

HITLER SEEN AVOIDING WAR WITH RUSSIA

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press Writer

There are several reasons which might have impelled Herr Hitler to flood Rumania with German troops, but to me the most logical explanation is that he is trying to forestall a possible hostile Russian move during his projected invasion of England.

The Nazi fuhrer needs every ounce of air power he can muster for this attack. He can't afford to have great numbers of warplanes drawn from this operation for use on his eastern front.

This fresh blitzkrieg against Britain is the biggest thing left in Nazi strategy. Successful invasion is the only sure road to quick victory—and time is beginning to tread on Hitler's heels.

The Nazi fuhrer lost his greatest opportunity to win the war when he failed to deliver the knockout blow to a staggering John Bull last summer, and the chances of failure in this new gamble (for that's what it is) are heavy. Therefore nothing can be allowed to interfere with the coming drive.

There's only one real possibility of outside military interference with the immediate Nazi program, and that lies in Russia. The Muscovites have been showing increasing coolness towards Germany—a change which has coincided with the great military successes of Britain and her allies over Mussolini.

As the Germans pour troops into Rumania the bolsheviks are piling up forces opposite them. I believe they are missing tentatively against each other.

Perhaps we can get a better view of the present position if we look back just a bit. Observers generally long have recognized the likelihood that Germany and Russia would go to war with each other sooner or later—probably sooner. The circumstance that they have been cooperating as a matter of expediency does not alter the fact that their interests clash heavily and that they are natural enemies.

The causes underlying the hostility aren't new. Hitler long ago cast covetous eyes on the vastly rich Russian Ukraine. On top of that, and partly because of it, both nations desire control of the same territory in the Balkans.

At the moment they are seeking domination of Rumania and the three mouths of the great Danube, which forms a navigable waterway from the Black sea clear to Germany and thus becomes a lifeline of the reich. What they are after is a base for future offensive or defensive operations against each other, and for extension of their control down through the Balkans.

Russia made the surprise move of occupying Rumanian territory in June, and secured control of the northernmost of the three mouths of the Danube. Hitler countered by occupying the rest of Rumania and making it virtually a protectorate.

That brings us up to the present. Recently the Russians, Germans and Italians met in conference to try to settle control of the Danubian mouths. This parley was broken up without success. Indeed, fist fights were reported between the bolsheviks and the fascists. To cap all this, reports from Bucharest quote soviet diplomats as saying that Russia will occupy the mouths of the Danube after the first of the year.

RAID SHELTER LEADERS EYE LICE CONTROL

LONDON, Dec. 30 (U.P.)—Lord Horder's committee on air raid shelters and health Friday recommended steps to rid shelters of lice, fleas and bed-bugs and hinted compulsory examination of persons using shelters might be necessary.

The committee recommended selected insecticides be made available and when a shelter is found to be infested, a committee of its occupants organize scrubbing parties with a liberal use of soap and water and anti-septics.

The committee also recommended "open cases" of tuberculosis frequenting shelters be compelled to enter hospitals while tubercular families generally should be given places as far as possible from other families in shelters.

May King Studio
Until December 31
5x7 Photographs
48c Each—One or More
Bring This Ad

British Getting "Set" in Fear of German Invasion Attempt



As cables today told of increased British fears of a German invasion attempt, this picture arrived in New York by Bermuda clipper, showing British soldiers erecting barbed wire defenses "along the south coast of England." Picture was approved by censor.

REIGN WITHOUT TERROR

Gamble—Getting to Work

(Editor's Note: With this chapter, The News and Herald bring to a conclusion the interesting story of life in England under current wartime conditions, written by Milo M. Thompson, chief of the London bureau of the Associated Press, who returned to the United States recently on his first visit since 1938.)

By MILO M. THOMPSON
NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP)—If you are a good rummy player, putting your faith in combinations of cards which give you several chances, not merely one, of success, you will enjoy the gamble and adventure of going to work with me in London.

I am a commuter and I offer a typical experience because it will show what most Londoners face.

I have slept through the storm of the night, lulled by the grind-grind-grind of German planes overhead and wakened only half a dozen times by spasms of gunfire close enough to make the house tremble. A nearby bomb or two has made my dreams nightmarish and I am not quite rested when I leave the house an hour earlier than in peacetime days.

We shall now choose the pre-battle route under the chestnut trees and beside the typical English gardens to my suburban railroad station. If the night bombs have interfered with that line, which is part of the underground system, we shall have had the walk for nothing and lost time. That is like putting all your faith in the turning up of one card only.

Instead we wait at our own corner for a bus bound in the direction of the city, hoping we shall not have yesterday's experience. Yesterday, because the railroad was tied up, all the buses in that direction were too full to stop and it was necessary, after four or five misses, to go in the opposite direction to the nearest town and take a roundabout southern railroad train to Waterloo station, then a bus to the office.

That alternate route offers two chances of success, but if we catch a bus in the right direction today, we shall have four. We are successful this time, and off on the gamble. Half a mile down the road our route parallels another part of the underground system and we watch the signs of trains moving, we shall hop off presently near a station and take one.

But that doesn't happen today and we continue on to Hammersmith, a junction which offers three chances. There is the district line, which runs shallowly underground following the general line of the Thames river,

There is the Piccadilly line which, after several surface stops goes deep underground far out of reach of the bombs. There is also a terminal on the metropolitan line which, however, is a rather out of the way route for me and to be avoided if anything better offers.

We pile off the bus and dash into the station to have a look at the blackboard. Each station has one now, to chalk up the temporary breaks in the service on the immediate line and connecting lines. Only eight or ten entries usually cover the early morning situation, but this time the signals are against us. Somewhere nearby some debris of the night has not yet been cleared away. Both district and Piccadilly lines are tied up. They may be running in an hour or two but we cannot wait.

The nearby metropolitan line is not overly encouraging and we choose to hike five blocks across town to try the central line, another deep underground, at Shepherd's Bush.

There's some technical difficulty here, something affecting the electrical current. So, instead, we are herded on an emergency bus for Marble Arch, beyond which point the subway is running, so the bus loader says.

It may be just as well we didn't catch the Piccadilly line back at Hammersmith today. That ride means a short bus ride at the office end and it was just the other day that slow movement in the tunnel made me miss a bus I sometimes take. A bomb caught it messily a few minutes later.

Besides, there happens to be an alarm on. Though we have lost count of sirens, we can tell it by the helmeted ARP men at their doorway station and by the policemen wearing their gas masks on their chests.

The day is sunny and bracing. I am rather glad to be on the bus. There are no planes in sight, nor any sound of them. If they are in the area they must be at a distant end of it. I decide, when I reach Marble Arch, to take another surface bus to the office to enjoy the morning and avoid three blocks of walking.

I wait beside a shoe store, which still has plenty of plate glass windows, for the right bus. It seems slow coming. Then, suddenly, out of the upper blue, comes a swelling scream, a whoosh, a jarring explosion. A second one follows. The sound of planes overhead reaches me. Though the bombs have fallen two blocks away something takes the appeal out of the nip-tling air and sunshine and I walk briskly up the street and duck into the dismal bowels of

the tunnel, content to ride the earth a hundred feet down and later grab a steel-domed taxi for that three blocks to the office. And so arrive, on time in spite of it all.

This is just a true picture of a Londoner going to work. My case is different from that of many of my friends only because I have more choices to make, more cards to play. During the blitz so far I have used all the six available routes and various combinations of them.

I congratulate myself that the trip which normally takes 25 minutes has never yet taken more than 90.

I also knock wood at this point.

DUCHESS NOT ONE OF BEST DRESSED

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (U.P.)—The Duchess of Windsor, long ranked as one of the world's best dressed women was out of the running this year as New York fashion leaders selected the 15 fashion favorites of 1941.

The best dressed list, usually compiled in Paris, but this year picked in New York, included 15 instead of the customary 10 but the duchess was not included.

In her place as best dressed woman of 1941 was Mrs. Harrison Williams, wife of the utilities magnate, famed for her simple taste; Mrs. Ronald Balcom and Mrs. Thomas Shevlin tied for second.

The list:
1. Mrs. Harrison Williams, 2. Mrs. Ronald Balcom, 3. Mrs. Thomas Shevlin, 4. Mrs. Byron Foy, 5. Countess Barbara Hutton, 6. Mrs. William Paley, 7. Mrs. Howard Linn, of Chicago, 8. Gladys Swarthout, 9. Ina Claire, 10. Mrs. Gilbert Miller, 11. Mrs. Lawrence Tibbett, 12. Lynn Fontaine, 13. Mrs. S. Kent Legare, of Washington, 14. Mrs. Harold Talbott, 15. Mrs. William Rhinelander Stewart.

No Hollywood names appeared on the list although Loretta Young, Claudette Colbert, Lili Damita and Paulette Goddard all received a vote or two.

"POWERFUL WASTE"
KANSAS CITY, (AP)—The house boy listened dutifully while Mrs. Ed Mura explained how to mix a holiday egg nog, then exclaimed:

"That's a powerful waste of some very fancy ingredients. Was it me, I'd drink the whiskey and fry them eggs."

COORDINATING PLAN AIRED BY SHASTA GROUP

The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland association soon will inaugurate a region-wide campaign to include Klamath county for the purpose of coordinating all festivals, fairs, regattas, rodeos and other civic events of Wonderland counties into a sequence of attractions to be widely publicized as the 1941 "Fun Festival" of the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland, according to Tom L. Stanley, association general manager. The association also will conduct a campaign to select some young lady of the region to be titled "Miss Shasta-Cascade 1941" Alice in Wonderland" to serve during the year as Wonderland theme girl and official hostess. She will be featured in various ways in an intensive publicity campaign about the scenic and recreational attractions of the Wonderland and events of the "Fun Festival" in this and other counties of the region.

"The Wonderland association has devoted 10 years to developing and advertising resources of this region," said Stanley. This was climaxed by our building and exhibits at the 1939 and 1940 Golden Gate International Exposition, seen by millions of people from all parts of the country. Now we propose to capitalize on this work by an intensive follow-up, augmenting the pulling power of our scenic and recreational attractions with the lure of the many fine events which will compose the "Fun Festival."

"An important part of this Wonderland region publicity drive will be the selection of a theme girl as a means of dramatizing our publicity and advertising crusade in newspapers, magazines, pictorial services and publications and news reel movies throughout the country. Young ladies in this and other counties of the region are invited to take part in the campaign to select 'Miss Shasta-Cascade 1941 Alice in Wonderland.' Those interested, who desire advance information may obtain it by writing to the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association, Box 151, Redding, California.

"The campaign will be in the hands of Trefle La Senay, association publicity director and details soon will be available."

IMPROVEMENT OF HIGHWAY 99 IS ENDORSED

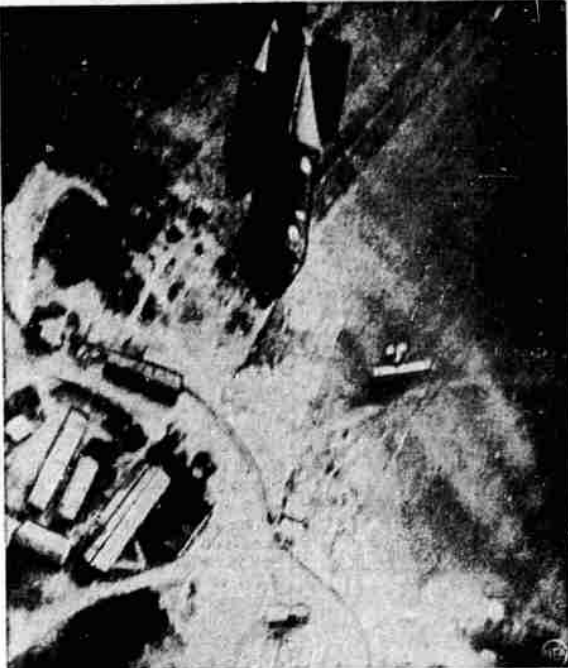
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 30 (AP)—Delegations from southern Oregon to Puget sound endorsed improvement of Pacific highway No. 99 Friday as a primary military essential in national defense.

The meeting, sponsored by the Portland chamber of commerce, represented the first major efforts toward joint highway construction promotion since erection of the Oregon-Washington interstate bridge over the Columbia river between Portland and Vancouver.

The conference, directed by Howard Merriman of Eugene, president of the Oregon Pacific Highway association, prepared resolutions to be forwarded to Washington D. C., tabbing the highway as the principal north and south military route and recommending immediate reconstruction of a north and south road with federal funds other than those already allocated for the government's general road building program.

Enough's enough.—Mrs. Pierre Riendeau, 79, Montreal, asking divorce from her 86-year-old husband of 60 years.

Diving Toward Destruction



The bomb seen plunging earthward in this photo, passed by German censor, is heading for the flying field at Worcester, England. Photo was taken from German plane during the raid. Note plane on field at right.

BUSINESS LEVEL BEST IN DECADE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP)—Business was described by Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., today as "at the best level in a decade."

In its weekly Trade Review, the mercantile agency said: "With striking increases over last year, retail trade is keeping pace with a record volume of production and the heaviest income flow since 1930."

"An outstanding feature of the comments received from various sections of the country this week is the stress on the wide distribution of the gains. All major shopping centers report some advance over the 1939 level of retail trade, with the Christmas period climaxed by an unexpectedly heavy spurge of last-minute buying."

"Although promotional emphasis dwindled sharply in the last few days, the heavy influx of shoppers continued to tax store capacity. In volume of goods moved, a number of cities found sales exceeding all previous records."

"As a rule, stocks held fairly well, although some retailers, particularly in rural areas, reported business lost because of

inadequate selections. Items on which inventories ran low included Nylon hosiery, metal toys, gloves, robes and mufflers.

"Retail sales increases over a year ago, which have been running at better than 6 per cent since the start of the Christmas shopping period, jumped to 8 to 16 per cent this week."

"Biggest gains occurred in industrial and in military-training centers, with the improvement most substantial on an average in the middle west and south."

"Regional percentage increases compared with the 1939 week were estimated as follows: New England, 5 to 10; east, 7 to 15; middle west and south, 11 to 18; southwest, 6 to 11; northwest, 7 to 9; Pacific coast, 4 to 10."

TAFT, Dec. 30 (AP)—This is a story of the dammed D without apologies to the fourth letter of the alphabet:

A six-foot wall of sand and logs resulting from the week's high tides dammed the D Friday.

The D—"The world's shortest river"—flows a short distance from Devil's lake to the Pacific.

Children's SNIFFLES
MENTHOLATUM
Mentholatum Baby Checks
Running
Sniffles
Sneezing

SP SETS FREIGHT HANDLING RECORD

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30 (U.P.)—Southern Pacific railway lines handled more freight in 1940 than during any other year in the company's history, Southern Pacific officials revealed last week.

Revenue from the freight hauling, however, did not rise relatively, according to the announcement, and "the company received about one-third of a cent less revenue on the average for each mile in 1940 than it did in 1939, equivalent to a reduction of 23 per cent."

The company's passenger traffic, which amounts to about 10 per cent of its total business, was less than in 1939 and was off 18 per cent as compared with 1939, it was said. Average revenue from passenger service was 40 per cent less than in 1939.

The company was taking delivery on 2540 new freight cars, costing \$7,750,000; 20 new streamlined steam locomotives, costing \$3,500,000 and 51 new lightweight streamlined passenger cars, costing \$3,500,000.

We're for everybody aiming high except the folks who set prices.

Pre-Inventory Clean-Up SALE



ALL HATS
50c to \$1.95
Values to \$6.95
TOWN SHOP
MILLINERY DEPT.
Main at Fifth

Pre-Inventory CLEAN-UP To Reduce Stock

We Suggest You Shop Early as Quantities Are Limited

Gloves	Slips	DANCE SETS
Suede, \$2.95. Now \$2.69	Reg. \$1.39, Now \$1.00	Lace Trim
All reg. \$1.00 gloves \$1.69	Reg. \$1.98, Now \$1.69	Regularly \$1.00
Fabric and Fabric 89c	Reg. \$2.98, Now \$2.69	\$1.98 and \$1.39
Leather Trim 89c		Now

Robes 1/4 to 1/2 Off	Hosiery
Quilted reversible taffetas, \$8.95	Full range of sizes and colors. Newest shades. Non-run, fine mesh. Reg. \$1.35. Now
Quilted satins, to \$16.95. Now \$6.95 and \$5.95	2, 3 and 4-thread sheer, ringless. Reg. 89c. Now
Quilted satins that were \$8.95. Now \$6.95 and \$5.95	
Plain silks, zippers and wrap-arounds. To \$4.95. Now \$3.95	
Chenilles—Were \$3.98. Now \$2.98	

These and Many More Reductions!

Robe and Gown Sets . . Matching ensembles in prints and plain colors. Were \$7.95. Now \$5.95	Sweaters
Were \$5.98. Now \$4.50	Were \$2.98. Now \$2.69
Were \$3.98. Now \$2.98	Were \$1.98. Now \$1.69
Bedjackets . . Quilted satins and taffetas. Were \$2.98. Now \$2.69	Blouses
Were \$1.98. Now \$1.69	Were \$2.98. Now \$2.69
Pajamas . . Silks, satins, broadcloths. Were \$2.98. Now \$2.69	Were \$1.98. Now \$1.69
Were \$1.98. Now \$1.69	Suede Handbags
Skirts . . Complete range of sizes. Were \$2.98. Now \$2.69	Were \$2.95. Now \$2.69
Were \$1.98. Now \$1.69	Were \$1.95. Now \$1.69
	All Regular \$1.00 Handbags. Now 89c

The Town Shop

MAIN AT FIFTH

4

CLARKE'S WHISKIES

 BOURBON \$1.10 pt. \$2.15 qt.
 RYE \$1.10 pt. \$2.15 qt.
YEARS OLD
 CLARKE BROS. DISTILLING COMPANY
 BALTIMORE, MD.

WALL PAPER VALUES
 THAT CANNOT BE DUPLICATED!
 EVERY PAPER IN STOCK
REDUCED MORE THAN 50%
 We Must Have Room for Our New and Greater Stock of
Imperial Washable Wallpapers
 Each pattern is packed in Room-size lots for your shopping convenience!
GENERAL PAINT STORE
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