

STALIN HOLDS KEY POSITION IN WAR TREND

By DeWitt MacKENZIE
Associated Press Writer

This is one of the big moments of the European war—of moments history, for that matter—since Soviet Leader Stalin may hold in his hands the balance of power between the Berlin-Rome axis and Britain as he debates Russia's attitude toward the conflict at this critical juncture.

It is a moment of tense drama, too, for they say that Fuehrer Hitler is trying to jockey the red chief into another horse-deal, that Germany's Japanese ally is seeking a non-aggression pact with the Muscovites to stabilize the position, and that England is trying to crash the party within the forbidding walls of the Kremlin.

Briefly Put
British Premier Churchill has given us an unforgettable flash of what the crisis means. Members of commons yesterday pressed him with questions as to Britain's war aims—whether England was trying to maintain the status quo of the nations. He parried them until finally he flung back this gem of a retort: "We are not fighting the war merely to maintain the status quo, but among other things in order to survive. When our capacity to do that is more generally recognized throughout the world we shall be in a position to take further view of what we shall do when victory has been won."

That's the story—It's a struggle for survival. England isn't ready to count any victory-chickens yet, though she has grounds for hope that they will hatch.

Stalin Juggles
As Churchill spoke there was boiling up another night of death and destruction for London with Nazi bombs. Berlin claims that German airmen dumped more than two million pounds of explosives on the British capital during the night. It is indeed a question of survival.

Meantime Stalin is juggling the balance of power, and thus far his mind has been quicker than the eye.

The Balkans are seething with a report that Russia and Turkey are about to conclude a military alliance to block any axis drive down the peninsula, and into the near east. The Turks, defiant behind their barrier of 2,000,000 bayonets, again have declared their determination to resist. Greece appears to be with them, and Bulgaria is insisting on neutrality.

It is difficult to see how Stalin can afford not to challenge Hitler now if the latter tries to smash his way across the Dardanelles. No territorial bribe which Hitler could offer would reimburse Russia if this strategic strait should fall under German domination.

This great waterway is at once the gateway between the Black sea and the Mediterranean, and together with the little sea of Marmora and the Bosporus forms a vast water-barrier between Europe and the near east.

Russia either must control the Dardanelles or have it under guardianship of friendly hands—like Turkey's. Were the Dardanelles to fall to Hitler it would to all intents turn the great Black sea into a landlocked body of water. Russia no longer would have access to the Mediterranean, and this represents her only opening to southern waters. And it would enable the Germans to send a naval fleet into the Black sea against Russia.

Should Germany be able to sweep across the Dardanelles through Turkey, overrun the near and middle east and capture the Suez canal, the reich would become a Mediterranean power with vastly increased strength. With the acquisition of Iraq's great oil fields, and other essential supplies in the various countries, Hitler would approach the self-sufficiency which he seeks in order to make Germany invulnerable as a military power.

This likely would prestage the end of the British Empire and would create a terrible menace to Russia. Stalin cannot overlook that Hitler long has wanted the rich Russian Ukraine—perhaps the soviet's greatest treasure house of supplies.

Tired Kidneys Often Bring Sleepless Nights

Doctors say your kidneys contain 15 miles of tiny tubes or filters which help to purify the blood and keep you healthy. When they get tired and don't work right in the daytime, many people have to get up at night. Frequent or scanty passages with smarting and burning sometimes shows there is something wrong with your kidneys or bladder. Don't neglect this condition and lose valuable, restful sleep. When disorder of kidney function permits poisonous matter to remain in your blood, it may also cause nagging headache, rheumatism, pains, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, swelling, puffiness under the eyes, headaches and dizziness.

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Navy Huddle on Far Eastern Problems



The delicate situation in the Pacific was one of the first problems considered as a series of conferences between President Roosevelt and high navy officials began in Washington. Pictured above, discussing Far Eastern matters, are, left to right, Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, retired, former commander of the Asiatic Fleet; Admiral Harold Stark, Chief of Naval Operations; Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox; and Admiral J. O. Richardson, Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Fleet.

Canada's Mounties Fight Saboteurs, 5th Columnists

By MARTIN KANE
United Press Correspondent

OTTAWA, Ont., Oct. 17 (UP)—Canada entered this war so well equipped against saboteurs and fifth columnists it was a simple task for a comparatively small body of men to strike swiftly and effectively against them when the time came.

That body was the intelligence section of the Royal Canadian Mounted police, the Canadian equivalent of the United States' federal bureau of investigation, which is associated in the minds of most residents of the U. S. A. with scarlet coats and lone vigils in the barren reaches of the Arctic and the Yukon.

Though some work now in plain clothes, the effectiveness of the constabulary has not diminished. In the tradition of the service which was formed as the Northwest Mounted police in 1873 and performed its first great function for Canada by putting down the "Riel rebellion" of 1885, the mounties still get their man. As reticent as United States' G-men about their secret service work, the mounties are proud of their colorful history and know its value to tourist-conscious Canada.

Commissioner S. T. Wood, born in the service, the son of an American-born assistant commissioner, was able to say "Canada has been comparatively free of industrial sabotage" and is cooperating with the United States federal bureau of investigation in putting down elements potentially subversive to both countries.

This success has been largely due to years devoted to compiling information, years which extend back to the World war. Its rewards are being shared with the United States on an "exchange of information" basis.

"Intelligence work has been greatly expanded since the war," Commissioner Wood told the United Press, "and the mounted works in closest cooperation with the FBI."

Just as the FBI and the Dies committee have been probing potential fifth column centers as part of the United States defense effort so the mounted worked in the pre-war years to amass the information which accounted for its immediate efficiency when war came. Fascist centers, such as the national unity party of Adrian Arcand, were wiped out. German and Italian enemy aliens were interned and communists considered to be obstructing the national war effort were arrested.

Apparently this has been done so efficiently as to leave Canada with little concern about infiltrations from across the border.

Part of the mounted's pre-war work included a survey of vulnerable points which might be the object of enemy sabotage and when the war broke out there arose the task of protecting government property—railroad bridges, canals, harbors,

radio stations, government elevators, and other structures. For this guarding purpose 1500 men were recruited as special constables from veterans of the last war. This number, added to an increase in the regular force of 300 ex-members and authorized recruiting of 500 additional men, brought the total strength of the mounted to about 4000 men.

They had a tremendous task to begin with—the registration of all enemy aliens—German and Italian—and those who have become naturalized since 1922. In the case of the Germans this extended to those who were aliens before the World war, since Canada did not permit naturalization of Germans for some years afterward.

All firearms were registered and alien arms were confiscated. Suitable weapons are being used to arm for home defense and the rest of the registration is for statistical purposes.

At the outbreak of the war the aviation section of the mounted, largely stationed in the far north to transfer missions, and the marine section, equivalent to the U. S. coast guard, was turned over to the regular defense forces.

REPUBLICANS GAIN IN SALEM

SALEM, Oct. 17 (P)—Republicans have gained 685 registered voters in Salem since the May primary election, while the democrats have increased only 28.

There are 10,530 republican voters in the home town of Senator Charles L. McNary, republican vice presidential candidate, and there are 7,372 democrats.

In Benton county, there are 6,191 republicans, a gain of 784 since the 1938 general election, and 4,180 democrats, an increase of 687. The total registration is 10,580, a gain of 1,452.

Polk county reported 6,145 republicans and 5,097 democrats, gains of 1,004 and 1,118, respectively. The total registration is 11,372, an increase of 2,120.

Adolf and Benito pat Franco on the back and tell him to take over Gibraltar. "It's all yours—help yourself."

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SAN FRANCISCAN FINDS ART CACHE

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 17 (UP)—Mrs. Edgar Walter Tuesday night disclosed she found a "treasure trove" of paintings which she hopes will prove to be "priceless masterpieces," including six supposed Rembrandts and 12 supposed Durers. Art authorities differed as to the value of the paintings.

Mrs. Walter, widow of Edgar Walter who was president of the San Francisco art commission prior to his death two years ago, found the paintings stored in an old chest.

The oldest print is an etching "Woman Feeding a Deer," by Lucas van Leyden. Among the supposedly priceless Durers are "The Bag Piper," and "Madonna and Child." The supposed Rembrandts include "The Rat Catcher," "Three Heads," and "Abraham and Isaac."

The question of the historical and money value of the supposed masterpieces aroused considerable controversy in art circles here. Some declared that Walter, a sculptor and art critic, had before his death declared the pictures to be of no tremendous value either artistically or in terms of cash.

The pictures were found when Dr. Arnold Genthe, a friend from New York, asked Mrs. Walter to show him a certain utamara (rare Japanese) print which he believed to be in Walter's collection.

Dr. Walter Heil, of the De Young museum called on for an opinion, made no definite statement as to the collection's authenticity or value, but thought that some of the etchings were original.

Watch the Classified Page

New Ambulance Here



A new LaSalle ambulance has been placed in service here by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Ward. Their son, Willard Ward, will have full charge of the ambulance service, with a fully qualified first aid assistant, Oscar M. Crandall, formerly with the San Jose, Calif., Ambulance company. Picture shows the ambulance and Crandall, left, and A. A. Ward, right.

TOWNSEND SEES WILLKIE VICTORY

VANCOUVER, Wash., Oct. 17 (P)—Expressing lack of faith in polls that show President Roosevelt out in front in the presidential race, Dr. Francis E. Townsend predicted the election of Wendell L. Willkie Monday night.

The head of the pension movement bearing his name told a Vancouver audience that Willkie "knows the problems of all kinds of people and... will make a good president."

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FLU EPIDEMIC EXPECTED OVER WINTER MONTHS

PORTLAND, Oct. 17 (P)—The American Public Health association announced Wednesday that Uncle Sam can expect an influenza epidemic this winter and an increase in typhus.

On the credit side, there probably will be a decrease in the pneumonia death rate, the association said.

Abnormal contacts resulting from mobilization and the cyclical nature of influenza will be the principal contributing factors, the association continued.

Decrease in pneumonia death was predicted because of widespread use of sulfathiazol and sulfapyridine, newly-discovered drugs particularly effective in fighting the disease.

Now that Einstein is a citizen, it is hoped he'll lift the national average mental age, lowered so much by publication of those campaign songs.

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