HOPKINS AND THE SOVIET-POLISH AGREEMENT

At his regular press conference for foreign correspondents on July 31, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau S. A. Lozovsky stated:

"Two events took place yesterday to the disadvantage of Hitler and to the advantage of freedom-loving peoples: the personal envoy of the President of the United States, Harry Hopkins, arrived in Moscow, and the same day an agreement was signed in London between the Soviet and Polish Governments on restoration of diplomatic relations.

"The common significance of these events is that they reflect the extension and consolidation of the united front of the democratic countries against Hitlerite Germany. Hopkins himself explained what brought him to Moscow, and it is hardly necessary to add anything to his explanation. His visit demonstrates once more the determination of the United States to help all peoples fighting for their independence against Nazi barbarism.

"The agreement signed in London between the Soviet and Polish Governments shows that the fraternal Slav peoples are uniting more and more closely in the fight against Hitlerism, which bears on its banner the slogan of extermination of the Slav peoples."

Having described in detail Poland's position and the regime of violence and sadistic humiliations and methodical extermination of the population of the Polish Republic set up by the German occupation authorities, Mr. Lozovsky said that the peoples of the Soviet Union cannot be indifferent to the fate of the Polish people because fraternal ties have always bound the peoples of Russia and Poland, who in the course of a century jointly fought for their liberation from Czarist autocracy.

He continued: "The Soviet Union and Poland have a common enemy -- Hitlerite Germany. This determines the common task of the Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Czechs, Serbs, Poles, and of all freedom loving peoples of the world in general.

"The agreement providing for reestablishment of diplomatic relations, formation of a Polish army on territory of the U.S.S.R. etc., constitutes first of all an expression of the will of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. and Poland jointly to bring the struggle against barbarian Hitlerism to a victorious end. By this agreement the Soviet Union openly stated before the whole world that it stands for the creation of a free and independent Poland and that it will fight arms in hand for its freedom and the freedom of Poland, for Poland to win her independence and for the Polish people to free itself from the sanguinary regime of the Nazi rulers.

"No doubt all freedom loving peoples and especially the whole population of Poland as well as all Poles scattered throughout the world will enthusiastically acclaim the agreement as a pledge of national liberation and state independence of Poland."

EISENSTEIN SALUTES AMERICA

Sergei Eisenstein, leading Soviet film director, last night broadcast a message to his friends in the United States. Among the best known of his films in this country are Thunder Over Mexico, Potemkin, and Alexander Nevsky. Mr. Eisenstein said:

The mutual understanding between the U.S.S.R. and the United States, which is growing stronger every day, gives me particularly great pleasure. I know America well. I like the country and love the American people. American efficiency, energy, optimism and good humor are admired and appreciated by all peoples.

The ground for this mutual understanding and friendship has been long prepared. An indication of this is the strong interest which we take in American art and Americans take in ours. This is particularly evident in the case of moving pictures. Our films have been warmly received in the United States, while American pictures are favorites on our screen. There are ties of personal friendship between movie men, writers and artists in our country and in America.

Now this friendship is steadily taking wider forms. The great peoples of the United States, Britain and the U.S.S.R. are faced with the danger of barbarous fascism which is menacing the whole world. Friendship and mutual assistance are the powers which at the present historic moment will insure the total destruction of the ravening monster of fascism. The ideals of liberty and humanism are equally close to the hearts of both peoples. These ideals are uniting our peoples in the present great historic moment.

And I am glad to send across the ocean to you, my American friends, a warm message of greetings and to express my firm conviction that justice and democracy will be victorious. The enemy of mankind will be destroyed once and for all.

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The Soviet press reported today from Istanbul that according to reliable sources the former German Ambassador at Moscow, Schulenburg, has been placed under house arrest at Hitler's orders. Schulenburg was said to have incurred the Fuehrer's displeasure by warning him that a German attack on the Soviet Union would be disastrous. It was said Gestapo agents had shadowed Schulenburg from the moment he arrived in Ankara from Moscow after the outbreak of Soviet-German hostilities.

SOVIET CITIZENS BUILD DEFENSE FUND

The ground swell of Soviet enthusiasm for the successfully fighting Red Army is sweeping a tide of rubles into the coffers of the "Defense Fund" informally organized by Soviet newspapers, the Soviet press reported today. The money is being spent through the Soviet Red Cross chiefly for tobacco, candy and other personal comforts for the soldiers.

As collections mounted, many trade union and factory groups passed resolutions urging that the Fund be officially recognized. A Moscow factory adopted a resolution calling on all workers of the U.S.S.R. to contribute a day's pay monthly "to turn out more thousands of planes and tanks and hundreds of thousands of machineguns and rifles..."

The agricultural scientist Academician Trofim Lysenko contributed a 100,000 ruble Stalin prize recently awarded him for his work on heredity as applied to agriculture. Other scientists and literary prize-winners followed suit. Collective farms have begun a campaign to collect fruit for the Red Army men at the front and in hospitals.

MOSCOW HEROES SNUFF OUT FIRE BOMBS

Gallant conduct of Moscow citizens during air raids was described by the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia in an editorial commenting on the award of decorations to 159 persons who distinguished themselves by putting out fires. Izvestia said:

The population has learned to repulse enemy air raids courageously. The people who rose to defend the capital did splendid work. The most gallant among them have been decorated with orders and medals. We cite some of their exploits.

Housewife Golubeva, now house manageress, put out 66 incendiaries by herself. While on duty on a houseroof, janitor Shvetsov was hurled to the ground by the blast of a high explosive bomb. Despite injury he remained at his post and prevented fire from breaking out in the building.

Though twice knocked off his feet by the blast of high explosive bombs, Fomushkin, member of a volunteer youth fire-fighting squad, still had enough strength to dash into a blazing building and bring a man out of the fire.

Commander Levkin of a fire-fighting brigade prevented several apartment houses from burning down. When the enemy dropped incendiaries on a children's hospital, Levkin extinguished the bombs in the attic before the fire had a chance to spread.

Though in danger of losing their lives, the people worked courageously. Sixteen-year-old Kamchatkin remained on duty under bombing, extinguishing 16 incendiaries. A young member of a volunteer fire-fighting squad, Budzin, although wounded by a bomb splinter, remained at his post until he succeeded in putting the fire out.

Men of all occupations are on the list of awards. There are fighters of the (anti-parachutist) extermination battalions and militiamen, heads of fire squads and house managers, machinists and district political delegates, drivers and janitors. The Nazis hurl a large airforce against Moscow, but the raids fail one after another. A great army of gallant and skilful people has risen to defend our capital.

SOVIET RAILWAYMEN GIVE SUNDAY'S WORK FOR WAR

Railway workers all over the Soviet Union will turn out voluntarily this Sunday to contribute one day's work in support of the Soviet war effort.

Resolutions to "move thousands of cars," "repair thousands of miles of track," and "move thousands of tons of cargo for the front and for munitions plants" were passed by various categories of railwaymen. All wages earned will be contributed to the Defense Fund.

RUMANIAN REVEALS PLOESTI DESTRUCTION

Tremendous devastation in the Ploesti oil district caused by the Soviet Airforce and Rumanian guerrillas, as recounted by a prominent Rumanian politician just arrived in Switzerland, was reported in the Soviet press yesterday.

Soviet air raids on the Ploesti district, the informant stated, have proved extraordinarily effective. The oil fields have been burning incessantly for four weeks. Explosions are heard and the glow is seen miles away. The Red Airforce was said to have smashed oil refineries, destroyed over a million tons of oil and damaged derricks.

The Rumanian informant said that even if there were no more raids, the output of the Rumanian oil industry will be only half normal for five or six months because of damage to oil refineries. Oil tanks in Palaza, five miles from Constanta, have also been destroyed, he said.

The Soviet press comments that Ploesti is now almost Germany's only source of oil. Sale of Rumanian oil to Turkey was banned shortly after the first bombardment of Ploesti, it was noted.

TOLSTOI HOME MUSEUM SAVED FROM NAZI BOMBS

(Written for the Soviet press by S. Mikheyev)

A little house in the Khamovniki district of Moscow... A dense garden with age-old shady trees and an old arbor...

This small house is known to the whole world. Leo Tolstoi lived and worked here for 20 years. In this house in Khamovniki he wrote Resurrection, Haji Murat, and The Death of Ivan Ilyich. To this house in a narrow turning, now named after the great writer, there came to pay him homage great men of learning and peasants from all over Russia.

The Khamovniki house is unique among literary museums. Furniture and arrangements are kept just as they were in the writer's lifetime. Entering the house you feel that it is inhabited, that the host will come out into the garden at any moment, screw up his bushy eyebrows, gaze into the distance and go into the arbor.

A few days ago the wonderful little house of the Russian genius was in great danger. This was at the dead of night when, like the whole town, Khamovniki was deserted. Sirens gave the alert signal and the hum of engines was heard high above. The clinging rays of our searchlights felt around the sky and, crossing, gripped the enemy planes. The pitch darkness of night was broken by the dull roar of

anti-aircraft fire. Five museum staff members on duty kept a close watch on the sky.

N. Teodorovich, curator of the museum, stood near the house. Watchman Zubarev was on duty at the arbor where Leo Tolstoi liked to spend his time. At the other end of the grounds were posted excursion guide Guseva and charwoman Tyurina, while building superintendent Yudisov was on duty at the wicket gate.

Several incendiary bombs fell all around. Hitting the earth, the flames began spreading. At first a wing caught fire and then a tongue of flame licked at the wall. The building closest to the museum was burning.

"At first we were a little confused," relates a woman member of the staff, "but then we heard the composed voice of Teodorovich, who detailed each of us to extinguish bombs. Sand heaps and barrels of water stood in the courtyard, and we quickly set to work."

The characteristic spluttering hiss was heard when the staff dumped sand on the bombs. Hardly had they extinguished the flames when more bombs were dropped, as the Nazis hastened to relight the dying fire. Those on duty calmly continued smothering bombs with sand, forming new mounds over each one. The fire stopped.

But sparks flew from neighboring buildings and the air was hot and smoky. Guseva's coat began smouldering, but nobody thought of giving up. A fire hose was quickly turned on the Tolstoi house, which was thoroughly soaked with water. Sparks fell on the wet walls, but did no harm.

Thus by efficient work the staff fought and extinguished the flames. Over 20 bombs were dropped on the estate, but all were put out. Five people devoted to their motherland had saved a priceless historical monument of Russian culture.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Monday, August 4, 1941

No. 18

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 2 - 3

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow.

Morning Communique, August 2

During the night of August 1 fighting continued in the directions of Novorzhev, Nevel, Smolensk and Zhitomir. No major operations took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized forces, infantry and artillery.

As a result of fighting in the Smolensk direction, parts of the Red Army have destroyed the 137th German Infantry Division. The procedure of destruction of the German division was as follows:

At dawn our troops brought heavy pressure to bear on the Germans. To help retreating German forces, the German command threw into battle the 137th German Division, which entered the fighting straight from a march.

Without allowing the German division to develop an attack, a subdetachment under Commander Lukin began an energetic attack on the enemy's flank. The remaining parts

of the "N" Red Army unit rapidly encircled the German division.

Soviet artillery opened heavy fire on the Nazis. After artillery preparation our troops went into the attack. Political instructor Y. led his subdetachment twice in a bayonet attack. Soldiers of this group killed about a hundred Germans, captured four guns, 14 machineguns, several mine throwers, 47 horses and other weapons.

The subdetachment of Lieutenant K. behaved most courageously. Red Army men of this unit inflicted heavy losses on the enemy and put six heavy machineguns out of action.

Our artillery was very successful, killing hundreds of German soldiers. Gun Commander K., who especially distinguished himself with his fire, killed 50 Nazi soldiers and destroyed four machineguns and one trench mortar. Gun Commander B. by point blank fire destroyed groups of German motorcyclists and an enemy cavalry detachment.

On one flank the Germans attempted to break through the encirclement, but were encountered and driven back by Captain K.'s subdetachment and by tanks. After a few hours of fighting the Germans were unable to bear the pressure of Soviet troops and began to flee, discarding guns, transport and other equipment. Many officers and soldiers remained dead on the battlefield.

Evening Communique, August 2

On August 2 our troops fought the enemy in the directions of Porkhov, Smolensk, Korosten and Byelaya Tserkov and in the Estonian sector of the front. Fighting of local importance occurred in other sectors.

In the Baltic Sea our ships and airforce attacked eight German troop transports navigating under escort of five destroyers. According to preliminary data, one enemy destroyer and one transport were destroyed and two destroyers and one transport damaged. The enemy was compelled to turn back without completing his mission. Our side sustained no losses.

Our airforce in cooperation with ground troops struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops, infantry and artillery. On August 1 our airforce destroyed 41 German planes. Our losses were 19 planes.

Morning Communique, August 3

During the night of August 2 our troops continued to fight the enemy in the directions of Smolensk, Korosten and Byelaya Tserkov and in the Estonian sector of the front. No substantial changes in positions of troops occurred in other sectors of the front.

Our airforce, continuing its cooperation with ground troops, struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops, infantry and artillery.

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The Soviet Information Bureau reports that on the night of August 2 a Soviet cavalry squadron routed a Rumanian cavalry regiment by a flank attack near "J," killing several hundred men and capturing 211 horses, 11 machineguns and ammunition.

On the same night Soviet infantry repulsed an attack by German motorized troops which crossed "N" River on pontoon bridges. A counter-attack rolled the Nazis back toward the river just as a patrol under Lieutenant Snegirev blew up a dam half a mile above the German crossing point.

The resulting flood washed out Nazi bridges and inundated a large area. About 400 Germans were killed in action or drowned, over 40 trucks were put out of action and 120 men were captured.

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The Soviet press reports from Istanbul that following a marked increase in the wearing of black in Germany, Reich authorities have forbidden families to assume mourning for soldiers killed at the front.

"IZVESTIA" ON SOVIET-POLISH AGREEMENT

In an editorial titled "The Soviet-Polish Agreement" the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia writes:

The Soviet-Polish agreement signed in London a few days ago by representatives of the U.S.S.R. and Poland draws the attention of the whole world -- of our friends as well as our enemies. All the freedom loving nations of the world welcome this agreement, justly considering that the establishment of friendly relations between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland and their joint struggle against Hitlerite Germany, who trampled down treaties and treacherously violated her undertakings as regards the U.S.S.R., Poland and other countries, will bring about the collapse of Hitlerism.

The Soviet-Polish agreement has evoked a warm response of sympathy and gratitude, particularly in countries enslaved by German Nazism such as Yugoslavia, Norway, Czechoslovakia and Greece. The Soviet-Polish agreement has evoked warm sympathy also in broad progressive sections of the population of countries such as Finland and Rumania, which became Germany's vassals.

In connection with the Soviet-Polish agreement a high wave of enthusiasm rose among the Polish, Czech and Yugoslav emigrants who found shelter in various corners of Europe and America.

The Soviet-Polish agreement sounded for the whole world a summons to unity of all those burning with wrath and hatred for the enslavers, ready to sacrifice their lives for their native lands, and who, as Stalin said, stand for freedom against enslavement or the threat of enslavement by Hitler's Nazi armies.

The peoples of the Soviet Union welcome the Soviet-Polish agreement as a solid basis for collaboration of fraternal peoples and for their ruthless joint struggle against Hitlerism -- this cruel, treacherous and perfidious foe of the Slav peoples and all progressive humanity.

The significance of the Soviet-Polish agreement -- as well as of the Czechoslovak agreement and the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia, mercilessly and with unparalleled cruelty crushed by the Hitlerite hordes -- is tremendous. It goes far beyond the limits of relations between the two states which are signatories of this agreement. It acquires particular importance in conditions of life and death struggle between democratic and fascist countries, a struggle of which the brunt is borne by the vanguard of humanity -- the U.S.S.R., and the victorious outcome of which, thanks to the U.S.S.R., will decisively and irrevocably do away with Hitlerite barbarism.

The significance of the Soviet-Polish agreement -- and this is worthy of the closest attention -- consists also in the fact that from this day the popular war will develop with redoubled force and heroism in the countries enslaved by Hitlerite Germany, who see in the U.S.S.R. an example of unprecedented valor, unparalleled courage and truly great military art triumphantly opposing the military art of Hitlerite Germany.

The historic importance of the Soviet-Polish agreement quite naturally explains the tremendous public interest and vivid response which it evoked in all parts of the world. However, we cannot help mentioning the fact that, in analyzing and appraising the Soviet-Polish agreement, people sometimes make historic references and attempts to draw historical parallels which are by no means correct.

As an example of such a parallel we may cite the broadcast of Polish Prime Minister Wladislaw Sikorski's speech on July 31 in London, in which a parallel was drawn between 1795, when "two great powers -- Germany and Russia -- vowed that Poland and the Polish nation should disappear forever," and 1939, when "an identical agreement on the annihilation of Poland forever" was concluded.

Indeed, the year 1795 entered Polish history as a sad date. It was the year of the so-called third partition of Poland, which collapsed not only, and even not so much, for reasons of external policy as for reasons of internal policy.

It is not accidental that in connection with this fact Marx wrote: "Only a democratic Poland could be independent." This was a strikingly just remark of the greatest significance, not only for the Poland of that epoch but also for the modern Poland and Polish public leaders and statesmen.

The events of 1795 were a direct result of the cooperation of the then most reactionary states of Europe, which had united to combat revolutions and movements of national liberation. This says everything there is to say. But this also means that there is not and cannot be any similarity between 1795 and 1939.

Has it not been proved that the entry of Soviet troops

into the eastern Polish regions in 1939 took place in circumstances when, as (former Premier, now Foreign Minister Vyacheslav) Molotov justly remarked in his speech of September 17, 1939, Poland became a convenient field for all kinds of unexpected happenings which could create a menace for the U.S.S.R.? The population of these regions consisted in an overwhelming majority of Ukrainians and Byelorussians, to whom the Soviet Union justly considered its sacred duty to lend a helping hand in the face of the menace of German occupation.

This alone eliminates all ground for drawing any "parallels" between 1939 and 1795. In the light of the latest events connected with the treacherous aggression of Hitlerite Germany against the U.S.S.R., it becomes particularly clear how correct was the action of the Soviet Government in autumn 1939, when it did not let Nazi Germany invade Western Ukraine and Western Byelorussia, which in the hands of German Nazism would immediately have been converted into a springboard for aggression against the U.S.S.R. Precisely this move of the Soviet Government in 1939 gave a positive result in 1941. Now at last it is perfectly obvious what part was played in the frustration of the Nazi blitzkrieg by incorporating the western territory into the U.S.S.R. in 1939. Beyond any doubt, the position of the German Army would have been vastly more advantageous if Soviet armies were compelled to meet the

treacherous, unexpected onslaught of German troops in the districts of Odessa, Kamenets-Podolsk and Minsk instead of Lvov, Brest (Litovsk) and Bialystok. Only the foresight and profound sagacity of the Soviet Government secured for the U.S.S.R. the gain of additional space and strategic advantages.

Those who understood and were able to correctly appraise these facts have no possible reason to view the events of 1939, which were reflected in the agreement of 1939, from the viewpoint of analogy with the events of 1795. Under the Soviet-Polish agreement of July 30, 1941 the Soviet Government has recognized that the Soviet-German agreement of 1939 concerning territorial changes in Poland lost validity. This emphasizes that "territorial changes" cannot stay forever and also that frontiers established in accordance with these "changes" do not represent anything immutable.

For instance, we do not regard Polish-Soviet frontiers established by the Riga treaty of 1921 as immutable, nor do we share the viewpoint that "none dares presume that the borders of the Polish state of 1939 may be questioned," as expressed in Sikorski's speech. It is not accidental that the British Government refused to guarantee the Polish frontiers as they existed in 1939 before the outbreak of war between Germany and Poland.

The problem of future Soviet-Polish frontiers is a matter of the future. There is no doubt that the statesmanship and good will of both parties will ensure as successful a solution of this problem in the future as has been secured for the problems of the present day.

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Yesterday was "Railroad Day" in the U.S.S.R., the day observed in honor of Soviet railway workers. This year, because of the war, the railwaymen voted to turn their traditional holiday into a "Work Sunday" and to contribute all pay received to the Defense Fund in support of the Red Army. Hundreds of thousands of workers turned out voluntarily. The Soviet press yesterday was largely taken up with accounts of heroism displayed by railwaymen since the beginning of the war in handling munitions and other vital cargoes under constant threat of attack by German bombers.

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The Soviet press today reported from Geneva that, according to informed sources, several German armored divisions formerly stationed around Bordeaux and Bayonne are now concentrated near the Spanish border. With them are said to be long range artillery taken from the Maginot line and special "Pyrenees troops" recently organized and commanded by General von Falkenhausen. At the same time Spanish concentrations were said to have begun along the Portuguese border. The Spanish General Staff was reported to have taken up quarters at the city of Badajoz, near Portugal.

Embassy
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, August 5, 1941

No. 19

EVENING COMMUNIQUE, August 3

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 3.

On August 3 our troops continued fighting against the enemy in the directions of Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov and on the Estonian sector of the front. No important changes occurred in positions of troops at the front.

Our airforce, cooperating with ground forces, delivered blows to enemy moto-mechanized forces, infantry and aircraft. Our airforce destroyed 31 enemy planes. Our losses were 19 planes.

During the German air raid on Moscow on the night of August 2, two German planes were shot down. Our airforce suffered no losses.

An enemy submarine was sunk in the Baltic Sea.

It has been ascertained that during an attack carried out by our aircraft on the port of Constanta on the night of August 1, bombs fell on the dock where an enemy destroyer was anchored and on ships in port.

In the vicinity of the Norwegian port of Vardo, Soviet submarines sank a German steamer of 8,000 tons. The steamer was carrying arms and ammunition for the German-Finnish army.

MORNING COMMUNIQUE, August 4

During the night of August 3 our troops continued fighting in the directions of Smolensk, Korosten, Belaya Tserkov and in the Estonian sector. No major operations were carried out in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized troops, infantry and artillery.

German planes aimed several hundred high concussion bombs at a bridge across the "D" river, but all missed the target. Our anti-aircraft artillery, by heavy fire, and our pursuit planes drove the enemy away from the bridge.

Previously, during a thunder storm, nine German bombers, escorted by 17 pursuit planes, attempted to bomb the bridge. At that time the enemy planes were attacked by an air unit under Major Rudakov. Six Nazi bombers were brought down by our planes and by anti-aircraft artillery fire. Two planes made emergency landings within our lines and the fliers were captured.

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 4.

Last night several groups of German planes attempted to raid Moscow. Individual planes broke through to the city at high altitudes; others were dispersed by our night-fighters and anti-aircraft fire.

Several fires which broke out in dwelling houses were promptly extinguished. Military objectives suffered no damage.

PHOTOSTATS OF NAZI PLANS AGAINST TURKEY ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON

The Soviet Embassy in Washington has received from Moscow photostatic copies of documents recently captured from the headquarters of the German 52nd Chemical Regiment when it was routed by Soviet troops west of Sitnia. (See Soviet Information Bureau's Evening Communique July 25, printed in Embassy Bulletin No. 11 July 26.)

These documents, designed for instruction of subordinate commanders, demonstrate unmistakably that the German General Staff is preparing an attack on Turkey. Included are data on Turkish airdromes, arsenals, metallurgical works and ports. There is precise information on Turkish highways, bridges and railways and a list of points at which landings from the sea might be effected.

Accompanying the documents were military maps showing location of military objectives of all kinds. The cover of one of the enclosed documents reads:

For Military Use Only

MILITARY GEOGRAPHIC REVIEW OF THE EUROPEAN PART OF TURKEY

INCLUDING THE STRAITS

Approved December 20, 1940

General Staff of the Army
Department of War Maps and Military Geographic Measurements
Berlin, 1940.

Photostats of three revelatory passages from the contents of these documents were received in Washington. Translations follow:

"Any army which has the task of occupying or marching through Turkey has to face the very difficult problem of crossing the Straits. In accordance with the above mentioned, this possibility could be realized only after the Bosporus (Istanbul), Sea of Marmora and the Dardanelles have been penetrated...."

"Progression

"An unobstructed progression of European troops and staffs is possible, finally, only in the city park of Beyoglu

(Pera). There are about seven large hotels along the main street (Rue de Pera Istiklalcaddesi). The best of them are the Pera Palace and the Tokatliyan. There are a great number of smaller hotels. Suitable for administrative purposes, there are large, solid buildings available like the Galatasaray (French School) and the German School. Along the wider streets around Taksim Square there are large barracks and parks. Inside the many-storied apartment houses of Taksim, Pangalti, Sisli and Macka, light housekeeping apartments consisting of one room with electricity, gas, plumbing and central heating are to be found.."

"Landing conditions in the northern part of the Black Sea coast are extremely difficult because of storms and the steepness of the coast, and can only be carried out at small fishing settlements. Farther south landing is possible on a flat coast, but progression of troops will be under fire of the strongly fortified Catalca Line...."

NAZIS OPPRESS SLAVS

Increasing disturbances in Slavic countries under Nazi domination have been noted in the Soviet press in the last week. At Belgrade, according to a report from Swiss sources, armed civilians on July 28 fought police and German troops stationed in the city.

After suppressing the uprising, German authorities were

said to have shot 122 participants and to have imposed a fine of 10,000,000 dinars on the city. Previously, 29 Yugoslavs were reported executed for cutting power lines supplying electricity to Belgrade.

Doctors and nurses were reported all but abducted from hospitals in both Yugoslavia and Greece and compelled to go to military hospitals in Germany, where additional personnel has been needed since the beginning of the attack on the Soviet Union.

Soviet newspapers gave prominent space to the recent speech at London of Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk in which he said:

"There now exist in Czechoslovakia so many forms of sabotage that the Germans are unable to combat them effectively. Sabotage is conducted daily in industry, trade and agriculture, considerably hindering the work of the German war machine.

"Thus the Skoda plant cannot raise its output to the former level. Workers turn out much spoiled work. Recently several thousand workers went on strike in the important aircraft factory 'Aviat' in Prague. The Germans sentenced many to imprisonment."

In Poland much covert resistance continues. On July 20 Gestapo agents reportedly tried to arrest a workman named Yuzef Zubritsky, caught posting anti-Nazi handbills on walls in an outskirt of Warsaw. Zubritsky resisted and tried to tear away

from the Nazi police. Residents of nearby houses, attracted by the commotion, helped him break free. Zubritsky took refuge in a neighboring house.

The whole block was surrounded by police, who began a house-to-house search. The Germans beat a number of the residents and looted living quarters. About 50 Poles were arrested, it was reported, and sent to a concentration camp.

Commenting on these disturbances and repressions in Slavic lands, the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda writes:

"Hitler wants to deprive these peoples of every possibility of developing their own national cultures. He destroyed the state of the Serbs and Croats, the state of the Czechs and Slovaks, and the state of the Polish people.

"On seizing Poland, he ousted tens of thousands of Polish peasant families from their land and settled Germans there. In the same way, the lands of the Slovenian people in Yugoslavia were cleared of their ancient owners -- the Slovenian peasants. The Germans ousted 15,000 Slovenian families from the Maribor region and confiscated their whole property.

"This 'Germanization' spreads to industry as well. In Poland, the German Nazis turned over all metallurgical plants and coal mines to German capitalists, and all Polish engineers, foremen and office employes were replaced by Germans. In Yugoslavia, the German occupation authorities and industrialists seized the largest works and factories.

"But the economic devastation looks insignificant in comparison with the destruction of culture. National cultures are being cynically and systematically destroyed. Peoples are forbidden even to speak their native tongues. Schools, institutes and universities are closed. All Polish theaters have closed their doors. Mickiewicz and Chopin are silenced. Czechoslovakia, where nearly all intelligentsia -- professors, doctors, teachers, engineers -- are in concentration camps, suffers equally.

"The German language is being forcibly implanted in all Slav lands captured by the Nazis. All officials are Germans. The populations are compelled to bow before every German in military uniform. It is not, however, submission, but profound, deadly hatred toward the oppressors and will to resist that the Germans are fostering among the conquered peoples.

"German Nazism, this monster created by Hitler's criminal gang, will be destroyed on Soviet soil, and the hour of its doom will be the hour of liberation of all peoples of Europe."

COSSACK HARVEST

(Written for Krasnaia Zvezda by the famous Soviet writer Mikhail Sholokhov, author of Quiet Flows the Don and The Don Flows Home to the Sea.)

On the boundless wheatfields of the Don the harvest is in full swing. The air resounds with the clatter of tractors, and over the combine trailers a blue haze mingles with the whitish rye dust. Reapers whir as their rakes press down upon the tall, thick rye.

A peaceful idyll, one might think. But no, the stern imprint of war lies over all. Men and machines work with new

intensity and purpose. Sorrel horses, driven in from the Don stud farms, whinney at tethers on village squares; bronzed young riders in faded cavalry caps gallop off to mobilization stations; and women binding grain in the fields straighten up to wave as they pass, shouting: "Good luck, Cossacks! Give the Nazi swine something to remember you by! Greetings to Budyenny!"

Carts loaded with grain of the new harvest, make their way along the steppe roads toward the elevators. Great mountains of luscious hay, green as spring onions untouched by rain, rumble majestically past. The Red Army needs everything, and everything is being done for the Army. All thoughts are out there at the front, and one wish burns in every heart: to break the accursed Nazi neck as soon as possible.

An elderly Cossack farmer, pressing a wheat ear in his palms, says smiling: "It is not only England and other smart nations that are on our side, nature herself is with us. Just look at the grain this year!

It's like the fairytale: wheat tall as a shaft, and potatoes big as a wheel. Spring wheat, sunflowers and millet needed rain, and just before harvest time down came the rain as if to order. Now the spring wheat and the rest of the crops are a sight for sore eyes."

Peter Zelenkov, combine operator working on the "Bolshevistsky" collective farm, harvested 28 centners of bunker weight from the first hectare of rye with relatively little moisture

and a negligible percentage of weeds. Here the crop yield is as much as 30 - 35 centners per hectare.

Zelenkov's combine unloads on the go, carries on without stopping. During a brief rest period Zelenkov, peeping into the bunker, climbs down onto the bristly stubble and goes off for a smoke.

"Have you got someone to take your place when you go to the front?" I ask him.

"Sure," he says.

"Who?"

"My wife."

"But can she really take your place?"

Zelenkov, his face dark from sun and dust, grins. The young woman at the wheel of the combine leans over the railing. "I am Zelenkov's wife," she says. I am only working temporarily at the wheel. Last year I drove the combine and earned more than my husband."

Stung by his wife's words, Zelenkov butts in: "Oh, I guess she could take my place all right, if it comes to that," he says reluctantly. "But she's got another bee in her bonnet. She wants to go to the front with me."

Marina Zelenkova, obviously one of those women who insist on having the last word, interrupts her husband: "We have no children, so there is nothing to prevent us from fighting. I can drive a tank as well as my husband any time!"

Zelenkov hurries back to the combine. He has no time to waste talking. Four hundred seven hectares out of 540 under rye on this farm have already been harvested. Zelenkov is hurrying to make up for lost time.

The overwhelming majority of collective farms in the Rostov province are using the simplest harvesting machines this year. Not waiting for the grain to reach the stage where combines are necessary, the farmers used reapers, thereby economizing on a vast amount of fuel and expediting harvesting.

Characteristic in this connection is the statement of one farmer from the Stalinets farm: "When collective farms came, all hard work stopped. Soviet power took the heavy work off our shoulders. Now the young folks who work on reapers are complaining their backs ache by the end of the day. They are just spoiled. The tractors did the ploughing and the combines the cutting and threshing. That's all right in peacetime, but now that the Germans have started to fight, a little backache is of no consequence. We've got to work so hard our joints will creak and save all the fuel we can for the Red Army. They need it more than we do and they can use it so as to make the Nazis' joints creak and make them jump out of their skins."

As though echoing the old Stalinets farmer, Vasily Soldatov from a neighboring farm climbed down from the top of his rick and wringing out his sweat-soaked shirt, said: "It is a hard, stubborn enemy we are fighting and we have to be hard and stubborn at work too. As for our quotas, well, we have just got to over-fulfil them, and when we go off to the front we will exceed our quotas there, too."

First class labor discipline and consciousness of civil duty were the order of the day at all the collective farms I visited. Children and old people are working in the fields and the work is proceeding with tremendous enthusiasm.

At another collective farm a brigade was working with reapers drawn by two pairs of oxen: although the rakes are lifted as high as they will go, progress is difficult --

the rye is so tall and thick. Women team drivers whip up the oxen. Strapping young Cossacks throwing the sheaves from the platform barely have time to wipe the perspiration from their brows. As they come to a halt I approach, asking why they drive the oxen so fast, almost at a gallop.

"The beasts are used to it," one of the men replies, "it won't do them any harm, and it's easier to throw the sheaves from the platform at high speed. What's more, we are anxious to get through with the harvest while we are still home because when we go to the front the women folk will have a hard time with grain like this."

Another interjects, "When will they take us for the army? All the other fellows of my age have gone and I don't see why I should have been left."

Pokusayev is his name. He is the son of the local blacksmith, a fine healthy specimen who has served in the Red Army artillery. From conversation with the others it turns out that one of them recently served as a tank man, another in a howitzer battery, a third in an anti-aircraft battery, a fourth as a cavalryman in a famous division. All are fine healthy young men. One can appreciate their desire to be off to the front. It is the peronnial desire of the young Don Cossacks, fighters in the great Red Army yesterday and tomorrow. It is the desire of men whose forebearers for centuries have shed their blood defending their country against numberless enemies.

I cannot but recall the words of 83-year-old Evlantyev, now guarding the collective farm grain barns. It was a dark July night. There were falling stars in the velvety sky. The old man's voice sounded soft and tremulous in the darkness:

"Never mind, let him come, let him get far enough away from his own land. Our country is big and its gateways are wide. My grandfather fought Napoloon and he used to tell us children stories of the campaign.

"Before going to war with us Napoleon gathered his Murats and his generals in an open field in broad daylight and said to them: 'I intend to conquer Russia. What do you say to that, gentlemen?'

"'Impossible, your highness,' they chorused, 'it is too big a country for us to conquer.'

"Napoleon pointed to the sky. 'See that star up there?' he said.

"'No,' they replied. 'We can't see any star because it's daytime.'

"'Well,' says Napoleon, 'I see it. And it predicts our victory.' Whereupon he set up his armies against us.

"The gateway they entered was wide, but the one they left by was so narrow they barely squeezed through. And our men chased them all the way to Paris. My old brain tells me that this German must have imagined he saw another crazy star like that, but when he gets around to making his exit he'll find the gates so narrow I doubt he'll even be able to squeeze through. I hope to God he doesn't! And that will be a lesson to the others for all time."

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The Soviet press reports especially heavy guerrilla action along the highway between the Soviet border and the city of Bobruisk. Stubborn encounters occur nearly every day. Recently the men of a large collective farm in this area fought against the Germans for two days, finally retiring into woods on the farm property.

Another guerrilla detachment composed of farmers and town workers, headed by a former factory manager, surprised a German armored detachment and captured a tank, ten armored cars and an anti-tank gun. With their new motorized equipment manned by factory machinists and collective farm tractor drivers, they are continuing operations against the Nazis.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, August 6, 1941

No. 20

EVENING COMMUNIQUE, August 4

On August 4 fierce fighting continued in the directions of Kholm, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov. Our airforce in cooperation with ground troops struck at enemy moto-mechanized units, infantry and artillery.

On August 3, twenty German planes were destroyed on enemy airdromes. We lost six planes.

During the German air raid on Moscow on the night of August 3, two German planes were brought down. Our airforce suffered no loss.

MORNING COMMUNIQUE, August 5

During the night of August 5 our forces fought the enemy in the directions of Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov.

Our airforce struck at enemy moto-mechanized units and infantry and bombed enemy aircraft on the ground.

"KRASNAIA ZVEZDA" SAYS BLITZKRIEG BANKRUPT

Moscow, August 5.

Summing up the military situation after six weeks of fighting, the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda said editorially today:

For six weeks fighting has gone on over a tremendous front, but the enemy has not yet crushed the Red Army. The failure of Hitler's blitzkrieg plans is clear to everyone. The German Command hurled a huge army into a determined offensive -- a carefully prepared blow, terrific in its force.

It may be said that no other nation could have withstood such an onslaught. The Soviet Union not only withstood it but drove the enemy backward by shattering counter-attacks.

The three blitzkrieg methods on which the German Nazi leaders relied were: 1, concentrated attacks by panzer formations, supported by airplanes and followed up by motorized infantry, with the object of penetrating deep into our territory; 2, attempts at a simultaneous break-through by main forces in critical directions; 3, battle along the whole front in an attempt to find vulnerable points in the defense line.

Each of these methods failed. The Nazi "lightning victory" glimmered out. Its disappearance from the horizon

reflected the failure of "blitzkrieg" strategy and tactics. Today the Nazi warrior no longer extols "lightning warfare." Goebbels recently said that the German nation must bear still more sacrifices and that any failure spells defeat. This means that the whole Nazi war machine, adapted only for "blitzkrieg," has failed.

Operations of the Nazi command follow a variable course. They are calculated to split defense positions through their whole depth and surround and annihilate enemy forces. One feature of German strategy is that advancing forces, especially vanguard units, have strict orders not to engage in serious action with strong defense centers but to outflank them.

When planning their "lightning stroke" the Nazis underestimated the Red Army's ability to counter their action. They did not take into account certain specific characteristics of Red Army warfare later developed on a vast scale in the new theater of war.

The German Nazi Command put great faith in its airforce. But in the east everything was turned upside down. Here the Nazi airforce could not gain a decisive supremacy. Instead, the Soviet airforce is relentlessly gaining control of the air.

According to the Nazi scheme, panzer troops were to be the main weapon of the blitzkrieg. In the east the Nazis ran into the heroic resistance of the Red Army, fully equipped with aircraft, tanks, motorized artillery, anti-tank defenses, and trucks. Enemy panzer troops are in many instances cut off from their infantry by the powerful counter-blows of our units. Thus a wedge is driven between two prongs of the offensive and then both are annihilated by powerful counter-attacks.

After suffering heavy losses in the first engagements, the German Nazi Command is now forced to disperse its panzer troops along the entire tremendous line of the front, increasingly using them as mere supporting elements for attacks by ordinary infantry.

TOWNS IN THE COMMUNIQUES

Belaya Tserkov:

A county seat and railroad point about 50 miles south of Kiev, population in 1931 about 72,000. The Ukrainians signed an important treaty with Poland here in 1651.

Korosten:

A railroad junction on the Uzh River 40 miles north of Zhitomir and 90 miles west and north of Kiev. Population about 12,000. Mentioned in histories as early as the year 975.

Kholm:

A small town on the Lovat River about 200 miles almost due south of Leningrad. It is 55 miles from the nearest railway.

THE PEOPLE WAGE WAR

(The following article, reprinted in part, was written for the Soviet press by the well known Soviet writer A. Afinogenov, author of the play "Fear.")

In the village of "K," recently, Germans appeared and promptly began a house-to-house search for Soviet officials. They demanded the immediate surrender of the chairman of the rural council, but the women and children--who alone remained in "K"--refused to reveal his whereabouts.

A Nazi officer ordered the mothers to take their children in their arms and line up. A mounted detachment of Germans with whips in their hands rode up to the line.

"Well, now will you tell us?" the officer demanded.

The women were silent.

The whips whistled down. Bloody welts rose on the childrens' faces and shoulders. The women were still silent. But after dark they sent a message to Soviet guerrillas hiding in nearby woods, and that same night the guerrillas attacked the town and took a bloody vengeance.

In the town of "V" the residents rushed to shelters as Nazi bombers circled above seeking out a target. Heavy bombs crashed down -- the library -- a school -- the hospital. Five minutes after the first bomb struck, the residents were pouring out of the shelters, intent on limiting the damage. Ignoring the falling bombs, they labored selflessly to put out fires.

Furious, the Nazis scattered a hail of incendiary bombs on the town. A brisk wind spread the flames and it seemed that the wooden houses of "V" were doomed. Young boys, old men rushed to extinguish the flames. With wet towels around their faces they grasped fire-spurting bombs by the vanes and threw them from roofs. On the ground, the bombs were shoveled into sand holes or to the middle of roadways or pushed into the river.

No dismay, no confusion gripped the hearts of the citizens of "V." Our people are not the sort to be terrorized by the Nazis. Despite the wind and the suddenness of the raid, four-fifths of the bombs were rendered harmless and the town was saved. Next day, "V" resumed its everyday life.

The bombings were repeated on several days, and then attacking German ground forces appeared in the neighborhood. A "home guard" was formed in "V" and all capable of bearing arms joined up. Their most effective weapon proved to be beer bottles filled with gasoline. A party of inquisitive German tanks was showered with flaming bottles. Roving Nazi motorcyclists were knocked out of their saddles. One gray haired old forester plumped from a tree on to the back of a startled motorcyclist, knocked the wind out of him and led him triumphantly back into the town.

Thus the inhabitants of "V" fought off the invaders. But when the Germans brought up heavy artillery, heavy tanks and motorized infantry they made ready to abandon their town. All men joined the guerrillas. Breaking up into small detachments they bade their families good-bye and went off to the woods, whence they could harry the enemy's rear by day and night.

The women, the children and the aged left the town, forming a caravan along the road toward Soviet-held territory. Now the Nazis showed their true natures: they swooped low over the road, machine-gunning the fugitives. This the guerrillas saw, and their hearts burned with thirst for vengeance.

Hardly had the German vanguard entered the town of "V" when flames burst from the houses. The earth was shaken by explosions, and black smoke billowed up from a burning oil tank, mounting far into the sky. The guerrillas had set fire to their town. The very earth burned beneath the Germans' feet -- ashes and cinders were all the Nazis had of "V".

Pressing on through the town, the Germans poured toward the river. Here a large railroad bridge beckoned them on. At the bridge's farther end, the countryside lay invitingly open to their heavy tanks, guns and gasoline trucks. The bridge filled from end to end with German vehicles.

Beneath the bridge a small group of guerrillas lay hidden. A dynamite fuse flared. Thirty seconds later the bridge heaved up with a roar and plunged down into the river with all its load of tanks, motorcyclists and flaming gasoline trucks. All the Germans upon it met their deaths in the churning water. And the guerrillas beneath, too, met their deaths -- a short fuse, to make sure -- and they knew they could not save themselves. But they made sure.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Thursday, August 7, 1941

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THE FRONT ON AUGUST 5 - 6

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 6.

Evening Communique, August 5

On August 5 our troops continued fighting the enemy in the Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front. No major operations took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry, causing great losses.

On August 4, 53 German planes were destroyed in air battles and on airdromes. Our airforce lost 21 planes.

Red Army units have imposed heavy losses on the German 16th Motorized Division in the northwestern sector. This division repeatedly tried to attack our formations. Each time, the Germans were repulsed with heavy losses.

After several unsuccessful attempts to penetrate our front line, this division left over 1,500 killed and wounded on the battlefield. According to incomplete data, the Germans lost 60 machineguns and sub-machineguns, 12 other pieces of artillery of various calibers, 16 trench

mortars and nine anti-tank guns. Our troops captured a large number of prisoners.

In the direction of Korosten a German infantry regiment was smashed by a determined Soviet counter-attack. Over 300 Germans were killed and wounded and many soldiers and officers, including the commander of the regiment, were captured.

Morning Communique, August 6

During the night of August 5 our troops continued fighting the enemy in the Kholm, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front. There were no major operations in the remaining directions and sectors of the front.

An enemy transport carrying troops and munitions was sunk by one of our submarines in the Baltic.

Blows were dealt enemy moto-mechanized units, infantry and artillery, and aircraft on many enemy airdromes, by our airforce.

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 6.

On the night of August 5 several waves of German planes attempted to raid Moscow. Single planes broke through to the city after the rest were dispersed by our night-fighter planes and anti-aircraft artillery fire and dropped their bombs at random over the remote environs of Moscow.

There were no fires in Moscow proper. Several dwelling houses were demolished. Military objectives did not suffer.

Five German planes were brought down. Our airforce suffered no losses.

POLISH MILITARY MISSION REACHES MOSCOW

The Soviet Information Bureau announced last night that a Polish Military Mission headed by Brigadier General Sigismund Szisko-Bogusz has arrived in Moscow.

The Polish Mission was welcomed by Soviet officials headed by Colonel Evstigneev, Director of the Department of Foreign Relations of the People's Commissariat of Defense, and by Captain Eleazar Zaitsev, Director of the Department of Foreign Relations of the People's Commissariat of the Navy.

Lieutenant General F. N. Mason-MacFarlane, head of the British Military Mission in Moscow, also welcomed the Polish officers.

PURPORT OF THE SOVIET-POLISH AGREEMENT

(The following editorial was published in Pravda, August 4)

The nations of the whole world and all progressive mankind enthusiastically greet the creation of a mighty coalition of powers aimed against Hitler's Germany. The united front of nations filled with resolution to carry to a triumphant issue the struggle against sanguinary Hitler grows and strengthens. It is a fight for deliverance of the nations fettered by Hitler and to free mankind from the direst menace that ever threatened it -- Hitlerism.

The significance of the momentous agreements concluded between the U. S. S. R. and Great Britain, the U. S. S. R. and Poland, and the U. S. S. R. and Czechoslovakia is tremendous. All these agreements, as well as the full resumption of normal diplomatic relations between the U. S. S. R. and Yugoslavia, bespeak the fact that a mighty, insurmountable force has arisen against Hitler. This force will crush and destroy the Nazi German hordes whose frenzied, violent onslaught is being courageously stemmed by the heroic Red Army.

As one of the most important links in the anti-Hitler coalition the Soviet-Polish agreement has attracted great attention both among our friends and our enemies. It was met with the greatest approval by all the freedom loving nations of the world, who rightly consider that the establishment of friendly relations between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland and their joint struggle against Hitler Germany, which has insolently trampled on its agreements and perfidi-

ously violated its obligations to the U. S. S. R., Poland and other countries, forms a major contribution to the cause of demolishing Hitlerism.

The conclusion of the Soviet-Polish pact brought dismay and confusion into the ruling circles of Germany, Rumania and Finland, as these circles know that the agreement between the U. S. S. R. and Poland, as well as that between the U. S. S. R. and Czechoslovakia and the resumption of normal diplomatic relations between the U. S. S. R. and Yugoslavia, constitutes a mighty stimulus for a further surging wave of struggle in the enemy rear, in the countries invaded and fettered by Hitler.

The Polish agreement was ardently welcomed in Polish, Czech and Yugoslav emigrant circles, who envisage in this agreement wide opportunities for vitalizing their struggle for deliverance of their birthlands, their fight against the Hitlerite yoke.

The Soviet peoples, who today bear the whole brunt of the onslaught of the Hitler hordes -- the Soviet peoples, who have shown and are showing an example of unprecedented valor and heroism, and who by their courageous resistance have dispelled the myth of the invincibility of the German Army and frustrated the plans of Hitler's blitzkrieg -- the Soviet peoples welcome the Soviet-Polish agreement, envisaging therein a foundation for cooperation of fraternal peoples in an implacable fight against the Nazi ravagers, against the worst enemy of the Slav nations -- Hitler.

The Soviet peoples have reached out a hand to help the Polish people, one of the first victims of Hitler's perfidious invasion. This helping hand was not left hanging

in mid-air. The freedom loving Polish people answered with a firm, heartfelt handgrip, filled with resolution to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet peoples against the direst foe, against bloody Hitler.

The tremendous historic purport of this fraternal agreement of two Slav nations was worthily appreciated by all mankind. Hence the vast echo which the Soviet-Polish agreement has caused in public circles throughout the world.

Mortal and sacred hatred of a common foe, undying love of freedom have united the peoples of the U.S.S.R. and Poland. At the same time the Soviet-Polish agreement is an example of the deep sagacity and statesmanship of these fraternal peoples.

The Soviet-Polish agreement has shown that there is, as there has always been, a full possibility of maintaining and preserving neighborly relations between the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland. One therefore cannot pass without attention the fact that in analyzing and appreciating the Soviet-Polish agreement, attempts are made to draw historical parallels which can in nowise be recognized as right. In his radio speech made in London on July 31, Polish Premier Sikorski drew a parallel between 1795 when "two great powers -- Germany and Russia -- vowed that Poland and the Polish nation must disappear forever," and 1939 when was concluded a "similar agreement on the destruction of Poland forever."

True, 1795 is one of the saddest pages in Poland's history. This was the year of the so-called third partitioning of Poland. But once we make excursions into history, fairness demands that it be noted that the third partitioning of Poland was not so much determined by foreign as by domestic policy.

The partitioning of Poland in 1795 was a direct result of the cooperation of the most reactionary European states, which united for a struggle against the (French) Revolution and the national emancipatory movement.

Is such an analogy between 1795 and 1939 conceivable under such conditions? Certainly not. And finally, fairness demands that we recall also certain circumstances which took shape in 1939. We should not forget that the entry of Soviet troops into the precincts of the eastern region of Poland in 1939 was due, as rightly pointed out by (Premier, now Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav) Molotov in his speech on September 17, 1939, to the fact that Poland became a convenient field for all kinds of inadvertencies and unexpected occurrences which could create a menace for the U.S.S.R.

And another thing not to be forgotten was that in face of the menace of German occupation, the Soviet Union was in duty bound to give a helping hand to the Ukrainians and Byelorussians who comprised most of the population in the eastern regions of Poland.

Only now, in the light of present events in connection with the outrageous, perfidious assault launched by Nazi Germany against the Soviet Union, does it become particularly clear how properly the Soviet Government acted in the Autumn of 1939 by not allowing Germam Nazi troops to occupy the

Western Ukraine and Western Byelorussia, which German Nazism -- and of this today there can be no doubt -- would have immediately turned into a springboard for an assault on the Soviet Union.

Today it is more than ever clear that the Soviet Union would have found itself in incomparably more difficult conditions in face of perfidious attack by Hitlerite Germany if the very first days of the war had unfolded not in the areas of Lvov, Brest-Litovsk and Byelostok but in the areas of Odessa, Kamenetz-Podolsk and Minsk. Everyone to whom the cause of routing Hitlerism is a matter of concern must appreciate the perspicacity and farsightedness of the Soviet Government, which foresaw all possible turns of events and which set up possibilities for the most effective defense of the Soviet Union.

In true appreciation of the events of the past three years there are no grounds whatever to regard the events of 1939 and the agreements reflecting them from the viewpoint of an analogy with the events of 1795.

In the Soviet-Polish agreement of July 30, 1941, it is stated that "the Government of the U.S.S.R. recognizes the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 regarding territorial changes in Poland as having lost their validity." The Soviet Government thereby emphasized that "territorial changes" are not perpetual and that the borders provided for by these "changes" are not something immutable. What is more, in general this is hardly the time to raise a question concerning borders. It is not accidental that the British Government has declined to guarantee the Polish borders existing in 1939 before the war between Germany and Poland. In his speech Sikorski said, "Nobody even dares to presume that the 1939 borders of the

of the Polish state can be placed in question." One cannot agree with such a viewpoint. The Soviet Union could in turn declare that it does not consider as immutable the borders between the U.S.S.R. and Poland established by the 1921 Riga treaty.

The question of future Soviet-Polish borders is a matter for the future. The Soviet-Polish agreement, which is an example of the state sagacity and goodwill of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. and Poland, is convincing proof of the fact that questions of Soviet-Polish relations will in future find just as successful a solution as that today given in the joint fight of the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland against the common enemy.

AT THE FRONT and BEHIND THE LINES

"Not A Single Bomb Has Yet Fallen on Leningrad"

(Written for the Soviet press by Major General M. Protsvetkin, Chief of Leningrad anti-aircraft defenses)

Even before the war, beginning on June 17, German planes began brazenly infringing on Soviet territory from the direction of Finland. From the first day of the war solitary Nazi planes broke through toward Leningrad, trying to reconnoiter conditions of the anti-aircraft defense system and establish the most important bombing targets. On the night of June 23 a salvo from an anti-aircraft battery on the

fringe of our anti-aircraft defense line shot down the first Junkers-88.

Effective fire of our anti-aircraft men forced the Nazi air scouts to change their tactics. The enemy planes were forced up to considerably higher altitudes. They passed the observation zone at a height of 78,000 meters, afterward descending slightly. But even so they were hit by anti-aircraft batteries and pursuit planes. In the cockpits of planes brought down were found still and movie cameras and marked charts.

Later, they began raids with small groups of up to 18 planes. None of these groups succeeded in reaching the city proper.

Beginning July 20, the Nazi airforce noticeably increased its activity, sending out major units accompanied by pursuit planes which approached in waves from various directions. Intensive Soviet anti-aircraft artillery fire and the formidable attacks by Soviet fighter planes blocked the enemy's path. Not once have Hitler's bombers managed to break through to Leningrad; the Nazis have been forced to drop their bombs in the city's outskirts. Frequently, on seeing shell bursts of anti-aircraft artillery, enemy fliers hastily shed their bombs haphazard to lighten their machines, and retreat hurriedly.

At times the Nazis resort to ruses, some fairly primitive. Several times, for instance, they have framed up an air battle to attract the attention of a Soviet pursuit plane, which they then ambush with other planes. The Nazi fliers seldom accept a real engagement. They obviously fear Soviet pursuit planes and as a rule avoid air actions. In

one case a flight of Soviet pursuit planes forced 11 high-speed Nazi bombers to flee.

Some reasons for the enemy's irresolution became clear when we made closer acquaintance with the crews of Nazi machines shot down. In most cases the fliers are young men of 20 or 22 without a great deal of military training. Even old experienced fliers, Iron Cross holders, however, have been known to meet a sad fate at the approaches to Leningrad. One imprisoned flier said with chagrin that for 17 months he had flown on the fronts of western Europe without having a single air engagement, but that his first engagement with Soviet fliers turned out to be his last.

Many Soviet pursuit plane pilots have records of two to four Nazi machines shot down. Lieutenant Yanshin's squadron has shot down 12 machines in one month, losing two of their own planes. Soviet pursuit pilots not only handle their machines well and engage the enemy fearlessly, but when out of ammunition have been known to ram the foe or shear through his rudder with their propeller.

In their attempts to reach Leningrad the Nazis lost 41 planes in the week of July 20 - 26, and not one machine broke clear through to Leningrad. Soviet losses were eight planes. Nazi reports of successful mass raids on Leningrad are the usual Nazi falsehoods. Not a single bomb has yet fallen on Leningrad.

Izvestia: New Grain Regions Have Bumper Crops

Moscow, August 6

Commenting on the latest news of record crops in south-eastern regions of the Soviet Union, Izvestia said

editorially today:

Reports on this year's bountiful crop cannot be overestimated. In conditions of intense warfare waged by the Soviet people against the Nazis, the harvesting of a bumper crop constitutes one of the most important factors of victory.

Completion of the cereal harvest on collective and state farms has shown that despite the suddenness of the war, our farmers were not caught unawares. The majority of southern collective farms successfully coped with the problems presented by early and hasty reaping of cereal grains, which in the main has been completed.

After the southern regions, harvesting began in the southeast -- the granary of the Soviet Union. These regions are also gathering a record crop this year. In the Kuibyshev region the crop exceeds that of the last three years.

Similar reports are coming in from the Saratov and Tambov regions, the Volga German Autonomous Republic, and the Penza region, where even old timers do not remember such a crop.

A stable source of grain supply has thus been created in the southeast and east of the country. This is irrefutably confirmed by the 1941 bumper crop in these regions.

The outcome of the clash between the Soviet people and Nazism -- for all of humanity -- will be decided to a considerable extent by the material resources of the adversaries. Nazi Germany is already experiencing an acute food shortage. She faces another hungry winter. Our material and food reserves are tremendous and will expand continuously as is ensured by the efforts of the whole Soviet people, who are now directing all their efforts to the purpose of smashing the enemy.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Friday, August 8, 1941

No. 22

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 6 - 7

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 7.

Evening Communique, August 6

On August 6 our troops fought stubbornly against the enemy in the Kaekisalmi, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front.

There were no major military operations in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce struck at enemy moto-mechanized units and artillery in various sectors of the front.

On August 5, fourteen German planes were destroyed. We lost seven planes.

Morning Communique, August 7

During the night of August 7 our troops stubbornly fought the enemy in the Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov directions and the Estonian sector of the front. No important engagements took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce continued to strike at enemy panzer troops, infantry and artillery and attacked enemy airdromes.

In tenacious fighting near "N," a Red Army unit under commander Domrachev inflicted heavy losses on the German 20th Tank Division. Our troops forced a river crossing, launched an offensive, and attacked the defense positions of the German division. Intense German artillery, mortar and machinegun fire failed to check the advance of our troops. In the wake of a strong barrage our tanks advanced upon the enemy. In the fierce tank engagement that followed, the Germans lost scores of machines. Hundreds of German soldiers were crushed by the caterpillars of our heavy tanks or killed by machinegun and artillery fire.

The German 112th and 59th Tank Regiments suffered heavy losses. Domrachev's formation captured 28 German tanks, six guns, 26 machineguns, 30 motorcycles, four automobile trucks and a large quantity of other equipment.

In the northwestern direction of the front a German detachment managed to cross the river "X" at night and entrenched on our bank. Under cover of this detachment the Germans next day sent across the river an infantry regiment, about 20 pieces of artillery, many trench-mortars and tanks. An infantry regiment commanded by Captain Krasnov, a Hero of the Soviet Union, was ordered to smash

the enemy forces which had reached our bank. Our regiment was reinforced with planes, tanks and artillery.

Next day at dawn our formation smashed the German regiment with a sudden attack and threw its remnants back to the opposite bank of the river. On our bank alone were left 210 bodies of German soldiers. Many Germans were drowned. A considerable amount of equipment was captured.

A submarine of the Northern Fleet commanded by a senior lieutenant penetrated a Nazi harbor and attacked a 6,000 ton transport. Torpedo-man Melnikov blew up the enemy ship with two torpedoes. The submarine returned to its base safely.

GUERRILLAS ACTIVE

The Soviet Information Bureau reports continuous guerrillas activity behind the German lines. Near the village of Vitachevo Soviet guerrillas wiped out a reconnoitering party of 50 German cyclists accompanied by three motorcyclists, killing 40 of them.

Near Novograd-Volynsk, collective farmers set fire to a hay field in which German trench mortar and anti-tank gun units had taken cover. Fire and the explosion of their own shells killed a number of the Germans, who were obliged to abandon their equipment.

"PRAVDA" ON SOVIET - AMERICAN RELATIONS

Pravda, authoritative Soviet newspaper, yesterday printed the following editorial on Soviet-American relations:

Every day brings reports of the increasing isolation of Nazi Germany and of the consolidation of a broad front of freedom loving nations ready to defend their independence and liberty. These nations are ready to fight the Nazi usurpers to the victorious end for the liberation of mankind from bloodthirsty Hitlerism.

Wherever the Nazi hordes pass they bring in their wake devastation, death, terror and the destruction of national independence and democratic liberties. The Nazi invaders' schemes are far reaching; they aim at conquering the whole world. They have hurled their hordes upon the Soviet earth and extended their bloodstained paws toward the British Isles. They spare no efforts to subjugate the American continent.

Recent trials of Nazi German agents in the United States and Latin American countries, especially plots exposed in Bolivia, testify to the feverish subversive activity of the Nazi German outlaws in the countries of the American continent. As if this were not enough, they use their influence upon the Vichy capitulationist government for their criminal and predatory aims in order to avail themselves of Atlantic bases in preparation for an attack on America.

The Nazi menace looms over the whole world. All freedom loving peoples who refuse to be slaves of Hitler are rising to struggle against Nazi Germany. A mighty coalition of great powers directed against Hitler has already been formed. All nations cherishing ideals of liberty and independence side with this anti-Nazi coalition.

The American people stands with the opponents of the Nazi barbarians. The United States long since began to aid Britain actively in the struggle against Hitler. Now, on the basis of common interests rising from the necessity of fighting a common foe, a foundation has been laid for fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States of America.

The recent visit to Moscow of President Roosevelt's personal envoy Harry Hopkins, the renewal of the trade agreement between the U.S.S.R. and the United States, and the exchange of notes between Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles and Soviet Ambassador Constantine Oumansky on the United States Government's decision to send all practicable economic aid to strengthen the Soviet Union -- all these facts demonstrate the existence of Soviet-American cooperation in the struggle against humanity's common foe -- bloody Hitler.

This cooperation is based on the community of interests of these two great powers faced with the Nazi menace. This cooperation corresponds to the state interests both of the Soviet Union and of the United States. That the Soviet Government welcomed the United States Government's decision with satisfaction is seen from the text of Soviet Ambassador Oumansky's note addressed to Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles.

The Soviet people, and Soviet public circles, received with incontrovertible satisfaction the news of the creation of a basis for fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States. This cooperation, based on community of interests, is calculated to strengthen the national defense of both countries and is directed at the destruction of an enemy who threatens the security and freedom of all peoples.

The Soviet people, which has risen for patriotic war against the Nazi invaders, is sure of victory. It is fighting for a just cause -- for its native land and for the common cause of all freedom loving peoples.

Both the creation of a mighty anti-Nazi coalition on the basis of an agreement between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain, and the Soviet-American cooperation now beginning, supply convincing proof that a mighty, irresistible force has risen against Hitler and his bloody clique. This force will exterminate Nazism and liberate mankind from its threat forever.

* * * * * * * *

The Soviet Information Bureau reports that a Soviet air squadron commanded by Captain Barchenko flew through a heavy German anti-aircraft barrage to attack a Nazi tank column advancing on the city of "O." After putting nearly 30 tanks out of action the Soviet squadron winged homeward, only to be intercepted by German pursuit planes. In the ensuing air battle, four German planes were shot down. Captain Barchenko's squadron returned to its airdrome without the loss of a plane.

"IZVESTIA" ON THE SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE AGREEMENT

Commenting on renewal of the trade agreement between the U.S.S.R. and the United States, the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia said editorially today:

This act took place in an exceedingly involved international situation and therefore has special political significance. Renewal of the trade agreement occurred at a moment when the traditional friendship existing between the peoples of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America is finding its visible expression. These two great countries are in the same powerful camp of democratic countries which have set themselves the noble task of annihilating German Nazism -- the bitterest, most treacherous enemy of mankind's culture and civilization.

The documents published yesterday show how utterly the bloodthirsty Berlin gang has miscalculated. The perfidious schemes of German Nazism to split the front of freedom loving peoples have collapsed completely. The United States with its powerful industry is in a position to ensure the Soviet Union a supply of necessary technical equipment of industrial and other importance. On the other hand, the Soviet Union, disposing of tremendous reserves of various raw materials, is in a position to assist further the development of important industries in the United States. As a result of American economic assistance to the Soviet Union, the Red Army's blows against the Nazi military machine will become still more deadly.

Consolidation of economic cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and the U. S. A., and the strengthening on this

basis of friendly relations between the Soviet and American peoples, is a fact of great historic significance. It consolidates the front of democratic countries and expedites the final smash-up of German Nazism eagerly awaited by all humanity.

AT THE FRONT and BEHIND THE LINES

Thirty-Two Days Behind German Lines

In the following article Colonel Novikov, commander of Infantry Division "K," describes how his division made a 32-day forced march to rejoin main Soviet forces after it had been cut off by German mechanized units. Heavy fighting, clever stratagems and thorough discipline brought the division through intact. The article first appeared in the Red Army newspaper, Krasnaia Zvezda.

On the first day of the war our division was holding the line in area "N." Despite the enemy's numerical superiority, our division checked the onslaught of Nazi infantry and tank troops. At points we launched counter-attacks, throwing the Germans back from Soviet territory. On June 26 we routed a German infantry division commanded by Colonel Hoffman. In this engagement the Nazis lost about 900 killed and wounded, and 200 men and 12 officers were captured. We also took 16 pieces of artillery, 14 anti-tank guns, many automatic rifles, and ammunition.

Subsequently, the Germans concentrated at this point considerable forces of infantry and artillery and eventually succeeded in outflanking and cutting off our division. Finding ourselves in the rear of the Nazis, we resolved to cut our way through to our main forces.

We began by attacking enemy infantry which was desperately trying to catch up with the panzer units. Making full use of night attacks, which we knew from experience the Germans dreaded, we severed and disrupted the enemy's lines of communications and supplies.

Our division had to cross an unbridged river. The only ford was held by the Germans, who had concentrated there two batteries of artillery, a number of machineguns and many trench-mortars. As a diversion we feinted a crossing at this point by sending a mounted patrol and a small group of infantry into action in this area.

The trick was effective. The Germans concentrated more troops there and exposed the east bank of the ford, which was what we wanted. Meanwhile our main forces, with the aid of cables and horses, secretly crossed the river at another point. Later, one of our battalions approached the Germans through bogs at their rear and dispersed them by a surprise attack. Thus our diversion groups were also enabled to cross the river and rejoin us.

We marched onward, fighting constantly on the way. We attacked German supply trains, chiefly at night, annihilating their guards and replenishing our own stores. Then our division halted; our scouts had brought back bad news. To the northwest the Nazis had concentrated fresh troops, about one division. To the east a river barred our way.

Once again only a ruse could save us. We lit camp fires for half a mile along the edge of a forest. German motorcycle troops soon appeared. Nazi scout planes began soaring over the forest. They opened heavy fire, aiming at the site where the smoke was rising. This did us no harm, because as soon as the fires started we were on our way by a forced march. We moved over four miles toward the river. Sappers in peasant disguise had already begun building a bridge. It looked as though the peasants in this area were themselves repairing a bridge destroyed during the recent fighting. Without any losses, our division safely crossed the river.

We marched through the enemy rear for 32 days, crossing hundreds of kilometers of forests and marshes. We forded dozens of rivers, often having to fight our way across. Our division killed about 3,000 Germans, successfully attacked a motorized division, and captured over 300 trucks with supplies and hundreds of bicycles, motorcycles, armored cars and similar equipment. We returned from this strenuous 32-day march fully ready to fight again for the honor and freedom of our country.

"Lunin" Movement to Raise Soviet Labor Productivity

Hundreds of thousands of working people, the Soviet press reports, are joining a movement to increase efficiency of Soviet war industry. This movement, an extension of the famed "Stakhanovite" technique, was introduced by a railway engineer, Lunin. It calls for workers to repair their own machines when they break down.

Lunin initiated the movement in his industry by appealing to engine drivers to repair their own locomotives. This proved so successful that it was taken up by coal miners, who now make adjustments and repairs on their coal-cutting and other machines when the day's shift is over.

In a clothing factory in Novosibirsk, 50 workmen began making small repairs of their machines without the aid of mechanics; in the Molotov Machine Building Works, 17 jobs of various kinds of repair workers have been abolished as men left for the front. An automatic machine operator, Voskressensky, of the Kaluga Electro-Mechanical Works, now operates three machines and repairs them unaided.

The Lunin movement, already adopted in many phases of Soviet industry, is expected to release workers for new jobs and for the front and to increase labor productivity and reduce production costs.

Red Army Man's Wife Escapes Nazis

Soviet newspapers today published this account by the wife of Red Army commander Kassinsky of her experiences as a Nazi prisoner.

On July 17 the Nazis invaded the village of "X." Arms in hand, they demanded the houses be emptied of food-stuffs -- bread, bacon and eggs. Since the peasants, naturally enough, were unwilling to feed them, the German soldiers forced locks and took everything they could get hold of.

After robbing the population the Nazis tried to get information on the whereabouts of local army authorities. They demanded my passport. When I told them it had been burned during a bombing, they beat me, trying to learn who I was and where my husband was. After this, my seven-year-old son and I, together with a group of teachers and employees -- about 20 persons in all -- were taken from the village and locked in an ice cellar at the German headquarters.

Our liberation was quite sudden. One night as a German officer approached our ice cellar, shots rang out from somewhere in the nearby bushes. The Nazi fell with blood running down his face. In their flight the panic-stricken German guards forgot about the prisoners locked in the ice cellar, and our friends soon set us free.

NAZI AGENTS IN IRAN AND AFGHANISTAN

Secret German activities in Iran and Afghanistan are being closely watched by authorities of those countries, the Soviet press reported today from Istanbul.

Using Teheran and Kabul as bases, German agents under the guise of "industrial specialists" and "tourists" are reportedly attempting to penetrate frontier regions, in particular near northwest India. It is believed German agents have engineered a number of acts of sabotage. Suspicious "breakdowns" have been reported recently in several oil fields and refineries of the Anglo-Iranian concession.

Diplomatic quarters in Turkey believe a German inspired revolt may break out in Iran, where the Germans are said to be distributing arms and money and conducting intense propaganda.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Saturday, August 9, 1941

No. 23

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 7 - 8

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 8.

Evening Communique, August 7

On August 7 our troops stubbornly fought the enemy in the Kaekisalmi, Kholm, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov directions. No important engagement took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized units and infantry on battlefields and at enemy aircraft on airdromes.

On August 6 we brought down 39 German planes and lost 19. According to precise data now available, nine enemy planes were brought down instead of six as previously reported, during the German air raid on Moscow on the night of August 6.

* * * * * *

The German High Command's report on the results of six weeks of war reads like an Arabian fairy tale.

Over six weeks have passed since the Nazi troops treacherously attacked the U.S.S.R. Encountering the Red Army's powerful counter-attacks, the German troops suffered tremendous losses in men and arms. Increasing resistance of

the Red Army, bold guerrilla actions and the struggle of the entire Soviet people against the invaders have had disastrous consequences not only for the fighting capacity and morale of the Nazi troops, but also for the morale of the German people.

Weariness caused by protracted war, news of tremendous losses to the German army trickling through to Germany, aggravation of the food situation in Germany, and increasing dislocation of industry -- all these factors are causing despondency and confusion among the German population.

Nazi propaganda endeavors by false reports of military operations on the eastern front to raise the spirit of German soldiers and population. Concealing from the German population the real losses of the German Army in the war against the U.S.S.R., Hitlerite propaganda is stuffing the German population with absurdities -- for instance, that 16 German cavalrymen annihilated a Soviet regiment, or that five German infantrymen captured 17 fortifications and annihilated a whole Soviet regiment which was defending them.

The absurdity of such reports is so apparent that the German population does not believe them. Consequently, as was stated by the German command itself, "an uneasy notion of the progress of military operations" has been created in Germany.

For this reason German propaganda, joining efforts with the German Army High Command, fell back on a new

deception by publishing on August 6 a sensational communique on the progress of hostilities on the eastern front. Trying to find an explanation for the heavy losses of German armies and for protracted time lost by the Nazi hordes, German propaganda attempts to create a legend of the existence of a "powerfully fortified Stalin Line." This "Stalin Line," it appears, runs without any break along the whole front -- from the Gulf of Finland to the Black Sea -- wherever German troops sustain especially heavy losses in meeting the stiff resistance of Red Army units.

Of course it is true that the Soviet Government at various times built fortifications where necessary. However, no special "Stalin Line" exists or ever existed. The line was invented by the Germans to justify their tremendous losses, which are due not to the existence of a "special line" in defense of the U.S.S.R., but to the fact that the Red Army and the Soviet people defend their country with the greatest bravery and courage and transform every inch of their native land into fortifications.

No less absurd and ridiculous are Nazi "calculations" of war prisoners and booty allegedly captured by the German Army on the eastern front. The German Command published the following fantastic figures of Soviet war losses in six weeks of action: 895,000 war prisoners, 13,145 tanks, 10,388 guns, 9,082 airplanes. The German propaganda surpassed itself!

The technique of these false "estimates" is as follows: Occupying a given Soviet district the Nazis immediately mobilize the population by force -- peasants, office workers, women -- for arduous work, and transport them to

the rear, declaring these populations to be prisoners of war. By this procedure, admittedly, one may count not merely the 895,000 war prisoners which the Germans claim to have captured during the war, but considerably more. This is how the legends about numbers of Soviet soldiers captured are manufactured in the communiques of the German Information Bureau.

German propaganda employs deceptions no less awkward in publishing false data on "booty" allegedly captured -- Soviet artillery, tanks and planes. In manufacturing these giddy "data," the Nazis apparently first add up their own losses, then add ours, and finally throw in anything else that strikes their fancy. By this procedure, understandably enough, one may add up not merely 13,000 Soviet tanks, 10,000 pieces of artillery, and 9,000 airplanes allegedly destroyed by the Germans, but considerably more.

Doubtless the High Command of the German Army had its reasons for publishing these obvious lies on the progress of hostilities. It was compelled to do so by the collapse of "blitzkrieg" plans against the Soviet Union -- by the failure of its criminal intention of seizing a rich prey in the occupied territory: wheat, cattle, factories, various raw materials and industrial supplies -- and by the extremely heavy losses of the German Army in men and material.

Since the Germam Command did not risk publication of the real figures on its losses, the Soviet Information Bureau will supply this omission in the August 6 "special communique" of the German propaganda service. In six weeks

of warfare, the Red Army has captured or destroyed over 8,000 German guns, itself losing in the same period about 7,000 guns.

The German airforce suffered especially heavy losses. According to accurate data, German losses have been over 6,000 planes. Our losses in six weeks of war have been about 4,000 planes.

This accounting after six weeks of war shows how prodigally Hitler and his criminal clique waste the lives of their soldiers under the deadly fire of our machineguns and artillery. When the German soldiers retreat, they are machinegunned by their own officers. When there is a general retreat, the German Command abandons to their fate tens of thousands of wounded.

As is clear from these facts, the true picture presented after casting up the accounts of six weeks of the Nazi German war against the U.S.S.R. is as different from the German "special communique" as day from night. The false German propaganda has ended by losing all restraint in its lies.

Morning Communique, August 8

During the night of August 8 our troops continued to fight the enemy in the directions of Kaekisalmi, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov and in the Estonian sector of the front. No major engagements took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized units and infantry on battlefields and at enemy aviation on airdromes.

Evening Communique, August 8

On August 8 our troops fought the enemy in the Kexholm (Kaekisalmi), Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front. Our air-force, in cooperation with ground troops dealt blows at German moto-mechanized units and infantry and attacked aircraft at the enemy airdromes. On August 7 we destroyed 21 Germam planes, losing 14 planes and in the afternoon one of our planes brought down a German scouting plane in the vicinity of Moscow.

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SOVIET PLANES OVER BERLIN

Moscow, August 8

The Soviet Information Bureau reports that on August 8, a group of Soviet planes effectively reconnoitered in Germany and dropped incendiary and explosive bombs on military objectives in the area of Berlin. Following the bombardment one could see by the light of the incendiary bombs a number of explosions. All planes returned to their bases safely.

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Soviet bombers attacked a large Germam tank unit. A plane piloted by Battalion Commissar Nezhdanov fell under heavy enemy anti-aircraft fire and was badly damaged. Unable to reach Soviet territory Nezhdanov was compelled to land behind the fascist lines. His crew set fire to the plane, and, arms in their hands, prepared to exact a heavy price for their lives. However, pilots of Nezhdanov's unit did not abandon their Commissar. Incessantly firing at the Germans, the Soviet planes prevented them from approaching Nezhdanov's crew. Choosing an opportune moment, Lieutenant Struyev boldly landed and took on board Nezhdanov and his crew.

* * * *

S.A. LOZOVSKY ON SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND GERMAN MORALE

At his regular press conference on August 7, S.A. Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, talked with foreign correspondents on Soviet-American relations and on the weakening morale of the German people.

Mr. Hernandez, correspondent of the Buenos Aires newspaper Critica, asked if the exchange of notes between Soviet Ambassador Constantine Oumansky and Assistant Secretary of State Sumner Welles concerning economic assistance to the Soviet Union signifies a pact of friendship and mutual assistance between the U.S.S.R. and the United States.

Mr. Lozovsky replied: "The published documents undoubtedly mark a rapprochement between the United States and the U.S.S.R., although no pact of friendship was concluded between these great countries.

"The exchange of notes testifies to the fact that the United States has decided to render economic assistance to the Soviet Union in its struggle against armed aggression.

This economic assistance resulted from a community of immediate purpose of the U. S.S.R. and the United States, which is to annihilate at any cost bloodthirsty Hitlerism. This, as mentioned in Mr. Welles' note, 'is in the interests of the national defense of the United States.'"

* * * * *

Taking up the question of German morale, Mr. Lozovsky stressed that the situation at the front depends on the frame of mind of the German people in the rear. He cited the following factors as powerfully depressing German morale:

1. The food situation in Germany is going from bad to worse.
2. Aversion to war is growing because of heavy German losses on the eastern front.
3. The futility of warfare on two fronts is daily becoming more apparent.
4. General depression has been caused by constant air bombing, undernourishment and a presentiment of defeat.

Mr. Lozovsky continued:

"German war casualties are tremendous. This cannot be concealed, since a stream of trains bearing wounded from the front floods into all corners of Germany. Every newspaper is compelled to write about the difficulties of the struggle and the tremendous losses, and -- although the Nazi press does not divulge figures -- fathers, mothers, wives

and fiancees begin to understand that this omission is more eloquent than any words."

After the routing of German regiments and divisions, Mr. Lozovsky told the correspondents, many thousands of letters from Germany to the front fell into Soviet hands. Citing numerous excerpts from these letters, he emphasized that they reflected profound anxiety among the masses of German population. This anxiety he attributed to German losses on the eastern front and the bombing of German towns.

"German propaganda," Mr. Lozovsky said, "has always repeated that Hitler's 'farsighted' policy helped Germany to avoid a war on two fronts, whereas in reality Hitler antagonized the whole world, causing the formation of a powerful coalition of the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain, who with the assistance of the United States are able to wage a long war with inexhaustible supplies and manpower.

"Hitler believes that this can be concealed from the German people. In reality, through thousands of channels -- and of course not without Soviet and British efforts -- the German Army and German people are becoming aware of this gigantic coalition which Nazi Germany will be unable to withstand.

The German people is paying dearly for the crimes committed by Hitler and his gangsters. This is why the idea is spreading among the masses of the German people that the liberation of Germany and the German people can only come through Hitler's defeat.

"Pessimism and depression are reflected in the majority of the letters written even before Hitler attacked

the Soviet Union. During the first few days of hostilities on the eastern front these attitudes became even more pronounced as a result of the heavy losses suffered by the German Army. It is not accidental that inscriptions like 'Down with Hitler' appear ever more frequently on houses and factories throughout Germany. This is how matters stand as regards the morale of the German rear. Germany is about to reach her limit -- both at the front and in the rear."

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RED ARMY PAPER COMMENTS ON SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE AGREEMENT

Commenting on the exchange of notes between the Governments of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. on renewal of the trade agreement and economic assistance to the Soviet Union on the part of the United States, the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda writes:

Diverse circles of the American people have voiced their sympathies for the peoples of the U.S.S.R. The heroic actions of the Red Army have won the high praise of public opinion in the United States and of President Roosevelt. The whole American people wishes victory to the Soviet Union, for this victory is in the interest of the security of the United States.

All countries oppressed by the Nazi barbarians expect their liberation to come from the peoples of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States. News of the consolidation of cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and the United States will serve as a signal for all peoples of German-occu-

pied countries to intensify their struggle against the Hitlerite hordes.

The agreement reached between the U.S.S.R. and the United States puts on a practical basis the program of cooperation of the economic efforts of the two countries for smashing Nazism. Execution of Soviet war orders by the United States will strengthen the security of the United States, consolidate defense of the U.S.S.R. and assist the victorious operations of the Red Army.

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SOVIET SCHOOLS OPEN ON SCHEDULE

Moscow, August 8

A report from the Soviet Information Bureau today points to the announcement of the opening of fall terms of leading medical, pedagogical and technical schools as an index to the unflagging morale of the Soviet people and as additional proof of the fact that the Nazis have in no way seriously disrupted the life of civilians in the U.S.S.R.

Twenty three autonomous Republics of the U.S.S.R. have announced that their agricultural and technical schools will begin their terms as usual on October 1. Universities and technical schools of other Republics of the U.S.S.R., including those located in Moscow, will all open their courses on September 1.

FAMOUS SURGEON DESCRIBES RED ARMY MEDICAL AID

Moscow, August 6

Professor N. Burdenko, well known surgeon and member of the Academy of Sciences of the U. S. S. R., describes Soviet military field surgery in the following article written for the Soviet press:

In this war there is no such thing as a "front line" for military surgery such as existed in the first World War. Our military front line is mobile, and our medical units must conform.

Nazi tank units sometimes filter through our lines and, by able maneuvering of our Red Army command, are cut off from their infantry. Red Army units then wedge between the Nazi tank units and their infantry and inflict serious damage on both groups.

The peculiarities of this type of warfare affect our entire military medical service and especially our military surgery. The mobility of our "front" does not allow us always to have medical aid in the immediate vicinity of the wounded so that we may give treatment near the scene of action. Another method obviously has to be applied.

We have had to learn how to evacuate wounded from battle zones into relatively safer and more distant areas where casualties can receive not only surgical aid but also hospitalization. The efforts of our ambulance service are directed toward the speediest possible removal of wounded soldiers from the scene of action. We use methods of transport that are as comfortable as possible, with a minimum of

the jolting and bouncing which frequently causes secondary shock.

This requires that our military ambulance service be flexible and have the ability to maneuver. The difficulty is that the wounded must be prepared for evacuation before they are moved. We take all steps to prevent infection of wounds. We do this by excising all affected tissue in the area of the wound within six to 18 hours from the time it was inflicted. Using this technique we can effect a beneficial operation at a later time.

Time lost in evacuating the wounded no longer creates as serious a problem as formerly. First-aid in battle areas, therefore, is confined to proper dressing of wounds, preliminary surgical treatment, and application of preventive serum as well as precise, detailed recording of the nature of the wounds and treatment given.

Among 10,000 cases of wounded soldiers examined in medical institutions, I found only two cases of tetanus and very few cases of gas gangrene. Despite experience as a surgeon in eight wars, I have found the percentage of complications among wounded soldiers close behind Red Army lines in this war astonishingly low.

Our fight against infection among wounded soldiers is, of course, facilitated by the high level of individual hygiene to be found in the ranks of the Red Army. Clothing, footwear, linen and personal hygiene such as shaving and haircutting leaves nothing to be desired. Among our Red Army soldiers I have seen little torn outer clothing and few cases of clothing infested with lice.

All Red Army men receive excellent food, important both for morale and for the human organism's resistance to disease. Among the wounded men there are seldom complaints or despondent faces.

Most casualties occur as a result of airbombing, trench-mortar fire and handgrenades, and the percentage of bullet wounds is comparatively small.

In action the Nazis have repeatedly proved themselves barbarians. They acknowledge no conventions and bomb ambulance trains and hospitals. Despite this fact, in hospital units with which I worked, our ambulance service showed itself to be flexible and well organized in action. Our doctors, nurses and ambulance men displayed exceptional pluck and resourcefulness. They take the soldiers of the Red Army as their model and perform their tasks with genuine scorn of danger.

An Institute of Surgeon Consultants has now been introduced in the Red Army. There are "Front" surgeons, Army surgeons, and Main Unit surgeons. These posts are held by highly skilled military surgeons who have worked in large hospitals or by professors from medical schools. These consultants are able to improve substantially the work of the regular military surgeons.

The regular workers in the Medical Unit perform their functions with unusual proficiency and selflessness. I particularly call to mind the diligence of nurses from the Bashkir Autonomous Republic. They had some difficulties in speaking Russian; so they took time out to improve their knowledge of the language, even in the midst of warfare. Our Red Army nurses stand up to the vicissitudes of military life with extraordinary stamina and courage. Our surgeons, ambu-

lance drivers and nurses all stick to their wounded charges even during the heaviest bombings. The devoted efforts of these people have saved many thousand lives.

Professor Nikolai Nilovich Burdenko, author of the above article, is head of the Soviet Central Neuro-Surgical Institute. Grandson of a serf and son of a poor office clerk, Burdenko first saw action as a military surgeon during the Russo-Japanese war. He was awarded the Cross of St. George for tending wounded under fire during this war.

Burdenko again served his country during the World War, and after the Revolution of 1917 took his place as one of the leading surgeons in the Soviet Union. In the Soviet-Finnish war Burdenko once again distinguished himself by establishing a surgical hospital half a mile from the front lines where soldiers with brain wounds could be operated upon.

Before the establishment of this hospital, military field surgery practice called for brain operations far behind the lines because of the intricacy of such operations. Many of the wounded died on the way to the hospital. By establishing a completely equipped surgical unit so close to the lines, Burdenko and his associates saved the lives of hundreds of Red Army men.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Monday, August 11, 1941

No. 24

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 9 - 10

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 10.

Morning Communique, August 9

During the night of August 9 our troops continued to fight the enemy in the Kaekisalmi, Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front. Patrol activities and encounters of local importance took place in other directions and sectors.

Our airforce in cooperation with ground troops continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized troops, infantry and artillery.

Evening Communique, August 9

On August 9 our troops engaged the enemy fiercely in the Kaekisalmi, Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov directions. Engagements of a reconnoitering nature took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

On August 9 our aviation struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry on battlefields and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

Fourteen German planes were destroyed on August 8. We lost 12 planes.

According to precise data now available, 81 German planes were destroyed August 7, and not 21 as previously reported.

Ships of the Baltic Fleet sank one enemy torpedo-boat and damaged two others and also bombed enemy transports.

Morning Communique, August 10

During the night of August 9 our troops continued to fight the enemy in the Smolensk, Korosten and Belaya Tserkov directions and in the Estonian sector of the front. Reconnaissance engagements took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce in cooperation with ground troops struck at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry on battlefields and attacked enemy aviation at airdromes.

AIR COMMUNIQUE

During the night of August 8, a group of Soviet planes made a second raid over Germany, primarily for reconnoitering purposes, and dropped high explosives and incendiary bombs on military objectives and railway lines in the Berlin area.

Our fliers observed fires and explosions. German anti-aircraft artillery fire seemed ineffective. All Soviet planes returned to their base except one, for which a search is being made.

U.S.S.R. - BELGIUM RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

The Soviet Information Bureau announced that as a result of negotiations in London, the Ambassador of the U.S.S.R. in Great Britain, Ivan Maisky, and the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Paul Henri Spaak, reached an agreement on reestablishment of relations and exchange of diplomatic representatives between the Governments of the U.S.S.R. and Belgium.

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The Soviet Information Bureau also announced that Ambassador Ivan Maisky, and the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs in London exchanged letters on August 5, concerning the resumption of diplomatic relations and exchange of ministers between the Governments of the U.S.S.R. and Norway.

SOVIET BATTERY GETS 24 PLANES

An anti-aircraft battery under Captain Chikirev used clever tactics to down 24 German planes in the first six weeks of the war, the Soviet press relates. Assigned to protect a bridge, Chikirev observed that Nazi bombers always followed an identical course in approaching to bomb it. Every day he set up his battery at a different point along that course, downing enemy planes almost daily and changing position before enemy observation planes could ferret him out.

SLAVS MEET IN MOSCOW

Moscow, August 10.

A Slavic Peoples' meeting opened today in Moscow with representatives of all European Slavic nationalities participating.

One panel of representatives -- composed of public and military men, writers and scholars -- heard an opening-day address by the Russian writer and Academician, Alexei Tolstoi, who spiritedly called upon all Slavs to rally for the destruction of Nazism.

"We are all alike," he said. "As equals among equals there should be no great and small among us."

Speeches were made in their native languages by the Polish General Janus Zaitis, the Czech Professor Zdenek Needly, the Montenegrin poet Radule Stiensky, the Czechoslovak poet and professor Ondra Lysogorsky, the Yugoslav Professor Bozhiear Maslaric, the Slovenian journalist Ivan Regent, the Bulgarian Dr. Stoyanov, the Macedonian N. Vlakhov and the Croat Yuro Salai.

The speakers called upon their peoples to fight against Hitlerite Germany by every means. The meeting will be resumed on the evening of August 11. All speeches were broadcast.

VOROSHILOV AND TIMOSHENKO

APPEAL FOR GUERRILLA ACTION

Marshal Klimenti Voroshilov, Commander-in-chief of Soviet forces on the northwestern front, and Marshal Semyon Timoshenko, Commander-in-chief on the central western front, have issued appeals to Soviet citizens behind the German lines similar to the appeal to the Western Ukrainian populace recently made by Marshal Semyon Budyenny, Commander-in-chief of the southwestern front.

Marshal Voroshilov said, in part:

"Workers, collective farmers, intellectuals -- men and women!

"Hordes of Nazis have temporarily occupied part of the Soviet land. The Germans loot our property, outrage our wives, bring misery to our children and destroy our homes.

"The enemy is insidious and sly. In some regions the Nazis swoop hungrily on the property of the Soviet people, while in others they make overtures to them and try to bribe them with stolen property, in order to lull the vigilance of our people and deceive them.

"Comrades -- brothers and sisters!

"Rise for just and patriotic war against the German invaders who would destroy your freedom and honor and enslave your fatherland. Form guerrilla groups, capture enemy arms and ammunition. Mercilessly destroy the enemy by day and by night."

Marshal Timoshenko said, in part:

"On every front the Red Army is increasingly resisting the enemy, defending every inch of our native land and inflicting crushing defeats on the Nazi hordes.

"Join the guerrilla groups. Attack and destroy supply trains and truck columns carrying ammunition, fuel or food in the enemy's rear. Burn bridges, cut telegraph and telephone wires, set houses and woods afire. Do not give the enemy an ounce of food.

"For our burned down towns and the torture, humiliation and looting of our people you must take relentless vengeance. Drive the Nazis from the areas they have seized. Blood for blood and a life for a life. The hour of victory is close."

NEW MONARCHY PLANNED IN FINLAND

A new monarchy may be set up in Finland, probably headed by young Prince Philip of Hesse, informed sources in Stockholm report to the Soviet press. The German Foreign Office is said to have concocted the plan with the support of Baron Mannerheim, who is said to favor an unlimited monarchy and dissolution of the Finnish parliament.

Prince Philip is the son of Prince Frederic-Charles of Hesse, whom the Germans proposed to place on a Finnish throne at the end of the last World War. Young Philip is considered eligible as an ardent Nazi and the husband of a daughter of King Victor Emmanuel of Italy.

LOZOVSKY ON PACIFIC BASES AND NAZI RAIDS ON SOVIET EMBASSIES

At his regular press conference for foreign correspondents on August 9, S.A. Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Press Bureau, discussed Axis allegations that the Soviet Union had transferred Pacific naval bases to the United States and several other current questions.

A correspondent of Intercontinent News mentioned the German Information Bureau's statement, based on a report by the Italian Stefani News Agency, that the Soviet Union, following the visit in Moscow of President Roosevelt's envoy Harry Hopkins, had placed at the disposal of the United States naval bases at Kamchatka and Vladivostok. Mr. Lozovsky replied:

"These fantastic reports do not in any way correspond to the facts. I must state officially that the United States has at no time raised such a question with the Soviet Union."

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Taking up articles which recently appeared in the London News Chronicle and Daily Express, Mr. Lozovsky deprecated "unhealthy sensationalism" in the recent publication of a dispatch from the British United Press correspondent at Shanghai asserting that Japan had presented certain demands to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Lozovsky cited the British United Press correspondent as listing the following alleged Japanese demands:

Demilitarization of Vladivostok.
Demilitarization of Soviet-Manchukuo border zones.
Economic concessions in Siberia.
A Soviet promise not to put Pacific bases at the disposal of the United States.

Exprssing surprise at the irresponsibility with which important newspapers had reproduced this Shanghai fantasy, Mr. Lozovsky stated that it bears not the slightest resemblance to reality.

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Mr. Lozovsky then commented caustically on alleged German "discoveries" in the Soviet Embassies at Berlin and Paris.

"Hitler, Goebbels, Himmler and Goering lie deliriously from morning to night, piling falsehood on falsehood and adding in all the horrors they have gleaned from detective stories to cover the stain of their own crimes," Mr. Lozovsky said.

"The question arises, why did Hitler and Himmler, in defiance of all provisions of international law, profane these Soviet buildings with the dirty hands of their SS troopers?

"They have invented an excuse. They say the German Embassy in Moscow was searched before the Germans searched the Soviet Embassies at Berlin and Paris.

"But in reality the premises of the German Embassy in Moscow have not been searched. The German Embassy rented several houses in Moscow, while the sites of the Soviet Embassies in Berlin and Paris are the property of the Soviet State. There can be no justification for their violation by police gangs.

"The German Government failed to notify the Swedish Embassy at Berlin, which represents Soviet interests in Germany, of its action. This should have been done as an elementary requirement of international law.

"Hitler, in general, tries to write his own laws -- the law of the mailed fist, the law of the impudent lie and the law of cynical outrage against other peoples."

BURGLARS IN THE PARIS EMBASSY

The following article was written for the newspaper Izvestia by Ilya Ehrenbourg, prominent Soviet author, whose books are well known in many countries.

Goebbels' little rumor factory, which goes by the name of the "German Information Bureau," has stated that the Germans, after burglarizing the Soviet Embassy at Paris, found there a number of objects of a most sensational kind.

It seems that our Embassy was preoccupied with the problem of disposing of corpses. According to Goebbels, the Germans discovered there an electric furnace and a vat for the dismemberment of bodies. What is more, the Embassy staff made a hobby of collecting other items such as: handcuffs, vials of poison, slow-burning fuses, safe-cracking equipment, explosives, poison capsules, machineguns and even parachutes.

Formerly, it is true, Goebbels used to write bad novels, but this time he must have drawn on Himmler's imagin-

ation to supplement his own. It must have been the head of the Gestapo who dictated this list -- possibly from the inventory of his own institution. And Goebbels decided to inform the world that the Soviet Embassy is an organism strongly resembling the Gestapo. Everyone knows that Hitler's agents take advantage of their diplomatic immunity to forge false documents, plot putsches, and carry out kidnappings and assassinations.

The Soviet Embassy at Paris was the Embassy of a great, peaceful and friendly power. It was frequented by the best men of France -- whom the Nazis today persecute and torture. The Nazis, so we are told, appeared at the doors on the Rue de Grenelle and were annoyed to find those doors locked. They complained that they had to put in some hard work. It took them several hours, they say, to force the doors with "special instruments."

Goebbels is too modest. His lads are experts with those "special instruments." They looted everything they could lay hands on -- Gobelin tapestries, bronze inkwells -- and then put out this insolent infamy about fuses and parachutes. Well, they'll pay for it -- both for their murders and for their lies.

AT THE FRONT
and
BEHIND THE LINES

German Regiment Wiped Out on Finnish Front

Moscow, August 10.

A Red Army unit under commander Birman has routed the 307th Regiment of the 163rd German Division, which the Nazis have publicized as one of the finest formations of the German Army, the Soviet Information Bureau reported today.

The 307th Regiment was defeated on the Finnish front where, according to captured documents and statements of prisoners, it was shipped from the Norwegian port of Narvik.

Two days before its debacle the Nazi regiment attacked the sector held by Birman's troops, after a four hour artillery preparation. The first enemy wave was repulsed by Lieutenant Zeveshinsky's unit, which killed many German soldiers by artillery and machinegun fire. Failing in frontal assault, the enemy command sent one battalion, with two Finnish companies, to outflank the Red Army troops. This maneuver, too, was defeated.

The two abortive attacks wearied the enemy troops. The Soviet command took advantage of this to launch simultaneous counter-attacks from several directions, and succeeded in surrounding the Nazi regiment.

Attempting to break through, many German soldiers and officers jumped into a lake to swim to the opposite shore, but most drowned or were shot by snipers. The Germans then began to surrender in large numbers. Birman's troops captured 17 machineguns in working order, one anti-tank gun, 12 trench-mortars, two flame throwers, and rifles and ammunition.

After their capture, German soldiers of Sergeant-Major Franz Hoberkorn's platoon addressed the following letter to other soldiers of the German 163rd Division:

"We were thrown into this fatal war against Soviet Russia all the way from Norway to these northern forests and marshes. We do not want to die to get Karelia for Mannerheim and his friends. The Finns hate us and the Russians shoot us down.

"Hitler will perish. There is no use binding your destinies to this doomed adventurer. You have the opportunity of saving your lives for your families and for liberated Germany. We took advantage of this opportunity. Avail yourselves of it too. Lay down your arms and surrender!"

The Myth of the German U-Boat

In an article entitled "The Myth of the Invincibility of the German Submarine Fleet," the Red Navy newspaper Krasny Flot wrote on August 10:

In 44 days of German-Soviet war, Nazi Germany's navy has lost 14 submarines in the eastern naval theater of war. Four of them struck mines laid by Soviet ships; one foundered after a collision with a Bulgarian destroyer in the Black Sea; the others were sent to the bottom by the Soviet Red Navy in action.

Assuming that the German Navy possessed 150 submarines, this means that it lost in six weeks, on one front alone, approximately 10 percent of its total number of U-boats, not counting losses in other naval theaters.

This percentage is impressive. By making war on several fronts, the Nazis placed their navy in grave danger. Their cadres of trained submarine sailors are thinning. Hastily trained seamen who have not mastered their new profession go down to the bottom together with their ships. Soviet Navy men have demonstrated that Germany's main naval weapon -- the submarine -- will be beaten just as the Nazis are being beaten in the air and on land. The myth of the supernatural fighting qualities of the Nazi submarine fleet will be blown apart like the myth of the Hitlerite land hordes.

EUROPE IS TAPPING

(Written for the Soviet press by Pravda staff member David Zaslavsky, well known Soviet author and satirist.)

Europe is tapping out the letter "V" by Morse code and writing it on the walls of buildings. All of Europe is tapping and knocking. This isn't yet rebellion against the Nazis, but according to "Till Eulenspiegel" we know that rebellions in Flanders against the Spanish Conquistadors sometimes began with tapping and knocking. "Time taps with glasses," was the Flemish war cry. They tapped with glasses and then with swords.

Europe is beginning to stir. A refreshing breeze wafts over the continent, dispelling heavy, gloomy shadows of fear and despair. The wind blows from the east. It comes from fields where the Red Army is heroically smashing the myth of the invincibility of the Nazi army. A refreshing breeze blows from villages, towns and forests of Russia, where plucky guerrilla warfare waged by the Soviet peoples shows the whole world how liberty should be fought for, how the honor of one's country should be defended.

Europe is not only tapping and knocking. Mute sabotage is done at German-seized factories of Czechoslovakia, France and Belgium. No words are needed, no letter "V." A passing exchange of looks, and output falls, less machines go to the army of Nazism. With hidden alarm and open distrust, Nazi engineers examine each machine made in fettered nations.

Uncertainty and fear creep over the occupying forces. Who is tapping? No one. But in France a munition train bound for the German army suddenly hurtles into an abyss. French flunkeys named Petain and Darlan rush crazily hither and thither; their German taskmaster will make them pay for the people's revolt.

Nervously tense, German patrols pace the banks of peaceful Dutch canals. Who is tapping? No one. But a dull splash breaks the silence of the night and circles ripple the surface of the water. Another Nazi soldier will be absent at morning roll call.

Europe is tapping. Guerrilla machineguns are tapping in the hills of Yugoslavia, where the Germans futilely send one punitive expedition after another. And this knocking suddenly thunders out at the very gates of Belgrade, sowing panic in the Nazi garrison. Guerrilla guns thunder out their tapping in Poland, where danger lurks for every German soldier in each wood, behind each bush.

Recently, before their treacherous assault on the Soviet Union, Hitler's invaders walked the streets of subjugated European towns with their chests thrown out, as behooves invincible warriors. They feared nobody; they despised everybody. Their insolent certainty in their own strength hypnotized Europe. Those sundry Quislings, Lavals and Antonescus, bartering away their native lands, felt themselves safe behind the stone wall of Hitler's power.

Since Germany invaded the Soviet Union the idol of German Nazism stands deeply fissured. The myth is being dispelled. The blitzkrieg has failed utterly, and the Red Army inflicts crushing blows on the Nazi hordes. Seeking to hide their dismay from the subjugated populations, the invaders turn their gaze eastward. They still preserve the outward air of conquerors, but their alarm and disquiet infect their flunkeys, who tremble and quake. They fear for their skins, for they are the first to feel the wrath of the peoples. No, Hitler's back is by no means a stone wall -- no wall at all.

Europe is shaking itself free of the hypnotic fear of Nazism. Demonstrations with the earmarks of national protest occur in Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Norway and France. The populations do not conceal their ardent sympathy for the fight waged by the British and Soviet peoples. Eyes which reflected only sorrow and national insult now begin to glitter with sparks of national wrath. Spreading guerrilla warfare shows a growing sentiment of national shame.

Europe is tapping, Europe is knocking. The knocking is not yet struggle, but it is the first sign of life. Nations stunned by the Nazi blow are reviving. The fight is beginning to flame in separate corners of Europe. It will spread to the whole continent.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, August 12, 1941

No. 25

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 10 - 11

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 11.

Evening Communique, August 10

On August 10 our troops continued stubborn fighting against the enemy in the directions of Soltsi, Kholm, Smolensk, Belaya Tserkov and Uman.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, struck at enemy moto-mechanized forces and infantry.

On August 9 our airforce brought down 45 German planes and lost 25.

According to verified data not previously available, on the night of August 9 during the German air raid on Moscow, 10 enemy planes were brought down and not eight as reported previously. Moreover, during the day of August 9 our fighters shot down five German reconnaissance planes within the Moscow air raid defense zone.

Morning Communique, August 11

On the night of August 11 fighting against the enemy continued in the Smolensk, Belaya Tserkov and Uman directions and in the Estonian sector of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, struck at enemy moto-mechanized forces, infantry and artillery.

AT THE FRONT
and
BEHIND THE LINES

Red Army Smashes Death's-head Division

The Soviet Information Bureau today gave the following account of the defeat of the vaunted Nazi "Death's-head" Division by a Red Army unit under the command of Colonel Tishinsky.

Early one morning a group of Soviet scouts under Lieutenant Saveliev heard German voices. Our men hid in the tall rye and soon spotted the enemy scouts. Attacking from ambush, our men killed several of them. The rest fled, except for one who surrendered.

The prisoner, Corporal Ludwig Stimmler, said that his division had arrived at the front on the previous day and had not yet engaged in action.

This entire unit was known to be formed of specially chosen Nazi SS men. The division was in action in France and Greece and had been selected for a decisive blow in one of the main directions on the eastern front.

The corporal said the Death's-head Division was in an extremely warlike mood and was preparing for an offensive. He revealed that it was composed of two infantry and one artillery regiments.

Other Red Army scouts reported a battalion of enemy infantry concentrated in a hollow behind a nearby wood. Colonel Tishinsky ordered his artillery to open fire on the enemy concentration. Our artillery observers reported

effective hits on the enemy's battalions, causing heavy casualties and putting motorcycles and machineguns out of commission.

An hour later our advance posts sighted columns of Germans deploying from beyond the woods on our left flank. Armed with sub-machineguns, the Germans went into attack in close order. Our men waited quietly.

As soon as they came within effective range, the oncoming German ranks met heavy fire. The engagement continued about half an hour. When the smoke cleared our men saw the field strewn with bodies. The remnants of the Death's-head Division were crawling away and taking cover in the grass. Scattered groups of Nazis hid behind bushes in the hollow and beyond the woods. With pistols in their hands, their officers were observed pointing toward our positions. But the soldiers with skull-and-crossbones on their shoulder tabs continued to retreat.

After an hour the Death's-head battalions were reinforced and again attacked, but were again unsuccessful. At the height of the second engagement a group of high-speed Red Airforce bombers appeared over the battlefield and completed their rout.

The Germans tried to remove the remnants of their division to the rear on motorcars, but our artillery searched out the retreating columns and smashed another 20 cars filled with Nazi officers and soldiers.

As reported by the Soviet Information Bureau, the Death's-head Division lost nearly 2,500 officers and men

killed and wounded. Our artillery and mortars destroyed 30 German light tanks and armored cars, eight motorcycles, about 500 sub-machineguns, 90 light and heavy machineguns and 45 mine-throwers.

Nazi River Crossing Repulsed

The Soviet press reported today that Nazi troops recently attempted to force a crossing of the "N" river. Under cover of artillery fire, Nazi sappers began restoring a bridge which had been blown up, meanwhile throwing a pontoon bridge alongside it.

A Soviet armored train commanded by Captain Grushevsky was ordered to support operations of a Red Army infantry regiment defending the right bank of the river. The armored train opened fire at a large number of enemy pontoons massed in the middle of the river, and its very first shells hit the target. After destroying the pontoons, the armored train switched its fire to the sappers restoring the bridge. Several salvos destroyed the remains of the bridge, and the Germans retreated with heavy casualties.

At dawn, under cover of the armored train's fire, our infantry forded the river and by a vigorous onslaught dislodged the Nazis from their positions. In an interval between engagements, the locomotive and some cars of the armored train left to bring up ammunition. Taking advantage of this, the enemy attacked the remaining cars with infantry and light tanks. After letting the enemy approach within close range, the crew of the armored train opened artillery and machinegun fire which destroyed three tanks and killed about 100 enemy infantrymen. The remaining tanks and infantry withdrew.

In five days of fighting, Grushevsky's armored train destroyed three enemy tanks, one airplane, 43 trucks, 10 motorcycles, and killed several hundred Nazi officers and men.

People's Commissar of Agriculture

Praises Soviet Farmers

Ivan Benediktov, People's Commissar of Agriculture of the U.S.S.R., this week made the following statement in the newspaper Socialist Agriculture on the war effort of Soviet farmers:

There is intense work in progress in the fields of our country today. A bountiful crop has been raised everywhere. A multi-millioned army of collective farmers came out into the fields knowing that their vigorous, concerted work behind the lines is as important for a victory over Hitler as the heroic struggle of our men at the front.

Within a very short time the machine tractor stations have organized training for over 260,000 new machine operators, including 175,000 women. Putting their work on a war basis, the collective farms have organized their harvesting even better than last year.

Harvesting and threshing of cereal grains and grain deliveries to the State have been completed by many collective farms in Azerbaidjan, Crimea, Zaporozhie and other sections. Having completed regular deliveries to the State ahead of time, the collective farms of Kazakhstan have begun to sell additional grain to State organizations.

In the Voronezh, Rostov and Zaporozhie regions grain moves in endless streams to the elevators. The collective farms contribute tens and hundreds of centners of grain to the National Defense Fund, and the farmers themselves often contribute their own daily share of the collective's produce and their own valuables to our war effort.

Our resistance to the enemy is growing and gaining strength. The people who have led a free life under the Soviet Government will never be slaves.

Moscow Schools to Open September 1

Moscow's public schools, the Soviet Information Bureau reported today, are preparing for the opening of their regular fall terms on September 1. All schools will be fully equipped with bomb and gas-proof shelters. School children not at present in Moscow will attend classes in the areas where they are temporarily domiciled.

All of Moscow's public education bodies are actively engaged in preparations for opening the schools. Staffs are being chosen, textbooks distributed and necessary repairs to school buildings completed. Children of school age are being registered in all districts. On August 26 a conference of school teachers of the Moscow district will meet to discuss methods of school work under war conditions. Military and sports training of pupils will be considerably increased in schools this year.

School children have registered particular interest in the Narkompros (People's Commissariat of Education) Military Schools which also open on September 1. All schools will hold air raid protection drills.

SOVIET CITIZENS DESCRIBE

NAZI TERROR IN LVOV

Many Soviet citizens escaping in recent days from the German-held city of Lvov have told stories of almost incredible atrocities inflicted on the city's population by Nazi storm-troopers, seemingly in an attempt to paralyze guerrilla activities and incipient revolt. Three of these affidavits are reproduced below.

Yadviga Knaushevska, a woman employee of the Lvov Museum of Arts and Crafts, was an eyewitness of atrocities in Lvov. She reported the following to Soviet authorities:

"It was at night and from time to time we heard the shouts of drunken German officers. We couldn't fall asleep -- the impressions of the past days were too horrible to allow slumber. Suddenly we heard heartrending shrieks. Stormtroopers had broken into a neighboring house.

"There was a crash of breaking glass and the sound of shots. I peeped through the window and my heart almost stopped beating. German soldiers were flinging half-clad people through the window. A little later we saw many of our neighbors being driven by German soldiers along the dark streets. First one group passed, then a second and third. Shouting oaths, the drunken soldiers drove along women with children in their arms. At any moment we expected them to break into our house."

Petr Yermolenko, employed as a glazier in a Lvov mirror factory, testified as follows:

"As soon as the shooting began in the yard of the Militia headquarters, I looked through the window and was numbed with horror. Before my eyes Nazis stationed at machineguns mounted in the windows of the Militia building were shooting down people herded into the yard.

"Trying to run from the bullets, some of them rushed to the gates, but German soldiers and officers turned them back with rifle butts and bayonets. Nazi officers opened pistol fire on them. This continued about ten minutes.

"Overcome by the sight of these atrocities I lost consciousness. When I came to and looked through the window again I saw German cameramen and photographers filming the mounds of corpses while soldiers nearby calmly wiped their bayonets."

Other fugitives from Lvov testified that Nazis frequently drove crowds of manhandled people along the main streets of the city, seemingly with the object of striking fear into others and breaking their will to resist. Gangs of Nazi soldiers were said to have looted apartments and shops.

Yan Vakhnovsky, who was employed at the Lvov footwear factory, testified:

"As soon as the Germans entered the town they began shooting citizens en masse. I was arrested with several others. The Nazis maltreated us and threw us into a cellar.

"We were awakened at night and with 15 others were taken outside the city and told to dig a large hole. By morning, when the pit was ready, trucks appeared piled with dead bodies of men, women and children. I saw horrible gaping wounds in corpses apparently caused by bayonets. All the bodies were mutilated.

"The officers ordered us to throw the bodies into the hole. We unloaded the trucks. Suddenly the German officer shouted something to his soldiers. The soldiers opened fire. I don't remember what happened after this, but when I came to it was morning. I felt the earth piled on top of me, and shook myself free. I sat up. When I recovered my full senses I was horror-struck at the thought that the Germans had thought me dead and buried me in the grave together with the corpses. I tried to rise, but at first my strength failed me. My shoulder was wounded and my clothes were bloody.

"Gathering strength, I dressed my wound as best I could and crept away. For the next few nights I crept toward the front lines and finally reached a village where I was given food and my wound was dressed."

TOLSTOI: RUSSIA HAS ALWAYS DEFEATED INVADERS

In the following article the noted Soviet author Alexei Tolstoi recalls many parallels between the present war against Nazi Germany and previous invasions successfully repulsed by Russian arms.

At the close of the 16th Century the English writer Fletcher, who had been traveling in Russia, said of our warriors that they fought fiercely on the battlefield and that when they were surrounded by the enemy they never gave up or begged for mercy, but died without a word of surrender. It is not death the Russian soldier fears in battle, but disgrace. Russia is a great and mighty country and no Russian soldier capitulates to save his own life.

Nobody wants to die, but soldiers do not come out on battlefields to play nursery games. Today we must fight the enemy and we must fight fiercely.

The Russian character was nurtured in constant struggle against the enemies of our country and against the grim forces of nature in the vast expanses of our land. The eastern Slavs first settled in Russia along the unbridled rivers and on the fringes of the boundless forests stretching far north and on the wintry shores and islands of the Baltic.

The Slav has always been a warrior-tiller, warrior-hunter and warrior-fisherman, who never put aside his sword and spear. When Finnish tribes first threatened our country from the north, Asiatic nomads attacked us from the east and south, and the Teutonic Knights invaded us from the west, our Russian soldiers always fought back the invader.

In Novgorod and in Pskov we halted the German colonization of Russia. Not only Prince Alexander Nevsky's armed

troops but all the people of Novgorod went forth to give their lives for Russian soil. On the spring ice of Lake Chud they encountered the Teutonic Knights and the white-eyed Finns and fought so violent a battle that the ice could not be seen for blood.

Mamai, the Tartar chieftain, also gathered an army of great numbers, of many hundreds of thousands of horsemen, to conquer Russia. Against him, Prince Dmitri mustered a vast levy, and all the people of Russia flocked to the banners of Muscovy, some armed with swords, others with axes and spears. For armor they wore felt kaftans over their knee-length coats. Not one of them thought of returning home. All knew that the hour had struck when they must decide whether Russia should be free or slave.

Russian troops numbering 150,000, mostly on foot, came to the mouth of the Nepriavda River. Peresvet, the monk, challenged Chelibei, the Tartar knight, to single combat and they fought so fiercely that both were slain.

Then the horsemen of the Tartar Guard Regiments entered the battle and the peasant army on foot fell beneath clouds of arrows and the chargers of Tartar horsemen. But the warriors of Russia died without yielding a foot of ground. Mamai, looking down on the scene of battle from a nearby hilltop, expected a quick victory. But suddenly an ambushed regiment of Russians savagely attacked the Tartars from the woods. The Tartars turned their horses and fled. Mamai himself joined the flight and abandoned to the Russians his tent, his wives and all his looted treasures.

The people of Russia have always safeguarded their motherland and protected its integrity, honor and glory.

For the Russians, their land and their lives have always been one and the same, indivisible. In two battles on the River Oder and at Kunersdorf the hitherto invincible Kaiser Friedrich was routed by our Russian soldiers. Russian regiments were victorious over both the cannon and cavalry of Friedrich's army. With their tri-edged bayonets our soldiers pitched the Prussians out of their fleches and trenches as they would pitchfork wheat sheaves. Kaiser Friedrich barely escaped being captured, and he wrote of the battle:

"Our losses were very great. Out of an army of 48,000 men, I have barely 3,000 left. Berlin will do well to think of its safety. This is a terrible misfortune from which I will never recover."

Napoleon, invading Russia with an army of 600,000, reckoned on finding allies in the peasants and burgomasters of our country. He freely dispensed proclamations promising the peasants emancipation. But the people were resolved not to yield their land to a foreign foe. On the day of the battle of Borodino the famous cavalry of Murat vainly filled the fields of Russia with the dead bodies of French cuirassiers and vainly showered a hail of cannon fire on our Russian regiments.

Kutuzov's regiment fought on until nightfall covered the smoking fields of Borodino. The wise old man Kutuzov calmly awaited the end of this great battle; he knew it was the Russian people themselves who were waging this fight. He led the surviving half of the Russian army, which had not yielded a step before the French, out onto the Ryazan road. He led them here so that the enemy, stricken by the heat

but still powerful, could find its destruction in Russian guerrilla warfare, a type of combat totally foreign to the French.

Following Suvorov, the Russian soldier crossed the Alps; following Rumyantsev, the Russian soldier entered Paris; following Skobelev, the Russian soldier stormed the mountain stronghold of Plevna. Ten thousand Red Army men fell at the walls and barbed-wire entanglements of Perekop during the Civil War. That common grave culminated a victory that had been awaited for centuries in the struggle of the Russians, the Ukrainians and all the three score nationalities of the peoples of the Soviet Union for a free and happy life.

Now Russia goes forward once more into battle with that age-old enemy of all Slavic nations, with that enemy of all people who seek a peaceful existence, the foe of all mankind. Captain Gastello, Hero of the Soviet Union, sent his flaming plane diving into the enemy fuel tanks, rather than surrender to the Nazis. It would be a disgrace to his memory for us to even consider being marched along at the point of Nazi bayonets.

Soviet fliers, tankists, Baltic and Black Sea sailors, scouts, artillerymen and guerrillas all seek to emulate Captain Gastello in the courage they display in battle. Again, as in the days of our fathers, the whole Russian people has risen in one mighty army. But no longer are we armored in felt kaftans or armed with axes and spears. We fight with steel armor plate, winged and formidable in battle, led by those whose ideas spell victory and whose will insures it.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Wednesday, August 13, 1941

No. 26

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 11 - 12

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 12.

Evening Communique, August 11

On August 11 our troops continued fighting the enemy in the Soltsi, Smolensk, Belaya Tserkov and Uman directions.

Our airforce continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry, attacked German aircraft at airdromes and bombed a large railroad bridge over the Danube River at Cernavoda. The bridge was demolished. Enemy ships at Constanta were also attacked.

On August 10, 39 German planes were destroyed. We lost 25 planes.

According to information now available, during the German air raid on Moscow on the night of August 10, six German planes were brought down and not five as reported previously.

Recently 60 to 70 German and Finnish planes attempted to carry out a mass raid on Murmansk. Detachments of these planes were intercepted by our planes and a fierce air battle ensued. With their first powerful attack our fliers disrupted the enemy's battle formations. The German and Finnish planes lost contact with their central command and scattered in

small groups. Our fliers proceeded to destroy individual planes and groups of German bombers.

Strongly pressed by our fliers, six German bombers attempted to withdraw from combat. They dived swiftly toward the ground and fled southwestward. When a flight of our fighters rushed to intercept them, two Nazi bombers descended still lower. One of these bombers miscalculated and crashed into the ground on hill "K" and exploded. The second German plane was damaged and was compelled to reduce its speed abruptly. Soviet fliers overtook it and shot it down at an altitude of 5,000 meters.

The flight of Soviet planes dispersed nine enemy bombers and cut off four of them after a short fierce battle. They attempted to gain altitude, but the Soviet fliers intercepted them. Two Nazi planes pierced by bullets burst into flames and crashed to the ground. The other two enemy bombers were heavily damaged.

A violent air battle took place over the village of "M" between seven Heinkels and nine Soviet fliers. Our fliers launched a frontal attack on the Nazi planes. Unable to withstand it, the Germans divided into two groups, of which one retired while the other tried to gain altitude and continued flying toward Murmansk. Three Soviet planes overtook this group and brought down two of the enemy aircraft.

A second group of German planes was attacked at an altitude of 4,500 meters. At this altitude our planes displayed better maneuvering capacity than the Germans. After losing three Heinkels, the Germans retired in the direction of Finland.

The German-Finnish attempt to effect their biggest raid on the Murmansk area since the outbreak of the war was ignominiously defeated. For the 31st time Soviet fighters and anti-aircraft gunners of this area defeated German and Finnish fliers. The Nazis were prevented from dropping bombs on important objectives.

In this combat our fighters brought down 13 German-Finnish bombers. Three enemy planes were shot down by anti-aircraft artillery. The Soviet airforce lost one plane. Two of the Soviet fighters were hit by enemy shell splinters but were repaired and later took off again. From the start of this engagement our planes took the initiative and preserved it until the Germans were finally routed.

* * * * *

The Soviet press reported today that Soviet troops wiped out a German bridgehead at river "K" and followed up with a counter-attack, crossing the Germans' own pontoon bridge. The Germans withdrew from the river bank after losing 300 killed, 370 captured, 12 pieces of artillery, 14 mortars, 18 ammunition trucks and seven gasoline trucks.

Morning Communique, August 12

On the night of August 11 our troops continued to fight the enemy in the Kaekisalmi, Soltsi, Smolensk, Korosten and Uman directions. No major engagements took place in other directions and sectors of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry in the field and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

In the "R" district, in the Korosten direction, a strong enemy tank column was smashed by combined blows of our airforce, tanks, artillery and infantry. Pilots of Senior Lieutenant Gorin's detachment first attacked the enemy.

With their first blow Soviet bombers destroyed the leading tanks of the enemy column and blew up gasoline and ammunition trucks. The formation of the Nazi tank column was broken by this attack.

At this point Captain Ilyin's battalion of heavy artillery began to shell the Germans. The artillery fire was guided from the air by Senior Sergeant Gusseinov. Suffering tremendous losses from artillery fire and incessant air bombardment, the German tanks began to retreat.

On the road to village "Z" our tank destroyers and anti-tank guns, commanded by Lieutenant Yaguzov, joined the

action against the Nazi machines. Our heavy tanks completed the destruction. For a stretch of over five miles disabled and fire-consumed German tanks littered the highway.

Over 50 German tanks, including 15 heavy ones, two batteries of anti-aircraft guns, 12 anti-aircraft machineguns, eight trucks and 15 motorcycles were smashed in this engagement.

SLAV CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW ASKS UNITY AGAINST HITLER

The Conference of Slavic Peoples, meeting in Moscow this week, has addressed the following message to all Slavs throughout Europe:

Oppressed Slav Brothers!

The world today is consumed by flames of the bloodiest and most devastating war mankind has ever seen. This war was imposed on the world by bloodthirsty Nazism. The peoples of France, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Yugoslavia and Greece are under the yoke of the Nazis and their accomplices -- the fascists of Italy, Hungary, Rumania and Finland.

Hitlerism particularly hates the Slavic peoples. Nazism treacherously schemes to seize our ancient Slav lands -- turn them over to German barons and landlords and to Italian-Hungarian gentry -- and to transform the Slavs forever into serfs. Nazism does not hesitate at the physical extermination of the Slavs. Hitler and his clique speak openly of the need to "exterminate masses of Slavs." This bloodthirsty scheme to exterminate the Slavs is being carried out with unparalleled cruelty.

Nazism enslaved and dismembered Czechoslovakia, one of Europe's most cultured and industrious countries. A considerable portion of Czechoslovak lands was presented by the Nazis to Hungarian landlords. A similar fate befell Transcarpathian Ukraine. Over 100,000 Czechoslovaks and Carpathian Ukrainians are languishing in Nazi prisons and concentration camps.

Nazism destroyed the Polish Republic and in the course of one and a half years has exterminated almost 3,000,000 Poles.

In the Austrian towns of Graz and Wolfberg Hitler has established "slave markets" where Polish peasants and workers are sold at auction to German landlords and industrialists.

Italian and Hungarian fascists, following the lead of the Nazis, have bestially outraged Yugoslavia. With the very first days of the fascist occupation, 32,000 peaceful residents of one city were murdered. The Yugoslav State was divided as loot among the Germans, Italians and Hungarians. Over 80,000 Yugoslavs were killed in three months.

German occupation troops are masters of Bulgaria, which was sold to Hitler by a ruling clique of traitors. The Bulgarian people is being forcibly pushed into war against its Slav brothers. The population of Bulgaria is subjected to ferocious terror and plundering by the Nazis.

Having treacherously attacked the Soviet Union, Hitlerism has met with the steel rebuff of the Red Army, with the powerful resistance of the entire Russian, Ukrainian and Byelorussian populations and of all the peoples of the Soviet Union. In districts of the Soviet Ukraine and Byelorussia which the enemy has managed to capture, untold outrages have been

perpetrated against the entire population. The Nazis burn villages, shoot, hang and torture thousands of peasants, outrage women and kill children. In one city alone, Lvov, not less than 6,000 residents were killed in the first days of the German occupation.

Thus, all freedom loving Slav peoples -- Czechoslovaks, Ukrainians, Poles, Serbs, Croats, Slovenians, Bulgarians, Russians and Byelorussians became the object of bloody Nazi aggression.

Oppressed Slav brothers!

We are facing deadly danger. The hour has struck when the whole Slav world must unite for quick and final destruction of Hitlerism. We are uniting as equals. We have a common purpose and a common goal -- to smash Hitler's armies and destroy Nazism. We have a common, passionate, all-embracing aspiration, that the Slavs, as well as all other peoples, may peacefully and freely develop their own state systems.

We resolutely and firmly reject the concept of pan-Slavism as a thoroughly reactionary trend, profoundly hostile to the lofty purpose of the equality of peoples and the national development of all states. This idea was utilized by Russian Czarism for its imperialistic aims. Our task is by our concerted efforts to destroy the yoke of Nazism -- whatever sacrifices may be required of us.

Oppressed Slav brothers!

May the winds of this holy struggle sweep like a tornado over all Slav lands enslaved by Hitlerism! May every plot of

Slavic land become the grave of an enemy! Let us undermine by every means the fighting power of Hitler's army and cause disintegration within its ranks!

Sabotage the hateful Nazi regime! Set fire to their military stores, cut their telegraph and telephone wires, derail their troop trains, exterminate their soldiers. Fight a greater guerrilla war for liberation from Hitler's yoke! Death to those who burned our towns, who killed and tortured our people in prisons, who caused the tears of our women and the deaths of our children.

Oppressed Slav brothers!

The enemy is insidious and strong. But united we are a hundred times stronger than Hitlerism. The peoples of the Soviet Union and its Red Army are with us. With us are all the democratic countries. With us is all progressive humanity. Rise for a war of liberation against Hitlerism! Death to the fascist bands of Hitler and Mussolini -- the murderers of Slav peoples! Long live our victory over bloodthirsty Hitlerism!

* * * * *

The Soviet press has issued the following statement:

The Stockholm newspaper Stockholms Tidningen recently published a report from Ankara that a secret agreement had been concluded giving the Soviet Union control of the Bosporus and the Dardanelles.

The Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union (TASS) is authorized to state that the above-mentioned report is untrue and an invention of the German propaganda service.

MILITARY SCIENCE PLUS BRAVERY

The newspaper Pravda printed the following editorial in connection with award of the title "Hero of the Soviet Union" to a group of Soviet commanders and soldiers:

The valiant units of the Red Army are fighting splendidly against the enemies of our country. Tens of thousands of commanders and soldiers are daily displaying remarkable intrepidity, heroism and devotion. The best among them have just been added to the glorious family of Heroes of the Soviet Union.

But the German army is a powerful war machine. To defeat it, we must depend not alone on the prowess of our warriors but must use to the utmost all the strength of our great country, and especially the military ability of its commanders and soldiers.

A perfidious and cowardly enemy has attacked the U.S.S.R. The Nazi generals counted on the suddenness of their attack and on blitzkrieg methods. They took care to assure large numerical superiority for their forces in the first days of their attack on the Red Army, dispersed as it was along the whole Soviet-German border.

From the first day of fighting, Red Army units found themselves in complex and unusually difficult situations. Some of our troops were forced to fight while completely surrounded by the enemy. Nevertheless, the majority of our forces displayed astonishing bravery, decision and mastery of tactics. Surrounded units fought with coolness and skill, inflicted serious losses on the enemy, and frequently managed in turn to surround Nazi units in the Soviet rear. The majority of Soviet units escaped from these encirclements in compact, organized groups, hardened in combat.

Red Army commanders have shown ability to learn from enemy tactics. The Nazi stratagems are not hard to decipher: they seek to create the semblance of encirclement in the hope of weakening the morale of our troops and to disrupt our organization. If they fail in one sector they promptly transfer their thrust to a neighboring sector. The Germans attack the flanks of their enemies, feel out weak spots, seek a place where a breach can be advantageously forced in the lines.

These tactics, designed for success against a weak adversary, can only be called foolhardy. Such methods could produce results for the Nazis only in countries where they faced a poorly armed enemy, quickly disconcerted at the appearance of large numbers of tanks, cannon and motorcyclists. These weapons might demoralize troops with feeble nerves and inferior tactical training, who were led by commanders unable to grasp a military situation without detailed and prolonged study.

It is enough, it must be added, for the Nazi troops themselves to be threatened with encirclement for them to fall into disorder and lose their assurance and striking power.

Having fathomed the enemy maneuvers, the Soviet fighters have methodically wiped out a great number of troops and war materiels. The enemy counted on his ability to demoralize our troops, but at present he often discovers symptoms of panic among his own forces. Operations of many guerrilla detachments are creating an intolerable situation behind the German lines. Fury and confusion permeate the mendacious communiques of the German command and the lamentations of the German press on the special problems afforded by the Russian front and on the fact that the Soviet soldier, instead of surrendering to the Nazi murderers, fights bitterly -- and not according to the Nazi rules.

The offensive spirit of the Nazi hordes is not yet exhausted. The enemy is making and will continue to make desperate efforts to attain success. To these attempts the Red Army opposes growing strength and perfection of organization, experience gained in combat, and the heroism of all its forces.

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Reports of guerrilla activity behind German lines continue to fill the Soviet press. Among recent stories are the following:

A guerrilla commander named Yakovenko and his men captured a railway siding in the area of "N." He learned, while his men were destroying equipment and rolling stock, that enemy troops were approaching the station by rail. Entering a German locomotive which was stationed at the siding, Yakovenko set the train going. It collided at full speed with the oncoming troop train and derailed 15 cars, which were completely smashed.

A German general who had stopped in the village of "L" because his car had broken down was captured by a guerrilla detachment commanded by one Vasilyev. Near the village of "P" another guerrilla group ambushed German troops and shot two Nazi lieutenants.

Two German tanks which had fallen behind the advance of their unit were captured by a guerrilla detachment under the command of Red Army man Kivshik. Seven Nazi motorcyclists were killed.

A guerrilla force under a commander named Znamensky raided the headquarters of a German unit, destroyed an enemy tank, captured two staff cars and killed five soldiers and four officers. In the village of "M" 20 German soldiers were killed by a guerrilla unit and two trucks and two machineguns were added to the guerrilla arsenal.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1941

No. 27

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 12 - 13

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 13

Evening Communique, August 12

On August 12 nothing of importance occurred at the front.

Our aircraft, in cooperation with ground forces, struck at enemy moto-mechanized units and infantry.

Forty-one German airplanes were shot down on August 11. Our losses were 34 planes. According to verified data, two German planes were brought down during the raid on Moscow on August 11.

Warships and planes of the Red Banner Baltic Fleet destroyed four enemy torpedo boats and two enemy transports on August 11.

Morning Communique, August 13

On the night of August 12 no important action occurred on any front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized troops and infantry and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

On August 11 three groups of German planes attempted to break through to Leningrad but were driven off by our airforce and anti-aircraft artillery. Three enemy planes were brought down.

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As previously reported in our evening communique of August 11, Soviet fliers destroyed the Rumanian railway bridge across the Danube near Cernavoda, west of Constanta.

This bridge, built in 1907, is reputed to be one of the world's largest. Its total length is about 5,500 feet and its main span 2,450 feet. From the west it is approached by a viaduct about 3,000 feet long. The bridge's stone piers are 110 feet tall, and at the highest point its span rises 245 feet above river level.

The bombing of this bridge by Soviet fliers is of great military significance. All railway traffic between the principal centers of Rumania and the Rumanian Black Sea coast passed over it. Its destruction has halted all railway transport between Bucharest and the military port of Constanta. The right bank of the Danube and the Rumanian Black Sea harbors will be cut off from the interior of the country for a long time.

The oil storage tanks on the Black Sea coast cannot be refilled for a long time, since the oil pipelines slung on the under side of the bridge were destroyed along with the upper structure.

The operation resulting in destruction of the Cernavoda bridge was directed by Red Airforce officer Shubikov, who previously had been twice decorated. Our planes reached the Rumanian coast in several waves at high altitude. Anti-aircraft batteries in the 60 kilometers between the coast and the bridge opened intense fire, but the Rumanian gunners proved poor marksmen and not a single shell splinter touched our planes.

Soon the arches of the Cernavoda bridge were sighted, the criss-cross girders and giant piers clearly visible against the river surface. The buildings of the Columbia Oil Refinery and the Oriental Cement Plant were sharply outlined on the right bank.

Our air unit separated into flights, which flew along the line of the bridge and successively dive-bombed it. Anti-aircraft guns protecting the bridge opened fire. Soviet planes dived on the Rumanian gunners, silencing first one and a few minutes later another battery. The machineguns remaining in action were unable to repulse our attacks on the bridge, which was hit with heavy bombs.

One 450-foot span of the bridge collapsed almost entirely into the river. The bridge was successfully destroyed. The Soviet fliers had carried out their orders brilliantly.

SLAV CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW

Proceedings of the Moscow Conference of Slavic Peoples, which was addressed by representatives of all Slav nationalities, were reported in the Soviet press today. Among those who spoke was the Yugoslav Professor Bozhidar Maslaric, who said in part:

"To achieve its purpose Hitlerism has pursued a treacherous policy, inciting the Slavic peoples against each other and strangling those who would not submit to its will. This is the eternal German expansionist policy toward the peoples of Yugoslavia.

"But the Slavic peoples are not lambs going under the knife without resistance. This was proved in the past by Serbs, Montenegrins and other Yugoslav peoples. It is being proved today by Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussians and many others.

"In this struggle, truth, progress and civilization are on the side of the Slavs, with whom the great freedom loving peoples of Great Britain and the United States now side."

The Croat leader Yuro Salai spoke in part as follows:

"Hitler has imposed on the Croat people a king -- his vassal the Italian Duke of Spoleto, brother of the Duke of Aosta, who proved a total failure as commander of Italian troops in Abyssinia. This king sits in Rome and is afraid to go to Croatia.

"In Croatia Hitler found the degenerate criminal Pavelic, who carries out the orders of his Nazi masters. Scores of thousands of the best sons of the Croatian people are being thrown in concentration camps. Hundreds of their most courageous fighters are being shot.

"To attain his dark aims, Hitler, through his underling Pavelic, tries to fan national discord, mainly between the Serbs and Croatians, following the well known maxim 'divide and rule.'

"But Pavelic, and his bosses Hitler and Mussolini, have made a bad blunder. The memory of the great champions of the unification of

all Slavs, Josip Juraj Strossmeier and Stepan Radic, is fresh in the minds of the Croatian people. The freedom loving Croats never tolerated oppression and will not tolerate it from Hitler."

The Czechoslovak poet, Professor Ondra Lysogorsky, spoke in part as follows:

"For two years Death, marked with the Nazi swastika, has been rampant in Europe. The Prussian boot trampled Austria; bloody hands raised the swastika over Gradcany; and German bombs and tanks demolished Warsaw.

"Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Yugoslavia and Greece have been enslaved by the same bombs and tanks. It was not until it tried to devour London that the Nazi hyena broke its first tooth.

"Now 170 divisions of brown bandits have pounced on the Soviet Union. But the Soviet Union is standing like a wall, against which the hyena will smash its remaining fangs.

"But shall enslaved Europe stand by and wait for help from Russia? Every week, every day counts. The issue is not one of war between Berlin-Rome and London-Moscow, but of war between barbarism and culture, between beasts and humanity.

"Every derailed train load of German soldiers or munitions is an act of humanity. Every Nazi bomb sabotaged in the factory so that it will not explode will save many innocent lives. To hate and destroy all who would harm our Slavic fatherland is the sacred duty of everyone whose cradle once stood beneath our skies."

The Slovenian journalist Ivan Regent said in part:

"Slovenians! The weapons trained on the Soviet Union are aimed at all the Slavic peoples and at us too. True, our people is the smallest member of the great Slavic family, but the unhappy idea that we can do nothing because we are so few has fatally affected our national life.

"What matters is not to count our numbers, but to value freedom and independence as they are valued by men and nations who known that 'night in the darkness of the grave is less terrible than slavery under the bright sun's rays.'

"In our struggle against Nazism we shall not be alone. The great Russian people, which has always defeated its enemies, fights beside us. Beside us fight all the Slavic peoples. Beside us fights the heroic British people, and we have on our side the great might of the United States and all the democratic and freedom loving peoples of the world."

Speaking for the Bulgarian delegation, Dr. Stoyanoff said in part:

"Hitler's aim is to wipe the Slavic nations from the face of the earth and turn future generations of Slavs into serfs. He fosters artificial strife among the Slavic peoples, making use for this purpose of the lowest traitors within each country.

"In Bulgaria Hitler has found mercenaries and scoundrels who would drive the Bulgarian people toward economic, political and cultural slavery. Despite the unanimous desire of the Bulgarian people for a mutual assistance agreement with the Russian people, these individuals are now ruthlessly impelling Bulgaria toward war against Russia.

"What have Hitler, his generals and his Gestapo brought to the Bulgarian people? And what are they bringing now? Everyone knows. Like conquering masters they bring us iron control of the lives, property, blood and honor of our people. They bring us the fetters of slavery which they have forged for us. But the people of Bulgaria who more than once have revolted against a foreign yoke will never ally themselves with those who enslave other peoples."

COLLAPSE OF GERMAN BLITZ PLANS

The following article was written by the prominent Soviet journalist E. Borisov, whose signature is familiar to readers of the Moscow press.

Six weeks of the Soviet people's great patriotic war against bloody Nazism have now passed. August 1 has gone by -- the day allegedly appointed by Hitler as the date of his triumphant entry into Moscow. Six weeks -- such was the term for completion of a German victory over Russia,

a term set by the German military attache in Ankara, according to the Istanbul correspondent of International News Service.

But there were some hot-headed Nazis for whom even this term seemed too long. On June 25 Reuters reported German opinions that "the campaign in Russia will be finished in 10 to 15 days."

And what is, in fact, the present state of affairs? Developing their plans for attacking the Soviet Union, the Nazis emerged with their notorious blitzkrieg theory. They successfully employed this method in Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia and Greece. In all these cases the blitz victory plans had the most solid material foundations in the form of decisive superiority of forces, which the Nazi war theoreticians themselves consider an imperative premise for success.

Good luck and continuous victories made the Nazi generals dizzy with success. Easy victories reinforced the myth of the "invincibility" of the German army and its decisive superiority over any foe. On this myth were based their self-opinionated, prideful plans for war in the east.

Counting on swift victory, the Germans prepared for it painstakingly and sedulously attended to all details in advance. They moved stupendous forces against the U.S.S.R., double and triple the forces of the Red Army border guard.

The number of German troops was considerably more than during operations in France. It is sufficient to state that while at that time the Germans had 10 armored car and tank divisions, they now have 30. Then they had 5,000 frontline planes and 7,500 tanks, while now they have about double that. The Nazis banked on smashing the covering units of the Red Army with blitz blows and seizing the vital centers of our country before the main forces could be mobilized. The Germans also placed definite hopes on methods of internal diversion and on the imagined collapse of Soviet transport.

Staking everything on a blitzkrieg victory, Hitler planned to avoid actual warfare on two fronts. Today it is clear that he gambled on easily forcing Great Britain and the United States, after defeat of the U.S.S.R., to conclude a peace advantageous to Germany -- and peace today spells victory for Germany.

Supported by the entire multi-millioned Soviet people, the armed forces of the Soviet Union have frustrated these plans of the Hitler gang.

Like a thief in the night Germany perfidiously launched an unexpected attack on the Soviet Union, and this accounted for a peculiar feature of the initial period of the war. Well beforehand the Nazis concentrated 170 divisions on the Soviet borders, not less than one-third of these being tank and motorized divisions. In this war the German Army faced no problem of mobilization. Strategic concentration and deployment of Nazi forces were accomplished beforehand, under cover of international agreements violated by Hitler and his gang.

The launching of this grandiose attack was to be initiated by a massed blow of Nazi aviation against Soviet airdromes, with the object of gaining domination in the air. As in Poland, in western Europe and in the Balkans, German tanks and motorized units were assigned to wedge deep into Soviet border zones and disunite Red Army forces, meanwhile continuing a headlong movement eastward. The main mass of regular German troops was to follow in the wake of the mobile units, mop up local centers of resistance and wipe out surrounded groups.

In outlining these tasks the German High Command counted on the suddeness of the attack but completely underestimated the strength of the Red Army and the might of the Soviet people, who in answer to Stalin's call rose as one man in a great patriotic war against the Nazi enslavers.

In the first phase of the war, when our covering units were compelled to retreat and German moto-mechanized columns succeeded in thrusting a deep wedge into Soviet territory, the Nazis with trumpet flourishes gave out daily reports that stunned the world with stupefying claims of victories. The Nazis already saw the towers of Moscow's ancient Kremlin in their dreams, the great squares of Leningrad and the streets of Kiev.

This continued until the middle of July. But then the tone of German reports and press utterances abruptly changed. The problem of conquering Moscow was suddenly declared not to be of pressing importance.

This sharp divergence in Nazi estimates of the situation at the front and of the immediate prospects of the war bear indisputable witness to the failure of the blitzkrieg. As wittily remarked by the American magazine Time, the German "krieg" lacked "blitz."

The first major miscalculation of the Nazis was the failure of their plan to destroy the Soviet airforce. Though as early as a month ago Nazi reports gave the obviously fantastic figure of 5,000 Soviet planes destroyed and later raised this by 25 - 30 percent, and still later increased the figure to 9,000, it is clear to every impartial observer that the Germans have failed to destroy the Soviet airforce. Later the Nazis were compelled to acknowledge and daily confirm in their reports that the Soviet airforce exists and plays a serious role in the action of the Red Army.

Hitler's calculation of the effectiveness of blows dealt by German tank and motorized units has also far from justified itself. With chagrin the Nazis themselves now speak of the new tactics of the Red Army, which does not wage war "European style," which is not afraid of being surrounded, which is able to fight tanks, successfully cutting them off from the German infantry and continuing an engagement even when their position seems hopeless.

The momentum of the initial German blow is exhausted, and the war has entered a new phase. The Nazis have encountered colossal difficulties, and the ever growing might and activity of the Red Army in places is compelling them to shift from attack to defense.

The Nazis have been forced furtively to refute or simply to pass by in silence the boasts in the Finnish and Swedish press concerning the fall of Leningrad, the approach of advance tank units to Moscow, the complete surrounding of Kiev, etc.

A radio review broadcast from Berlin on July 30 is particularly characteristic. Here is what the reviewer said:

"Possibly it is sometimes hard for us to imagine on what large scales operations are conducted here. In the west the depth of the front reached 40 kilometers and at the most 100, while here the front stretches to a depth of 300 and more kilometers. Then the front stretched for 400 kilometers, while today it is six times longer. Without smashing the enemy's striking force, territorial conquests mean nothing. The march on Moscow will give the German people nothing until the living military force of the enemy has been destroyed."

And the flunkeys echo the words of their Berlin taskmasters. On July 31, for instance, the Finnish newspaper Uosi Suomi declared that "Not a single Finnish or German soldier should be sacrificed merely for achieving a speed record or to capture a few well known places. One must make haste slowly."

Indeed, willy-nilly the Nazis now have to "make haste slowly." The results of six weeks of war irrefutably prove that Hitler's plans for a blitz victory have collapsed. The initial advantage gained by the Nazis, thanks to their sudden and predatory assault on the U.S.S.R., is now lost. German units have suffered tremendous casualties, which seriously sap the strength of the Nazi troops. Their morale declines as, instead of the anticipated military picnic, they encounter death and destruction. And finally, the Nazis have failed to avoid a war on two fronts. The joint action of the armed forces of the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain have become a real and telling factor.

Naturally, it is still too soon to speak of the final results of the tense battles being waged along the huge stretch of front. The fight will be most stubborn and the Germans will use frenzied efforts to realize at least part of the promised program of brilliant success. But we gaze confidently ahead: our resistance strengthens day by day and our ripostes are ever stronger and on a greater scale.

General Erfurt, chief of the military history department of the German General Staff, ends his book Victory With Complete Destruction of the Enemy with the following utterance: "When one wishes to gain victories, and big victories, one must always risk a little."

Hitler wanted inordinately big successes and he risked too much. There can be no doubt that the retribution will be as great as the risk.

RED ARMY RETAKES TWO TOWNS

The Soviet press today reported the recapture of the German occupied towns "N" and "V" by Red Army tanks, infantry and artillery.

Strong German forces occupying the town of "N" had heavily fortified all its approaches. Soviet forces were commanded by Red Army officer Viaznikov, who ordered heavy tanks to attack the town on three sides while the infantry launched a direct assault. Two groups of light tanks were detailed to out-flank and destroy the anti-tank guns.

After brief artillery preparation, the Red Army tanks advanced. Enemy artillery opened fire and Nazi bombers attacked the advancing forces without success.

Soviet anti-aircraft gunners repulsed the enemy aircraft and brought down two planes. Cutting behind the town, Red Army tanks entered it and directed point blank fire at the enemy. The German infantry fled in disorder.

At least 25 German armored cars, 10 heavy and 30 light tanks were put out of action. The enemy suffered extremely heavy losses: Red Army troops wiped out one regiment and two entire field artillery battalions.

After several days of stubborn fighting a German tank unit had occupied "V." The Nazis fortified their positions in the town and trained artillery on all its approaches.

A Red Army unit commanded by Colonel Grachev was ordered to dislodge the Germans from the town. After three hours of artillery preparation, Red Army advance units approached the town while anti-tank guns opened fire on the belfries and lofts where enemy machineguns were stationed.

Vanguard units commanded by Major Grigorenko advanced into the town. Platoons under Junior Lieutenants Chemodanov and Shelekhov fought with especial success, destroying seven enemy machineguns and two armored cars. The Germans could not withstand the attack and began to retreat. Within two hours after the assault began, Red Army forces held the town.

The Germans left behind 400 dead, four tanks, 12 pieces of artillery, 16 machineguns, five trucks, 42 carts and a large quantity of ammunition. One hundred and twelve Nazi soldiers and one colonel were taken prisoner.

The Soviet press reported today that a German bomber containing the bodies of the entire crew has been fished out of the Moscow River, where it crashed after three-fourths of one wing was sheared off by a balloon cable during the German raid on the night of August 10. Its cargo of bombs was still intact. The body of the Nazi commander was decorated with the Iron Cross and the insignia "Narvik--1940."

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Friday, August 15, 1941

No. 28

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 13 - 14

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 14.

Evening Communique, August 13

On August 13 our troops fought against the enemy in the directions of Kaekisalmi, Staraya Russa, Smolensk and Belaya Tserkov.

A few days ago our troops evacuated Smolensk.

Our airforce continued operations against enemy troops and attacked enemy airdromes. On August 12, forty-three German planes were shot down. Our losses were 35 planes.

One of our submarines sank a German oil tanker of about 15,000 tons in the Baltic Sea.

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As previously reported (in the Evening Communique of August 12), ships and airplanes of the Baltic Fleet recently sank four enemy torpedo boats and several transports. A convoy of German ships was observed by our reconnaissance planes at dawn in sector "N" of the Baltic Sea. Our planes and torpedo boats set out to intercept the enemy.

Finding escape impossible, the Nazis prepared for battle against our planes and boats. The German torpedo boats,

after covering the transports with a smokescreen, sped to counter-attack. Two of our torpedo boats dashed to meet them while the others attacked the transports. The enemy torpedo boats, unable to face our heavy machineguns and artillery, laid down a second smokescreen and retreated.

The Soviet torpedo boats launched their torpedoes at the transports, one of which was badly hit and began to list to port. German troops and officers were distinctly observed milling in panic about the transport's deck. Artillery and caissons loaded on the deck slid into the sea. A second torpedo hit the ship amidships and broke it in two. Five minutes later it disappeared beneath the surface.

While the torpedo boats were attacking the first transport, a second transport was trying to get out of range, but at this point Soviet planes appeared over the scene of battle. Despite heavy German anti-aircraft fire, they boldly attacked the Nazi ships. There was a powerful explosion and black smoke hid the transport. After several minutes, when the smoke cleared, only wreckage and a large patch of oil were observed floating on the water.

The Nazi torpedo boats also suffered. One of them was hit by a shell at point blank range. Two others were overtaken by Soviet torpedo boats and sunk. The fourth torpedo boat fled at full speed, swerving repeatedly to dodge our

airplanes, but its maneuvering failed. A direct bomb hit blew it to pieces. Soviet air and sea pilots of the Baltic Fleet in this battle destroyed an important German infantry unit, including artillery, tanks, airplanes and trucks.

Morning Communique, August 14

On the night of August 13 nothing of importance occurred at the front.

Our aircraft, in cooperation with ground forces, continued to strike at enemy moto-mechanized units, infantry and airdromes.

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Zdenek Firlinger, Minister of Czechoslovakia in the U.S.S.R., and J.H. Retinger, Polish Charge d'Affaires in the U.S.S.R., arrived at Moscow August 13, the Soviet press reported.

Both were greeted on their arrival by Acting Chief of Protocol of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs Molochkov, Assistant Chief of the Fourth European Department of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs Pushkin, the British Ambassador at Moscow Sir Stafford Cripps and members of the Embassy staff, the Minister of Yugoslavia at Moscow Milan Gavrilovitch, and the Polish Military Mission to the U.S.S.R. headed by Brigadier General Sigismund Szisko-Bogusz.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Vyacheslav Molotov received J.H. Retinger, Polish Charge d'Affaires in the U.S.S.R. on August 14, the Soviet press reported today.

GERMAN LOSSES ON THE CENTRAL FRONT

The authoritative Soviet newspaper Pravda yesterday published the following article on German losses in the western direction:

The German offensive is breaking against the mighty rebuff of the Red Army, which is wearing down the German forces. Many German divisions have been annihilated in the western direction. Dozens of other divisions, after several engagements with the Red Army, have lost almost half, and some more than half, of their effectives. The Red Army is able to make public to the whole world the names of German divisions that have felt the strength of Soviet arms.

In fighting in the Nevel direction on July 8 the 464th and 453rd Infantry Regiments, belonging to the 253rd German Infantry Division, were completely wiped out. By July 28 this division had lost over 60 percent of its strength.

The 110th Infantry Division arrived at the front on July 23. Beginning July 24, this division took part in fighting in the Nevel direction. It first entered action without its full complement of men, at only 65 to 70 percent of its normal strength. Within a few days the division was at less than

half normal strength, and by the first days of August retreated and was forced to admit that it had lost its fighting capacity.

The 14th Motorized Division during 10 days' fighting in the Vitebsk direction lost 60 killed and wounded soldiers out of every 100 stormtroopers.

By July 30 only 42 tanks were left in the 20th German Tank Division. The 10th German Tank Division lost its tanks altogether and became a peculiar "tank unit without tanks."

As a result of several days' fighting in the Smolensk direction most companies of the 12th Nazi Tank Division lost up to 70 percent of their strength.

The 7th German Tank Division within a short period lost between 40 and 60 percent of its strength under the blows of Soviet bombers. It lost its fighting capacity and was withdrawn to the rear to be reformed, as were the 121st Infantry Division, the 206th Division and many others.

The 20th Motorized Division during the week of July 16 - 23 lost 30 to 40 percent of its strength. On the night of July 27, to save the situation, even the headquarters company was sent into action. Over half the division's equipment was destroyed.

The 18th Motorized Division also lost half its men and equipment. The debacle of the 5th Division in the same direction was reported earlier. Of the 28th Infantry Division, half the companies have only one officer apiece. The 137th Division, which arrived in the Smolensk direction late in July, was thrown into action immediately as it dismounted from its trucks. In two days the division had less than half its men left.

Particularly heavy losses were suffered by SS divisions. The 11th and 30th SS Divisions were sent to the area of Mogilev. The deadly fire of Soviet artillery, tanks and infantry wiped out thousands of Nazis. Among the first to be annihilated were the pontoon and signals battalions of the 30th Division. By the end of July, the remnants of both divisions were withdrawn from the front and hastily sent to the rear. Between July 9 and 16, the so-called "Imperial" 3rd SS Division lost from 32 to 50 percent of its strength.

At the River Drut, the 18th Infantry Brigade of the 18th Tank Division lost 70 percent of its strength. By the end of July the 18th Division had no more than 40 percent of its men left.

The 17th Motorized Division twice lost its entire complement of officers in the course of fighting. On July 9, one of its regiments was practically annihilated in the Lepel direction. By July 21, the 52nd Infantry Division had lost over 50 percent of its effectives. Both the 34th and 36th Infantry Regiments, which belonged to the 27th Motorized Division, were practically wiped out in fighting in the Lepel direction. Soon the whole division ceased to exist altogether.

The list of German divisions which "won so many victories" could be extended. The finest German divisions have been either annihilated or bled white. The German Command is hurling fresh reserves into battle. It sends its routed divisions to the rear, reorganizes them and once more sends them to the front.

AT THE FRONT
and
BEHIND THE LINES

Soviet Airmen Describe Cernavoda Bombing

Details of the Red Airforce bombing of the Cernavoda railway bridge across the Danube River were reported in statements in the Soviet press today by Navigator Lieutenant Zhuravlev and Pilot Lieutenant Popkov, both of whom participated in the operation.

Lieutenant Zhuravlev's statement follows:

My crew had orders to strike the first blow at the Cernavoda bridge. We took off for our flight toward evening. It was fine flying weather and shortly before sunset we sighted the Rumanian shore. Night was falling and the Rumanian and German anti-aircraft batteries guarding the bridge failed to observe us.

The moon distinctly lit up the girders of the bridge. Ten minutes before we reached our target Pilot Evdokimov cut off the plane's motors and we descended silently to the altitude required for bombing. When the bridge appeared in the bombsight we released several large high-explosive bombs.

As the plane was turning I saw the flame of the bomb explosions lighting up the central spans of the bridge. Gunner Anishenko, one of the members of our crew, also distinctly saw the direct hit made by our bombs. Only after the explosions did the enemy anti-aircraft open fire.

Pilot Lieutenant Popkov made the following statement:

My plane followed Zhuravlev's. Our crew had previously bombed Rumanian military objectives 15 times. We took part in the bombardment of Constanta, Ploesti and other places.

The raid on Cernavoda was carried out at night. Leaving Constanta, we climbed to a high altitude and soon reached our objective. I guided the plane directly over the target, and when the plane jolted I knew it meant that our navigator had released our bomb load. After a moment he reported that the pattern of bomb bursts covered the target.

At this point I sighted German fighters taking to the air. Hiding in the clouds, we evaded the Heinkels and reached our airdrome safely.

At dawn six planes commanded by Senior Lieutenant Kovalev again bombed the bridge. They succeeded in setting fire to and destroying the oil pipe running under its lower planking. The final blow was delivered by a group of Soviet dive bombers, commanded by Red Airforce man Pereverzev. All planes which participated in this action returned safely to their bases and today are bombing other enemy objectives.

Soviet Artillery Repulses Nazi Tanks

The Soviet press today reported that Red Army forces in the vicinity of "N" had successfully repulsed a Nazi tank attack with serious losses for the enemy.

An artillery regiment commanded by Red Army man Eremenko was defending a position at "N." Soviet scouts reported that German tanks were massing in a forest near the Red Army positions. Precise information on the enemy's forces now being available, the Soviet batteries prepared to go into action in a night battle.

As night fell the enemy machines began to advance and emerged directly in front of the camouflaged guns of a Red Army unit commanded by Captain Glushchenko. Soviet artillerymen allowed the enemy to advance to within 400 - 500 meters, at which point several Red Army guns opened fire simultaneously.

A gun crew commanded by Red Army man Kudryashev put three Nazi tanks out of action. Observing that several of their machines had been destroyed, the advancing German tankists slowed down for a moment. That moment was enough for the Soviet gunners to disable four more tanks. The accurate fire of Red Army artillery definitely discouraged the Nazis.

Now the Nazis veered to the left, only to fall under the fire of a fully camouflaged right flank artillery battery. The Nazi tanks presented an excellent target for two Red Army batteries.

Regrouping their forces, the Germans once again rushed the Soviet batteries. This attack was also repulsed with heavy enemy losses. The battle, which lasted several hours, resulted in destruction of 32 Nazi tanks.

TACTICS OF ENCIRCLEMENT

The following analysis of Red Army tactics against Nazi tank attacks was written for the Soviet press by Colonel Boltin, Soviet military writer:

One of the most involved and difficult of all military maneuvers is a break-through to their own lines by troops which have been surrounded by the enemy.

Troops caught in this position are, of course, without supplies or communications and without possibility of rein-

forcement. They must rely entirely on their own courage and cool-headedness and their commander's knowledge of military strategy. Troops that possess these assets may often not only emerge safely from the situation, but inflict heavy losses on the enemy in the process.

The mobile action of modern warfare creates an ever present danger of encirclement for both large and small units. Red Army units have already learned never to lose their heads when surrounded. The three following instances, selected from many during recent fighting, illustrate successful tactics on the part of small, large and medium units surrounded by the enemy:

1. A platoon commanded by Sergeant Savchenko, with only eight men left after an engagement, was retreating to a new position when it found itself cut off by an enemy force of 75 soldiers. The platoon had already exhausted all its rifle ammunition and grenades. Instead of surrendering, Savchenko's men spread out and charged the enemy with their bayonets. The attack was so unexpected that the Germans retreated in confusion and the Red Army men succeeded in breaking through the German position and escaping.

This illustrates the great possibilities of bold and decisive action on a shifting and confused battlefield.

2. In action at "P" an advanced force of German tanks and motorized infantry broke into the positions of one of our infantry regiments. This first Nazi force was completely destroyed by our fire. Meanwhile, our scouts reported the approach of a large enemy tank column, followed by infantry. Our reserves were placed in position for a counter-attack, and as soon as the enemy tanks were engaged, our regiment attacked the enemy infantry, cutting it off from the tanks and routing

it. Under direct fire of our artillery, the enemy tanks found it impossible to assist their infantry effectively.

This illustrates how a mobile enemy attempting to carry out an encirclement may itself be surrounded and destroyed.

3. One of our infantry divisions was holding defense positions along an extended front. The approach of a strong column of German tanks was reported. Anticipating Nazi "smash-through" tactics against his lightly held line, the Soviet commander decided to allow the Germans to pass without serious resistance -- with the happy impression that they were surrounding the Red Army forces.

About 300 tanks passed through our lines about evening and, as had been expected, bivouacked at a strategic point to the rear of our division, bunching closely together in a small wood. Soviet scouts kept close watch on the enemy, and as soon as night fell units of our division began to surround the wood on all sides. Several batteries of artillery were brought up and placed for point blank fire against the enemy tanks. Seemingly lulled by overconfidence, the Germans failed to detect our division's activities during the night.

At dawn our batteries opened fire. The greatest confusion was caused among the enemy. Some tanks got under way and attempted to escape, but not one broke through. All 300 were destroyed.

This action illustrated both the value of surprise and the advantage to be gained by attacking the enemy at a place and time of one's own choice.

All these examples show that the independence and initiative displayed by Soviet units -- large or small -- when thrown on their own resources often stagger and confuse the Nazi military mind.

Nazi bafflement was revealingly described by the Stockholms Tidningen correspondent with the Germans on the eastern front, who wrote:

"In France, when a military unit was surrounded, it drew the logical conclusion and surrendered. But the Russians keep on fighting as long as one of them can still crook a finger.

"German soldiers are dumfounded to see Russian tankists climb out of their machines to unlimber guns or make repairs under a hail of bullets.

"The Russians never surrender, and the usual German technique of undermining enemy morale by overwhelming attacks has resulted in a complete fiasco in the east."

FORCED CONFESSIONS OF THE ENEMY

The Soviet newspaper Pravda under the above title printed the following article, here reproduced in part, concerning the role of the German press in the war:

The contradictory fabrications of Nazi propaganda in connection with the most recent failures of the German blitzkrieg on the eastern front testify to the embarrassment and uneasiness that Hitler is experiencing today. For the first time since the outbreak of the war a number of valuable admissions as to the state of German morale were printed recently in the official Nazi organ, Voelkischer Beobachter, which referred threateningly to those Germans who are alarmed by the obvious lack of success of Nazi blitz plans.

Battlework was very strongly described by the Tübingen correspondent with the Germans on the [illegible]rt, who wrote:

> France, with a military unit was encountered, it must capitulate and surrender. But the Russians being [illegible] as one of them can still crook a
>
> man only [illegible] are dumfounded to see Russian cavalrie[illegible] their [illegible] to whither [illegible] or make [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible].
>
> Russian [illegible] surrender, are the usual German [illegible] [illegible] by overwhelming attacks [illegible] [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] in [illegible]."

[illegible] OF THE ENEMY

Some [illegible] Pravda under the [illegible] printed [illegible] concerning the [illegible]

[illegible] in

[illegible] German elite-

In an editorial titled "The Most Dangerous Enemy," the Voelkischer Beobachter was forced to admit the bankruptcy of Hitler's hopes for an early victory over the Soviet Union. The editorial then proceeds to try to prove that Hitler never prophecied a "lightning war!"

The Italian fascist writer, Virginio Gayda, has raised the question whether Hitler committed a blunder in attacking the Soviet Union. It goes without saying that in Gayda's opinion Hitler is infallible. Yet the very fact that the word "blunder" was not only uttered but actually printed in the fascist press is significant.

Nazi communiques and newspaper articles of late have taken to admitting the enormous difficulties encountered in their fight against the U.S.S.R. These admissions run counter to everything that they reported or predicted previously.

In the aforementioned article the Voelkischer Beobachter writes: "Today in the East we realize how far the Bolsheviks' war preparation had been carried. Soviet troops are still putting up stiff resistance and are throwing new materiel into the fighting."

The Nazi newspaper Berliner Lokal-Anzeiger said: "To smash or even weaken the Bolshevik might is a herculean task."

Confusion and discomfort also permeate the Nazis' propaganda concerning their war aims. The Voelkischer Beobachter continues to write about this war being fought for the "salvation of Europe from Bolshevism." But the Schwartze Korps, in a much discussed article titled "The Salvation of Germany," recently declared that the old slogan no longer fits the situation. This abrupt change of tone was doubtless caused

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 14 - 15

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 15.

Evening Communique, August 14

On August 14 our troops fought stubborn battles against the enemy along the whole front from the Arctic Ocean to the Black Sea. In the southern direction, our troops evacuated the towns of Kirovograd and Pervomaisk.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy troops and destroyed enemy aircraft at airdromes.

On August 13, 74 German planes were brought down in air battles or destroyed on airdromes. We lost 27 planes.

In the Baltic Sea, our ships sank a German submarine.

Morning Communique, August 15

On the night of August 15 our troops continued to fight the enemy stubbornly in the directions of Kaekisalmi, Staraya Russa and Smolensk, and in the Estonian sector of the front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground forces, continued to strike at enemy troops.

Evening Communique, August 15

On August 15 our troops continued fierce fighting with the enemy along the whole front. Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy troops and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

According to incomplete information on August 14 our airforce destroyed 21 German aircraft; we lost 11 planes.

* * * * *

The Soviet Information Bureau announced today that the Chairman of the Moscow Soviet Pronin received the following message from Sir George Henry Wilkinson, Lord Mayor of London:

"As Lord Mayor of the Capital of the British Empire I greet the Moscow Soviet. We here know what it means to withstand continuous attacks of a merciless enemy, but in spite of them our residents have remained unshakeable and fearless in their struggle. We are proud of your determination to annihilate the fascist menace and are conscious of the fact that your people display unparalleled courage and tenacity in our common struggle for freedom."

Chairman Pronin sent the following reply to the Lord Mayor of London:

"I thank you for your greeting. The people of Moscow are replying to enemy raids by redoubled vigor in their work for the consolidation of our country's defense. The enemy feels this indomitable energy of our people and will feel it increasingly in the near future. The courage and perseverance of our peoples is forging victory over our common foe."

Moscow, August 15.

People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs Vyacheslav Molotov received in Moscow today the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Czechoslovakia, Zdenek Firlinger, the Soviet press reported.

S.A. LOZOVSKY ON GERMAN PLUNDERING

At his regular press conference on August 14, S.A. Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Press Bureau, told foreign correspondents that, as a result of the routing of several German divisions, secret documents issued by orders of the Chief Command and the Command of several units of the German army recently came into the hands of Soviet authorities. Mr. Lozovsky stated that these documents clearly reveal the "malignant ulcer that is corroding the German Army."

"The German documents," Mr. Lozovsky said, "deal at length with the debauchery of Nazi officers and privates, their thefts, their banditry, their plundering of private property, their attacks on women and the moral corruption of their officers and of the rank and file of the army. All these crimes are associated with the behavior of German soldiers and officers in the occupied districts."

Mr. Lozovsky referred foreign correspondents to an order issued by the Nazi Commander-in-Chief Brauchitch on Aug. 31, 1940, which flays German officers for their behavior in France. "This document which is already a year old," Mr. Lozovsky said, "shows that moral corruption has been a characteristic of the German army for a considerable period of time."

It was further disclosed by Mr. Lozovsky that a document now in the hands of Soviet authorities, issued by the headquarters of the 125th Infantry Division of the German Army on July 25, 1941, emphasizes that individual German soldiers "have no right to undertake requisitions of private property on their own initiative." Another significant document referred to by Mr. Lozovsky in this press conference was the report of a delegate from the Supreme Command of the German Army, dated July 24, 1941 and titled "On the Plunder and Destruction of Populated Places in Soviet Russia occupied by German Troops."

"The author of this report," Mr. Lozovsky told correspondents, "stated that he inspected the town of "V" after its occupation by German units and established the fact that one hour after the retreat of Soviet troops a savage bacchanalia of plunder and destruction began. Even the Nazi delegate was amazed at the senseless cruelty with which German soldiers destroyed everything that they could seize." Quoting the author of the report, Mr. Lozovsky said: "One might think that these soldiers were seized with a general craving for destruction."

Instructions of the General Staff of the German Army, issued on July 13, 1941, were also discussed by Mr. Lozovsky, who said that they referred to the seizure of "trophy footwear" and revealed how German soldiers take footwear not only from the living but also from the dead. "These instructions," said Mr. Lozovsky, "state that 'footwear must also be taken from captured Russian soldiers' and recommend direct, organized marauding."

Mr. Lozovsky concluded the conference with the following remarks: "These documents show by undisputed facts the real life of the German army. They refute the legend circulated by the German Propaganda Bureau of the 'high moral level' of the Nazi army, that the German army is 'faultless' and that plunder and violence are 'fabrications of the Soviet propagandists.'" The originals of the documents referred to by Mr. Lozovsky were examined by foreign correspondents at the end of the interview and photostatic copies were given to them.

AT THE FRONT and BEHIND THE LINES

Red Airforce in Action

The Soviet Information Bureau today reported that, under the command of Red Airforceman Shelukin, a Soviet Airforce unit in a night bombing attack recently destroyed over 200 Nazi tanks and large motorized forces which had been concentrated in a forest near the town "B." A considerable number of the enemy infantry was also annihilated.

Another unit of Shelukhin's formation succeeded in the course of a daytime attack in smashing two groups of Nazi troops, destroying 15 tanks and 100 trucks carrying infantry and ammunition.

A similar attack was carried out by a Soviet Air unit, commanded by Red Airforce Colonel Avakumov, which bombed a German column and set fire to 60 trucks carrying ammunition and infantry.

A single Soviet Air unit has accounted for 175 Nazi bombers and fighters since the outbreak of the war, according to a dispatch received from the Soviet Information Bureau today. Heading the unit is Red Airforce Commander Zakharov who has 85 air combats to his credit. Zakharov has personally brought down nine enemy aircraft and destroyed four others jointly with his fellow Soviet pilots.

Red Airforceman Senior Lieutenant Plotnikov accompanied by five Soviet planes, recently attacked 24 enemy fliers. Seven of the Nazi planes were brought down and the rest dispersed. All the Soviet planes returned safely to their base.

Twenty-five Nazi bombers were attacked by Soviet Junior Lieutenant Kuznetsov and his Flight fighters. Kuznetsov set fire to one Junkers plane and the rest of the Nazis fled. An hour later Kuznetsov took off with six other Soviet fliers to attack 18 enemy bombers. Again Kuznetsov brought down a Nazi aircraft though he was wounded severely in the right leg. He continued to fight, however, until the enemy was completely routed.

Soviet Engineers Repair Tanks Under Fire

The manner in which Red Armymen and Engineers of the Auxiliary Repairs Battalion of the Soviet forces carry on their work on the war front was related in an article published this week in the Soviet press.

During an engagement near the village "E," Red Army Military Technician Astaterev noticed that two Soviet tanks had stopped. Under heavy machinegun fire, accompanied by Assistant Political Instructor Kartashev and Red Armyman Batischev, he

crawled to the disabled tanks and repaired them within one hour. A group under the command of Red Army Sergeant Mitsenko, also working under heavy enemy fire, in less than 12 minutes repaired several Soviet howitzers damaged by Nazi shells.

* * * * *

Nazis Harrassed by Red Army Unit

In the rear of the German army a Red Army unit, commanded by one Captain Karmanov, has been engaging in a series of fierce battles with Nazi forces, according to the Soviet press. Karmanov's unit has destroyed 22 Nazi tanks, 14 armored cars and ammunition transports, 27 fuel tank cars and 16 trains bearing provisions. In these engagements over 450 German soldiers and officers were killed and wounded.

Two battalions of infantry and one motorized battalion was sent by the Nazi command against Karmanov's unit which was compelled to retreat and take up a defensive position. When the Nazis continued the attack they were met by heavy fire from Red Army machinegunners, infantrymen and snipers.

Four German attacks were repulsed by Karmanov's unit within a few hours and 200 German soldiers were killed in these actions. That night Captain Karmanov's machinegunners opened fire on the enemy's left flank and broke through the Nazi encirclement. The German forces fled, leaving behind them 150 soldiers killed in this one night's engagement. Twelve machineguns, eight trench mortars and many automatic rifles were captured by the Red Army forces.

* * * * *

Nine Junkers and 88 German dive bombers failed to dislodge two Soviet anti-aircraft gunners who were guarding a bridge across the "S" River, according to a report in the Soviet press. Two gunners, Red Armymen Demchenko and Aleynik, brought down three Nazi planes.

SOVIET GUERRILLA ACTIVITY INCREASES

As the Soviet-German war begins its eighth week the Soviet press reports ever-increasing guerrilla activity behind enemy lines. The following are a few of the accounts of guerrilla fighting that have appeared during the past week.

* * * * *

The fires of guerrilla warfare are mounting high in the Ukrainian districts occupied by Hitler's troops. Guerrilla fighters in this area trap German motorcyclists carrying dispatches, cut enemy telegraph and telephone lines and disrupt Nazi supplies of fuel and ammunition.

A guerrilla group operating in the area "O" destroyed over 10 fuel tank cars and an ammunition train and ambuscaded a German infantry detachment a few days ago. Over 200 Germans were killed and wounded and the rest fled panic stricken.

Like dozens of similar guerrilla groups this unit always eludes pursuit. The strength of the guerrillas is multiplied by the fact that the whole population cooperates with them and serves as their scouts.

A detachment commanded by a Ukrainian veteran guerrilla fighter, one Oliinik, has in its ranks many gray-haired men who helped smash the German invaders and the Petliura troops during the Civil War after the 1917 revolution. Women and children keep these guerrilla fighters informed of every action of the Nazi forces. More than once these gray-haired guerrillas have waylaid German soldiers and derailed enemy troop trains.

The Ukrainian people render splendid assistance to the Red Army not only by their military actions, but by the aid they give to the intelligence service of the Soviet forces. Regular communication exists between most guerrilla detachments

and the Red Army regular troops. Often Red Armymen notice in the midst of battle that the enemy artillery which has been shelling them suddenly turns and fires at its rear; the Soviet soldiers know then that the guerrilla fighters are active.

Ukrainian guerrillas have their own newspaper: Za Radiansku Ukrainu which is distributed widely in enemy territory and is extremely popular among the people of the occupied areas. This newspaper tells of the exploits of the partisans and serves as a means of communication between the guerrilla groups.

* * * * *

Guerrilla detachments operating in the rear of German troops in the northwestern direction within the last few days have caused tremendous damage to the enemy. Ninety-six German trucks carrying ammunition and provisions have been destroyed by them, in addition to 17 tanks and armored cars, 35 motorcycles, three planes, four tank cars and four fuel stations.

In this same period two German troop trains were derailed, ammunition dumps, provision stores and several bridges were blown up, telephone communications in 14 enemy sectors were cut and 400 German soldiers and 16 Nazi officers were killed. Many trophies were captured by the guerrilla fighters which are being used today in the unremitting fight against the Nazi invaders.

A guerrilla detachment, commanded by the Chairman of the District Soviet "O" captured a small railway station "G" recently. Within half an hour his guerrillas had removed several kilometers of wire, destroyed telephone and telegraph communications, blown up the water pump and set the station on fire.

In a forest near the village "A" guerrillas arranged several pit traps for a stretch of over a mile and mined them. The next day scouts discovered two smashed German tanks and one armored car in these pits.

* * * * *

The Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda printed several letters recently which had been found on captured German soldiers.

In a letter to his fiance, German Corporal Birkbauer wrote: "Dear Poldi: You at home have no idea of what is going on here in Russia. We are always hungry because food comes irregularly and the retreating Russians destroy and burn everything in their path. We are happy if we can find a few potatoes and on some days we have to take crusts of bread from the people in the villages. In addition to this our life is continually in danger. In broad daylight their guerrillas shoot at our columns. I have little hope of coming home alive out of this inferno."

Captain Private Rittel of the 168th Regiment wrote in another letter: "There are many killed and wounded in our regiment because guerrillas shoot at us constantly while we are on the march. During one such skirmish our soldiers got panic stricken and we shot many of our own men."

Sergeant Major Eger who was questioned by Red Armymen said: "German officers told us that the Russians had poor arms. Now we know that the Red Army has arms which we don't possess. And your guerrillas! In this country every bush, every peasant's house shoots at you. That is why so many German soldiers surrender."

* * * * *

A guerrilla detachment commanded by a Captain Zerkalin has been operating recently behind German lines and has had 16 engagements with Nazi troops in the course of three weeks. In these engagements 12 enemy tanks, 23 trucks, 22 pieces of artillery, 16 machineguns and a number of fuel tanks were destroyed.

Zerkalin's guerrilla fighters captured nine German supply trains, 19 machine guns and over 300 rifles which were distributed among guerrilla inhabitants of the area. Over 550 Nazi soldiers and officers were killed in these engagements with Captain Zerkalin's troops.

* * * * *

Red Armymen from the company of Senior Lieutenant Likhachev captured a group of Nazi soldiers at the front recently, among whom was a German Private Kraus. Kraus, who was captured along with other Nazi soldiers, was a member of a battalion of German reservists who had just arrived at the front. In the following statement he specifically relates how Soviet guerrillas are hampering the transport of Nazi reserves.

"Our battalion was continuously attacked along the whole route from Warsaw to the front," said Private Kraus. "We sustained particularly heavy losses in the last 100 kilometers that we traveled. After spending a night in the town of "Z" our truck column set out in the morning through a forest. Suddenly the leading truck fell into a pit trap and heavy machine-gun fire spattered us from the thickness of the woods."

"In this skirmish," Kraus continued, "twenty-eight German soldiers were killed and six were gravely wounded. Seventeen more soldiers and two officers were shot before we left the forest. We carried on a continuous rifle fire at bushes, trees, suspicious looking hummocks and tree stumps."

"Leaving the forest behind," Kraus concluded, "our column reached a river and found the bridge destroyed. While we were restoring the bridge we were shot at by a group of mounted Soviet guerrillas. Several soldiers and one officer

in the truck next to ours were killed. Twenty-five kilometers from our destination our column was fired on by two trench mortars, the first of which set fire to the truck that was leading the column and the second of which killed 14 soldiers immediately. The guerrillas retreated only after we had opened fire with anti-tank guns, machineguns and trench mortars. In this engagement we had many killed and wounded and eleven trucks were burned to the ground.

"Altogether, from the beginning of the march until we reached the front, we lost more than 160 men and six officers who were killed or wounded."

SEARCHLIGHTS ON THE NAZIS

This article was written for the Soviet press by M. Merzhanov.

Night descends, and from the roofs of tall buildings one can see the dark of evening covering the streets of the city. The last glint of the trolleycar wires has vanished in the darkness.

The city seems to hold its breath in silence when suddenly a piercing "alert" siren is heard. It is followed by a second, a third and a fourth. A chorus of sirens whine out now against the silence, joined by the shrill intermittent whistle of locomotives. Air raid!

A telephone man at the searchlight lookout post reports to Sergeant Levin: "Planes heading from the west!"

We look to the west and see a wall of searchlight rays swinging upward.

German fliers hate and fear the blinding threat of these searchlights. After the first raids, when the rays of the searchlights helped anti-aircraft gunners shoot down many enemy planes, the Nazis changed their tactics. Now they fly at high altitudes beyond the reach of the lights. This tactic, however, prevents the Nazi airmen from dropping bombs on specific objectives and often causes them to lose their bearings.

Whenever a German plane descends upon the city, the command rings out from the watchtower: "Searchlight on target!"

Immediately men of the searchlight detachments turn on their huge lights and the blinding rays shoot skyward. The reflector turns on its axis and a ray hits the target it is seeking. Neighboring searchlights converge from left and right upon the enemy plane, catching it in a criss-cross of beams, until it is clearly visible. Blinded by the rays, the Nazi aviator side-slips, seeking escape. But he is caught like a thief by the scruff of the neck. Murderous fire is opened on the plane by our anti-aircraft guns as the Nazi pilot flings his machine left, right, up and down. Shells burst on the target as the enemy plane makes one last effort to evade the searchlights by plunging downward. But the lights are everywhere and the German aviator cannot escape them nor the artillery fire.

The Nazi pilot comes at us in a dive, his machinegun sending a round of bullets against the persistent searchlight.

"Keep calm, and don't let him get away from the light!" commands Sergeant Levin.

A second hail of bullets pours down upon the heads of the searchlight crew, but the rays never leave the plane. Levin gives the order: "Open fire!" and a machinegun hammers at the diving plane. Enraged, the Nazi zooms upward, still followed by the blinding light. Another burst from an artillery battery, and the plane hurtles toward the ground. It is no longer in the grip of the searchlights, but a tongue of flame marks its course as it falls.

Searchlight units beyond the city limits seek out enemy planes in the sky with the aid of sound detectors. Every searchlight detachment has its own special sky area to cover. If a Nazi plane, spotted by the rays some distance away,

breaks through to the city, it is accompanied by the beams from one zone to another. It is passed from one searchlight station to the next like a baton in a relay race. Such a journey is often the last one the Nazi plane makes.

The searchlight detachment under Sergeant Levin spotted eight Nazi planes during the first air raid, a record figure. Levin was awarded the Order of the Red Banner for the fine work of his squad.

Every attempt to reach Moscow, from south, east or west, is driven off by the searchlight operators. They have their own codes, talking to each other with dipping and whirling rays and thereby considerably speeding dispatch of orders. And if, after the Nazi planes have been disposed of, some search light station in the east is still fingering the sky with its sharp beam, an imperative ray will cut across the inquisitive beam. In searchlight language this means: "Douse your light, mister!"

Thus ends our night. The low clouds begin to glimmer, foretelling the sun the east. The barrage balloons, which also play their part in trapping Nazi planes, become clearly visible over the city -- witnesses and participants of the night's engagement.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Monday, August 18, 1941
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THE FRONT ON AUGUST 16 - 17

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 17.

Morning Communique, August 16

On the night of August 15 our troops continued to fight the enemy along the whole front and with special stubbornness in the south.

Our airforce struck at enemy troops.

* * * * *

A small group of German planes attempted to raid Moscow on the night of August 15, the Soviet press reported. The planes were dispersed and prevented from reaching Moscow by anti-aircraft fire and night-fighters.

* * * * *

On the night of August 15 Soviet planes raided the Berlin area and the city of Stettin, the Soviet press reported.

Many incendiary and large high-explosive bombs were dropped on military and industrial objectives of both cities and many resulting explosions and fires were observed.

All Soviet planes returned to their bases.

Evening Communique, August 16

On August 16 our troops continued fighting the enemy along the whole front.

Our aviation, in cooperation with ground forces, continued to strike at enemy troops and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

According to precise data now available, 26 German planes were destroyed on August 14, and not 21 as previously reported. On August 15 twenty-nine German planes were destroyed. We lost 24.

Morning Communique, August 17

On the night of August 16 our troops continued fighting the enemy along the whole front.

Our airforce, in cooperation with ground troops, continued to strike at enemy troops and attacked enemy aircraft at airdromes.

* * * * *

On the night of August 16 a small group of German planes attempted to raid Moscow, the Soviet press reported. The enemy planes were not permitted to reach the city.

SOVIET RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL TO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF PEOPLE'S COMMISSARS STALIN

Stalin's Reply

On behalf of the peoples of the Soviet Union and on behalf of the Soviet Government, Stalin asked Ambassadors Steinhardt and Cripps to convey to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill his warm thanks for their readiness to give aid to the U.S.S.R. in its war of liberation against Nazi Germany.

Stalin stated that he welcomes the suggestion of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill regarding convocation of a conference of representatives of the three countries in Moscow for allocation of raw materials and armaments.

Stalin stated that he is ready to take every measure in order that this conference may be held as soon as possible.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Vyacheslav Molotov was present at the conversations.

"Izvestia":
The United Front of Peoples Against Hitler
Is Growing and Strengthening.

Under the above title the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia on August 17 editorially commented as follows on the message of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Stalin:

The personal message from British Prime Minister Churchill and United States President Roosevelt to Stalin is a document of vast international importance. This message and the practical suggestions contained therein signify a new stage in the development of cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain -- the activization of this cooperation -- and inaugurate a practical combination of the efforts of three great powers for complete victory over Nazi Germany.

The message of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill is evidence that the peoples of the United States and Great Britain clearly understand the gravity and historical importance of ensuring complete victory over Nazism and the tremendous role and special position of the Soviet Union in the great struggle for this victory.

The forthcoming conference at Moscow will undoubtedly be a highly important event. It must result in further extension and consolidation of the anti-Nazi front of peoples united under the standard of struggle against Nazi tyranny. From now on the three great powers can join their strength and resources to attain complete victory over the worst enemy of all peoples.

The message of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill and Stalin's reply thereto, together with the establishment of practical cooperation among the three great powers have inflicted a major political defeat on Nazi Germany. Reports on the forthcoming conference of representatives of Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union in Moscow dismayed the ruling clique of Nazi Germany. At Goebbels' order the German press is trying to conceal its nervousness by malicious attacks on the mighty anti-Nazi coalition of powers.

However, no matter how the Nazi scribes try to belittle the importance of the Roosevelt-Churchill message and the forthcoming conference in Moscow, they cannot conceal from the German people the dread truth that the progressive forces of the whole world have united against the Nazi savages. And these forces will destroy Nazism. The whole world is commenting on the joint message from President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to Stalin and on the forthcoming conference in Moscow. The press of all free peoples acclaims this new step leading to unification of all forces fighting against the tyranny of Nazi Germany.

The great powers united by the task of routing Nazi Germany possess inestimable resources, which should be utilized in the most sufficient and well considered way to inflict telling blows on the enemy and ensure and accelerate victory over Hitler. This is required in particular by the gigantic scale of military operations now in progress on the main front -- the front of the Soviet-German war.

Cooperation of the peoples of the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union for military defeat and annihilation of the Nazis has been warmly acclaimed by the entire population of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is now bearing the brunt of the great onslaught of Nazi troops. Stubbornly repulsing the blows of the German hordes, and dealing them devastating blows, the Soviet Union is firmly convinced that the United Front of freedom loving peoples of the U.S.S.R., Great Britain and the United States, together with the peoples now languishing under the Nazi yoke, will bring the historic struggle against Nazi tyranny to a victorious end.

"Krasnaia Zvezda"

The Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda on August 17 commented as follows in part on the message of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Stalin:

The Red Army's struggle is contributing to the growth and strengthening of the anti-Hitlerite coalition of peoples, which came into being in the first days of Nazi Germany's dastardly attack on the Soviet Union.

The Red Army, fulfilling with honor and glory the great mission of destroying Nazi barbarism, receives with special satisfaction the assurances given by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to the head of the Soviet Government and People's Commissar of Defense, Stalin.

President Roosevelt's and Prime Minister Churchill's message is the more significant in that it came at a moment when the Soviet people and its Red Army are exerting great efforts to make their blows at the enemy ever more crushing. The assistance which the United States and Great Britain intend to give the Soviet Union will assist in the smashing of Nazism through the three nations' joint efforts.

The peoples struggling against the Nazi beast still have many difficulties ahead. This makes it all the more important to ensure timely and correct coordination of all efforts in this struggle. The solidarity of the anti-Nazi coalition of peoples is the guarantee of victory over Nazism.

ANGLO-AMERICAN DECLARATION

In an editorial under the above title the authoritative Soviet newspaper Pravda said on August 16:

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill have deemed it appropriate to make a joint public declaration which lays down the general principles of the national policies of their countries.

In its spirit and essence the declaration is permeated with firm determination to bring to a victorious conclusion the struggle against Hitlerite oppression and to secure the final annihilation of Nazi tyranny. There is no shade of doubt that this determination expressed in the decisions of

policy by the leaders of Great Britain and the United States will be welcomed with the deepest satisfaction by all freedom loving peoples, all opponents of bloody Nazi tyranny.

The meeting of Roosevelt and Churchill was unquestionably an event of vast political significance. It signified not only further extension and consolidation of Anglo-American cooperation, but also further consolidation of the anti-Hitlerite front of peoples who have raised the banner of struggle against Nazi tyranny.

The decisions adopted at the conference between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill deal a fresh damaging blow to Nazi Germany and increase its international isolation. Anglo-American cooperation and the large scale assistance which the United States has given and is giving, have enabled the British Government to organize resistance to the enemy and inflict on him ever more telling counter-blows. The Lend-Lease Act, promulgated in the United States in March of this year, opened prospects of placing the entire powerful industrial machinery of the United States at the service of Great Britain in its struggle against Hitler.

American armaments, aircraft, strategic raw materials and food are flowing to England. It is no longer a secret that powerful American bombers of the latest types were widely used during recent highly effective air raids on Germany's vital industrial centers. American deliveries are directed not only to Great Britain but also to the Middle East, where large British armed forces have been concentrated.

United States assistance to Britain was not and is not restricted to armaments. Such measures as extensive patrol activities by American warships and dispatch of American troops to Iceland have considerably assisted the British in solving

the problems of the battle of the Atlantic.

The extension of Anglo-American cooperation acquires particular significance in the light of the present rallying of all forces fighting against Nazi oppression. The agreement between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain on joint military action against Nazi Germany and the agreement between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on economic cooperation, along with ever closer Anglo-American cooperation, are evidence of the fact that the mightiest forces in the world are uniting ever closer to fight Hitler's tyranny and will be able to bring to a successful end the noble task of freeing humanity from the Hitlerite menace.

Hitlerite Germany faces a front of the three greatest powers of the world, which enjoy the active cooperation and support of all freedom loving countries -- those conquered by Germany as well as those over whom the threat of enslavement by the Nazi hordes as yet merely looms.

The extension and continuous consolidation of the United Front of the peoples which have risen for struggle against Nazi tyranny fully confirm the words of Stalin: "In this war of liberation we shall not be alone. In this great war we shall have loyal allies in the peoples of Europe and America, including the German people who are enslaved by Nazi despots. Our war for the freedom of our country will merge with the struggle of the peoples of Europe and America for their independence and for democratic liberties. It will be a United Front of peoples standing for freedom, against enslavement and the threat of enslavement by Hitler's Nazi armies."

The meeting of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, as well as the declaration they issued, caused obvious alarm and confusion in Berlin. This comfusion and

alarm Germany's rulers try to cover up with Goebbels' drumming about the "levity" of these consultations. Berlin's alarmed and malicious attacks will hardly surprise anyone, as the join declaration of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill is irreconcilably opposed to Hitler's aggressive criminal policy of conquest.

A declaration which rejects the policy of territorial annexations, opposing Nazi tyranny, a declaration based upon respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples, calling for renunciation of the use of armed force as an instrument of policy, a declaration which in the name of world peace proposes the disarming of such aggressive countries as Nazi Germany -- such a declaration naturally was not to the taste of the Hitlerite usurpers, whose policy is based solely upon treacherous violation of international agreements, destruction of national independence and sovereign rights of nations and peoples, upon savage extermination and oppression of millions whom the Hitlerite savages describe as "inferior races," and upon total elimination of democratic liberties.

The whole Soviet public acclaims the decisions adopted at the conference of the leaders of the United States and Great Britain, seeing in them a pledge of further and stronger struggle against Hitlerite oppression, which should immediately be embodied into broad practical measures for the final annihilation of Nazi tyranny. The Soviet people are unshakably confident that by the joint efforts of all freedom loving peoples this struggle will be brought to a victorious conclusion.

REJECT BULGARIAN PROTEST

On August 12 the Secretary General of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Shishmanoff, made a statement to the Counsellor of the Soviet Legation in Bulgaria, Alexandrov, to the effect that on the night of August 11 Soviet planes allegedly dropped several bombs on Bulgarian territory. Shishmanoff added that the bombs might have been dropped by Yugoslavs or Greeks flying Soviet planes.

In this connection the Bulgarian Government lodged a protest and requested the Soviet Government to take measures against repetition of similar incidents in the future.

In reply to this statement the Soviet Minister in Bulgaria, Alexander Lavrishchev, made the following statement to the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs:

"The statement made on August 12 of this year by the Secretary General of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry, Shishmanoff, to the Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy, Alexandrov, concerning alleged flights of Soviet planes over Bulgarian territory and bombs allegedly dropped by them is as ill-founded as previous statements of this kind.

"The Soviet Government most categorically rejects this fresh attempt to ascribe to the Soviet Airforce actions to which it has no relation, since Soviet planes have never made

flights over Bulgarian territory and have no reason to do so. Such flights, and the bombing of Bulgarian territory, could have been effected only by agents of Nazi Germany for the purpose of provocation.

"In view of the above considerations the Soviet Government rejects the protest made by the Bulgarian Government as devoid of any foundation.

"The Soviet Government also firmly rejects Shishmanoff's statement to the effect that bombs might have been dropped by Yugoslavs or Greeks allegedly flying Soviet planes. This statement has no basis, as neither Yugoslavs nor Greeks have a single Soviet plane at their disposal. Such underhanded statements concerning Yugoslavs and Greeks could be made only as a pretext for slanderous fabrications against the U.S.S.R., made in the interests of Nazi Germany which is attacking the U.S.S.R."

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Large exhibitions of Red Army trophies captured from the German Army opened recently in Moscow and Leningrad. Included in the exhibitions are German machineguns, rifles and automatic pistols; several Nazi planes including a Junkers-88, a Heinkel-111 and a Dornier-215; and enemy wireless code books, notebooks and briefcases. Identification flags of Nazi units are also displayed along with dozens of Iron Crosses, Nazi party badges, decorations, ribbons and medals abandoned on the battlefield.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, August 19, 1941
No. 31

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 17 - 18

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 18.

Evening Communique, August 17

On August 17 our troops continued fierce fighting with the enemy along the entire front.

After stubborn battles our troops relinquished the towns of Nikolaev and Krivoi Rog. The Nikolaev dockyards were blown up.

According to incomplete data, on August 16 nineteen enemy planes were brought down in air battles. We lost 12 planes.

In the Black Sea our submarines sank two large Rumanian transports.

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Morning Communique, August 18

On the night of August 17 our troops continued fighting the enemy along the whole front.

On the night of August 17 a small group of German planes attempted to raid Moscow, the Soviet press reported. The enemy planes were dispersed and not permitted to reach the city.

During the attempted raid on Moscow on the night of August 16, one enemy plane was brought down.

TANNU - TUVA VOTES WAR SUPPORT TO U.S.S.R.

On August 13 a mass meeting and parade were held in the Red Square of the town of Kizil Khoto to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Tannu-Tuva People's Republic, the Soviet press reported.

Speeches were made by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Chimby and by the head of the Soviet delegation, Badayev, member of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

A meeting of the Small Hural (parliamentary body) on the eve of the anniversary adopted a message of greeting to Stalin and expressed the readiness of the people of the Tannu-Tuva People's Republic to devote their efforts to the struggle against Nazism.

ANGLO-SOVIET TRADE AGREEMENT

On August 16, 1941 an agreement on trade turnover, credit and clearing between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain was signed at Moscow, the Soviet Information Bureau announced.

The agreement provides for delivery of considerable quantities of British goods to the U.S.S.R. and for delivery of certain Soviet goods to Great Britain.

In accordance with the agreement, Great Britain allots to the U.S.S.R. for payment for these goods a credit of £10,000,000 sterling at 3 percent interest yearly for an average term of five years. When the above-mentioned credit is nearly used up, the two governments will begin negotiations for a further credit. Payments between the parties will be regulated on a clearing basis.

The agreement was signed for the Soviet Government by People's Commissar of Foreign Trade Anastas Mikoyan and for the British Government by Sir Stafford Cripps, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Great Britain in the U.S.S.R.

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The Soviet press reports from Ankara sources in close touch with German business circles that Germany will soon recruit between 40,000 and 50,000 Bulgarians for labor in the Ruhr coalmines and in certain chemical factories. Some Bulgarians may also be used in reconstruction work in Finland and Norway.

"IZVESTIA": THE JOINT DECLARATION OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL

Under the above title the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia said editorially on August 16:

This declaration is of tremendous international political significance as an act of struggle against the threat which Nazi Germany presents to all freedom-loving peoples and independent nations.

Defining the aims for which the United States and Great Britain are now fighting, the declaration clearly and unequivocally says that peace can be established only "after final destruction of Nazi tyranny." This shows that the governments of both great powers fully realize the impossibility of a normal settlement and the existence of peace between peoples until the ulcer of Hitlerism which corrodes this peace is seared out. Both governments realize that Hitler's gang represents a menace, not only for countries already victims of attack by Nazi hordes, but also for countries as yet not participating directly in hostilities.

The power of Nazi Germany must be broken -- this is what the anti-Nazi coalition of countries and peoples strives for and will ultimately attain. This chief aim of the war is bound up with the principles of future peace as outlined in the declaration of the United States and Great Britain.

It is clear to everyone what a sharp irreconcilable conflict exists between the principles of the Anglo-American declaration and all the "theories" and bloodstained practice of Nazi Germany. The Anglo-American declaration calls for respect of the sovereign rights of all peoples, and rejects the policy of aggression and territorial conquest. On the contrary, the whole policy of Hitlerite Germany is based on territorial conquest and annihilation of the independence of peoples and states, upon treachery and disregard for international agreement, upon enslavement of whole peoples and upon physical extermination of peoples.

From this point of view it is very important that President Roosevelt does not separate the interests of his country, which is formally not yet in a state of war with Nazi Germany, from the interests of those powers which are waging life and death struggle against the Hitlerite cutthroats. This is seen not only from the fact that the declaration was adopted and issued jointly by belligerent Great Britain and the non-belligerent United States. It is clear also from the fact that publication of the declaration was preceded by the most important conferences of a highly practical character.

The United States Government, as is seen from the declaration and as clearly shown by the agreements with the Soviet Union concluded August 2 in Washington, deems it its direct duty to give maximum assistance to countries which, offering a rebuff to the predatory Nazi hordes and sacrificing the blood and lives of their sons, set themselves the task of delivering the civilized world from the Nazi barbarians.

For accomplishment of this great task the armed forces of the Soviet Union are now waging fierce battle along a tremendous front from the Arctic Ocean to the Black Sea, bearing the brunt of the onslaught of the Nazi hordes.

The Anglo-American declaration further strengthens the anti-Hitlerite front of powers and peoples and holds the promise -- when the concrete decisions which have been adopted are carried out -- of further strengthening the might of the coalition which is bringing destruction to Hitlerism.

For this very reason it was greeted with great satisfaction by all countries which defend their liberty and independence from Nazi Germany's aggression. This declaration will evoke warm approval in all German-seized countries whose peoples did not and never will relinquish their struggle for liberation. The declaration undoubtedly will find a response among the masses in Germany itself and in the countries which Germany leads in her wake, as understanding is growing among the masses that the way along which Germany is being led by the Hitlerite clique is the way of doom.

It is not without reason that Germany's present rulers met the Anglo-American declaration with malicious attacks, through which one clearly perceives confusion and alarm.

The Soviet people welcomes the decisions accepted at the conference of Roosevelt and Churchill. These decisions will lead to further extension and consolidation of the United Front of peoples against Nazi oppression. The Soviet people, which now bears the brunt of blows from Nazi troops and which staunchly and stubbornly repulses these blows, is convinced that by the joint efforts of all freedom loving peoples the strength of Nazi Germany will finally be crushed and Nazi tyranny annihilated.

SLAV CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW

Among the many speeches made last week at the Slav Conference in Moscow were two of special interest by German anti-Nazis, here reproduced in part:

The German playwright Friedrich Wolf, author of "Professor Mamlock" and "Sailors of Cattaro," said:

"At first Hitler attacked small peoples whom he wanted to deprive of their independence and national life. But we German anti-Nazis knew that as soon as Hitler encountered a strong and determined adversary his entire system would totter and collapse.

"This hour has struck! The Red Army has dealt the Nazi army many telling blows.

"In the last few weeks a wave of resistance to Nazi oppression, a fresh wave of struggle for freedom has swept Europe. All the freedom-loving peoples of the world will join this mighty movement, and the freedom-loving elements of the German people will not be last among them. One should not forget that many of the best representatives of the German people are languishing in the concentration camps and prisons of the Nazi regime.

"Hitler is not Germany and Germany is not Hitler. The day will come when the German people will wipe out this brown disgrace!

"The Red Army is waging a struggle for its native land, but this is also the struggle of all oppressed and freedom-loving peoples of the whole world."

The German poet Johannes Becher said:

"As a German writer I whole-heartedly greet this meeting of freedom-loving Slav peoples. I deem it my duty to say here that the disgraceful racial theory which for several years has been propagandized by the present criminal government of Germany has nothing in common with the true feelings and ideas of the finer elements of the German people.

"To impose its barbaric rule upon other peoples, the Nazi clique first had to enslave the German people. If the Germans were free, they would never have let themselves be used for such a bloody and hopeless adventure.

"It is bitterly painful to all honest Germans, and particularly now that the basest and most unscrupulous lies are being spread in the German language, that the crimes perpetrated in Germany's name exceed in their cruelty every loathsome thing known in the history of mankind.

"Nazism seeks to conceal its villanies and its inferiority by spreading mad ideas of the 'inferiority' of all other races. It is well known that the Nazis do not even regard the whole German people as belonging to the 'higher race.' They place in this category only the elite, which means themselves -- those who wear the insignia of death, the skull and crossbones and whom the Nazi ringleaders send out to conquer 'lebensraum.'"

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In a statement released at the end of the conference, the Polish author Leon Pasternak said:

"The history of the Slav peoples has recorded many

battles with the German hordes who, under the pretext of the 'defense of civilization' undertook bloody drives eastward.

"Throughout the centuries, the Slav peoples many times were victims of the treacherous policy of the German invaders, who strove to disunite the Slavs and destroy each people separately. This maneuver always failed: the common foe -- the German invader -- ultimately encountered a United Front of peoples defending their independence.

"History has repeated itself. The peoples who became victims of sudden attack, the peoples temporarily subjugated by the hateful enemy, are uniting for joint struggle against the invaders. The Slavs are joining hands for destruction of the sworn enemy.

"The meeting of all Slav peoples which began in Moscow August 10 is striking evidence of the unity of all Slavs in the common struggle against those bloodthirsty enemies of mankind, the German Nazis. Russian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Pole, Czech, Slovak, Serb, Croat, Slovenian and others -- all Slavs, all mankind shall not lay down their arms until the spider-like Nazi swastika, symbol of plunder and violence, disappears forever."

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Enthusiastic Soviet youth -- over 1,000,000 strong -- took part Sunday in a "Voskresnik" -- voluntary day of labor -- as a contribution to the Soviet war effort. Last week a similar Voskresnik was organized by railwaymen.

All wages paid for the day went to the Defense Fund in support of the Red Army.

In Moscow alone over half a million young men and women participated, and especially large turnouts were reported at Leningrad, Baku and other key cities.

GERMANS ABANDON BLITZKRIEG

The following article was written for the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda by Lieutenant General Eremenko.

For 30 days fighting has been going on in the Smolensk and Nevel directions. These battles evidence decisive changes in the belligerents' positions. During the first days of their attack on the Soviet Union the Nazi generals followed a certain method in their actions; now the situation has changed radically.

For a whole month the Germans, rushing from one sector to another, have made unsuccessful attempts to advance. Often, after heavy losses, they have been forced by the attacks of Red Army units to go on the defensive. This in itself shows that the Nazi blitzkrieg plans have collapsed and that the German troops are losing their offensive momentum.

During fighting in the Smolensk direction our troops used the tactic of wearing down, exhausting and destroying the enemy forces.

In the first few days the Germans made wide use of their airforce to disrupt our battle formations. Enemy planes constantly hovered over our troops. Several large scale raids by the Red Airforce on advanced enemy airdromes and incessant shelling of the nearest airdromes by our long range artillery forced the Nazis to revise their tactics. Two German air-

dromes in the areas northwest of "Y" and west of "K" were completely demolished by artillery fire. Over 100 planes on these airdromes were destroyed by fire.

In air warfare on the Mogilev-Orsha line the Germans in two days lost 162 planes, brought down by the Red Airforce in cooperation with anti-aircraft artillery. After losing its air support, the German infantry did not stand up to our attacks and often retreated before the blows of Soviet artillery and tanks.

German tanks are set on fire by incendiary devices used by Soviet infantry, they are smashed by our anti-tank guns and crushed by our heavy tanks. Thousands of enemy tanks have already been badly damaged or destroyed by fire or explosives. This has affected the morale of the German infantry, which prefers to advance with its front covered by armored vehicles.

In the Smolensk and Nevel directions the Nazi command concentrated picked German divisions under the leadership of "celebrated" generals. Many of these divisions have been wiped out altogether while others, having lost half their strength or more, have been transformed into regiments. Some enemy tank regiments have become ordinary infantry units, retaining the name "tank regiment" only by official grace.

Stubborn fighting for Smolensk lasted almost a month. The town changed hands many times. More than once Nazi units which had broken into the city were completely annihilated by our troops. More than one German division met its doom at the approaches to Smolensk and inside the town. Fierce fighting took place for every street and every house. The Nazis watered each yard of ground they gained with their own blood.

Hundreds of German officers and soldiers died at the Dnieper River. The tremendous losses suffered by the German army are confirmed in documents which have fallen into our hands. Here are two reports of a battalion commander of the 53rd German Motorized Infantry Regiment:

"Matters have reached a point where Lieutenant Woller was compelled to appoint a non-commissioned officer as a platoon commander. (This has always been impermissible in the German army.) In recent days the battalion has lost five officers, 15 non-commissioned officers and 106 privates. Its fighting capacity is declining. Reinforcements of men and officers are necessary. The workshop has no spare parts and many trucks have gone out of commission, either damaged by shells or because of lack of parts. Many cylinders need replacing. Fuel is badly needed. Clothing is to a great extent worn out."

The battalion commander evidently failed to receive an answer to his report; for he followed it up with a still more alarmed message:

"In the last four days the situation has become very tense. Reinforcements are needed. In these four days we have lost four officers: three killed, one wounded; five non-commissioned officers: three killed, two wounded; 108 privates: 33 killed, 75 wounded. In addition, one non-commissioned officer and 29 privates are sick or missing. As regards reinforcements, we have received no officers, no non-commissioned officers and no privates. As a result of recent heavy losses our battalion has been unable to operate normally.

"Our fighting capacity is disastrously low. Matters are precarious as regards personal direction by our officers. In this tense situation the battalion goes into attack only under compulsion backed up by armed threats."

This document gives eloquent evidence of the state of affairs in the German army, a state of affairs which has compelled the German command to change its plans. Troops have been shifted feverishly and reserves of lower quality than be-

fore have been brought up. Whole German divisions were shifted first in one direction, then in another, all over the map. For example, the 13th and 14th German Motorized Infantry Divisions were first moved eastward. Then they changed their direction and moved northeastward. But while they were on their way, they were ordered to move northward.

Officers and headquarters of German units are nervous. The tone of the German Command's orders has changed. The words "suddenness" and "lightning" have disappeared from the official vocabulary. German orders deal ever more frequently with losses and advise great care of equipment and economy of fuel and ammunition. German commanders are warned not to expect new tanks, trucks or reinforcements. One captured order contained these statements:

"The Russians counter-attack bravely and stubbornly and often meet their death on the spot where their commander ordered them to stay. If the first wave is totally annihilated it is followed by a second and then a third wave."

In fighting near Smolensk and in other sectors the Germans felt the strength of our Soviet warriors. Hundreds of Soviet soldiers who fought in the Smolensk and Nevel directions have been rewarded by the government for their courage.

Among our commanders I met sons of famous Civil War heroes. They display no less heroism than their fathers. In one battery closely engaged with the Germans I met the son of the famous Chapayev. In the same sector I saw the son of Parkhomenko, a senior lieutenant who by his valor reminded me of his father. An example of true devotion to his country was set in the fighting near Vitebsk by Battery Commander Yakov Djugashvili (son of the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Joseph Stalin). He stuck to his post through heavy fighting until his last shell was gone.

The prowess of the Civil War heroes is reborn in their children and in the whole Soviet people, which has risen for a great national war. No matter how hard the fighting and how treacherous the methods the enemy employs, we know that victory shall be ours.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, August 20, 1941
No. 32

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 18 - 19

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 19.

Evening Communique, August 18

On August 18 our troops continued fierce fighting with the enemy along the whole front.

After stubborn fighting our troops evacuated the town of Kingisepp.

According to precise information now available, 25 German planes were brought down in air combats on August 16, instead of 19 as previously reported. On August 17 twenty-two German planes were brought down. We lost 18 planes.

In the Baltic Sea our torpedo boats and airplanes sank a German submarine and two enemy transports.

Morning Communique, August 19

On the night of August 18 our troops continued to engage the enemy along the entire front.

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On the night of August 18 several German planes attempted to raid Moscow. They were dispersed and not allowed to reach the city. One plane alone broke through and dropped several incendiary and high explosive bombs over the city. The damage was insignificant.

MOSCOW STRENGTHENS ITS DEFENSES

A mass meeting on defense of Moscow was held in the Soviet capital Sunday, August 17, with over 150,000 people attending, the Soviet press reported today.

The meeting adopted a resolution addressed to the people of Moscow, saying:

"A prolonged and stubborn struggle confronts us. It will demand tremendous effort and endurance from everyone and will entail great sacrifices.

"Residents of Moscow! Be prepared! Redouble your vigilance, determination and organization! Turn every house and every factory into an impregnable fortress!"

The Chairman of the Moscow City Council, Pronin, addressed the meeting, stating that the Nazi air raids had not, even for a moment, interrupted the orderly rhythm of life in the capital, now busily engaged in defense work. He praised the courage of the population in meeting the raids and especially the fliers and anti-aircraft gunners who, he said, have already brought down over 100 German planes on the outskirts of Moscow.

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The Soviet press continues to print reactions to the message sent to Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars Stalin by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill and messages of appreciation from prominent Soviet citizens.

The internationally esteemed composer Dmitri Shostakovich said:

"The peoples of the U.S.S.R., devotedly fighting in defense of their country's honor and freedom, gratefully welcome the message of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill as a momentous act hastening Nazism's inevitable doom.

"All the forces of civilization and progress must be mobilized for the achievement of this great aim."

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN IRAN

Many German "tourists" are passing through Istanbul daily enroute to Iran, the Soviet press reports from that city. Reportedly Germany has made secret demands on the Iranian Government for establishment of German air bases, with reservoirs of gasoline, on Iranian territory.

Germans are reported to have influence within the Iranian army and German weapons and money are said to have been supplied in large quantities to northern tribes hostile to the central government. The Germans are also capitalizing on the influence of the Arabian leader, Favan Kavakadji, who works closely with the German "field headquarters" located in Tabriz.

Reportedly, the German Minister at Teheran, von Ettel, has threatened severance of diplomatic relations if Iran attempts to expel any of the Germans now flooding into the country. It is believed the Germans may attempt to overthrow the present Iranian Government if it resists their demands.

A MESSAGE TO ARMENIANS

The following appeal to Armenians throughout the world was issued recently by a group of prominent intellectuals of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic including the painter Saryan, the poet Isaakyan, the President of the Armenian Branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Vagarshyan, Academician Orbeli, the artist Danelyan and others. First published in Pravda, it is here reproduced in part.

Brothers and sisters!

Nazism has ravaged with fire and sword the most cultured states of Europe, subjugating them to its bloody rule. Freedom-loving peoples of Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, France, Poland, Greece and other countries have been turned into slaves, their countries devastated, their freedom and honor trampled, their finest sons exterminated by hundreds and thousands.

Hitler perpetrated his latest and most dastardly crime when he attacked the Soviet Union, fatherland of 200,000,000 people. The Soviet Union did not desire war. Its peoples have gained peace, freedom and happiness and within a quarter century have transformed their country into a prosperous, cultured and powerful state where all national groups are equal.

Our freedom-loving Armenian people was reborn like the legendary Phoenix out of the flames and ashes of its past history. With the aid of the great Russian people, Soviet Armenia has been turned into a thriving land, dotted with innumerable factories, power plants and irrigation canals. Scientific agriculture has developed tens of thousands of acres of flourishing gardens and vineyards, cotton and tobacco plantations and hundreds of thousands of acres of golden cornfields. Deserts have been transformed into blooming gardens -- a golden dream of our people has come true.

The ancient culture of our people has been reborn. The capital of Soviet Armenia, Erevan, once a city of mudhuts, turned to ruins by the tyranny of the Dashnaks (Armenian aristocracy), was built anew. Opera houses, theaters, libraries, museums, avenues and parks, universities and conservatories -- these have converted our capital into a city of humanity and culture.

Now Hitler stretches his bloody hand toward the freedom of the Soviet people, toward the freedom of the reborn Armenian people. Together with the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union the Armenian people have risen in formidable force against the foreign invaders.

In the centuries of its existence the Armenian people has seen and endured many invasions. It has undergone massacres, pogroms, famine and violence. The extermination of our brothers and sisters organized by Hitler's predecessor, Kaiser Wilhelm, is still fresh in our minds. We have not forgotten the treachery of the agents of German imperialism. And now, in these fateful days, the mercenary Dashnaks have hired themselves out as agents of the Nazis, are shamelessly licking Hitler's bloodsoaked boots, and are ready for any betrayal. But no matter how hard the privations, our freedom-loving people will carry the high standard of freedom and an independent existence against the foreign invaders.

We know well that the sympathies of all progressive humanity are on the side of the Soviet Union. The agreement between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain on joint action against Hitlerite Germany is only the beginning of the unification of all democratic forces against the Nazi barbarians. An Armenian folk proverb says: "When the snake is about to breathe its last, it stretches out across the road." The last day of

Nazism has come -- the Nazi reptile has stretched across our road and will be crushed to death by an avalanche of the multi-millioned Soviet peoples.

In this hour when grave danger hovers over our country, over all of humanity, we call upon Armenians of the whole world, upon all who cherish our cultural heritage, upon all who are concerned about the future of humanity, to merge their efforts to prevent reversion to the medievalism that Nazism brings in its wake. We urge you to join all forces for the defense of the Soviet Union, for the annihilation of humanity's most dangerous and treacherous enemy, for the destruction of Hitlerism!

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The Soviet press reported from Stockholm that according to reliable sources General Dietl, who commanded German forces at Narvik, was killed recently during fighting in the Murmansk direction. Differences of opinion between General Dietl and the Finnish command had been reported recently. The death of German Lieutenant General Artur Muehlverstaedt was also reported.

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A Soviet passenger steamer with 900 persons aboard was recently attacked by three Junkers-88 divebombers, the Soviet press reports. One bomb penetrated the engineroom but failed to explode. Red Army officers aboard the steamer opened fire at the low-flying Junkers with pistols and sub-machineguns and downed one of them.

ONE HUNDRED NINETY THREE MILLION SOVIET PEOPLE AGAINST HITLER

Within the U.S.S.R. exist more nationalities than in any other nation in the world, each with its own culture, language and ethnical individuality. Hitler, in attacking other nations, has specialized in exploiting internal national jealousies. But in this war, the U.S.S.R. has shown to the world an example of national unity against which Hitler's army is now cracking itself to pieces.

The reason why the combined military and political attack successfully used by the Nazis against other nations has failed against the Soviet Union is not hard to find: in the U.S.S.R. all nationalities are legally and factually equal.

From this basic fact of national equality and unity are derived two additional factors of Soviet strength. First, the good will of the oppressed peoples of Europe, who see in the U.S.S.R. a promise of deliverance from Nazi racial and national oppression. Second, the broad dispersion throughout the U.S.S.R. of important industry, instead of its concentration, as in pre-Soviet days, in a few western areas.

A glance at the map of the U.S.S.R. shows how Soviet industry has been so widely spread as to make it impossible for any attack on a single area to destroy the industrial backbone of the country.

In the North Urals is Berezniaki, important chemical center; and to the west of the Urals, Magnitogorsk, where some of the greatest iron mines of the U.S.S.R. are located. Within the Arctic Circle, the city of Kirovsk is another chemical center and in the area of the Volga and Kama rivers, much of the oil that moves the Soviet war machine is tapped. Near

the Caspian Sea, in the Gulf of Kara-Bugaz, there are more chemical industries. Deep in Siberia are the cities of Stalinsk and Prokopievsk, where metal mining, machine building and textiles are basic industries. These are but a few centers of far-flung Soviet industry created in the last two decades.

All these elements contributing to Soviet military strength can be understood by examining the Soviet solution of the national problem. According to the Constitution of the U.S.S.R., each nation has the right to conduct its own government and its own schools in its own language. In contrast with old Russia, each nation has been encouraged to develop its own local resources and industry, its own culture and political life.

The unified war effort of all the diverse Soviet nationalities, each represented in the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. and in the ranks of the Red Army, shows that the Soviet Union today is strong not only at the center but in all of its parts.

Long before the Revolution of 1917 the men who today are leaders of the Soviet Union were deeply aware of the significance of the national problem in Czarist Russia as throughout Europe. Immediately after its formation, the new Soviet Government issued a "Declaration of the Rights of the Peoples of Russia" containing the following points:

1. Equality and sovereignty of all nationalities of Russia.

2. Right of all nationalities of Russia to free self-determination to the point of secession and formation of an independent state. (Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)

3. Abolition of all national and national-religious privileges and restrictions.

4. Free development of all national minorities and ethnographic groups inhabiting the territory of Russia.

This document was drawn up by Joseph Stalin, now Chairman of the Council of Peoples' Commissars and Peoples' Commissar for Defense of the U.S.S.R. Himself a Georgian and thus a member of one of old Russia's worst exploited minorities, Stalin had been specially concerned with problems of nationalities all through his political life and was recognized as the new Government's authority on this question. Lenin, first head of the Soviet Government, and Stalin signed the document jointly. Stalin's position as leader of the U.S.S.R. today is proof of the fact that the highest offices of the Soviet Union are open on the basis of ability to all its peoples.

Soviet national equality today offers the strongest possible contrast both to pre-Revolutionary treatment of Jews, Azerbaijans, Uzbeks and other peoples, who were not even allowed to hold public office, and to modern Nazi "race theories" and mistreatment of subject nationalities.

Organization of the Soviet State

The New Soviet Constitution, drawn up under Stalin's leadership and adopted in 1936, formulated in detail the rights of Soviet nationalities. Following are pertinent excerpts from Chapter II, the Organization of the State:

Article 13:

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is a federal state, formed on the basis of the voluntary association of Soviet Socialist Republics having equal rights, namely:

The Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic

The Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic

The Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic

The Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic

The Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic

The Kirghiz Soviet Socialist Republic

The Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic

The Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic

The Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic

Article 14:

The jurisdiction of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as represented by its highest organs of state authority and organs of government, covers:

a) Representation of the Union in international relations, conclusion and ratification of treaties with other states;

b) Questions of war and peace;

c) Admission of new republics into the U.S.S.R.;

d) Control over the observance of the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. and ensuring conformity of the Constitutions of the Union Republics with the Constitution of the U.S.S.R.;

e) Confirmation of alterations of boundaries between Union Republics;

f) Confirmation of the formation of new Territories and Regions and also of new Autonomous Republics within Union Republics;

g) Organization of the defense of the U.S.S.R. and direction of all the armed forces of the U.S.S.R.;

h) Foreign trade on the basis of state monopoly;

i) Safeguarding the security of the state;

j) Establishment of the national economic plans of the U.S.S.R.;

k) Approval of the single state budget of the U.S.S.R. as well as of the taxes and revenues which go to the all-Union, Republican and local budgets;

l) Administration of the banks, industrial and agricultural establishments and enterprises and trading enterprises of all-Union importance;

m) Administration of transport and communications;

n) Direction of the monetary and credit system;

o) Organization of state insurance;

p) Raising and granting of loans;

q) Establishment of the basic principles for the use of land as well as for the use of natural deposits, forests and waters;

r) Establishment of the basic principles in the spheres of education and public health;

s) Organization of a uniform system of national economic statistics;

t) Establishment of the principles of labor legislation;

u) Legislation on the judicial system and judicial procedure; criminal and civil codes;

v) Laws on citizenship of the Union; laws on the rights of foreigners;

w) Issuing of all-Union acts of amnesty.

Article 15:

The sovereignty of the Union Republics is limited only within the provisions set forth in Article 14 of the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. Outside of these provisions, each Union Republic exercises state authority independently. The U.S.S.R. protects the sovereign rights of the Union Republics.

Article 16:

Each Union Republic has its own Constitutiom, which takes account of the specific features of the Republic and is drawn up in full conformity with the Constitution of the U.S.S.R.

Article 17:

To every Union Republic is reserved the right freely to secede from the U.S.S.R.

Article 18:

The territory of a Union Republic may not be altered without its consent.

Article 19:

The laws of the U.S.S.R. have the same force within the territory of every Union Republic.

Article 20:

In the event of a discrepancy between a law of a Union Republic and an all-Union law, the all-Union law prevails.

Article 21:

A single Union citizenship is established for all citizens of the U.S.S.R.

Every citizen of a Union Republic is a citizen of the U.S.S.R.

Comprising the U.S.S.R. are 16 Union Republics, already listed, each a sovereign state with its own Constitution and the privilege of seceding from the U.S.S.R. if it desires. Some Union Republics contain within their territory several types of smaller national units: Autonomous Republics (of which there are 20), Autonomous Regions (of which there are nine), and National Areas (of which there are 11).

The Supreme Soviet, top legislative body of the U.S,S.R. is divided into two chambers with equal powers: The Council of the Union and the Council of Nationalities. The latter represents Soviet nationalities in a fashion analogous to the representation of individual states in the United States Senate. Regardless of size and population, each Union Republic elects 25 deputies to the Soviet of Nationalities, each Autonomous Republic 11, each Autonomous Region five and each National Area one. Deputies to the other chamber, the Council of the Union, on the other hand, are elected on the basis of population, one for each 300,000 Soviet citizens.

Under the Soviet Constitution all nations of the U.S.S.R. are equal, whether organized as Union Republics, Autonomous Republics, or smaller national units. Only Union Republics, however, have the right of secession. Otherwise, the relations between the Union Republics and the next lower units -- Autonomous Republics, Autonomous Regions and National Areas -- are analogous to the relation between the U.S.S.R. and Union Republics. It should be mentioned that the largest Union Republic -- the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic -- contains over half the nearly 200,000,000 people of the U.S.S.R. At the other extreme are the 11 National Areas, all of which are located within the borders of the R.S.F.S.R. For example, the Yamal-Nenets Area, with a territory of 131,500,000 acres, has a population of 35,000.

National Economic Development

The attention given to building up industry outside the great centers in the R.S.F.S.R. is shown by the fact that while Soviet industry as a whole has developed phenomenally, industry in most non-Russian areas has increased by larger percentages than those for the Soviet Union as a whole.

Typical is the Kazakh S.S.R., southeast of the Urals. With 1.1 million square miles of territory, it was formerly one of the most backward hinterlands of Czarist Russia. In 20 years of affiliation with the U.S.S.R. as a Union Republic it has made vast progress. Compared with 1913, industrial output has increased 17 times and the number of industrial workers eight times.

The Kazakh S.S.R. contains Karaganda, the third greatest coal basin in the Soviet Union, and the Emba oil fields, completely reconstructed and equipped with modern machinery in recent years. A huge mining and smelting industry has been created to exploit rich deposits of copper, lead and other nonferrous ores near Lake Balkhash. In one year, the Balkhash Copper Smelting Works now produces more copper than Kazakhstan produced in the whole two centuries preceding the Socialist Revolution of 1917.

Primitive, semi-nomadic Kazakh agriculture has been converted into large-scale, industrialized collective agriculture. Scientific cattle breeding is increasing Kazakh herds at the rate of over 20 percent a year. The number of cattle on collective farms increased from 1,196,000 head in 1934 to 5,610,000 on July 1, 1939. Between July 1, 1939 and July 1, 1940, 5,026 new livestock farms were established by Kazakh collective farms.

Transport is of special importance along the broad Kazakh plains. In 20 years, well over 3,000 miles of new railroads have been built, increasing the total length three and one-half times compared with pre-Revolutionary days. Length of waterways has doubled. Air lines cover regularly routes totaling 7,200 miles.

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The story of Kazakhstan's progress in the last 20 years could be repeated about each of the non-Russian national units within the Soviet Union. That even the remotest points have not

escaped the onrush of modernity in the Soviet Union is demonstrated by the previously mentioned Yamal-Nenets Area. At its capital, Salekhard, within the Arctic Circle, there now stand a large cannery, several sawmills, two brick works and two wintering harbors, employing altogether about 3,000 workmen. There are five schools, a public library, a moving picture theater and a hospital with a staff of 16 doctors.

Education and Culture

Education in the U.S.S.R. has kept pace, step by step, with industrial progress. Soviet leaders from the first realized that constitutional, democratic government and wide dispersion of modern industry can be based only on an enlightened populace. The first task of the country after the 1917 Revolution was to banish illiteracy. Some Soviet peoples lacked not only schools, but a written alphabet in their own language. In the Ukraine, 80 percent of the population could not read or write. In line with the Czarist policy of "Russification" of subject peoples, publishing of books in the Ukrainian language was forbidden.

Before 1917 only 1.5 percent of the population of Uzbekistan could read or write; there was not a single university or college in the territory. Now there are 35 universities and colleges in the Uzbek S.S.R. and a fifth of the population goes to school full or part time. Newspapers published in the Republic total 170.

In Turkemonia in 1917 only .7 percent of the population was literate. Now there are four universities and 37 higher and technical schools, attended by 7,400 students. In its 1,400 primary schools there are over 200,000 children. There are 703 public libraries and 50 newspapers, 39 published in the Turkmen language. Similar figures could be repeated for each national division.

In the last few years much of the age-old folklore of all Soviet nationalities has been collected. Songs and poems

handed down from mouth to mouth for ages are being recorded on paper and phonograph discs, especially in the Caucasus -- Kabarda, Daghestan, Armenia -- and among the Bashkirs, Chuvash and Tatars.

Scholars are uncovering hidden treasures of national genius -- legends, fables, love songs, war songs. Manas, a Kirghiz epic poem of over 300,000 lines, has been printed and is becoming known as a literary work, ranking with Firdusi's Shah Nama, the Georgian poet Shot'ha Rust'hveli's Knight in the Tiger Skin and the Russian epic Lay of Igor. Manas has already become a favorite of thousands of Soviet readers.

One of the surest indexes of a nation's civilization is its treatment of women. Before the Revolution, among the southeastern peoples, women had no rights whatsoever. In Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan, a woman was the slave of her husband, compelled to wear a veil. Today the veil has disappeared. The Constitution of the U.S.S.R. guarantees to women in every part of the country fully equal rights -- political, economic and social. All public offices and nearly all occupations are open to women, and they are protected as mothers through a system of state hospitals and nurseries. In some of the eastern republics, women have crowded a thousand years' progress into two decades.

To relate the progress of the many Soviet nationalities, each strongly independent in its own language, customs and political institutions, all strongly unified through equal participation in the government and life of the U.S.S.R. -- is to make self-evident the reasons why Soviet citizens of all nationalities today fight so fiercely against their would-be Nazi conquerors. Hitler has temporarily enslaved other free peoples. But in attacking the U.S.S.R. he has attempted a crime beyond his strength. In a United Front with the other powerful free nations of the earth, the peoples of the U.S.S.R. are exhibiting the will and unity that alone can destroy Hitler and all that he stands for.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Thursday, August 21, 1941
No. 33

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 19 - 20

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 20.

Evening Communique, August 19

On August 19 our troops fought the enemy along the entire front. Especially stubborn fighting took place in the directions of Kingisepp, Novgorod, Gomel and Odessa.

According to latest information, 28 German planes were brought down in air fighting on August 17, instead of 22 as previously reported. On the night of August 17 our planes bombed Ploesti. Our fliers observed large fires and explosions.

On August 18, thirty German planes were brought down in air fighting. We lost 12 planes.

In the Black Sea our bombers sank two enemy transports and set another transport afire.

Morning Communique, August 20

On the night of August 19 our troops fought battles with the enemy along the whole front, especially stubbornly in the Novgorod and Gomel directions.

Evening Communique, August 20

On August 20 our troops waged stubborn battles with the enemy in the Kingisepp, Novgorod, Staraya Russa, Gomel and Odessa directions.

According to precise data, now available, on August 18 thirty-eight enemy planes were brought down in air battles and not 30 as previously reported.

In air combats on August 19 twenty-seven German planes were brought down. We lost eight planes. On the afternoon of August 20 our fighters brought down three German scouting planes at the approaches to Moscow.

* * * * *

The Soviet press reports that a surrounded Red Army unit, after fighting 20 days behind enemy lines, has finally forced its way through to Red Army territory. The 520 men in the unit, commanded by an officer named Zagorodnov, kept most of their equipment, killed 240 Nazis, broke up 25 enemy supply columns, and destroyed 14 machineguns, an anti-aircraft battery 12 tanks and a regimental headquarters..

* * * * *

The Soviet press today reported from informed sources in Bern that the German Government is planning to evacuate Berlin this autumn before Soviet and British bombings of the German capital reach full intensity. The new German capital will reportedly be in a city in southern Germany.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE MIXED COMMISSION OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND MANCHUKUO FOR PRECISE DEMARCATION OF THE BORDER IN THE AREA OF THE CONFLICT OF 1939.

Fieldwork of the Mixed Commission on precise demarcation of the state frontier between the Mongolian People's Republic and Manchukuo in the area of the conflict of 1939 proceeded successfully and was completed August 15, 1941.

For compilation of the various documents concluding the present work, delegates of both parties agreed to meet in Harbin September 22 of this year.

Kharat Ulan Obo (in the fieldwork area)

August 20, 1941.

SOVIET - POLISH MILITARY AGREEMENT

The Soviet Information Bureau yesterday announced:

In conformity with the Soviet-Polish agreement of July 30, 1941, a military agreement was concluded in Moscow on August 14 of this year between the Supreme Command of the U.S.S.R. and the Supreme Command of Poland.

The agreement was signed for the U.S.S.R. by the representative of the Supreme Command of the U.S.S.R., Major General Vasilevski, and for Poland by the representative of the Supreme Command of Poland, Major General Sziszko-Bogusz.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces General Wladislaw Sikorski has appointed General Anders to command the Polish Army on territory of the U.S.S.R. General Anders has begun the formation of a Polish Army.

GERMAN LOSSES IN THE UKRAINE

Heavy German losses during bitter fighting in the southwestern direction are reported by the Soviet Information Bureau, with the following specific data:

The 262nd German Infantry Division lost 80 percent of its effectives and equipment. Its 452nd and 485th Regiments were withdrawn from action after being all but wiped out near Gusakovo. This division took part in the invasion of France and was considered one of the crack, veteran Nazi outfits.

The 94th German Infantry Division lost 70 percent of its manpower during an abortive assault in the Studenets-Kovali sector. Five hundred Germans surrendered with their equipment intact.

The 79th German Infantry Regiment lost 600 men in an attempt to capture the village of Zhulyany, on the Kiev front.

The 99th German Light Division -- composed of cyclists and cavalry -- suffered casualties of over 50 percent in a recent battle near Kutuzovka. Its 218th Regiment was annihilated.

AVIATION DAY

"Aviation Day" in the Soviet Union fell on Sunday, August 17. Soviet citizens' pride in their great Red Airforce was deepened this year by awareness that their hardy young sons were aloft day and night barring the air paths to Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev and carrying the war deep into the vulnerable interior of Nazi Germany.

For the first time the Nazi planes have met their match in both quality and quantity. Their inability to seize control of the air has been a major factor in the failure of German panzer divisions to strike a deathblow to any vital objective within the Soviet Union and has compelled the Nazi Command to abandon blitzkrieg in favor of a war of slow mass maneuver and attrition.

The stonewall defense which the Red Airforce has set up around big Soviet cities is best described by a paragraph taken from a routine report of Red Airforce Regimental Commissar Voyevodin, whose unit defends part of the approaches to Leningrad. This report was published recently in the Soviet press.

"In 45 days we have downed 118 enemy planes and captured or killed 287 men of the Nazi crews. We have destroyed at least 30 German planes in raids on enemy airdromes. We have repeatedly attacked Nazi tank and infantry columns on the march.

"Our major task now is repelling enemy raids on Leningrad. A group of our fighters commanded by Lieutenant

Storozhakov yesterday engaged nine Messerschmitts near the city. Five were shot down. Storozhakov has accounted for eight German planes in 45 days of action."

The flaming determination of Soviet fliers has been illustrated repeatedly. According to official Red Airforce records, on three occasions Soviet pilots have deliberately dived their damaged planes into objectives such as gasoline dumps and artillery batteries, giving their lives to carry out their assigned missions. At least twice, pursuit pilots after exhausting their ammunition have rammed German bombers during attempted Nazi raids on Soviet cities. In both recorded instances, the Soviet pilots escaped with their lives.

In an "Aviation Day" editorial, Izvestia commented: "As they go into action against the enemy, our Soviet fliers are inspired by the people's love.

"Goebbels' mountebanks claimed to have 'destroyed' the Soviet Airforce, but our planes still fly -- shooting down Nazi planes and demolishing military objectives.

"In the first six weeks of war the Germans lost over 6,000 planes. Today our planes fly over Berlin and other German cities, destroying military objectives. The German people know this and are beginning to see the fate Hitler has brought upon them by his predatory wars.

"Our airforce meets the enemy cooly in battles that end in life or death. And the Nazis have not won supremacy in the air. It is becoming clear that the Germans prefer to avoid open combat with our airmen. Not infrequently whole flights of Nazi planes disperse at first glimpse of our Red Star pursuit planes.

"The success of the Soviet Airforce is based on the use by our fliers of first class machines -- long-range and high-speed bombers, lightning pursuit planes and high-speed attack planes -- all built by Soviet engineers and workmen. Our planes have stood up excellently under the test of warfare."

The feeling of the Soviet populace for their airmen is well illustrated by the following story which appeared recently in the Soviet press:

A Red Airforce pilot named Yaroslavtsev was shot down far behind the German lines. As his parachute floated downward he could see German motorcyclists speeding to intercept him. By sideslipping his parachute he managed to come down in a deep gully.

When three motorcyclists skidded up to the gully and unlimbered their machineguns, they found only three young peasant boys looking at them abashedly. A tangled parachute lay at the bottom of the gully. Fiercely the Germans asked where the Red flier had gone. The boys pointed silently toward a nearby wood, and the motorcyclists lurched away.

At nightfall the lads brought Yaroslavtsev into their village, where he was fed and given new clothing. Then began a long hike overland, travelling at night and spending each day hidden on a different collective farm. When he finally arrived safe within the Soviet lines, Yaroslavtsev testified:

"Whenever I left the highways where enemy troops were moving I found friendly peasant homes with no signs of German occupation. In every village I was among my own people and felt at home."

Two recently published instances are enough to demonstrate the determination and self-sacrifice with which Soviet fliers perform their duty.

Captain Tishulin, piloting a Soviet bomber, was knocked unconscious by the blast of an exploding anti-aircraft shell while gliding in to drop bombs on a German convoy. When he recovered his senses his plane had passed over the ships and Nazi fighters were on his tail.

His plane was riddled with shrapnel and answered the controls sluggishly. Nevertheless, Tishulin circled back and again headed for his target. A burst from a German pursuit plane damaged the bomber's speaking tube. Tishulin failed to hear his navigator's directions and again overshot the convoy. For a third time he headed for his objective, communicating with the navigator by hand signals.

This time the bomber passed directly over an enemy ship. The navigator pulled the bomb release lever, but nothing happened. The automatic release mechanism had been put out of commission.

Again Tishulin hauled his riddled and battered plane around and brought it slowly back over the German convoy. This time the navigator released the bombs by hand, scoring a hit on one of the Nazi vessels. Tishulin, his mission accomplished, headed for home.

In another incident, also over the sea, two Messerschmitts swooped on a Soviet bomber on its way home after completing a raid. The bomber's rear gunner brought one Messerschmitt down, but not before one of the bomber's wings had been riddled and one motor silenced. The bomber settled quickly toward the sea and despite the pilot's skilful handling, landed heavily. Within a minute it sank.

The three men of the crew found themselves swimming in the water holding up a deflated rubber boat without a pump and without oars. They took turns floating on their backs and

blowing the boat up by sheer lung power. After several hours it was sufficiently inflated to hold them up and they climbed aboard and began paddling with their hands. The pilot's overalls were held up as a sail. After three days, when already near land, they were sighted by a Soviet observation plane and soon rescued. Within a week all three were again in action bombing enemy objectives.

SOVIET CITIZENS COMMENT ON SLAV CONFERENCE

The Conference of Slavic Peoples held in Moscow last week continues to evoke responses from Soviet citizens, many of which are published in the Soviet press. An example is the following by Vsevolod Pudovkin, noted film director of "Storm over Asia," Gorki's "Mother," and many other Soviet films, who is well known in the United States:

"With dull obstinacy the Nazi leaders hammer into the heads of their duped people the criminal idea that Germans are superior to all other peoples. These 'Aryans' try to turn the great Slav peoples into their slaves. But the Slavs, who have given the world geniuses in every field of human achievement, are united in their determination to exterminate Hitler's armies and to deliver humanity from Nazi oppression.

"The meeting of all Slav peoples in Moscow constituted a new and vivid proof of the unity of all the Slav peoples."

* * * * *

Following the Slav Conference in Moscow, printed posters bearing the Conference's appeal to all Slavs to unite against Hitler appeared overnight on prominent walls in Warsaw and Zagreb, the Soviet press reports.

Various political parties banned by the fascist puppet Pavelic met secretly in Croat cities, and the Croat Peasant Party from Banja Luka issued an appeal for resistance to the German police and aid to Croat guerrillas.

RED SUBMARINES RULE THE BALTIC AND BLACK SEAS

The Red Submarine Fleet in the last two months has inflicted heavy damage on German transport fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas and on warships and planes attempting to protect the transports. Following are two incidents of this submarine warfare recently described in the Soviet press:

Submarine "A" of the Red Banner Baltic Fleet, operating many miles from its base on the enemy's communication lines, sank a German tanker of 15,000 tons displacement.

Members of its crew reconnoitered with extreme caution, since Nazi planes frequently flew over the submarine's assigned area of operations. The Soviet sailors could breathe fresh air only for a few hours at night, when the submarine rose to the surface. On one such occasion signalman Petrunichev sighted a large enemy tanker. The submarine submerged immediately and moved toward the Nazi ship.

In ten minutes it was close to the enemy. An order was given. The submarine lurched slightly as seaman Makeev discharged two torpedoes. The submarine quickly changed its course, while its commander, his eye pressed to the periscope sight, watched the tanker. A pillar of flame shot up into the night, illuminating the surface of the water like daylight. The men in the submarine heard a muffled explosion.

Nazi planes swept overhead and sowed depth bombs on all sides of the burning tanker. But none damaged the Soviet submarine, which continues to patrol the Baltic seeking and destroying enemy ships.

* * * * *

The Red Navy newspaper Krasny Flot gave the following account of the exploits of Lieutenant Moiseev, recently decorated with the Order of the Red Banner.

Moiseev's submarine appears unexpectedly where the enemy is most vulnerable. He obtains valuable information on Nazi shipping and sinks enemy vessels. The goaded enemy often attacks Moiseev's submarine; Nazi fliers bomb and machinegun it from the air. But the submarine always slips away.

One day, patrolling near an enemy base, Moiseev discovered a Nazi transport escorted by a warship. It was impossible to sink both; so Moiseev ordered an attack on the larger -- the transport. The submarine prepared for action. Torpedoes hissed from their tubes and soon pillars of fire rose over the wreckage of the Nazi vessel.

But the Nazi warship discovered the submarine's position and rushed toward it. As the submarine submerged, depth bombs exploded close by. Part of the submarine's lights went out. Over 30 depth bombs were dropped, but the submarine succeeded in descending to the sea bottom. A hasty inspection revealed that the Germans had done no serious damage. A few hours later Moiseev's submarine rose quietly to the surface and cruised away.

Embassy
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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STATE LABOR RESERVES OF THE U.S.S.R.

Hundreds of thousands of Soviet workers have been mobilized into the Red Army in the last two months. The dislocation of Soviet industry caused by full scale military mobilization might have been serious, had the Government not foreseen the situation and acted to circumvent it as early as October 1940.

At that time the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. formulated the Law on State Labor Reserves (printed in full at the end of this article), designed to ensure a continuous supply of trained workers to Soviet industry through any emergency.

In essence, this law provided for compulsory draft of close to 1,000,000 youngsters yearly for training in the complex techniques of modern industrial production. These youths were to be supported by the state during a training course ranging from six months to two years, according to the industry they selected, and were afterward guaranteed jobs in that industry, which they are required to accept for at least four years.

The reasons why, even in an emergency such as the present war, the Soviet Union found it necessary to put this measure on a compulsory basis, requires some explanation -- although as a matter of record 80 percent of the first year's quota was filled by volunteers.

In contrast to most modern industrial nations, the Soviet Union since the first few years of its existence has known no unemployment problem. The growth of its industry, carefully planned in advance, has been so rapid that workers have been in constant demand. The Constitution of the U.S.S.R., moreover, guarantees a job to every Soviet citizen. Thus the

"labor market" of job-seekers, familiar to most great industrial cities, has never existed in the Soviet Union.

The following figures are pertinent:

During the first two Five-Year Plans, from 1929 to 1937 inclusive, the physical volume of Soviet industrial production increased 328.9 percent.

In 1928, Soviet industry employed 11.3 million workers. In 1937, it employed 27 millions -- an increase of about 250 percent.

The proportion of the Soviet population employed in industry rose during this period from 17.3 to 34.7 percent.

Another great factor also differentiates the problem of labor supply in the Soviet Union from that in most other lands. The drift of youth from rural districts to cities, which is one of the most familiar phenomena of industrial civilization elsewhere, no longer occurs in the U.S.S.R. The reason for this is that with the introduction of security for the farm worker, modern standards of living and scientific methods of work on Soviet collective farms, the rural youth no longer feels compulsion to seek a fuller life in the city.

The present day situation contrasts sharply with the practice of pre-Revolutionary industrialists in Old Russia. Factory owners under the Czar had at their disposal a huge army of unemployed from whose ranks they could draw whenever they needed additional labor. This jobless army was composed partly of workers forced out of industry by the introduction of technological improvements and partly of workers who were victims of Russia's periodic industrial crises. In the main, however, the ranks of the unemployed were constantly replenished and swollen by the flow of impoverished peasants who came to the cities seeking work.

Yearly, millions of poor peasants from the central and northern areas of Russia migrated southward, looking for jobs in the metal plants and coal mines. Lenin pointed out that Russian industrial development was due in large part to the fact that the "expropriation of small farmers created a vast army of wage workers, ready at the first call to satisfy the

maximum demands of the employers in agriculture, forestry, building, commerce and in the manufacturing, mining, commerce and transport industries."

The labor market of Czarist Russia suffered constant fluctuations of supply and demand, created by alternate industrial booms and crises. The number of workers employed in industry in Czarist Russia varied inversely to the size of the army of unemployed.

These problems are not faced by industry in the U.S.S.R. today because the factors that gave rise to them have been eliminated. Soviet industry, since the 1917 Revolution, has grown constantly without a single crisis or depression. Planning characterizes every aspect of industrial life in the U.S.S.R., with the famous Five Year Plans for the development of Soviet industry as the most familiar examples.

In each industry the number of workers increases in accordance with the needs of the plan for this industry. Planning for industry eliminates the problem of unemployment and the perfecting of industrial techniques does not throw masses of men out of work as it did a quarter of a century ago. When technological advance cuts down the need for workers in one industry, they are systematically absorbed by new enterprises and reconstruction of old ones.

Under these circumstances, the Soviet Government has found it necessary for some time to regulate the flow of young

recruits to industry from both collective farm and city. In the shadow of a European war, this necessity became urgent and was met by the Law on State Labor Reserves, which systematizes and extends the practices previously instituted with success by various separate branches of Soviet industry.

What are the main sources tapped today by the Soviet Union for its labor reserves?

First of all, the sons and daughters of urban working people have in the past been systematically trained at State expense to take their places as skilled workers in industry. The most familiar form of industrial training is the factory school, or apprentice school, attached to the majority of large industrial enterprises. In 1934 Joseph Stalin pointed out that: "One of the most important achievements of Soviet industry is the fact that it... trained for the workshops about 500,000 workers in the factory training schools." In the Second Five Year Plan these apprentice schools trained 1,400,000 skilled workers for industry. But even this was inadequate for the rapid growth of Soviet industry.

Collective farm youth forms the second important source of labor reserves for the U.S.S.R. Although the mechanization of agricultural techniques in the Soviet Union does give rise to a large demand in the collective farms for skilled labor, there is still a considerable surplus that may be employed in urban industry. Collective farm youths working beside young people from the cities, built such gigantic industrial enterprises as the Dnieper Hydro-electric Station, Magnitogorsk, the Kuznetsk Iron and Steel Works and the Stalingrad Tractor Plant. Under the present law they will flood into Soviet industry in increasing numbers.

The enthusiasm of Soviet youth for this plan was indicated by the fact that in the first days after the passage of the law tens of thousands of voluntary applications were received stating the desire of the applicants to be enrolled in the training schools. Within one month after the announcement of the law 230,000 such applications were received.

S.A. LOZOVSKY ON GENERAL ARAKI

At his regular press conference for foreign correspondents on August 19, Mr. S.A. Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, was asked by a representative of Intercontinent News to comment on a recent interview given by General Sadao Araki, former Japanese Minister of War and Minister of Education, in the newspaper Kokumin.

In this interview General Araki recalled the occupation of Siberia by Japanese troops in 1918. He predicted that a similar situation might arise in the near future and expressed regret that Japan had neglected its opportunity to strike a "death blow" on the first occasion and had "left half its task undone."

Mr. Lozovsky said:

"General Araki has never suffered from a surplus of modesty and has always mistaken his own scanty thoughts, dangerous for Japan, for the latest word in statecraft.

"General Araki's historical recollections do more honor to the length of his memory than to his understanding of the international situation and Soviet-Japanese relations -- most recently established on the basis of the neutrality pact of April 13, 1941.

"One can not object to historical reminiscences -- even when indulged in by generals and former ministers of state. But one might wish that in recollecting the past highly placed officials would not forget the present and future of their country."

For 1941 the Soviet training school enrollment reached 600,000 youths. Three hundred fifty thousand are studying in trade and railway schools, the remainder are apprentices in factory schools. With such a reserve of labor, Soviet industry will contribute its full weight to the defeat of Nazism.

* * * * *

Following is the text of the edict issued October 2, 1940 by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. on State Labor Reserves:

The task of the further extension of our industry requires a constant influx of new labor power in collieries, mines, transport, factories and mills. The successful development of our industry is impossible without an uninterrupted replenishment of the ranks of the working class.

Unemployment has been completely abolished in our country; poverty and ruin in the village and city have been eradicated forever; in view of this no one in our country is forced to knock at the gates of factories and mills begging for work and thus spontaneously forming a constant reserve of labor power for industry.

Under these conditions the state is confronted with the task of setting up organized training of new workers from among the urban and collective farm youths, and of establishing necessary labor reserves for industry.

With the object of creating state labor reserves for industry, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. RESOLVES:

1. To recognize as essential the annual training for industry of state labor reserves of from 800,000 to 1,000,000 persons by teaching the urban and collective farm youths definite industrial professions in Trade Schools, Railway Schools and Industrial Training Schools.

2. To organize Trade Schools with a two-year course of study in cities for training skilled metal workers, metallurgists, chemists, miners, oil workers and workers of other skilled professions, as well as qualified workers for marine transport, river transport and communications.

3. To organize Railway Schools with a two-year course of study for the training of skilled railway workers, assistant locomotive engineers, locomotive and car repair men, boiler makers, crew leaders for track repairs and other skilled workers.

4. To organize Industrial Training Schools with a six-months' course of study for training workers of the more widely applied professions, in the first place for the coal, mining, metallurgical and oil industries, and building trades.

5. To establish that instruction in Trade Schools, Railway Schools and Industrial Training Schools is to be free of charge and that pupils are to be maintained by the state during the period of their studies.

6. To establish that the state reserves of labor power are to be under the direct jurisdiction of the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. and are not to be utilized by people's commissariats and enterprises without permission of the Government.

7. To empower the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. annually to draft (mobilize) from 800,000 to 1,000,000 persons of the urban and collective farm youths (male) of 14 and 15 years of age, for training in Trade and Railway Schools and of 16 and 17 years of age for Industrial Training Schools.

8. To obligate chairmen of collective farms to designate by drafting (mobilizing) annually two youths (male) of 14 and 15 years of age for Trade and Railway Schools and of 16 and 17 years of age for Industrial Training Schools per each 100 members of the collective farm, counting men and women between the ages of 14 and 55.

9. To obligate City Soviets of Working People's Deputies annually to designate by drafting (mobilizing) youths (male) of 14 and 15 years of age for Trade and Railway Schools and of 16 and 17 years of age for Industrial Training Schools, the

number being fixed annually by the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R.

10. To establish that all those who graduate from the Trade Schools, Railway Schools and Industrial Training Schools are to be considered as mobilized and are obliged to work four years continuously in state enterprises, as directed by the Central Labor Reserves Administration under the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R., securing them wages at the place of work in accordance with general rates.

11. To establish that all persons graduating from Trade Schools, Railway Schools and Industrial Training Schools are to be temporarily exempted from being drafted into the Red Army and Navy until the period of obligatory work in state enterprises, in accordance with Article 10 of the present edict, expires.

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.
M. KALININ

Secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.
A. GORKIN

Moscow, Kremlin. October 2, 1940.

* * * * *

Four four-motored Junkers-52 planes, carrying baby tanks and complete crews, were shot down by Soviet fliers in the vicinity of the town of "O," the Soviet press reports. Three Messerschmitts were brought down in the same action.

Another group of parachutists armed with three baby tanks were landed by Nazi fliers near a bridge which German bombers had been trying to destroy. A platoon of Red Army men attacked the parachutists, disabling two of the tanks and wiping out the majority of the Nazi soldiers.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Saturday, August 23, 1941

No. 35

MORNING COMMUNIQUE, AUGUST 22

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 22.

On the night of August 21 our troops fought battles with the enemy along the entire front, especially intensely in the directions of Kingisepp, Novgorod and Gomel.

* * * * *

Moscow, August 22.

In the western direction, troops commanded by Red Army officer Konev continued to develop their offensive successfully, the Soviet press reported today.

After recapturing four villages prior to August 20, the attacking Soviet forces have again pushed forward, occupying several additional villages and taking 19 pieces of artillery, a large number of machineguns, rifles and automobiles, 1,500 shells and other equipment. In one sector over 200 German dead were counted on the battlefield.

S.A. LOZOVSKY ON NIKOLAEV

At his regular press conference for foreign correspondents on August 21, S.A. Lozovsky, Assistant Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, discussed results of military operations between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

A correspondent of the British Exchange-Telegraph Agency raised a question about German radio claims to have captured at Nikolaev a 35,000 ton battleship, a 10,000 ton cruiser, four destroyers and two submarines.

Mr. Lozovsky replied:

"The only trouble with this German report is that it is not true. The facts are quite different.

"One battleship and one cruiser were in the first stage of construction at the Nikolaev dockyards. The hulls of these ships were far from finished. No machinery or armament had been installed, nor was either to be found either in or near Nikolaev.

"The most important point, however -- and here the German radio's shameless lying becomes most apparent -- is that the Nikolaev dockyards were blown up. The hulls of the vessels in question were also blown up, together with the ways on which they stood.

"This instance demonstrates that not a single word emanating from Berlin can be believed."

IN DEFENSE OF OUR CITIES

The Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda under the above title yesterday said editorially:

For two months a colossal battle, overshadowing in its scope everything known to world military history, has raged day and night along fronts stretching for thousands of kilometers.

Displaying incomparable courage, determination and stubbornness, the Red Army is repulsing the desperate onslaught of the enemy and destroying his manpower and armaments. Picked Nazi troops are being ground between the millstones of the war into which they were flung by the monster Hitler. The pleasant military promenade through our towns and villages of which the Nazi clique dreamed has failed to materialize. The whole world now sees that the enemy's strategy of blitzkrieg against the Soviet Union has collapsed under the powerful counter-blows of the Red Army.

However, the enemy is still strong. He possesses powerful engines of war -- tanks and aircraft. Frenziedly striving to attain palpable results before late autumn and winter set in, the Nazi command is flinging all its reserves into action, striving by every means to break the might of Soviet defense. The stronger our resistance becomes, the more risky are the tactics adopted by the enemy in his attempt to threaten the vital centers of our country.

Today immediate danger overhangs Leningrad -- cradle of the Proletarian Revolution. The Nazi beast is stretching its bloody claws toward Leningrad. They must be cut off.

The Red Army is heroically defending the approaches to the city. Our naval and air forces are striking back at the enemy and repulsing his attacks. Behind our soldiers stand innumerable reserves. The enemy is cruel and implacable; there is no limit to his villainy. But our organization, endurance and courage can and must put an end to the bloody villainies perpetrated by the enemy upon the Soviet people.

Hard trials await us. In every war successes alternate with temporary reverses, but in the end he who fights in a just cause, who is tempered by the hardships of war and who possesses the greater strength, stubbornness and endurance, emerges the winner. Our patriotism will break the neck of Nazi Germany.

SOVIET REACTION TO VOROSHILOV APPEAL

The summons to defense of Leningrad by Marshal Voroshilov and other officials was read yesterday to Soviet military units on all fronts.

Moscow newspapers recorded a meeting near Viborg of a tank battalion which has helped stop German-Finnish thrusts along the Karelian peninsula. Many of the battalion's tank men are citizens of Leningrad.

After the appeal was read, a sergeant named Vasichev, said simply, "The Nazis will never enter Lenin's city."

A young lieutenant named Bychkov declared: "I want to say on behalf of my crew that all of us if need be will die at the approaches to Leningrad, but we shall never surrender the city."

The battalion commander, Yelkin, ended the meeting with a brief address to his men in which he said:

"You and I have been in action and have seen villages blown to pieces by the Nazis, and the men, women and children in them killed.

"Are we going to let the Nazis violate Lenin's great city? Never!

"Leningrad has given us our tanks -- here at the approaches to our beloved city we must show that we know how to use them. This is where the enemy shall get his deserts."

* * * * *

Meetings were held yesterday in all Moscow factories to discuss defense of Leningrad, the Moscow press reported. Resolutions were passed calling on the whole country to arise for Leningrad's defense and promising unlimited work to provide arms for the Leningrad troops.

A typical resolution, passed at the Kaganovich Ball-bearing Plant, said:

"Leningrad has never fallen and never shall fall!

"The pledge of this is the indestructible unity of the peoples of the great Soviet Union. We guarantee the people of Leningrad that we shall work without stint to ensure the glorious Red Army everything it needs to wipe out the Nazi bandits.

"The whole world is watching Leningrad's courageous struggle and hoping for the annihilation of the cursed brown plague. We firmly believe Hitler's ruffians will never set foot in Lenin's city. They must be shattered to atoms against Leningrad's citadel."

SOVIET FORCES INFLICT HEAVY LOSSES ON NAZIS

Nazi Panzer Column Routed

A strong Nazi column consisting of a tank regiment, five artillery battalions and a motorized infantry battalion advanced recently to a river bank on an unnamed front, the Soviet press reported, and encamped for the night.

A Soviet tank regiment commanded by Major Romanovsky was ordered to attack the enemy column.

During the night engineers threw a pontoon bridge across the river, working quietly to avoid warning the enemy. The Soviet tank regiment was divided into two groups, one of which was commanded by Major Romanovsky, the other by Captain Krivosheyin.

At dawn the Soviet tanks crossed the river and caught the enemy by surprise. In a short but fierce battle the Nazis were routed, losing about 100 tanks and 70 anti-tank guns. The Nazi motorized battalion suffered especially heavy casualties.

Major Romanovsky was killed early in the action, and Captain Krivosheyin took over command of the Soviet regiment.

Nazi Battalion Wiped Out

In a three-hour battle near the village of "K" a Red Army unit wiped out one battalion of the 260th German Infantry Division, the Soviet press reported today. The Nazis left over 300 dead in the village streets, including the battalion commander. Five pieces of artillery, four mortars, 10 automatic pistols, several thousand shells, 25 bicycles and two field wireless sets were captured.

Nazi River Crossing Foiled

Soviet gunboats and launches of the "N" river flotilla on August 19 broke up a large-scale German attempt to cross the river 10 miles from the town of "D," the Soviet press reported today.

Previous Nazi attempts had been frustrated by the Red Airforce, which broke up enemy concentrations near the river bank.

On August 19 the Nazis renewed their efforts to cross the river on a major scale. Sham crossings were begun at various places. Soviet scouts, however, detected this ruse, and a flotilla of Soviet monitors and cutters appeared at a river bend just as the first German units were crossing an improvised pontoon bridge. The first Soviet artillery salvos destroyed the bridge, and nine German tanks and several score motorcycles plunged into the river.

The Soviet fleet then opened fire at enemy assault boats carrying infantry. Twenty-six boats were sunk with 500 men aboard. Two of the boats were rammed and sunk by launches. The Red fleet then opened fire at German concentrations on the river bank.

Six enemy boats managed to reach the Soviet-held bank of the river and landed over 100 Germans. These were wiped out by Soviet motorized infantry. Twenty German soldiers attempting to swim back to rejoin their troops were killed by rifle fire.

The battle ended in complete rout of the enemy. The river bank was littered with hundreds of Nazi bodies, battered trucks, motorcycles and artillery. The Germans lost nine tanks, 29 trucks, 40 motorcycles, eight pieces of artillery and over 800 men.

Nazi Transports Sunk

Enemy transports embarking troops, artillery and supplies were observed and photographed at a point on the Rumanian coast recently by fliers attached to Red Airforce officer Lobozev's flight, the Soviet press reported today.

Soviet bombers took off somewhat later and set out for the embarkation point at high altitude. They discovered the transports already at sea on their way to reinforce German advanced units.

Gliding down to accurate bombing altitude, the Soviet planes encountered intense anti-aircraft fire from guns aboard the transports. After dropping their first bombs, they circled for another attack. As they swept over they observed one ship in flames and another sinking, with only its stern still above water. The second and third attacks sank another large transport and hits were observed on several others. The ships still afloat turned back toward the Rumanian coast. After dropping all their bombs, the Soviet planes returned unharmed to their base.

* * * * *

Forging of currency by fascist authorities in German and Italian occupied countries is reported in the Soviet press. Besides German issues of "occupation marks" backed by no tangible values, their rate arbitrarily fixed at par with local currency, the Italian invaders of Greece are said to have flooded that country with forged Greek bank notes. Forged notes were reportedly issued in denominations up to 3,000,000 drachmas, but were immediately detected by the Greek populace because they contained crude errors in engraving and orthography.

ARMY NURSE

(Written for the Soviet press by E. Gabrilovich)

A district hospital -- a small stone building near the fighting lines. It is an evacuation hospital, from which wounded Red Army men are sent to base hospitals in the rear.

Senior nurse Nina Protopopova -- 20 years old, a Muscovite, small, sturdily built, blue-eyed. Last winter she finished her nurse's course and went to the front when the war started.

Nina lives at the nurses' home next to the hospital, but she is never at home. She spends her days and nights at the hospital, catching 40 winks on a bench with her coat as a blanket.

The Red Cross on the roof of the hospital is clearly visible from the air, but it seems merely to draw persistent bombing from Nazi planes. Everybody at the hospital is used to bombings, and Nina is used to them too. Nazi Junkers hum overhead and bombs explode dully, but Nina hurries across the courtyard to the dispensary linen room. The slightest delay may cost the life of a wounded Red Army man. When she returns to the hospital building the wounded men ask her:

"Well, Nina, how's everything? Still alive and kicking?" and she retorts, "All OK!" That is what they call her, "All OK!"

The wounded men are very fond of her. Nina reads them newspapers and tells them stories about sea voyages and sings them songs.

Once or twice, when her work slackened, Nina planned to spend a night at home and exchanged her white uniform for blouse, skirt and beret, again becoming a demure Muscovite. But each time a fresh party of wounded men arrived and she hastily slipped back into uniform. The doctor tells her, "That's all right, Nina, we'll get along. Go get some sleep."

She smiles. "Don't worry, I've had a nap." And her white uniform with its Red Cross armband twinkles here and there.

"Nurse! Please help me sit up!"

Nina does everything quickly and expertly, with a sort of fondling agility. "All OK!"

One evening there was an air battle over the hospital. Two Soviet pursuit planes dived on a large formation of Nazi bombers. The fight was brief. Three bombers were shot down, falling in a wood about 10 miles from the hospital. One of the Soviet planes was also shot down. It remained in the air for some time, gliding, then suddenly lost altitude and fell into the woods.

Nina, that day, was at last on her way home from hospital duty. She saw the Soviet plane fall and ran into the woods to help the fallen flier. It seemed to her that the plane had fallen nearby, close to the road. A pillar of smoke rose above the trees to serve as a guide. She forced her way through the brush, pushing deeper and deeper into the forest. But the wrecked plane was farther away than she had thought, and she found it only at dusk. Eighty yards from the machine lay the gravely wounded flier, unconscious.

Quickly applying an emergency bandage, Nina lifted the flier to her shoulders and carried him toward the road. It was already dark. Nina could barely manage the heavy weight and made slow progress. After about a kilometer, she saw a break in the woods and heard voices.

Nina stumbled on, glad to find people. But suddenly she came to a dead halt; the voices were not speaking Russian. She had come up against enemy fliers from one of the destroyed bombers. Her footsteps were heard. A harsh voice called out: Halt!

She dropped the wounded man from her back and crouched in the grass. In her hand she held the wounded flier's pistol. With her finger on the trigger, she waited breathlessly. A German passed close by, prodding through the bushes. Gutteral voices called two or three times and then silence fell.

Nina decided to wait where she was until morning. After renewing the wounded man's dressing, she carried him to a dense fir grove and sank down in exhaustion.

An hour later the flier became delirious and began to call out loudly. Fearing that his voice would attract the Germans, Nina again set out, feeling her way around trees in pitch darkness. Her burden seemed still heavier. She halted to rest after every two or three steps. Her hands grew numb and her back ached.

Exhausted and gasping for breath, she soon sank down again in a grass-covered glade. Suddenly she heard shots behind her. Bullets whizzed by; the Nazis had been found by a Soviet patrol and were fighting it out in the darkness. Crouching behind a bush, Nina held her pistol ready. The firing grew heavier and then stopped.

At the first glimmer of dawn Nina started out again, still carrying the flier on her shoulders. She felt sick and dizzy and her body ached with fatigue, but she forced herself on, sometimes falling to her knees from sheer exhaustion, then rising again and walking on.

At noon she found a group of Soviet soldiers.

The next morning Nina turned up for hospital duty as usual, and again her white uniform with the red cross twinkled here and there. And again this blue-eyed Soviet girl of Moscow is always at hand when a wounded Red Army man calls, "Nurse!" All is OK with nurse Nina.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Monday, August 25, 1941

No. 36

THE FRONT FROM AUGUST 22 to 24

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 24.

Evening Communique, August 22

On August 22 our troops fought stubborn battles with the enemy along the whole front.

According to precise data now available, 32 enemy planes were brought down in air combats on August 20, and not 21 as previously reported.

In the Baltic Sea Soviet ships attacked five German transports proceeding under escort. Two enemy transports and two escorting cutters were sunk and three transports beached as a result of the engagement.

Results of Two Months of War Between Hitlerite Germany and the Soviet Union

Two months of Red Army military operations against the Nazi hordes which treacherously invaded our country have revealed the collapse of the German Command's blitzkrieg plans for lightning destruction of the Red Army.

A month ago the German Command announced to the world that the roads to Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev lay open. But our troops have barred these roads and since then have destroyed several dozen German divisions.

As far back as the first days of the war, the German propaganda service announced destruction of the whole Soviet Air-force. But our planes destroyed this legend too, by bringing down dozens of German planes daily, killing thousands of German soldiers and systematically bombing Berlin and other German cities.

Only four weeks ago Berlin radio announced that the Soviet Army had thrown its last reserves into action. But the tremendous losses suffered by the German Army in killed and in the wounded who pack all the hospitals, not only of Germany but of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria, expose the utter ridiculousness of this boastful prattle.

The question arises: What are the forces with which the Red Army continues to inflict such tremendous losses on the Hitlerite hordes?

Failing to achieve its strategic war aims, its plans of seizing Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev "within one month" having suffered a fiasco, the German Command changed its phonograph record and began to declare that the German Army's aim is not seizure of towns but extermination of manpower and destruction of equipment of the Red Army. However, two months of war have shown not only that the Red Army is not annihiliated, but that its strength and power of resistance are growing with each day of war.

The enemy has occupied a number of our regions and towns. But he was able to do this only at the cost of heavy

losses in manpower and equipment. In the first three weeks alone our troops smashed:

Enemy tank divisions: the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 19th and 20th.

Infantry divisions: the 5th, 11th, 24th, 26th, 28th, 30th, 32nd, 44th, 50th, 52nd, 62nd, 68th, 71st, 79th, 86th, 94th, 95th, 99th, 101st, 106th, 110th, 111th, 121st, 125th, 137th, 156th, 157th, 161st, 206th, 253rd, 262nd, 263rd, 290th, 293rd, 297th, 298th and 299th.

Motorized divisions: the 2nd, 8th, 14th, 17th, 18th, 20th, 25th and 27th.

SS infantry divisions: the 3rd, 11th, 30th and others, and the "Germany" and"Viking" Infantry Regiments.

Infantry regiments, attached to various divisions: the 23rd, 24th, 35th, 119th, 135th, 253rd, 260th, 268th, 279th, 307th, 311th, 312th, 462nd, 480th, 485th, 486th, 530th and many others.

As a result of the fighting many German divisions virtually exist only on paper. According to testimony of war prisoners, companies of such divisions number 10 to 12 men each.

In two months of hostilities the German Army lost over 2,000,000 men -- killed, wounded and war prisoners. Its

losses in war equipment were equally heavy. According to verified data, in two months of war the Germans lost about 8,000 tanks, 10,000 pieces of artillery and over 7,200 planes.

German propaganda asserted the following fantastic figures of our losses: 14,000 tanks, 14,000 pieces of artillery, 11,000 planes and 5,000,000 men, of whom over 1,000,000 were said to be prisoners of war. This is such a stupid lie that no one with a head on his shoulders will believe it. This lie has a definite purpose: to conceal the tremendous losses of German troops, to gloss over the collapse of their boastful plans of lightning annihilation of the Red Army, to dupe the German people at any cost, and to mislead public opinion throughout the world.

Our real losses in this period are as follows: In continuous fierce battle for over two months the Red Army lost 150,000 killed, 440,000 wounded, 110,000 missing -- altogether 700,000 men; 5,500 tanks, 7,500 pieces of artillery and 4,500 planes.

By its heroic fighting against the treacherous and cruel enemy the Red Army dispelled the legend of the invincibility of the German Army and upset all calculations of the German Command. The Red Army is indomitably ready to continue further stubborn struggle with the enemy until his final annihilation.

The Soviet Airforce had a full opportunity to bomb Berlin systematically at the beginning of the war. However, the Red Army command did not do this, because Berlin is a capital city with a large working population, because foreign embassies and legations are situated in Berlin, and because bombing such a city might cause heavy casualties among the civilian population. We expected that the Germans on their part would refrain from bombing our capital, Moscow.

It turned out, however, that written laws do not deter the Nazi fiends and that war regulations do not exist for them. In the month of July 22 to August 22 the German Airforce made 24 raids on Moscow. It was not military objectives that suffered in these raids, but dwelling houses in the center and outskirts of Moscow, a hospital and two polyclinics, three kindergartens, the Vakhtangov Theater, one building of the Academy of Sciences, several small workshops of local industry and several collective farms near Moscow. As a result of the bombing of dwelling houses in Moscow by the enemy airforce, 736 persons were killed, 1,444 severely wounded and 2,069 lightly injured.

The Soviet Command could not let these bestial raids on Moscow by German aviation go unpunished. To bombings of the peaceful population of Moscow, Soviet aviation retaliated by systematic raids on military and industrial objectives in Berlin and other German cities. It will be thus in future too. Sacrifices borne by the working people of Moscow will not go unavenged.

In its war against the Soviet Union the German Army perpetrates crimes unparalleled in the history of war: it tortures and brutally beats war prisoners, wounded Red Army men and commanders; it exterminates thousands of peaceful Soviet citizens, without stopping at mass slaying of women and children; reduces Soviet villages and towns to ashes; engages in plunder and marauding; outrages women and girls. The Hiterlite hordes stand exposed before the whole world as abominable murderers and robbers.

The Hitlerite bandits shall not escape unscathed. They will have to answer for their unheard-of, bloody crimes. They shall pay blood for blood and life for life.

Thus two months of hostilities between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union have shown:

1. That Hitler's plan of doing away with the Red Army within five or six weeks has collapsed. It is obvious now that the criminal war commenced by bloody Nazism will be a protracted one, and that the tremendous losses of the German Army will expedite the collapse of Hitlerism.

2. That the loss of a number of our regions and cities is a serious loss but has no decisive importance for further struggle with the enemy until his complete annihilation.

3. That while Germany's resources of manpower are diminishing and its international position worsening each day, the strength of the Red Army constantly grows, and the Soviet Union acquires new, powerful allies and friends. The history of wars shows that they have always been won by states and armies whose forces grew in the course of the war, while states and armies whose forces were exhausted and declined in the course of war suffered defeat.

Morning Communique, August 23

On the night of August 22 our troops stubbornly fought the enemy along the whole front.

German Losses

The German Army is suffering heavy losses in all directions of the eastern front. Captured German soldiers when questioned state that many unit commanders are constantly demanding fresh reinforcements from the German Command to replace killed, wounded and missing.

A captured officer of the 8th German Panzer Division, Brening, stated: "Our division lost three-fourths of its effectives."

Captured soldiers of the same division, Kinstler and Hartman, said that their companies had been completely annihilated. Only five soldiers of these companies remained alive, and they surrendered.

A captured soldier of the 284th Regiment of the 226th Infantry Division, Melling, said: "Our battalion was completely annihilated during fighting in which I participated. Eighty soldiers were taken prisoner; all the rest were killed or wounded."

A soldier of the 52nd Artillery Regiment, Kraft, said: "Our regiment sustained very heavy losses. Our heavy artillery was stuck and our horses were falling from fatigue. The Russian artillery kept us under incessant fire. The road was littered with corpses of German soldiers."

Captured soldiers of the 394th Infantry Regiment, Laub and Schmunk, said: "Our regiment was completely annihilated while crossing the "M" river. The few taken prisoner are the only survivors."

A soldier of the 486th Infantry Regiment, Felsing, stated: "Our company was annihilated by machinegun fire and a bayonet charge within 15 minutes. Only two men survived: one who had been wounded the day before, and myself."

Evening Communique, August 23

On August 23 our troops continued to fight the enemy along the whole front, especially stubbornly in the directions of Kingisepp, Smolensk, Novgorod and Odessa.

On August 21 nineteen enemy airplanes were brought down in air combats. We lost 17 planes.

Rumanian Losses

Red Army troops operating in the Odessa direction have inflicted extremely heavy losses on the Rumanian Army. Many Rumanian divisions retain only 20 - 25 percent of their effectives.

The Rumanians have also suffered heavy losses in fighting equipment. Several divisions lost from 70 - 90 percent of their sub-machineguns, 60 - 80 percent of their machineguns, and all their anti-tank guns.

The condition of the 15th Rumanian Infantry Division is indicative. In one week of hostilities -- August 10 - 17 -- the division faced strong counter-attacks by our infantry and tank troops. Near the small town of "R" the Rumanians hurled the 103rd Regiment of their 15th Infantry Division against the right flank of our formation. Our troops allowed the Rumanians to approach within 500 meters and then opened machinegun and artillery fire. No less than 750 killed and wounded Rumanian officers and soldiers were left on the battlefield. In this engagement our artillery smashed a Rumanian battery of heavy artillery -- nearly 20 machineguns and sub-machineguns and one anti-aircraft battery.

Near the small town of "M" a tank company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Mazurov outflanked two battalions of the 10th Infantry Regiment of the same division, disabled two Brandt and one Breda guns, two machinegun batteries and killed about 100 Rumanian soldiers.

As a result of a week's fighting the 15th Rumanian Infantry Division was completely smashed. According to war prisoners in the 103rd Infantry Regiment of this division, 350 soldiers remained out of 2,700 and only 20 officers and non-commissioned officers remained out of a commanding personnel of 485.

Only 180 privates and several officers and non-commissioned officers remained in the 10th Infantry Regiment of

the same division. The 103rd Infantry Regiment lost practically all of its arms. By August 17 the regiment had lost 98 sub-machineguns out of 108, 59 machineguns out of 66, and nearly all its guns.

Morning Communique, August 24

On the night of August 23 our troops continued fighting the enemy in the directions of Kingisepp, Smolensk, Novgorod and Odessa.

Fierce fighting continued in the Odessa direction. Rumanian troops operating in this sector are suffering tremendous losses. Following annihilation of the 15th Infantry Division, reported by the Soviet Information Bureau on August 23, the 3rd Infantry Division of the Rumanian Army was smashed. Not more than 800 officers and men of this division managed to escape from the battlefield. The division lost over 10,000 killed and wounded in recent battles. In the last engagement alone our troops captured or destroyed sixteen 75-milimeter guns, eight 105-milimeter howitzers, 70 sub-machineguns, 45 machineguns, five anti-tank guns and 20 light guns. The 3rd Rumanian Division has ceased to exist as a fighting unit.

Soviet Offensive in Western Direction Advances

Soviet troops commanded by Red Army officer Konev continue to inflict defeats on the enemy in the western direction, the Soviet press reported today.

Pressing their offensive relentlessly after recapturing several towns, Konev's men routed a Nazi infantry division captured its artillery, destroyed its headquarters and killed approximately 3,000 Germans. Reinforcements brought up to assist the German division were also routed.

Konev's units have put out of action 130 tanks, over 100 trucks and a large quantity of artillery and ammunition.

Red Airforce Breaks Up Daylight Raid on Moscow

The Soviet Information Bureau reports:

On August 20 five German scouting planes were shot down at the approaches to Moscow. All these planes were of the latest model. Their insolent attempt to reach the Soviet capital in broad daylight ended in a complete fiasco.

The first to crash was a Junkers-88, shot down by fighter pilots Lieutenant Kirillov and Junior Lieutenant Emelyanov, who were on patrol duty. The second German machine -- a Dornier-217 -- was brought down by aerial sniper Captain Kotenkov. A group of pilots of "N" air squadron accounted for the third enemy scout.

The fourth and fifth planes were brought down by Lieutenant Demenchuk, who lost his life in heroic action. An enemy plane was sighted at high altitude about six p.m. Receiving the order to engage and destroy the enemy, Demenchuk rapidly took off, overtook the enemy plane and pumped lead into it. Blazing and falling through the air in pieces, the Junkers-88 crashed in the vicinity of the village of "M."

During the fighting a second plane -- a Heinkel-111 -- appeared. Demenchuk accepted battle, but his ammunition soon gave out. An enemy bullet struck the Soviet fighter in the chest. Summoning his last energies, Demenchuk rammed his plane into the Nazi machine. The German craft, enveloped in flames, crashed. Three Nazis who took to parachutes were taken prisoner.

SOVIET RESPONSE TO VOROSHILOV'S APPEAL

Public meetings to discuss Marshal Voroshilov's appeal for defense of Leningrad are being held throughout the Soviet Union, the Soviet press reports.

Leningrad

Hundreds of meetings have been held in Leningrad, most of them in factories and offices. All Leningrad factories are reported to have stepped up production to full emergency capacity, with many workers putting in two full shifts -- and sometimes more, each day. The fierce activity in production, however, is said to have been fully systematized and disciplined for maximum efficiency. The workers' attitude is said to be calm and determined.

Addressing a typical factory meeting, foreman Shirokov said: "In the last two war months we have given military training to every man in the factory able to bear arms. The Red Army will get reliable reinforcements. We shall do our utmost to crush the Nazi snake."

A veteran of the Revolution of 1917 named Bogdanov, speaking at a meeting in the Skorokhod factory (largest shoe factory in the Soviet Union), recalled a phrase of S.M. Kirov (Leningrad political leader assassinated by Trotskyists in 1934): "The only thing old left in Leningrad is its revolutionary tradition -- everything else is new."

Bogdanov added: "Our tradition always was and always will be to beat the enemy relentlessly wherever he appears. That is what we shall do to the insolent Nazis. They shall never set foot in Lenin's city."

Moscow

In an open letter to Leningrad workers, a group of Moscow veterans of both 1905 and 1917 Revolutions said:

"Old comrades-in-arms:

"We address you today to express our ardent fraternal love for you -- the valiant defenders of Lenin's great city. We must all work together to make the criminal Nazis' march on Leningrad the beginning of their complete annihilation.

"In this sacred struggle, old comrades-in-arms, we shall be in the front ranks together with you and your sons and your grandsons.

"All progressive humanity is with us. The victory shall be ours."

Kiev

Kiev workers in the electric power plants sent the following letter to the press:

"Following the example of the people of Leningrad, we shall form new detachments of the People's Volunteer Militia to help the Red Army at the front.

"We shall work without pause in our occupation to strengthen Kiev's industry for the powerful defense of our great country."

Miners of the coal fields near Moscow, as a pledge of support to Leningrad, announced that they have completed their 1941 quota and have already delivered several thousand tons on their 1942 quota. All the miners are receiving special military training and many have enlisted in People's Volunteer Militia detachments.

Frunze, Kirghiz S.S.R.

From the Kirghiz capital comes a message by workers of the Frunze Machinebuilding Plant:

"Leningrad has a firm place in the affections of all the peoples of our country. Every Kirghiz, every inhabitant of the remotest village of Tiangshang and the Pamirs, knows that the industry of Leningrad was the mother of the industry of our distant Soviet Kirghizia.

"Together with the whole Soviet people we are ready at any moment to defend the city of our great Lenin with our lives."

Uralsk, Kazakh S.S.R.

Workers of the Ural Machinebuilding Works declared:

"Although we are separated from them by thousands of kilometers, our hearts are with the valiant people of Leningrad. In their workshops the Ural workers are forging the weapons of victory over the Nazi fiends.

"Stand firm, dear friends, and relentlessly smash the barbarians. Do not let them set foot upon the sacred soil of Lenin's city."

BELGIANS REFUSE TO "CRUSADE" AGAINST U.S.S.R.

From the Belgian towns of Mons, Alost and Ypres the Nazis succeeded in recruiting for their "European Crusade" against the Soviet Union only 14 men in all, the Soviet Information Bureau reports.

These recruits were secured, the Information Bureau said, only after the Germans threw a police cordon around large areas, arrested all men of military age, dragged them off to a

police station half-clad in the middle of the night, and beat many who categorically refused to "volunteer."

The 14 were put in uniform and sent to the Mons railway station for shipment to the front. Despite official secrecy, hundreds of Belgians gathered at the station. Women broke train windows and spit in the "Crusaders" faces. German police were compelled to surround the station to protect the men.

DENY AXIS CHARGES RED ARMY WILL USE POISON GAS

The following statement was issued by the Soviet Information Bureau:

Obeying Berlin instructions, the Italian Stefani Agency and the Hungarian radio have come out with provocative reports alleging that Soviet armies are "preparing to begin chemical warfare."

To reveal clearly the absurdity of these German-inspired reports, it suffices to place side by side the clumsy fabrications of the Stefani Agency and the Hungarian radio.

The Hungarian radio based its delirious statement about "Soviet Russia's large-scale preparations for chemical war" on mythical "testimonials of war prisoners captured during the German advance toward the Dnieper," as usual without citing any real statements.

The Stefani Agency, having a weakness for all kinds of provocative gossip, repeated the ridiculous nonsense produced by the Hungarian radio, reinforcing it with new and equally stupid fabrications. The Italian agency's report alleging that Soviet armies are preparing for chemical warfare is based on "testimonials given by war prisoners captured in the Ukraine and questioned by Hungarian officers." Needless to say, these reports of the Hungarian radio and the Stefani Agency are vicious, provocative fabrications.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, August 26, 1941

No. 37

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 24 - 25

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 25.

Evening Communique, August 24

On August 24 our troops fought the enemy along the whole front, with particular stubbornness in the directions of Kaekisalmi, Smolensk, Gomel and Dnepropetrovsk.

On August 22 and 23, fifty-two German planes were destroyed in air battles. We lost 39 planes in the same period.

Ships of our Northern Fleet sank two enemy transports.

* * * * *

Stubborn fighting is continuing in the Odessa direction, where Red Army troops inflicted heavy losses on the 5th and 7th Rumanian Infantry Divisions. In the "K" sector of the front the 5th Infantry Division fought against Red Army rearguard units which were covering the retreat of Soviet troops to new positions. These rearguard units continuously struck at the enemy and by surprise attacks in various sectors disrupted communications between enemy units.

The Rumanian command was compelled to hurl fresh reinforcements into action for each village that was taken.

As a result of five days of fighting one regiment of the 5th Rumanian Division was almost completely annihilated. A particularly heavy engagement took place near the village of "S." An enemy tank unit hit a mined section of the highway and lost 11 tanks. Enemy infantry which followed the tank unit encountered Soviet machinegun and mortar fire, losing almost 800 men.

Another regiment of the same Rumanian division also suffered heavy losses. Our tanks and artillery wiped out at least 600 officers and men and destroyed approximately 800 machineguns and sub-machineguns and a large quantity of ammunition.

Altogether, in encounters with Soviet rearguard troops the 5th Rumanian Infantry Division lost almost 9,000 men killed and wounded. Twenty-five shattered Rumanian guns of various calibers, 140 machineguns and sub-machineguns, 30 trucks and 15 tanks remained on the battlefield.

Heavy losses were also sustained by the 7th Rumanian Infantry Division, whose units were intensely bombed by our "X" air formation. Several waves of our bombers showered enemy columns with bombs. Planes of a Red Airforce unit commanded by Senior Lieutenant Golubev destroyed approximately twenty 75-millimeter guns and howitzers. Within 25 kilometers of the town of "K," units of the 7th Rumanian Division

were attacked by our cavalry. Bodies of soldiers, shattered tanks, guns and motorcars covered the highway for a stretch of over 30 kilometers.

During the past week the 7th Division lost over 7,000 officers and men killed and wounded. Our troops destroyed over 100 enemy machineguns and sub-machineguns, 20 pieces of artillery, six tanks, three armored cars and a large quantity of ammunition.

Morning Communique, August 25

On the night of August 24 our troops stubbornly fought the enemy in the directions of Kaekisalmi, Novgorod and Dnepropetrovsk.

* * * * *

Our patrol ships reported they had sighted four German transports, accompanied by torpedo speedboats, in the "K" sector of the Baltic Sea. Vessels of the Red Banner Baltic Fleet went out to meet the enemy convoy. At the approach of the Soviet ships, the German transports turned shoreward at once and sought the protection of coastal batteries.

However, this did not save the enemy. Our naval guns opened fire on the transports and the escorts. A few minutes after the engagement began, Soviet speedboat "L" released a

torpedo at one enemy transport, struck it amidships and exploded its ammunition stores. The transport quickly went to the bottom.

A second German transport, seeing the destruction of its fellow, altered its course and ran aground at full speed. The Nazi crew put up a smokescreen, endeavoring under this cover and under covering gun fire to save the other transports. But this endeavor failed. Our destroyers successively wrecked two escort boats and set fire to a third transport. Glaring flames bursting from this vessel could be clearly seen despite the smokescreen.

A few salvos completely demolished the burning transport, which soon disappeared beneath the waves. A fourth transport ran aground in an effort to escape. The smashed Nazi convoy was carrying troops, ammunition and tanks.

Evening Communique, August 25

On August 25 our troops fought the enemy stubbornly along the whole front. After tenacious fighting our troops evacuated Novgorod.

On August 24, forty-six enemy planes were brought down in air battles or destroyed on airdromes. We lost six planes.

In the Black Sea our warships sank a submarine.

SOVIET NOTE TO IRAN

Moscow, August 25.

Vyacheslav Molotov, Vice Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. and People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs, on the instructions of the Soviet Government this morning handed the following note to Mohammed Saed, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Iran in the U.S.S.R.:

The Soviet Government, guided by a feeling of friendship toward the Iranian people and by respect for the sovereignty of Iran, has ever and constantly observed a policy of strengthening friendly relations between the U.S.S.R. and Iran and has contributed in every way to the prosperity of the Iranian State.

This friendly policy of the Soviet Union toward Iran has found its expression in such important documents as the Soviet Government's notes of January 14, 1918 and June 26, 1919 concerning the principles of Soviet policy toward the Iranian people, as well as in many treaties and agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and Iran.

At the foundation of all treaties and agreements between the Soviet Government and the Iranian Government is the immutable principle of respect for the independence and the territorial integrity of Iran. In conformity with this principle the Soviet Government, in its note of January 14, 1918, declared null and void all agreements which in any way limited and affected the rights of the Iranian people to a free and independent existence.

The Soviet Government abrogated all Iranian payments provided by obligations given to the Czarist Government, ceased all intrusion in Iranian revenues and fully abrogated, as humiliating for Iran and incompatible with the principle of its state sovereignty, the consular jurisdiction by which the competence of Iranian courts had not been applied to affairs of Russian residents in Iran.

The Soviet Government undertook by this same act to transfer without payment, and later in fact transferred to the Iranian people a number of enterprises established by Russia, namely: the Meshed-Seistan telegraph line; the Asterabad region telegraph; the Enseli-Teheran highway, and all highways constructed by Russians in 1914-1918, with all accessories; the Enseli port installations, with all accessories such as the electric power plant, piers, buildings and inventory as well as all Russian postal establishments, telephone and telegraph lines, etc. At the same time, in accordance with the decision of the Soviet Government, the Discount Bank, with all its movable and stationary property, was transferred to the Iranian people.

The Soviet Government, by its acts of January 14, 1918 and June 26, 1919, thus gave full and clear evidence of its disinterested readiness to contribute to the political and economic prosperity of Iran.

In the Soviet-Iranian treaty of February 26, 1921, the Soviet Government declared null and void the treaties and agreements between the Government of Czarist Russia and the Iranian Government violating the sovereignty of Iran. Thereby the Soviet Government abandoned use of the Ashur Ada Islands and other islands near the coast of the Asterabad (Gorgan) province of Iran. The Soviet Government at the same time

renounced all rights with regard to loans granted to Iran by the Czarist Government, as loans aiming at the enslavement of Iran, and also renounced its rights with regard to Iranian revenues as a guaranty of those loans.

Having freely confirmed the full transfer, as property of the Iranian people, of the constructions mentioned in the note of 1919, the Soviet Government supplementarily transferred to Iran the Sofian - Urmia Lake railway line with rolling stock and other property, as well as piers, warehouses, steamers, barges and other means of transportation on Lake Urmia.

Later, for a period of many years, the Soviet Government constantly rendered assistance to Iran in the field of economic development -- in particular, the commercial treaty between the U.S.S.R. and Iran of July 3, 1924, granting to Iran a number of privileges with regard to the export and import of Soviet and Iranian goods. The agreement of 1926 concerning use of water supplies, the Fisheries Convention of 1927, the Convention on Fighting Agricultural Blight of 1935, the Convention on Fighting Locusts of 1935, the Trade Agreement of 1940 and a number of other treaties and agreements are also an evidence of the well disposed and friendly attitude of the Soviet Union toward Iran.

Because of the assistance of the Soviet Union, Iran, in virtue of the above-mentioned treaties and agreements, has been able to organize on a large scale such important branches of its national economy as fisheries, cotton, etc. The Soviet Government has lately taken a number of further steps to strengthen and develop its economic relations with Iran. The Soviet Government has, in particular, expressed its present readiness to deliver to Iran goods vitally needed by the Iranian people.

The Soviet Government, however, as well as the Government of Iran, had at the time of the conclusion of the principal Soviet-Iranian Treaty of February 26, 1921 already clearly realized the special difficulties which might be encountered in the course of strengthening friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Iran in case the territory of Iran should be used by elements hostile both to the U.S.S.R. and Iran itself, and in case these elements should try to use Iran as a base for aggression against the U.S.S.R. With a view to averting such danger, the Soviet - Iranian Treaty provides in Article 6 the following:

> Both high contracting parties agree 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 for operations against the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic, or if a foreign power should threaten the frontiers of the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic, or those of its allies, and if the Persian Government should not be able to put a stop to such a menace after having been once called upon to do so by the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic, the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic shall have the right to advance its troops into the Persian interior for the purpose of carrying out military operations necessary for its defense. The Soviet Government undertakes, however, to withdraw its troops from Persian territory as soon as the danger has been removed.

Thus the Soviet Government, in full agreement with the Iranian Government, undertook to protect the interests of the U.S.S.R. in Iran should the danger mentioned in the Treaty of 1921 occur, and at the same time confirmed its obligation

immediately to withdraw its troops from the territory of Iran after the danger had passed. It is well known that the Soviet Government for a period of 20 years of the operation of the 1921 Treaty did not consider it necessary to invoke Article 6 of the 1921 Treaty in order to protect its interests.

Recently, however, and particularly from the beginning of the perfidious aggression of Hitlerite Germany against the U.S.S.R., the activity on Iranian territory of German Nazi conspiratorial groups hostile to the U.S.S.R. and Iran has taken on a threatening character. Having made their way into important official posts in more than 50 Iranian Departments, German agents are trying by every means to provoke disorder and disturbance in Iran, to violate the peaceful life of the Iranian people, to instigate Iran against the U.S.S.R. and to involve Iran in a war with the U.S.S.R. German Nazi agents such as Radanowitsch, Hamotta, Mayer, Wilhelm, Sapow, Gustav, Bohr, Heinrich, Kelinger, Trappe and others, under the screen of their service to various German firms (A.E.G., Ferrostahl, Harber, Ortel, Len, Schichau), have reached a climax in their subversive activities of organizing diversionist and terrorist groups intended on the one hand to be transferred to Soviet Azerbaijan and, especially, to the main Soviet oil region, Baku, and to Soviet Turkmenistan, and on the other hand to prepare a military coup d'etat in Iran.

This is what the leaders of the German secret service who have recently arrived from Iraq are now busy with (namely Hamotta, with his assistant, Mayer, an employe of the Mercedes Company). A group of German agents, organized by them under the direction of the German Embassy at Teheran, is now organizing military groups at a number of frontier points of Iran to be transferred to Baku and other important Soviet frontier points with the aim of setting fires and preparing explosions on the territory of the U.S.S.R.

At various points in Iran, German agents have at their disposal stores of arms and ammunition. Particularly in the northern part of Iran, in the neighborhood of Miane, they have stored for their criminal aims more than 50 tons of explosives. In the suburbs of Teheran, under the guise of hunting, they carry out military training of their criminal companions among German nationals.

Fifty-six German secret agents, under the guise of technicians, have made their way into Iranian military enterprises. Among these agents a particularly important part is played by a certain Artel, who is both a spy and a representative of the German Friedrich Krupp firm in Iran; by one Radanowitsch, director of the Iranian agency of the German Siemens firm, a well known German spy; by his deputy, Kewkin; and by one Wolf, employe of the Iran Express office in Pehlevi (Enseli), who at the same time is head of the German secret service in the northern part of Iran and on the Caspian coast.

In pursuit of their criminal activities these German agents infringe in the most brutal and unscrupulous manner upon the elementary rules dictated by respect for the sovereignty of Iran, and have turned Iranian territory into an area for preparation of military aggression against the Soviet Union. The situation in Iran, resulting from the above-mentioned conditions, is fraught with extreme dangers. The Soviet Government is thus obliged to carry out immediately all measures which it is not only entitled to take but is bound to take for self-defense in strict conformity with Article 6 of the Treaty of 1921.

During the period since the German aggression against the U.S.S.R. the Soviet Government has thrice -- on June 26, July 19 and August 16 of this year -- drawn the attention of the Iranian Government to the danger which the subversive and espionage activities of German agents in Iran constitute. On June 26 of this year the Soviet Government informed the Shah of Iran that the Soviet Government has at its disposal reliable information concerning a coup d'etat being prepared by Germans in Iran.

On July 19 of this year the Soviet Government, together with the British Government, again raised before the Iranian Government the question of putting an end to hostile activities conducted by the Germans and of troubles being prepared by them which threaten the interests not only of Iran itself but also the interests of neighboring states. At the same time the Government of the Soviet Union and the Government of Great Britain insisted upon the expulsion from Iran of Germans whose presence in Iran is incompatible with the interests of Iran itself as well as with the interests of the Soviet Union and Great Britain.

Finally, on August 16 of this year, the Soviet Government, as well as the Government of Great Britain, again for a third time raised before the Government of Iran the necessity of taking urgent measures to put an end to activities of German agents in Iran directed against the interests of Iran as well as of the Soviet Union and Great Britain, and once more insisted upon the speediest expulsion of these Germans from Iran.

The Soviet Government has thus thrice warned the Iranian Government of the danger threatening its interests as well as the interests of the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain, in order that necessary measures should be taken. Unfortunately the Iranian Government has refused to take measures which would put an end to the troubles and disorders fomented by German agents on the territory of Iran, thus encouraging German agents in their criminal activities.

As a result of this, the Soviet Government has been forced to take necessary measures and to avail itself immediately of the right belonging to the Soviet Union in virtue of Article 6 of the Treaty of 1921, namely the right to advance its troops provisionally into the territory of Iran for the purpose of self-defense.

These measures are by no means directed against the Iranian people. The Soviet Government has no designs affecting the territorial integrity and the independence of the Iranian State. The military measures which the Soviet Government is undertaking are exclusively directed against the danger created by hostile activities of Germans in Iran. As soon as this danger, threatening the interests of Iran and the U.S.S.R., has been removed, the Soviet Government, in compliance with its obligation under the Soviet - Iranian Treaty of 1921, will immediately withdraw its troops from Iranian territory.

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The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S.S.R. in Iran, Smirnov, on instructions of the Soviet Government, handed a similar note to the Iranian Government this morning. Simultaneously, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Great Britain in Iran, Bullard, on behalf of the Government of Great Britain, handed to the Iranian Government a note expounding the circumstances which prompted the Government of Great Britain to introduce British troops on Iranian territory.

JEWISH PEOPLE'S MEETING IN MOSCOW

Meeting this week in Moscow, representatives of Jewish communities throughout the world urged the Jewish people to unite against Hitlerism and in support of the countries fighting Nazi Germany -- chief among which today is the Soviet Union.

The meeting issued an appeal recalling Nazi violence against the Jews of Western Europe and calling on the Jewish people under Nazi rule to revolt against its oppressors.

To American Jews, a special plea was made:

"Brother Jews of the United States and of all America:

"The people of the United States are rendering great assistance to all democratic countries fighting against humanity's worst enemy -- German Nazism. We trust that you will be among the first to promote the rapid realization of this assistance."

Among the speakers who addressed the meeting were many Jews who have attained world prominence as citizens of the Soviet Union: the scientist Peter Kapitsa, the film director Sergei Eisenstein, the writer Ilya Ehrenbourg. Many also spoke who in the Soviet Union have found asylum from barbarous persecution in Germany and Nazi-dominated lands.

Opening the meeting, Solomon Mikhoels, People's Artist of the U.S.S.R., known for his interpretation of Shakespearian parts in the Moscow Yiddish Theater, said in part:

"Today, when the great Soviet people, in alliance with the peoples of Great Britain and the United States, is waging war against the armed gang of Nazi murderers, today when the whole world is determined to stand up in defense of the peoples enslaved and oppressed by frenzied Nazism: O ancient Jewish people, tried by persecution and humiliation, wherever your sons may be, at whatever latitude the Jewish heart is beating -- hearken!

"Together with all the citizens of our great country our sons are fighting the enemy now, giving their blood and lives in this patriotic war for freedom.

"You, our brothers, must remember that your fate and fate of your countries are being decided here on our battlefields."

Other speakers included the poet Peretz Markish, Red Army man Yeronim Kuznetsov, writer David Bergelson, architect Boris Yofan, the German writer Theodore Plivier, journalist Shakhno Epstein, writer Samuel Marshak and many more.

The text of the Jewish People's Meeting's appeal to Jews the world over for support of all countries allied against Nazism, and texts of addresses by the speakers mentioned above, will be distributed with the Embassy Bulletin tomorrow.

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Wednesday, August 27, 1941

No. 38

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 26

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 26.

Morning Communique, August 26

On the night of August 25 our troops fought the enemy along the whole front.

* * * * *

Soviet troops crossed the Iranian border on the morning of August 25 and advanced 40 kilometers in the direction of Ardebil and Tabriz, the Soviet press reported today from Tbilisi (Tiflis). The advance was reported continuing in accord with provisions of the Soviet - Iranian Treaty of 1921.

* * * * *

Soviet troops, under the command of General Ivan Konev, strongly supported by waves of Red Airforce planes, continued their advance in the western direction during the last two days, the Soviet press reported, despite frantic Nazi efforts to bolster weak points in the German line.

A major German counter-attack, launched with participation of tanks and motorized infantry on August 23, has been

definitively shattered, the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda said. Enemy tank spearheads were roughly handled by Soviet tanks and artillery, and Nazi motorized infantry, deprived of their armored protection, began to retreat.

The advancing Soviet forces routed a Nazi infantry division, captured its artillery, smashed its headquarters, killed at least 3,000 officers and men and destroyed about 130 German tanks, 100 trucks and a large quantity of ammunition and artillery.

On the evening of August 23 Soviet tanks came up against the last wave of German tanks, broke their lines and sent the Nazis fleeing. In this engagement over 70 enemy tanks were destroyed and about 700 German officers and soldiers killed or wounded.

DENY ASAHI CHARGE

Moscow, August 26.

The Soviet press today carried the following statement:

Despite an official Soviet denial made on August 5, the Japanese newspaper Asahi printed a report on August 23 that a conference allegedly took place in Chita in the first half of August between representatives of the Soviet and Chinese Governments, that this conference was attended by 15 Chinese delegates, that it lasted an entire week and that problems affecting Japan were discussed.

The Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union (TASS) is authorized to refute this report of Asahi as false.

PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA:

THE RED ARMY GROWS STRONGER

"Izvestia": Everything for the Front!

Reviewing two months of successful defense against Nazi invasion and expressing Soviet determination to win ultimate victory, Izvestia, Soviet Government newspaper, published the following editorial:

From the first day of the war all efforts of the population of the U.S.S.R. have been subordinated to one purpose -- victory over the hateful enemy.

Everything for the front! With this slogan the Soviet people began reorganizing its activities in all fields. The nation-wide war effort is just beginning to gain strength and scope. It will continue to grow, becoming daily more formidable until the enemy is smashed.

The Red Army is inflicting on the enemy the severest punishment known to history. In the last three weeks the Red Army has routed 12 Nazi tank divisions, 37 infantry divisions, eight motorized divisions, several SS divisions and many infantry regiments of other divisions.

The blows dealt by the heroic Red Army to the treacherous enemy have dispersed the myth of the German Army's invincibility and have upset all calculations of the German High Command. Each inch of Soviet land is gained at ever heavier cost to the enemy, whose manpower and equipment are being crushed between the millstones of our war machine.

Red Army resistance to the overweening enemy is constantly growing. The Red Army is filled with indomitable spirit and will to struggle relentlessly against the Hitlerite hordes until they are completely annihilated.

"Pravda": Nazi Doom Is Predetermined

The following editorial appeared in Pravda, authoritative Soviet newspaper:

Hitler promised the duped German people that he would finish the war in the east in two months; conquer our great Soviet country; provide Germany with Ukrainian wheat and Caucasian oil; and secure millions of slaves to continue the war in the west and establish world supremacy.

Two months have passed. The boastful plans of the German Command have been thwarted. The Soviet people is fighting for the independence, freedom and honor of its country with a heroism, stubbornness and fierceness that amazes the world. The Nazi beast of prey keeps changing his plans, dashing from one end of the country to the other, but all in vain. Whatever temporary success the enemy may gain, in the end he always runs up against a solid wall of Soviet patriots.

The Red Army, with the cooperation of the whole Soviet people, is halting the forward smash of the immense Nazi war machine. With every day of war the strength and resistance of the Red Army grow, while the strength of Hitler's Germany diminishes and falters.

However, the enemy is still strong. The danger hanging over our country is grave. Nazi hordes are inflicting bloody atrocities upon the people of our country. But the greater the frenzy of the enemy, infuriated by the collapse of his plans, the more ardent the flames of the Soviet people's patriotic wrath, the more bitter their hatred for the Nazis, the firmer their stand and the fiercer their determination to destroy this insensate enemy.

The Nazis are beginning to understand this. German generals speak with perplexity and dread of the heroic resistance of the Red Army men, of their military might and their fighting skill. With even greater fear they speak of the guerrilla movement, of the people's warfare, which was not envisaged in the Nazi military manuals. They still do not know, but they will come to know, the full strength of a patriotic war.

We are waging a life and death struggle against Hitler's legions. The Red Army is inspired with indomitable readiness and determination to go on to the end, fighting the enemy until he is utterly exterminated. The doom of Nazi Germany is predetermined. Its strength is diminishing -- it will be defeated. Our forces are growing -- we shall win.

* * * * *

The United Front of democratic nations fighting Nazi Germany controls 90 percent of the nickel production of the world, 97 percent of the oil, 90 percent of the copper and 99 percent of the cotton and rubber, Soviet scientists heard at a meeting of the Geological and Geographical Departments of the Academy of Science of the U.S.S.R. held August 25.

Academician Fersman, reporting on the distribution of strategic raw materials in the present war, showed that Germany is already experiencing a shortage of oil, chromium, antimony, nickel, mica, manganese and other minerals. At the same time the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States possess large supplies of basic war materials.

THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE -- FIGHTING PARTNER IN THE SOVIET UNION'S WAR OF LIBERATION

Under the above title Pravda, authoritative Soviet newspaper, published the following editorial on the role of the Armenian people in the fight against Nazism:

All the peoples of the Soviet Union have risen as one in the struggle against the enemy who has attacked our Soviet land. The sons of all the peoples of our great Soviet country fight at the front shoulder to shoulder.

Soviet Armenians have staunchly taken their place in the common fight of our peoples for their independence and liberty. Like all free and equal citizens of the Soviet Union, the Armenians keenly responded to the danger hovering over our country, the more so because in its long history the Armenian people has time and again been attacked by foreign invaders.

The attack on the Soviet Union has also aroused those sons of the Armenian people who reside abroad. All their sympathies and sentiments are with the Soviet Union. The recent appeal of eminent representatives of the Armenian people to Armenians abroad has not gone unanswered. It is serving to unite all Armenians who are ready to fight for the destruction of Nazism.

The Nazis attacked the Soviet Union to turn our peoples into disfranchised slaves, to ruin and plunder our country, to destroy our national culture and the national states of the peoples of the Soviet Union, including the Armenian people. That shall never be! No matter how desperate the efforts of the enemy, all his schemes will be reduced to dust, all his blows will be parried. Hitlerism will be smashed, completely and irrevocably!

RUMANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF ADMITS TROOPS DEMORALIZED

Demoralization of Rumanian troops and growing enemy respect for the Red Army's fighting capacity are revealed in a confidential memorandum signed by General Masarini, Chief of the Rumanian Army General Staff. Titled "Deductions and Lessons of Operations in the War Against Russia," the memorandum was found by Red Army men in the captured headquarters of the 3rd Rumanian Infantry Division. Printed today in the Soviet press, it reads in part:

Soviet Troops

"Soviet troops in almost all formations, including regiments, are equipped with strong war materiel, including up-to-date and varied arms and mechanical traction vehicles. The Soviet infantry offers strong resistance, showing that it has received effective training. Soviet artillery fire is accurate.

"It should be emphasized that the Russians often reply to our offensives with counter-attacks. The number of Russians taken prisoner is low.

"The Russians resort to various ruses to trap and demoralize our units. Indicative is the case of a column of three infantry battalions and one artillery regiment advancing to the field of action. Its vanguard, falling into a trap set by Soviet troops and residents of a Bessarabian village, was attacked and became disorganized. This vanguard, without protection of artillery and the main forces of the column which were following, suffered heavy losses.

"Other cases should be mentioned. A German unit, entering a village after the first wave of troops had passed, ran into fire of Russian automatic weapons from houses, trees

and culverts. A large reconnoitering detachment of our troops was allowed to approach within several meters of a garden wall behind which Russians had camouflaged themselves. The Russians opened fire unexpectedly and inflicted heavy losses on the German detachment.

"Most of our losses are due to the enemy's exploitation of the inexperience of our troops.

"Summing up, we may say that the Red Army is well organized, equipped and trained and headed by competent commanders."

Rumanian Troops

"General Antonescu, inspecting the front, noted the complete lack of organization and discipline behind the lines of our troops. Horse and automobile transport functions in a disorderly manner. For example, vehicles travel incessantly in all directions and it is impossible to ascertain who sent them or why. Small units of our troops wander about the fields and roads without specific purpose. Carts and motor trucks are seen loaded with articles having no relation to war operations: civilian clothes, furniture, pots, crockery and other household articles secured from the local population.

"Owing to bad organization of transport and endless traveling from place to place, our troops and animals are so exhausted as to be unfit for service. During air raids and artillery bombardments, regular columns and auxiliary troops succumb to panic and fall victim to guerrilla sabotage.

"In many units our men do not receive rations for days on end. In some troop columns and formations one comes across dirty, unwashed, unshaven privates with the most untidy manners imaginable. When admonished they reply: 'We are starving, we are getting nothing to eat, we have no soap.'

"There is lack of initiative everywhere. Inertia is to be observed in many commanders. Nobody thinks of attempting to obtain things they need themselves by their own efforts. The army's requirements must be satisfied from local resources. Everything needed must be taken on the spot without compunction."

RED ARMY FORTS RESIST NAZIS

Soviet fortifications in the path of Nazi invasion are offering stubborn resistance even when surrounded, the Soviet press reports.

In one sector of the defenses of the town of "K," Krasnaia Zvezda relates, a numerically superior German force surrounded a great iron and concrete fort. The Soviet garrison did not leave its post and continued to fight back against Nazi assaults. Using an underground wire, the Krasnaia Zvezda correspondent got in touch with Lieutenant Vetrov, commander of the fort, who made the following statement:

"The enemy never lets up on his efforts to destroy our fort. In five days we have repulsed numerous attacks, the strongest of which took place on the first day of the encirclement. On that day Nazis approached the fort from two directions. When they came within a short distance of us we opened machinegun fire which caused the Germans heavy losses. For several hours afterward they were picking up their killed and wounded.

"Having failed in this attack, the Nazis sent out delegates who urged us to surrender. I, personally, shot two of them. The Germans then began to shell our fort. Although the shelling is still going on, they damaged only one embrasure which we promptly repaired.

"The morale of the garrison is excellent. We will fight until the last round and will not give up the fort. We are economizing on provisions and everybody gets one piece of hardtack a day."

Following this report of Lieutenant Vetrov's, it was learned that a group of Red Army men from outside the fort volunteered to carry provisions to the besieged garrison. This was successfully carried out, enabling the garrison to sustain itself for 10 days, at which time Red Army field units forced the enemy to retreat.

* * * * *

A blockhouse commanded by Lieutenant Shlayev, Soviet newspapers reported, inflicted heavy damage on enemy motorized troops and artillery. The Nazis lost eight tanks and 30 men before they discovered the location of the blockhouse and began shelling it. The Germans followed their artillery fire by sending out a light tank to reconnoiter, which encountered no resistance.

Shlayev, in the meantime, had informed two neighboring blockhouses of the movements of the Nazi troops. When the enemy entered the area bounded by the three blockhouses, artillery fire rained on their tanks, disabling two of them and damaging four. The turrets of two more German tanks were shot away and the caterpillar track of a third smashed.

With machinegun and rifle fire the Nazis answered the Red Army attack, but they failed to damage the blockhouses. After an hour and a half of battle the enemy was routed, leaving 24 Nazi tanks on the battlefield.

BRITISH AIR CHIEF GREETS RED AIRFORCE

Sir Charles Portal, Air Chief Marshal and Chief of the Air Staff of the Royal Airforce, replied to a greeting addressed to him by prominent Soviet air men with the following message, the Soviet press reports:

"Allow me to reply to the message of greetings which we read yesterday in the Times. It was very welcome; for it showed the spirit of friendship which animates our heroic comrades of the Soviet Airforce. Tell them we have watched with pride their gallant and successful fight against the enemy who invaded your country and that we know that the Red Star they bear so proudly will shine undimmed until the dawn of victory.

"We both fight for freedom. Together we will smite the enemy ever more strongly. The Royal Airforce returns the greetings of the Soviet Airforce with the utmost warmth. We pay tribute to their skill. We salute their courage. We have a rendezvous together -- over Berlin."

KISCH GREETS SOVIETS

Typical of the greetings received by the Red Army from leading intellectuals and writers throughout the world is this letter written by Egon Erwin Kisch, well known German journalist and author, which appeared in the Soviet press:

"Millions of people breathlessly follow the struggle of the Red Army. Not only peoples who have been trampled upon by Nazism bless you Red Army men. All working people of five continents wish success to your arms.

"This is a struggle between peace and war, between hatred and generation, retrogression and a world of creation and development. This is war between law and violence, between culture and barbarism, between progress and reaction.

"Fight and win, Soviet warrior! The thoughts of hundreds of millions all over the world are with you. Their fate, the fate of your fatherland, the fate of all fatherlands is in your hands, Red Army man!"

Embassy

of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

Thursday, August 28, 1941

No. 39

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 26 -27

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 27.

Evening Communique, August 26

On August 26 our troops fought the enemy stubbornly along the whole front.

According to precise data now available, 63 German planes were destroyed on August 26, instead of 46 as previously reported.

On August 25, ninety-three German planes were destroyed. We lost 18 planes.

Morning Communique, August 27

On the night of August 26 our troops fought the enemy along the whole front.

For over two days submarine "N," commanded by Lieutenant Commander Sanovich, cruised near enemy shores without encountering enemy vessels. The commander decided to penetrate one of the large enemy harbors.

On the night of August 20 the submarine entered an enemy harbor unobserved. There were no ships at the first two wharves. The submarine penetrated further and found two transports moored at piers, one of 5,000 tons. It torpedoed the larger of the two at a distance of a kilometer and a half. There was a muffled explosion. The submarine withdrew and for an instant raised its periscope while the commander convinced himself of the success of the attack.

On August 22 the same submarine sank an enemy transport of 2,000 tons at the entrance of "X" bay.

* * * * *

Marshal Semyon Timoshenko, Commander-in-Chief of Soviet forces on the Western (Central) Front, and Military Council member Bulganin have issued a special order-of-the-day congratulating soldiers and commanders under General Ivan Konev, who are continuing to advance and inflict heavy losses on Nazi troops in the western direction, the Soviet press reported.

HITLER'S IMPERIALIST SCHEMES IN IRAN FOILED

Under the above title the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia said yesterday:

Hitler's Germany actively tried to convert the territory of Iran into a place d'armes against the Soviet Union and Great Britain. Hitler's agents in Iran faithfully duplicated what was done in a number of European states in 1940. It is perfectly obvious that if this new gamble of Hitler's had succeeded, Iran would have been reduced to a vassal country, would have lost its independence completely, and the Iranian Government would have become a tool of the predatory plans of Nazi imperialism.

Fortunately for all freedom-loving countries, as well as for Iran itself, these perfidious designs of Hitler's gang were unmasked in time. In June, July and August the Governments of the Soviet Union and Great Britain thrice warned the Iranian Government of the perilous situation that had arisen. But these warnings were not heeded, and the Soviet Union, in agreement with Great Britain, moved its troops into Iranian territory to protect Iran from the insidious machinations of Nazi imperialism and simultaneously to eliminate the danger they had created both for the Soviet Union and Great Britain.

The Soviet Union is not pursuing any selfish aims in Iran and does not intend in the slightest degree or in any shape or form to encroach either upon the integrity of Iranian territory or the sovereign rights of the Iranian people.

The policy of the Soviet Government throughout the existence of the Soviet State has always been animated by a sincere feeling of friendship for the Iranian people. In the past two decades the Soviet State repeatedly demonstrated in practice that it desires to help the Iranian people in every way to emerge on the broad path of progress. Not only the annulment of Czarist treaties and loans which held Iran in bondage, but also active assistance rendered by the Soviet Union in building up Iranian economic life, furnish ample testimony to the friendly sentiments of the U.S.S.R. toward Iran.

It is highly symptomatic that one of the aims of the anti-Iranian activities of the Nazi "experts" with whom the German mission in Teheran teamed was to hamper the industrial development of the country. As with all other countries, German imperialism strove to convert Iran into an agrarian appendage of Germany, to be exploited on predatory colonial lines.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, for nearly a quarter of a century has promoted the industrial and cultural development of Iran in every way, thus strengthening its inde-

pendence. Large scale property in the shape of industrial plants, telegraph and telephone lines, railways and highways, port structures, power stations, jetties, buildings, etc., erected by Russia on Iranian territory, were turned over gratis to the Iranian people by the Soviet Government. These acts and a number of treaties and agreements amply testify to the disinterested readiness of the Soviet Government to assist the political and economic prosperity of Iran.

The present action is animated by the same sentiments of friendship for Iran. Together with Great Britain, the Soviet Union adopted resolute measures to put an end to the highly dangerous schemes of Hitler imperialism with regard to Iran, in order not only to avert the danger threatening the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain but also fully to ensure the political independence of that country.

The foiling of Nazi imperialism in Iran as a result of the joint measures resolutely taken by the Soviet Union and Britain will undoubtedly evoke immense satisfaction, not only in the Soviet Union and Great Britain but also in Iran and among the Iranian people, who thanks to this have been delivered from the danger of being converted into slaves of Hitler's imperialist gang.

HITLER'S INTRIGUES IN THE ATLANTIC

Under the above title the authoritative Soviet newspaper Pravda said editorially:

Hitler's Germany is trying to seize Britain's main sea routes and approaches to America. Its most important preparatory measure is virtual occupation of Spain, where there are no less than 140,000 Germans -- engineers, Gestapo agents, and soldiers. Germany is increasing pressure on Spain, striving to seize the naval bases of El Ferrol, Vigo, Morocco and the Canaries. She is using Spain as a springboard to attack Portugal, Gibraltar and northwestern Africa.

In taking possession of Portugal, Germany would seize the ports of Oporto and Lisbon, and the Portuguese islands in the Atlantic. According to available reports, the number of Germans in Portugal is at least 30,000. These include "diplomats, merchants and tourists" virtually Gestapo agents. They form a Fifth Column in Portugal to help German troops threatening from Spain. According to some reports, Germany and Spain have already delivered a joint ultimatum to Portugal, demanding the Azores be placed at Germany's disposal.

Germany is conducting intense preparations on Spanish soil for attacking the British base of Gibraltar. Preparations to attack Gibraltar are proceeding both in Spain and Spanish Morocco, which is swamped by German agents. The whole

Moroccan coast is fortified. Furloughs for the Spanish army in Morocco have been canceled.

Germany is also preparing to seize French African ports. German submarine bases have been set up at Casablanca and Dakar. An airdrome has been built near Dakar where 200 German planes are concentrated. Sixteen German naval bases have been set up between Dakar and Casablanca.

Hitler is preparing a new military adventure for the purpose of acquiring bases on the Atlantic.

LENINGRAD AND ODESSA PREPARE DEFENSE

Two great Soviet cities, at opposite ends of the main front stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea, are calmly making ready to withstand Nazi assaults, the Soviet press reports. Leningrad and Odessa, the first with a population over 3,000,000, the second with about 700,000 are calling on all their citizens to stand firm as German panzer columns try to prod through hard-fighting Red Army ranks toward the city defenses.

Leningrad

While heavy tanks clash on the northern front, life in Leningrad is outwardly calm, although factories and offices are keyed to a high pitch of activity, the Soviet press reports.

Leningrad newspapers almost daily carry items like this: "Red Army scouts on night patrol last night reported a Nazi tank column moving toward Leningrad.

"Four heavy Soviet tanks took up camouflaged positions near the road on which the enemy was advancing. At dawn the roar of motors was heard and before full daylight the silhouettes of 40 enemy tanks were observed on the road.

"The Soviet crews allowed the enemy to approach as close as possible before opening fire. Their shells disabled several Nazis and the Soviet tanks then advanced, ramming and crushing other German machines. The four heavy Soviet tanks put 31 Nazi tanks out of action. The others retreated."

Within Leningrad thousands of workers are learning military tactics specially developed to counter Nazi mechanized warfare. Most of these men belong to the Red Army reserves and had received at least elementary infantry training before the war began. Now they are learning to fling bundles of handgrenades under tank treads, to throw flaming gasoline bottles under tank bellies, to dig pitfalls and set up obstructions -- and daily to perfect their rifle and machinegun marksmanship.

Chistov, a factory worker, is mastering the art of sniping; Michurin, a lathe operator, has mastered the heavy machinegun and can riddle stationary or moving targets by day or night; Afinogenov, a bookkeeper, can toss a handgrenade 40 yards. Workmen of the Savin Factory practice bayonet drills every day after hours. Bernadsky, a professor at the Herzen Institute, practices with rifle and handgrenade along with the rest of the Institute's staff. In the textile mills weaver

Nikitina, spinner Vasileyeva, winder Zhdanova and piecer Isayeva are busy teaching their fellow workers first aid.

In the factories and places of business, meetings are held almost daily to inform the workers of the progress of operations at the front and organize still further efforts in support of the Red Army. Pledges of support from all parts of the Soviet Union and appeals for utmost resistance to the Nazi drive on Leningrad are read at these meetings. Typical was the following message from the Moscow City Council:

"People of Leningrad! The entire past history of your city, the years of heroic struggle, have shown to the world your worth, your fortitude, your fearlessness, your ability to overcome any difficulties. We feel certain that the enemy shall feel the weight of your blows, the steel of your nerves and the muscles of the invincible might of your organization and unity.

"We understand the appeal of your gallant leaders as addressed not only to you alone. Each of us will join in the effort for the defense of your great city. The ferocious enemy tears ahead because at his back towers the phantom of death with his scythe. Let the enemy know that death awaits him ahead too!"

Formation of People's Volunteer Militia Divisions began in Leningrad in the first days of the war. Since Marshal Voroshilov's appeal for all-out defense of the city, recruiting for these units has redoubled. Factory and office workers, engineers, actors, bookkeepers, students and writers have joined the ranks.

In the daytime Leningrad appears much as usual, except for trucks, often camouflaged with branches, that roll by

fresh from the front. Stores do a brisk business, automobiles and street cars crowd the streets. Crowds push into theaters and cinemas as usual.

At night Leningrad's streets are pitch dark and deserted. The tread of military patrols is heard continually. The city is on the alert. The Nazis will not find it unprepared.

ODESSA PREPARES TO FIGHT

Citizens of Odessa are manning the city's defenses and preparing a staunch defense against Nazi attack, the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia reports.

On August 26, Izvestia talked by radio with a member of the Odessa City Council, Kolyvanov, who said:

"Odessa's plants and factories are running full blast, working better than ever. Men who have gone to the front have been replaced by women who have quickly mastered their new occupations. Many of them already exceeding their quotas.

"City traffic is functioning normally, streetcars and busses are covering their usual routes. Trade is proceeding as usual. Odessa streets are full of life. The population is cheerful and resolute.

"Everything is being done for the city's defense. Local air defense squads are working devotedly and the People's

Volunteer Militia is displaying exemplary courage and staunchness. The entire population is exercising exceptional vigilance.

"Our cheerful, energetic and enterprising people have preserved their vigor and initiative even in this trying hour. Odessans have always felt strong affection for their city, and now that danger threatens they have risen to a man in its defense."

Izvestia conveyed the greetings of its readers to the inhabitants of Odessa, to which Kolyvanov replied: "Thank you. Muscovites need have no doubts about our staunchness."

NAZI PROVOCATION IN SWEDEN AND BULGARIA

Nazi activities in neutral countries bordering on the Soviet Union are gaining in intensity and disregard for the secrecy formerly observed, the Soviet press reports.

Besides Nazi plotting in Iran, which forced joint Soviet-British action to remove the enemy threat from that direction, Soviet newspapers report German activities in both Bulgaria and Sweden. In each case the German agents attempt to disguise their disruptive activities by attributing them to Soviet or British sources.

Bulgaria

The Soviet press recently published the following statement distributed by the Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union (TASS):

The alleged attack of Soviet planes on Bulgarian territory having been exposed, the Bulgarian rulers and the corrupt Bulgarian press have resorted to new provocations.

The Bulgarian newspapers Dnevnik and Slovo published a sensational report that a secret organization headed by a certain Prudkin has been discovered in Sofia, allegedly engaged in espionage on behalf of the U.S.S.R. and aimed at "undermining the German capacity for resistance and at shaking belief in the sincerity and good will of the Bulgarian people toward the Germans."

It is obvious that to shake Bulgarian good will toward the Germans no special organization is required, since there is not a single Bulgarian, outside the ruling clique which has sold itself to the Germans and a handful of mercenary scribes, who harbors anything but the deepest hatred toward the Nazis.

However, the appearance of this calumnious report and the intensive publicity given this fabrication, not only in the Bulgarian but also in the German press, provide ample evidence that the Bulgarian rulers, instigated by their Berlin masters, are hatching another stupid act of provocation which the Bulgarian people will brand as a fresh crime on the part of Hitler's agents.

Sweden

The Soviet press reports that Nazi agents in Sweden recently received the following orders, in printed form, from the Foreign Policy Department of the German Nazi Party:

1. Ensure National Socialist control over all railways, ports, airdromes, transport facilities and war industries.

2. Insist on eviction from Sweden of pro-British and pro-American elements carrying on neutrality propaganda.

3. Arrange sabotage at military establishments and factories, making it appear to be of British origin.

4. Strengthen National Socialist influence in the Swedish Army, creating regular National Socialist cells in the army and recruiting Swedish officers for the war against Russia.

5. Emphasize in propaganda that Sweden will receive a place in the New Europe only if she takes active part in the common struggle under German direction.

A SOVIET VILLAGE AT THE FRONT

"K" is a typical Ukrainian farm village, now close behind the battlefront. It has two collective farms. Through its formerly quiet streets there now roll endless truckloads of fuel and ammunition, bound for the front.

Many of the farmers have left for the front. Their departure reveals the strength and flexibility of the collective farm system. Men called to arms are replaced by women. Women work in the fields, efficiently manage farm departments, handle horses and harvest the crops. Of 500 fields of winter crops, 450 already have been harvested. More than half the harvest has been threshed.

Despite the quickened pace of their work, the collective farms find time to help the Red Army. About 40 of their members are engaged full time in repairing roads. Under the direction of sappers, large teams of girls and women dig trenches and camouflage them with foliage.

Red Army men at the front are conscious of this calm spirit behind their lines. When opportunity offers they help the collective farmers with their work. After a tense period in the front lines, 50 Red Army men came to assist one of "K's" collective farms. In a day they reaped 50 acres of peas, threshed 40 acres of wheat and carried to the barns a large quantity of cut grain. By noon the next day they had reaped 30 acres of peas and threshed 15 acres of wheat.

Embassy
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Information Bulletin

Washington, D. C.

Friday, August 29, 1941

No. 40

THE FRONT ON AUGUST 27 - 28

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 28.

Evening Communique, August 27

On August 27 our troops fought the enemy stubbornly in the directions of Kingisepp, Smolensk, Gomel, Dnepropetrovsk and Odessa.

On August 26 seventeen enemy planes were brought down in air battles. We lost eight planes.

Morning Communique, August 28

On the night of August 27 our troops fought the enemy stubbornly in the directions of Kingisepp, Gomel, Dnepropetrovsk and Odessa.

In an area of the western direction one of our tank units smashed the 41st German Infantry Regiment together with its headquarters. The colonel commanding this regiment and several officers were killed at the headquarters.

In a sector of the western direction German airplanes vainly attempted to destroy an important railway bridge. All attempts of the German fliers were repulsed

by accurate Soviet anti-aircraft fire. A gun crew commanded by Demchenko and Aleinik especially distinguished itself by repelling several German raids in a single day and bringing down seven enemy planes.

Red Army men and Baltic sailors are bravely defending Hangoe Peninsula. One night recently a large Finnish force launched an attack on positions held by Captain Sukach's detachment. The Red Army men calmly let the Finns come within a few dozen meters before opening heavy rifle and machine-gun fire.

Sergeant Shukanov, Lieutenant Kuznetsov and Red Army man Saveliev especially distinguished themselves as did Hero of the Soviet Union Sokur, a sniper, who killed 13 Finns.

The battle lasted over an hour. Unable to stand our fire, the Finns began to fall back, but their retreat was cut off by our artillery barrage. In this engagement the Finnish detachment was completely annihilated.

Simultaneously with the attack on land, the Finns attempted to strike from the sea, but this too ended in failure. Eight Finnish boats with landing parties were sunk.

Disregarding international law, the Nazi airforce continues brutal bombardments of Soviet hospitals, ambulance trains and hospital ships.

On August 19 a group of Nazi planes attacked the hospital ship "Sibir" carrying wounded men, and women with children from Tallinn to Leningrad. Ignoring distinct Red Cross insignia, German fliers showered the ship with high explosive and incendiary bombs. The "Sibir" was sunk.

When wounded Red Army men, women and children tried to escape in life boats, the Nazi aviators swooped down and machinegunned them. Part of the wounded Red Army men and some women and children were saved and brought to the Kronstadt Hospital, through the heroic efforts of army doctors Baykova and Persidskaya, nurse Shalimova and the ship's crew. The fate of the other victims of the Nazi criminals is being ascertained.

GUERRILLAS STRONG AUXILIARY OF RED ARMY

The extent to which Soviet guerrilla activity, a constant thorn in the side of Hitler's invading troops, is now being integrated into the military strategy of the Red Army is seen in numerous reports published recently in the Soviet press.

The scale and intensity of guerrilla activity no longer permit it to be classified under the heading of were "harrassing," numerous reports prove. The Commanders-in-Chief of the Red Army forces on the three principal fronts,

Voroshilov, Timoshenko and Budyenny, all have made appeals to the guerrilla fighters to extend their activity. These appeals have not gone unanswered.

In the Latvian S.S.R. guerrilla groups, operating since the outbreak of the war, have merged into a Latvian Regiment of the Red Army. Commanded by the former head of an agricultural academy, this regiment is equipped with artillery and tanks capable of giving the visiting Nazi army a first rate example of Soviet military efficiency.

Regularization of the guerrillas' status has included the following oath: "I, a Red guerrilla, swear to my comrades-in-arms that I shall be brave, disciplined and merciless to the enemy. To the end of my days I shall remain faithful to my country, my party, and my leader Stalin. If I break this sacred oath, may severe punishment be meted out to me at the hands of guerrillas."

Guerrilla fighters who take this oath include men drawn from every section of the Soviet population. In the southwestern direction, school teachers from the Uman district have joined up. A doctor, head of a hospital in this area, also joined the guerrillas with his two daughters, who act as nurses for a detachment.

Women are active with various guerrilla groups. An Izvestia war correspondent tells of a young girl, Katya, who acts as scout for an important detachment and frequently takes part in fighting. Another girl, Julia, recently conveyed information which enabled her comrades to repulse a Nazi attack on the village of "N" and capture a rich haul of German equipment in the process. The captured weapons were added to the guerrilla arsenal.

Veterans of the October Revolution of 1917 and the ensuing war of intervention are often reported taking a leading part in guerrilla warfare, using the tactics they learned in their youth. A detachment commanded by a Civil War veteran recently attacked an enemy airdrome and captured six Heinkel planes and other equipment after killing over 100 German soldiers. An amateur air enthusiast among the group named Solin, in civilian life a tractor driver, flew one plane to the Red Army lines. The other five were destroyed. The guerrillas set fire to gasoline tanks, blew holes in runways,

set fire to hangars and drove away five trucks, seven motorcycles and a mobile radio station. All this equipment was in good order and was doing heavy duty for the guerrillas at last report.

Enemy airdromes are especially vulnerable to guerrilla attack. Near the village of "V," after studying the habits of German fliers and ground crews, guerrillas attacked an airfield one night, killing twenty-two Nazis who tried to defend it. The guerrillas set fire to 12 enemy planes, loaded two trucks with ammunition and drums of gasoline and drove away.

One hundred guerrillas held back a Nazi attack on the Ukrainian town of "K" for three days recently, ambushing German scouts and compelling the main forces to advance blindly. These guerrillas, collective farmers and workers from machine tractor stations, then held off the advancing Nazis with machineguns captured from the scouts.

Near the town of "O" a guerrilla group armed only with one automatic rifle and seven ordinary rifles stopped 15 German ammunition trucks one night by placing spiked planks across the road. When the guerrillas opened fire the surprised Nazis fled to the woods.

In the Ukraine guerrillas have ambushed the Nazis whenever they left well-guarded highways. A group of Nazi armored cars were brought to a halt on a side road, in one instance, but it proved impossible to rout the Nazi crews with

rifle fire. One fighter in the guerrilla group crept close, dragging three sheaves of ripe wheat. Suddenly rising he shouted: "The robbers wanted our bread. Let's give it to them!" and hurled the wheat against one of the Nazi cars following it with a flaming bottle of gasoline. The wheat blazed up and quickly converted the Nazi car into a pile of blackened iron.

From the Arctic Ocean to the Black Sea the guerrillas materialize from nowhere, thousands of them, wherever there are German troops. They slash out from ambush, strike in the night, and vanish leaving the Nazis to count their dead. In Byelorussia guerrilla commander B, recently decorated by the Soviet Government, wrote the following description of his group:

"Our detachment was formed in the first days of the war and numbered 80 men. We began to study military tactics and selected trusted people in neighboring villages with whom we could keep in contact. We obtained explosives with which we mined bridges and we prepared bottles of gasoline for destroying tanks.

"We concealed our ammunition and food in places inaccessible to the enemy. When the Nazis attacked our hiding place, we blew up a bridge before them and met their tanks with machinegun fire and gasoline bottles. We wrecked 15 German tanks in this action and an equal number of armored cars."

Another guerrilla commander from the same area wrote of his activities: "We are camped in a virgin forest. Only the people who guard our supplies stay in camp. Our main detachment is constantly on the march. The Nazis worry themselves to death hunting us. The population of the occupied villages loves us like a mother loves her children and keeps us informed of the enemy's movements."

The German command has honored Soviet guerrilla activity on numerous occasions by issuing specific orders for the extermination of these groups. Recently, special Gestapo punitive expeditions were reportedly sent from Berlin to deal with guerrillas and terrorize civilians aiding them. The Gestapo will have its hands full. The Germans must reckon with the guerrillas as a powerful auxiliary of the Red Army as long as the war lasts.

SOVIET INDUSTRY SUPPORTS WAR EFFORT

While the Red Army battles Hitler's troops along the entire 1800 miles of the eastern front, on the industrial front the workers of the Soviet Union present no less a determined and unified aspect than their sons, brothers and husbands on the battlefield.

Every phase of industry in the U.S.S.R. has been speeded up to meet the demands of the war. Daily there are reports in the Soviet press of the manner in which workers in factories, mines and mills are rallying to produce the supplies necessary to defeat Nazism.

An especially important branch of Soviet industry that has responded in exemplary fashion to the urgencies of the war is aircraft. The official Soviet report recently listed 4,500 planes as having been lost by the U.S.S.R. in the first two months of the war, as compared with 7,200 lost by the Nazis. But Soviet engineers and designers in aircraft factories, along with the workers, are working a 24 hour day to supply the "Falcons" of the Red Airforce with more and ever better machines to meet Hitler's Luftwaffe.

Recently the Order of Lenin was awarded to the Frunze Aircraft Plant Number 24 in recognition of the fact that this shop already accomplished what was scheduled for 1942. The Frunze plant manufactures airplane motors. Its

engineers and designers remained inside the factory for days at a stretch to complete this quota.

The fliers of one unit of the Red Airforce sent a letter to the Frunze factory expressing their gratitude for the quality of the shop's production. "We have tested your machines in action," the Red airmen wrote. "We have wiped out and will continue to wipe out the Nazi vultures with aircraft driven by your engines."

Nor is the Frunze plant the only aircraft factory that has won special praise from the Soviet Government. A number of medals and awards were recently given to aircraft plants and on that occasion the official Soviet newspaper, Pravda, commented:

"Like all industry in our Soviet country, aircraft represents a gigantic source of continuous replenishment of materiel for the Red Army. Conscious of this, our aircraft workers display the utmost diligence in their work. They may correctly be called heroic fighters in this patriotic war. Their engines work without a hitch, their planes fly fast, far and high.

"The creative and inventive faculties of our workers are operating at full speed to find new methods of increasing the output of engines and planes... The fight that confronts us demands exceptional organization and the utmost staunchness and steadfastness of the entire Soviet people. More engines! More planes! Hitler's legions must be driven from our Soviet soil!"

Transport, another vital cog in the Soviet war machine, also is functioning at top efficiency. Several railroad engineers have been singled out by the Soviet press for special acclaim for their effort since the outbreak of the war.

Engineers Savitsky, Volkov and Zakharov of the Gorky Railroad delivered 15,000 tons of freight over their quota in the first two months of the war. Coal trains at the Topki station of the Tomsk Railroad are being loaded at double speed; at one station of the North Donets railway a two days loading program was carried through in one shift.

Water transport is no less effective than railway. The steamer "Kadrovik" recently brought the largest timber load of the season, totaling 25,200 cubic meters of lumber to the port of Arkhangelsk. A team of stevedores at Vladivostok has daily delivered two to three times its quota of work since the war began. At the Podporozhye Harbor, in the northwest, when a shipment of lumber was delayed the wives and families of seamen and stevedores came down to the dock to help load the boat. At Moscow, Kolomna and Kassimov, families of seamen have also pitched in to help load ships.

It is this spirit that characterizes every aspect of Soviet industry -- from aircraft to fishing. In the first six weeks of the war Kamchatka fishermen brought in hauls of 25,000 tons more fish than they did in the same period last year. By August 21 these fishermen had completed their 1941 quota and were beginning their 1942 quota. In the Caspian Sea fishing area over 4500 tons more fish were brought in between July 1 and August 15 than in the equivalent six weeks last year. The Nelma Fishing Trust exceeded its salmon quota by

1,060 per cent. Despite severe storms in the Pacific a Soviet whaler, "Trudfront" brought in 300-400 per cent in excess of its quota.

Meanwhile, as Red Army soldiers at the front receive constant supplies through the efforts of Soviet industry, fresh contingents of young workers are coming into the shops every week to intensify the war effort even further. These are young workers who have finished a term as factory apprentices or have graduated from vocational schools. For example 70 young workers in the Gorbunov Works in Moscow recently took the place of older workers who had been called to the front. All of them are exceeding the quotas set for their work.

A young worker named Ivan Nikitin just graduated from apprentice ranks, is employed in a plant producing abrasives in Zlatoust and turns out three to four times the amount of work formerly produced on his job. In the oilfields young graduate apprentices work as drillers and turn out more than their quota of work every day. In the open hearths of the Taganrog Steel Works young steel workers have also taken over skilled jobs held by men now at the front.

The remarkable morale of the Red Army stems from the same unity of purpose that creates the enthusiasm permeating Soviet industry. It is a unity of the whole people that all the propagandists of Hitler are unable to shake. It is a unity against which the people of the U.S.S.R. are confident Hitler's military machine will ultimately be smashed.

SIBERIAN HARVEST RICH

Pravda yesterday published the following letter from N. Kubinov, a member of the Omsk City Council:

A bountiful harvest is ripening on the broad expanses of the Omsk region. Many districts will yield almost two tons of grain per hectare (two and a half acres). Industrial crops, vegetables and potatoes promise a good harvest.

All collective farmers are striving to harvest the bumper crops in good time and without loss and to give the country the largest quantity of agricultural produce possible. Collective farmers are working in military style at haymaking and fodder storing. Many collective farms have laid in fodder stocks for the next two years. Our people work from early morning until late at night, efficiently utilizing every minute.

Since the outbreak of the war thousands of Soviet patriots have replaced fathers, brothers, and sons called to the front. From the Zinovo collective farm in the Yalutorsk District, two members of collective farmer Ulyanov's family were called to the Red Army. To replace them, the whole family from a 5th grade schoolgirl to the 90 year old grandfather, Dmitry Ulyanov, are sharing the field work. Over 5000 women have volunteered to operate agricultural machines. Special training courses have been arranged for them.

All collective farms have drawn up working schedules and harvesting is to be completed in 15 to 20 days. Grain delivery to the State has been organized in a new way -- deliveries are to begin from the first day of harvesting. Gathering spring crops will be under way throughout the region within a few days. Collective farms in the southern districts harvested their first hectares of oats, barley and wheat. A bountiful crop will be gathered in exemplary manner.

Embassy
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Information Bulletin

Washington, D.C.

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THE FRONT ON AUGUST 28 - 29

Soviet Information Bureau
Moscow, August 29.

Evening Communique, August 28

On August 28 our troops fought the enemy stubbornly along the whole front. After fierce fighting our troops evacuated Dnepropetrovsk.

Our airforce effected a successful raid upon Koenigsberg. According to precise data now available, on August 26 thirty-seven German planes were destroyed instead of 17 as previously reported. On August 27, forty-one German planes were brought down in air battles. We lost 23 planes.

In the Baltic Sea our airforce sank two German transports.

Morning Communique, August 29

On the night of August 28 our troops fought the enemy along the whole front.

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The Germans hurled 25 medium and heavy tanks against Colonel Matveyev's unit defending "X" sector of the

front in the western direction. On reaching our front line defenses, seven Nazi tanks were smashed by our artillery fire. The rest managed to break through, but motorized infantry and about one hundred motorcyclists following them were cut off. As a result of the bloody battle in this sector, the enemy left nearly 700 killed and wounded on the battlefield.

At night and at dawn next day, the German tanks which had broken through our lines came under the fire of our artillery and airforce. All Nazi tanks were destroyed.

Getting no news from their tank column, the Germans threw into the attack another 15 machines. They were met by Soviet heavy tanks which crushed the Nazi machines. Having lost 40 tanks, over 900 men and a large quantity of various types of armaments in two days the Germans abandoned the attack.

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The Soviet press reports the activity of a group of guerrilla fighters who recently raided an enemy airdrome near the village of "U." Sixteen of the guerrillas attacked the airdrome, dividing into four groups, each with a specific job. One group was assigned to destroy the Nazi planes, a second to blow up the fuel tanks, a third to set fire to the village, and especially to the German headquarters located in it. The fourth group was to lie in ambush to take care of any Nazis who might try to pursue the guerrillas after the operation was completed.

Using bottles of gasoline and grenades, the guerrillas completed their assignments in less than 15 minutes, destroying three twin-bombers, exploding the fuel tanks and firing the village. Ten Germans were killed in the ensuing skirmish.

THE VOICE OF FRENCH YOUTH

Under the above title, the Soviet newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda published the following editorial on the recent attempt to assassinate Premier Laval:

All of France is impressed by the heroic act of the young patriot Paul Collette. The action of this 20 year old youth reflects the wrath of the whole French people toward the Hitler regime of violence. When Laval was carried through the streets bleeding from his wounds he was greeted with shouts of "Death to traitors!"

For two months Hitler's agents have been recruiting French youth to fight against the Soviet Union. Their efforts failed ignominiously. Parisian youth tore down the recruiting station. Only a small detachment of "volunteers" was enlisted for the anti-Soviet legion.

The first shot fired by a member of this detachment was directed against the betrayers of the French people. The weapon which Hitler gave this French youth was turned against Hitler's agents.

The echo of the shot in the barracks yard in Versailles will resound through all France and all Europe. It is the voice of the unconquered and gallant youth of France, foretelling that Hitler's own weapons shall be used to defeat him.

THE RED ARMY MARCHES INTO IRAN

Tabriz, August 28.

(The following report was telegraphed to Moscow by a correspondent of the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda.)

Over mountain passes, swift streams and sandy plains Red Army troops are marching forward into the heart of Iran.

News of the Soviet troops' friendly attitude to Iranians travelled ahead of our battalions. City and village streets were crowded with inhabitants who had come out to welcome our forces, anxious to say a few words to our men and shake their hands.

The more one talks with Iranians and becomes familiar with the internal conditions of the country, the clearer becomes the picture of the criminal activities of the Nazi conspirators on Iranian territory. At Djulfa we discovered German arms and an ammunition dump. It was a complete arsenal: latest model automatic pistols, heavy and light machineguns, rifles with telescope sights, large quantities of ammunition, explosives.

In Djulfa was a German forwarding agency, about which contradictory rumors had long been rife among the local population. One thing was clear. This agency did not engage in the specified business of its prospectus. It turned out to be an organization engaged in smuggling armed groups of sabotage agents into Soviet territory. Kazim Ismail Ogly, a junior

officer in the Iranian army said in this connection, "The Germans wanted to turn our towns into Nazi fortresses. You came just in time."

Ajer Mekhti Medjit, personal secretary of an Iranian military leader, told us that the nature of his work enabled him to observe a camouflaged tank column arriving in Tabriz via Marand. For two months an incessant stream of trucks loaded with arms and ammunition passed over this route. The Germans even began to transport dismantled planes on special motor platforms.

Ajer Mekhti Medjit said positively: "Fragmentary information which I was able to gather through coming into contact with Germans at my chief's office made it clear that day after day they were working on Iranian territory for hostilities against the Soviet Union and Britain."

This is fully confirmed by details of Nazi propaganda in Iran which we have learned here. An agent of the German Consul at Tabriz, Schmidt, arranged meetings of the population under the very nose of the Iranian authorities and read them Goebbels' fabricated reports about the situation on the eastern front in the U.S.S.R.

In their efforts to win Iranian sympathy, Nazi agents announced that Hitler had turned Mohammedan and always called him "Geidar" - a name common in the Orient. But the Nazi fuehrer enjoyed no popularity in Iran.

"Geidar's" agents systematically visited frontier areas where they made topographic surveys and photographs. Fictitious German trading firms were set up on the Caspian

Coast. In reality these were centers of Nazi conspiracy. The ports of Babol and Shahabadshar were important Gestapo centers.

Meetings between Hitlerites and their hired Iranian agents were arranged in the Hotel Panyan. The German spies Wolf and Platte carried on their activities so openly that people would point them out as Himmler's representatives in Iran. The German Nazis were convinced they could act with complete impunity. Hence the relief of the Iranian people at seeing Hitler's plans frustrated by the arrival of Soviet and British troops.

AT THE FRONT, AUGUST 29

(From the Soviet Press)

In strenuous fighting near "K" a Red Army unit under Lieutenant Popov wiped out the 530th German Infantry Regiment. After an early morning mortar and artillery barrage Popov's left flank infantry assaulted a railway embankment serving as the Nazi's first line of defense. Soviet artillery was then rolled out into the open for point blank fire and the Germans retreated. Prisoners said several hundred Germans were killed and only 40 to 45 men left in some German companies.

A Soviet tank unit under Colonel Pogodin put 100 German planes and 11 anti-tank guns out of action on the northern front in six days of fighting. On a single day Pogodin's unit destroyed 38 enemy tanks.

Red Army signalmen are as handy with a rifle as with a pair of pliers. Signalman Medinsky, attacked by seven Nazis while laying telephone wire, killed four and routed the others. Four signalmen under Sergeant Skrynnikov killed nine and captured one of 10 Germans who had the temerity to attack a Soviet wireless station. Signalman Stroganov found a German listening in on a Soviet telephone wire, stole up behind him, knocked him out, and brought him back to headquarters a prisoner.

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Stretcher-bearers Rynsikov and Bondarenko of the Red Army Medical Corps were cited for carrying 11 wounded Red Army men off the battlefield under fire.

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Red Airforce pilot Mamontov was killed in action as he successfully rammed and destroyed a Nazi bomber in mid-air. Previously, Soviet pursuit pilots have several times accomplished this difficult feat and escaped with their lives.

Mamontov and a fellow pilot in another plane encountered four Nazi bombers at an altitude of 4000 meters near an important Soviet city. The enemy planes jettisoned their bombs and fled. Mamontov shot down one, exhausting his ammunition, and then dived at the tail fin of another, shearing it off with his propeller. Both planes crashed.

"PRAVDA": INFANTRY IN ACTION

Analyzing tactics used by Soviet troops to defeat Nazi "psychological attacks" Red Army Colonel Gurov wrote the following article for the authoritative Soviet newspaper Pravda:

The Red Army infantry is now well acquainted with Nazi tactics and meets them with its own tactics of encirclement. German troops breaking through to our rear usually send two or three tanks and several motorcyclists out to reconnoiter our positions. This small, mobile group attacks our first line of defense and opens desultory fire.

Familiar with this procedure, our men hold their fire and do not expose the location of their artillery and machine guns. The Nazis then launch their attack: motorcyclists or automatic rifle men open fire while advancing. Tanks and machineguns also open fire, and their infantry then advances. The Red Army men call this a "psychological attack."

The strategy of such an attack is to make as much noise as possible to demoralize the object of the assault. The Nazi soldiers do not take aim, but fire at random.

If they succeed in wedging into the defense zone, the Nazis fan out and try to surround our units in the front line on either flank of the break through. Our soldiers, however, remember the maxim of General Suvorov (commander of Russian troops against Napoleon) that "an outflanking enemy is himself outflanked." Nazi attempts to outflank and surround our units frequently end in complete failure with the enemy himself surrounded and routed.

Our infantry displays special resourcefulness in fighting enemy tank attacks. Our quick-firing, quick maneuvering anti-tank artillery gives formidable opposition to tanks. Red Army infantry is well armed and trained for modern warfare and can always rely upon strong support from its own tanks, airplanes and artillery. It has still another effective weapon - the vigorous bayonet attack. All the best qualities of our great Soviet people - courage, initiative, resourcefulness, hatred for the enemy and unshakeable confidence in victory - are embodied in our infantry.

German losses are enormous. Reserves of manpower for Hitler's army are being exhausted while those of the Red Army increase constantly. Our multi-millioned nation can put over a million reinforcements for our infantry into the field and support their operations with an adequate supply of tanks and aircraft.

* * * * *

Soviet theaters in the coming season will adapt their repertories to the country's war effort, the Chairman of the Arts Committee of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, Mikhail Khrapchenko said in a newspaper interview today.

New plays bearing on the war are being produced throughout the U.S.S.R., where the theater -- in contrast to most other parts of the world flourishes in small cities as well as in the capital. Sixteen companies will open in Moscow this fall.

Many troupes have been organized to perform for the Red Army. One of the most popular is the People's Guard Theater, directed by People's Artist Cherkassov, who portrayed Alexander Nevsky in the film of that name. Moscow theaters are also arranging special radio broadcasts for men at the front.

RUMANIAN REVERIES

The following article was written by the well-known Soviet author Ilya Ehrenbourg for the Red Army newspaper Krasnaia Zvezda.

On July 27 the Rumanian newspaper Universul made an extraordinary discovery. It appears that the Ukrainian territory between the Dniester and the Dnieper is inhabited by Rumanians!

The article is illustrated with a map of the Ukraine, all mottled with red patches. The patches are Rumanians. To think that the people of Odessa have lived there so long and never even suspected they were Rumanians!

And what about Nikolayev? Nikolayev, it transpires, is a "purely Rumanian town." Kirovograd, Pervomaisk and Uman of course are merely spiritual suburbs of Bucharest. Universul says so. Lastly we learn that the Crimea too is inhabited by purebred Rumanians.

The Rumanian marauders suffer from megalomania. In their dreams they are already gnawing the bone they think their master Hitler will toss them. But Hitler has no intention of yielding any spoils to Rumanians. He knows that Bucharest itself is now nothing but a provincial German town where the German Killinger is all-powerful. Rumanians may get themselves shot down by Russian machineguns, and print any

maps they like -- but boss Hitler is not liberal with his tips. Antonescu will get nothing but a kick in the pants.

But the Bucharest menials give rein to their imaginations: how fine it would be to get Odessa to open a black bourse and exchange worthless Rumanian leis for Russian gold! They want, you see, to annex the Crimea to Rumania! Nothing more....

Meanwhile Rumanian soldiers engage in petty thieving. Here is a letter from Corporal Miron Popescu to his wife in Oknu: "Yesterday we occupied the village of Pavlovka. With much difficulty we got hold of one chicken for the entire company, but a German officer came along and grabbed it." Poor Popescu! Not even a single chicken for him.

Hitler knows his business: It's the Rumanians' job to get chickens for Germans to eat. These despicable servants of Hitler's keep their people poor and illiterate. Their peasants go barefoot even in winter. Their postoffice employees make a cross instead of a signature. Their generals take petty bribes. An unhappy ruined country which has become the laughing stock of the world! So many grafters, crooks, speculators and pirates are to be found nowhere else. They have reduced their unhappy country to such a state that there is a saying in Europe: "Rumania is not a nation - it's a racket!"

It is ridiculous that even in their wildest dreams, even in a yellow newspaper, they should think of owning Soviet soil. When their master is defeated these menials will run like rabbits. Antonescu once said, "If Germany is defeated, I will blow my brains out." Hardly. His kind does not commit suicide. It gets shot.