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NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS By PAUL MALLON

LEADING GERMAN TELLS OF NAZI QUALIFICATIONS

WASHINGTON.—The first studied picture of how things were run inside the madhouse of the Nazi state has been obtained by our intelligence people from captured leaders.

This clears much of the foolishness glibly aired by Hitler officers in their interviews with news reporters—or, at all accounting, the statement of one Dr. Schacht does.

Schacht was the only high German who had an intelligent mind. It was he who contrived the clever financial and economic subterfuges by which Hitler built a bankrupt state into a world threat in a few years. He is Dr. Hjalmer Horace Greeley (imagine that old American journalistic middle name) Schacht. He quit Berlin when the arms expenditures started going mad at Hitler's direction, and was found interned by our invading armies.

His opinion of top Nazis:
Hitler: "I would not believe Hitler dead if he told me so himself."
Herman Goering, the fat right-hand man of Hitler: "A fool, a coward, and always a liar. He was in all things ignorant, and a charlatan."
Goebbels, the propagandist: "A terrible liar but the best brain in the government, as well as a most courageous man."

Himmler, who handled the discipline through secret police, purges and terror: "A dreadful, horrible man."

HITLER'S FAILING MIND

Thyssen, who financed Hitler into power and then broke with him when the pogrom started: "A weakling of inherited wealth." (Thyssen incidentally was captured by Hitler in the occupation of Paris in 1940 and was kept in a concentration camp, where our people found him a very old and frail man.)

Schacht, I think, gives the goods on the Nazi leaders more honestly and accurately than any other one. Of the limitations of Hitler's mind, he says Der Fuehrer never realized the war was lost, although the others realized it a year or more before the end.

Hitler never dared hold a cabinet meeting after 1938 because those with intelligence in his own group constantly opposed his wild planning. General Udet, for one instance, dared express opposition merely to the Goering shortsighted air policy, and after correctly predicting Goering would lose German air superiority by 1944, shot himself.

They were all very ordinary men, less than average in acumen and warped bitterly and egotistically. The only way they could keep themselves in power to work their mad destiny was by crushing all common sense and stilling any voice of reason. Not one, in character, foresight or any genuine virtue, could compare with the great men of history.

From Schacht also comes the first clear picture of secret German finance, the bookkeeping magic by which the Nazis defied arithmetic for a time. He says Hitler started really arming for the war first in 1937 and 1938 when his budgets contained three billion marks (both years) for armaments. This was at the time when Mr. Roosevelt was submitting amiable plans for world peace and thinking the removal of trade barriers would do it.

The Swiss quotation on the mark then was around three cents, which would mean the annual arms budget was around \$90,000,000 in our currency—two-fifths of which went for the air force then, as thereafter, until the end of the war. The money was raised by bond issues bearing 3 1/2 per cent interest and the banks were required to take them.

Schacht protested to Hitler in 1938 that the system he had set up to beat bankruptcy could not stand such expenditures, and after a couple of scenes with Hitler, he quit. The amount of currency outstanding then was only 8 billion marks, but thereafter Hitler inflated it 10 times, to 80 billion marks.

The debt when Schacht left was around 90 billion marks and Hitler ran it up to 450 billion at the war's end, quintupling it. This would seem to make the Nazi war cost around 430 billion marks, of which about 70 billion was raised by inflation, and 360 billion by seizing the savings and working money of citizens through bond issues imposed on the banks.

At a three-cent mark, the cost could be computed roughly at somewhere around \$12,900,000,000.

America's war effort has increased the debt from about \$250,000,000,000, without considering tax receipts which reached \$45,000,000,000 last year. Of course Hitler was not required to finance the war, and gave little aid even to his ally, Italy.

The lesson which can be learned from the sound Schacht evidence is twofold:

- Nazidom shows what defective mentalities can do when they attain absolute power and exclude reason.
- You cannot long cheat arithmetic even in a controlled state.

Washington Digest

See Internal Crisis Affecting Russ Policies



Report Army Looms as New Power as Factions Clash Over Broad Participation In Postwar World Affairs.

By BAUKHAGE

News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, 1616 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

What's happening inside Russia? Where there's smoke, there's fire. Vehement denials of the death of Marshal Stalin were followed finally by admission that the man who had more power than any czar could boast of was weary. That he was well, but that he was shedding some of his responsibilities.

It is interesting to note the reaction in this country. The wishful thinking of those who first announced the death rumor over the air and in print was not reflected in official Washington.

The very day before the first story appeared a high government official expressed the opinion in my hearing that the hope for understanding between the United States and Russia depended largely on Stalin. This was after the long series of disagreements beginning with the breakup of the Foreign Ministers' meeting in London, the refusal of Russia to take active part in the United Nations Food organization meeting in Quebec, the objections to various moves made by the members of the United Nations Executive Council. Everywhere "Russia objects" seemed to be the one answer which Russia's representatives had to offer to the suggestions made by the American and other governments.

When the real history of the international conferences, beginning with the Moscow conference which Secretary of State Hull attended, through Yalta and Potsdam, is written, I think it can be shown that Stalin, frequently against the advice of his councilors, was the one who broke the deadlocks and proposed or accepted compromises which were made necessary by his own colleagues' stubbornness.

It will be recalled that when the invitations to the meeting at San Francisco went out it was announced that Russia would not send her foreign minister as head of the delegation, but would leave that post to Ambassador Gromyko in Washington. This made a bad impression, for it looked as if Stalin were damning the affair with faint support. However, after the American newspapers sounded off on the subject, Stalin had a change of heart—or perhaps the death of Roosevelt, which occurred in the interim, affected his course. Molotov was duly assigned to the job.

Molotov proved no simple primrose and more than once, it is reported, Stalin's intervention had to be sought to grease the wheels.

There was another occasion—just which one is not revealed—when the work was completely stymied and finally the President made a direct appeal to Stalin to accept the suggestions of the majority on a point that appeared to have hopelessly deadlocked the meeting. This time, against the counsel of his advisors, who were holding out, Stalin put his O.K. on the request.

Isolationists Bloc Grows

There is reason to believe that this "no vote" attitude of a number of the Soviet leaders who opposed what many have considered too deep entanglement in international affairs, which has been in evidence for a long time, finally wrecked the Foreign Ministers' conference.

As early as the time of the San Francisco meeting there were hints of a growing "isolationist" opposition inside Russia. Word reached certain members of the conference by a roundabout way, but from a thoroughly reliable source, concerning the status of former Foreign Minister Litvinov, Russia's crack diplomat, who negotiated the resumption of relations with the United States after the long hiatus following World War I. At one time it was reported that Litvinov had been purged. This was not so. But what had happened was that the "Russia objects" element had managed to shelve him because of his more liberal views.

This apparently was the beginning of what many called a "palace revolution," and which some people believe is now flaring up into full flame.

The story of the events which led up to the Litvinov affair has never been confirmed, but it is reasonable

to assume that it is true. In brief, there was a split in the all-powerful "Polit-Bureau" of the Soviets. The Political Bureau is a small body chosen from the central committee of the Communist party, which is the government's policy-forming entity. This body is composed of powerful Soviet leaders and it exerts a great deal of influence.

According to the reports touching on Litvinov's position, the Polit-Bureau was sharply divided into "isolationists" and those who looked upon the rest of the world with a less jaundiced view. At that time Stalin was said to be walking a tight-rope between the two and choosing carefully toward which side he would lean. Litvinov, who believed that Russia could not live by herself and who had always encouraged a sympathetic attitude toward the outside world, had been completely shelved for his ideas.

Little more was heard of these rumblings until after the end of the war, when the Red army became the symbol of Russian salvation. Then it appeared that the isolationist Russia, the big-army Russia, the Russia which wouldn't take anything off anybody, had a new and powerful backer—the officers (and perhaps some of the rank and file as well) of the Red army.

In any case, we know that the high officers of the army received all sorts of perquisites, rewards and privileges, which only the highest of the high receive.

Red Army Strong Factor

The assumption on the part of some observers is that with the ascendancy of the Red army element, not only the isolationists, but the Communist party as a whole, lost influence. There has always been jealousy between the two, though, of course, their membership overlaps in many cases. You will recall that at the beginning of the war civilian commissars were attached to army units and they censored all orders issued by the officers. This proved to be not only highly unpopular with the military, but also impractical. The civilian commissars were then withdrawn and only those with military training were appointed. Their authority, in effect at least, became merged with that of the military.

Now the high army officers are recognized as occupying virtually the same plane as the high party officials.

Just where Stalin stands as a result of this change in the fabric of Russian national policy it is impossible to say. It has been rumored that he has relinquished his function as commander-in-chief. It has also been rumored that he is ready to drop out of the picture completely and choose a successor. In that connection it was hinted that General Zhukov, Russia's Eisenhower, was afflicted with a "diplomatic illness" when he suddenly gave up a widely advertised trip to the United States, which it was said he had looked forward to with considerable zest.

This might have been a signal that Russia was drawing further within herself.

Some believe that it indicated that Zhukov was the chosen successor of Stalin and that, until a new regime was firmly established, the Soviets would maintain a negative policy in foreign relations.

In any case, it is clear that the "Russia objects" policy was inaugurated for some reason and naturally, since in the past Stalin had always been the one who was able to play ball with the Allies, at least to the point where progress seemed to be made toward working agreements, Washington is by no means anxious to see him fade from the picture.

Meanwhile, the one hopeful view which is being taken of the Russian situation is that it may be that there is some kind of a change taking place within Russia and that the present policy of stalling means nothing worse than a necessary marking time on the part of the Soviet leaders until the outcome is settled.

And then there is always another reason which pops up as an explanation of almost anything these days—the atomic bomb.

BARBS... by Baukhage

The Salvation army gave service to 225,000,000 servicemen during the war in their clubs, hostels and mobile units. But I'll bet they didn't surpass those doughnuts they served us in World War I.

Two hundred and seventy million dollars worth of highway projects, frozen during the war, are now starting.

The air transport command recently took 24 queen bees from America to France. This is a record for transporting royalty.

Is the sun burning up your crops? There are plenty of surplus bombshells no good for anything else which could fly in formations and squirt out enough water to make clouds—so we're told.

South America's Johnny Appleseed

South America has a variation of the North American story of Johnny Appleseed, but in Paraguay it was oranges rather than apples that were planted. During the Paraguayan war, General Lopez commanded that oranges be planted on all estates. He also encouraged people, whenever they ate an orange anywhere in Paraguay, to plant the seed. In Brazil, large scale commercial production of oranges has developed, and to a lesser extent in Cuba, Mexico and Argentina.

Balloon Cloth

Balloon cloth is all that its name implies, the cotton fabric perfected early in the war for covering the barrage balloons used in the defense of strategic cities from air attack. The need for these balloons diminished and the fabric, a very fine cotton fabric woven of long staple cotton, was diverted to civilian needs. It is variously finished and in the hand is smooth as silk, and wears with about the same resistance to creasing. When used for dresses, the fabric is usually printed.

New Types of Electric Lamps

Effects of startling developments resulting from wartime electrical research and engineering is being felt in the lamp industry. Among these new articles are the sunlamp, which can be screwed into any socket operating on standard alternating current; the heat lamp, a home-use adaptation of the infra-red lamps used in industry; the sterilamp, which gives ultraviolet radiation of a wave length deadly to airborne bacteria.

Federal Inspection

A meat plant that operates with federal inspectors on the job must comply with high standards for clean, wholesome food that is accurately labeled. Department of agriculture regulations for such a meat packing plant deal with practically everything from the aprons the workers wear to the wrapping and labeling of the meat.

Farm Roads

America has 2,400,000 miles of rural roads serving 6,000,000 farms, but only 45,000 miles have a high type pavement and 99,000 miles have a low-type bituminous surfacing. The rest of these country highways—2,256,000 miles—have a non-treated surface, are merely graded and drained, or are simply trails.

Storing Rugs

Roll rugs and carpets on a strong pole, sprinkling camphor crystals, or similar moth-preventives, in as you roll. Wrap in papers, sealing any portions where moths might enter. Put them in a cool, dry place, preferably standing on end. Be sure they are thoroughly clean before storing.

Drive on Left

All Britain's important colonies and dominions except Canada follow the mother country's lead and drive on the left. The Philippines, which had conformed to the general far east custom of driving on the left, switched to the U. S. style upon liberation from the Japs.

Rejuvenate Sewing Machine

To clean a neglected sewing machine which is gummy with oil and dirt, use kerosene and a brush. When clean, wipe the parts dry and let the whole machine air for 24 hours. Then oil it.

Rubber Gloves

If you wear rubber gloves to protect your hands and nails but find the nails pierce the finger end just turn the glove inside out and paste a piece of adhesive tape over each finger end.

Unmarried Soldiers

There are no war widows of the Nayyar soldiers of India because these men are not allowed to marry. Nayyar women are ritually married to any man who happens to be home on leave.

Rinse Milky Glass

Do not plunge a glass in hot water if it has contained milk. It makes the glass very cloudy, so first rinse the glass in cold water and then wash in hot, soapy water.

Finish Faster

Self-fed hogs usually finish for market somewhat more quickly than hand-fed hogs, yet they require no more feed for each pound of gain.

Use Less Feed

Largely because of improved breeding and feeding practices, the production of a dozen eggs now takes about a pound of feed less than it did a half-century ago.

Difficult Stains

Don't try to remove rust stains. That's a job for the professional cleaner, as is also the removal of stains from velvet or metallic fabrics.

Classified Department

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Begonias require regular pruning to keep them decorative. Branches past maturity should be removed back to the next branch or to the crown of the plant. This is done to stimulate vigorous new growth at that point.

Avoid Stickness

Before melting chocolate in a dish over hot water, rub inside of dish with melted butter or olive oil to prevent sticking. Measuring cups may be greased in the same manner before measuring molasses or syrup.

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