

# MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK

### THE WEEK

On October 30th, the United States destroyer *Reuben James* was sunk by a torpedo off Iceland. Only 25 members of the crew have been rescued out of a complement of 120 officers and men. Mr. Wendell Wilkie has demanded the complete repeal of the Neutrality Act and suggested that Germany should be informed officially that America means to maintain her rights at all hazards. The *New York Times* states that there is no doubt now that the United States and Germany are at war. An American tanker *Salinas* was torpedoed without warning on the night of October 29, south-west of Iceland, the night before the sinking of *Reuben James*. Both these incidents have naturally excited a good deal of indignation in the United States and important developments are expected.

The United States Government have demanded compensation amounting to about three million dollars for the sinking of *Robin Moor*. The note demanding compensation was sent to Germany on September 19 and was accompanied by the condition that payment should be made within 90 days of that date.

Nazi acts of terror continue unabated in the Occupied countries. Here is a list for the week:

(1) Fifty "Communists" and Jews executed in Belgrade in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier.

(2) Thirteen Greek hostages hanged following the murder of two German solidiers in Salonika.

(3) Four Czechs executed after a court-martial for high treason and sabotage.

(4) Forty "Communists" shot by Government troops near Belgrade and forty more killed in fighting around Ubo.

(5) Fourteen "Communists" sentenced to death at Kishinev, Capital of Bessarabia.

Russia, it appears, has suggested to Great Britain that she might declare war on Finland, Hungary, and Rumania. Great Britain is said to be considering the question in consultation with the Dominions. In the meanwhile, America has warned Finland that if friendly relations are to be maintained, Finland must stop war operations against the Soviet. This is interpreted as meaning that if Great Britain decides to declare war on Finland, the latter could not expect any sympathy from the United States Government. Finland, it is said, would reply that her action was a sequel to Russian aggression in 1939. It is also stated that, according to the Finnish Radio, military operations were drawing to a close so far as Finland was concerned.

In regard to the Axis attempt to insinuate that Great Britain is not bearing her full share of the war, figures have been published in Canberra to expose the mischief underlying this allegation. The total casualties in the Middle East of the Australian Imperial Forces up to September 25 were 13,143. The total casualties for Britain and all the Dominions in the Middle East, Greece, Crete, Syria and Abyssinia were 4,870 killed, 15,184 wounded, 28,477 missing and 6,580 prisoners. In land alone, in this theatre of war, the United Kingdom casualties were 29,176 and combined Dominion casualties in other theatres 25,935. Other British casualties in other theatres were 70,000. The Royal Navy casualties were 22,500 and the Royal Air Force 8,500.

An American journal has announced the possibility of America producing 100,000 planes annually by 1943. Of these, bombers would amount to 25,000, of which 8,000 would be "Flying Fortresses." The present monthly output is 2,000 planes.

Important successes on the sea have been announced. South African patrols sighted a convoy of five ships escorted by a French sloop, off South Africa. They were French ships suspected to be carrying contraband. The escorting sloop was requested to direct the convoy to proceed into port for examination, but this was refused and three out of the five ships made a determined attempt to scuttle themselves. The attempt was frustrated by prompt action on the part of the boarding parties. So far thirty-nine French ships, apart from these five, have been intercepted on various routes this year. The second success relates to the sinking or damaging of 24 German ships in less than a week by the Coastal Command of the Royal Air Force. The third achievement is the sinking of three enemy supply ships by British submarines in the Central Mediterranean.

On the Moscow front, the new drive by Germany in the Tula region, is resulting in fierce battles. Crimea is still in great danger, but the claim that the whole of Crimea is in German hands is denied.

M. Litvinov, the Russian international figure, will succeed M. Oumansky as Russian Ambassador in the United States. This step shows the importance that Russia pays to friendship with America.

President Roosevelt has authorised a thousand million dollar loan to Russia, free of interest, to be repaid five years after the end of the war.

## JAPAN

Frequent references are made in the press to the movements of Japanese armed forces in this direction or that. This is part of the war of nerves which is characteristic of the Totalitarian Powers. Whether Japan is going to drive south or attack Russia in the north or is intensifying her struggle against China or contemplates an invasion of Thailand, nobody yet knows. The Japanese press has recently been directing attention to the United States whose people and Government are being strongly attacked. A state of stalemate has apparently been reached in regard to the progress of negotiations between these two countries. Meanwhile, what is of importance is that the A.B.C.D. front is strong and that all the countries involved are alert. Singapore, the Philippines, Dutch East Indies and Australia are all well prepared for any emergency, while Thailand strictly adheres to her neutrality. General Wavell's rather unexpected visit to the Far East in order to take stock of the position there perhaps indicates that the situation is considered to be rather

abnormal. General Wavell, before leaving Singapore for India, emphasized the fact that the Far East was the right flank of India. Reinforcements would still flow to Malaya, he said, and stated that his object was to study the situation at first hand and hold personal consultations with Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham. Some Australian statesmen are inclined to believe that the situation is critical. Whatever that may be, if Japan thinks of taking any aggressive step towards Thailand or the Dutch East Indies, she would have to face a situation which is not likely to be pleasant to her. That is why it is thought in some quarters that, though pressed by Germany to carry out the terms of the Tripartite Pact, she has so far refrained from taking any action which would involve her in difficulties with the A.B.C.D. front.

It is stated that Britain is consulting the Dominions in regard to the clarification of the attitude of the Empire towards Japan. Mr. Curtin of Australia, stated that the consultations included spheres wider than Europe. Whatever may be the exact significance of this expression, it is to be noted that Mr. Curtin has given a specific pledge of adherence to the cause of Britain and her Allies and freedom-loving people everywhere. The Dominions have noted the recent hint on the part of Germany to Japan that Australia could be easily invaded, but Japan knows better and the impressive account of Australia's defences recently given by Sir Earle Page should dispel Nazi Germany of any illusions she may have in regard to the Commonwealth.

Japan has been saying that the strained relations between America and Japan may give place to friendship if the United States would recognize Japan's right to establish the 'New Order' in the Far East. An eleventh hour attempt to ease the situation is being made by sending Mr. Saburu Kurusu, formerly Japanese Ambassador in Berlin, to Washington as special adviser to the Japanese Ambassador to the United States Admiral Nomura. How far Mr. Kurusu, who is carrying definite proposals and a special message from the Prime Minister of Japan, will be able to break the deadlock remains to be seen. If, however, there is any basis for the report that certain demands have been made on the United States, then it may be stated at once that prospects for a settlement are not at all bright. For, what are these demands? It seems that Japan asks that the United States should give no further help to China, that China should be allowed complete freedom to deal with Japan, that there should be no military or economic encirclement of Japan, that her object of establishing a Co-Prosperity sphere should be recognized, that all trade and financial restrictions should be relaxed and that Manchukuo should be recognized. The United States would be stultifying herself if these claims are allowed. America now knows only too well what the 'New Order' means. It is similar to Germany's 'New Order' according to which

other nations will be hewers of wood and drawers of water. Neither America nor Great Britain would willingly allow Japan to assume a role which would reduce China, the Netherlands East Indies and Thailand to the position of slave states.

### TURKEY

President Ineunu, in a speech at the opening of Parliament early this week, stated amidst cheers that Turkey would resist any forceful action against her. She had nothing to fear from Great Britain and so this pronouncement must be clearly meant for Germany who might demand a passage for German troops through Turkey or the use of Turkish Black Sea bases for an attack on the Caucasus or North Iran. Undoubtedly, as the President said, the guiding principle of Turkish foreign policy is faithfulness to her engagements, alliances and friendships. Of course, Turkey has not been able to help Greece, her Ally. It is to be noted also that President Ineunu is said to have stated that if Turkey could one day become the source of peace which the world awaits and needs, her joy would be unbounded. This is evidently a hint that she is prepared to mediate between the belligerents.

There are some points in regard to this matter which should be emphasized. Turkey is being daily and hourly induced by Germany to betray Great Britain. She knows that she can be attacked by land, sea and air by the German-Bulgar army being kept on her west Thracian frontier. She could also be attacked by light craft and by air from German-occupied ports in Rumania and Bulgaria, but her lines of defence are strong and forcing the Dardanelles is not an easy operation. In spite of her determination to resist, Turkey is unwilling to act in a manner which can possibly be misinterpreted by Germany. Sir Ronald Storrs has recently given an explanation which is interesting. He says: "I have found Eastern Rulers often good chess players, but Ismet Ineunu is the strongest of them all. And he has hitherto proved himself capable through the intricate middle game, in which Turkey finds herself, of sacrificing an occasional pawn to keep the Black Queen on the other side of the board." That is the explanation for the agreement with Germany to supply the latter with 90,000 tons of chrome but not until 1943, instead of a much larger quantity at the expense of the standing British agreement.

Neither is President Ineunu likely to be carried away by the Nazi promise of placing all the Arab countries under the Turkish rule. The Caliphate was deliberately abolished by Mustafa Kemal and President Ineunu is far from likely to re-establish the Caliphate. Turkey's offer to mediate is also the result of her desire to induce Germany to keep away from her, but the fate of neutral countries is clear and the inference is not unjustifiable

that if Hitler has not yet molested Turkey, it is because he does not feel that the time is yet ripe for that operation. Turkey knows this and knowing it, she does not let pass a single opportunity to proclaim her adherence to her friendship with Great Britain.

### CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The week's fighting in Russia is a curious picture of light and shade. The Germans seem to be carrying all before them in the Ukraine and the Crimea, if their periodic announcements are to be taken at their face value. They talk of the "pursuit" of the "beaten foe" by German and Rumanian troops but it is evident that the Russian army is not only intact but making the Germans pay dearly for every inch of ground. There is no denying, of course, that the Germans have won much strategically valuable territory in the Crimea. They have taken Simferopol, the capital of the peninsula, and the harbour town of Feodosia on the Black Sea coast. Feodosia lies along the south-eastern coast of the Crimea, about midway between Kerch and the Russian naval base of Sebastopol. The Germans themselves have exposed the falsity of their earlier claim to have divided the Soviet forces in the peninsula; they now warn the German people not to expect the quick fall of Sebastopol (whose outer defences they are said to have reached) or of Kerch, which marks the extreme eastern point of the Crimea and offers a good jumping-off place to the Caucasus. Though the German breakthrough constitutes a serious threat to the Russian Black Sea Fleet, there is, however, no immediate danger to the Caucasus so long as that fleet itself is not accounted for. It may have to withdraw from Sebastopol to Novorossik, Tuapse, Poti and Batum on the Caucasian coast of the Black Sea; but while it is still intact, it can prevent any German sea-borne operations against the Caucasus. The Germans are trying their best to bomb Sebastopol but unless they can bring in naval reinforcements into the Black Sea, they cannot hope to beat the Soviet Fleet. And Turkey stands, as ever, the vigilant guardian of the entrance to that sea. That the Russians are full of fight in the south is evident from the words of the Soviet Army's paper, *Red Star*. "The Germans have seized a part of the Crimea but they have lost a whole army in the fighting," says that paper. At least 90,000 Germans have been killed and the Nazis have not succeeded in annihilating the Russian units nor in crushing their resistance. "The situation in the Crimea is difficult but it has not been conquered yet. The struggle continues and will continue."

In the Ukraine, the threat to Rostov, key railway and oil centre, persists but it has so far been held. The Nazis claim to have reached the Donetz river along a wide front. The Soviet's next line of resistance is being

organized by Marshal Timoshenko along the river Don; behind that lies the Volga. Rostov is situated on the right bank of the Don and exposed to attacks from the west and the north. But the Russians are beating back all German attempts. They know the importance of Rostov. It is a gateway to the Caucasus; through it passes a giant pipe-line from the Grozny oilfields which feeds the Donetz basin, and a vital trunk railway.

The Battle for Moscow is definitely not going Hitler's way. Nowhere are the German troops within 40 miles of the city at any point and only near Mojaisk and Kalinin are they holding the initiative. And here the Russians give as good as they get. In an Order of the Day, to the Red Army operating in the directions of Mojaisk, Maloyaroslavets and Tula, M. Stalin says "Do not step back." This exhortation is being literally followed by the heroic Russian defenders. They have so far not only defended themselves against the repeated attacks by the Germans who recklessly throw in fresh reserves every day but have counter-attacked whenever they got the opportunity.

And up in the North, Leningrad stands out—a proud symbol of defiance of the barbarian—aggressor and of the unconquerable spirit of the Russian people. Its resistance to the siege will be memorable for all time. Further north, the Finns make one of their usual claims to be approaching Murmansk and to be advancing in Russian Karelia, but this need not be taken seriously. That Arctic port is still free. And the Russian Baltic Fleet is reported, though without confirmation, to have broken out of the minefields of the Gulf of Finland and to be steaming west. In any case, Finland is seriously considering whether she can afford to continue the war and antagonize both the United States and Great Britain, who have warned her in unmistakable fashion against such a course. And the Finnish Radio stated yesterday that "military operations are drawing to a close so far as our country is concerned. It is realised that our frontiers cannot finally be determined until the coming peace conference."

Finally, a word about the Russian Air Force which is accomplishing prodigies of valour. Not only has it lent constant support to the Soviet army in the field by breaking up German formations but has made successful raids on Danzig, Koenigsberg and Riga. Little wonder that M. Stalin, Russia's Premier who has just reappointed Marshal Shaposhnikov as Chief of the General Staff, feels supremely confident that Hitler's *blitzkrieg* is bound to collapse. He reveals that the German losses in the first four months of the campaign in Russia total four and a half million as against the million and a half of the Soviet's losses. Now that Hitler has failed in his attempts to isolate the Soviet Union, the latter's allies

will speedily make up the deficiency in tanks which has been responsible for Russian reverses so far.

### M. STALIN ON THE WAR

On Thursday, M. Stalin and President Roosevelt delivered speeches on Germany which, for their vehemence and strength, should be considered as very significant. M. Stalin stated, addressing the Moscow Soviet, that Germany had lost during four months of the war four millions and a half, wounded and taken prisoners, while Russia has lost 350,000 killed, 378,000 missing and 1,020,000 wounded. It was, he said, deficiency in tanks that has been responsible for Russian withdrawal, though Soviet tanks and air-craft and navy were of better quality than the Germans. Summing up the war position, he said:—

"At Leningrad the position is unaltered except for local attacks in which both sides claim success. In the Crimea the Germans are now up against the defences of Sebastopol to the west and Kerch to the east. It appears that there was no organized defence of any-lines behind the Perekop Isthmus and that explains the rapidity of the German advance to the south coast across the Yaila range. They will find the investment of Sebastopol an arduous task, because it is well garrisoned and well supplied for a long siege. The maintenance of an army on barren hills and the steppes around Sebastopol will involve serious strain on German communications, especially if they are unable to gain supremacy at sea."

The rear of the Red Army was never stronger than now. While German resources were being strained, Soviet reserves were only now giving their full output. Where Germany expected a coalition against Russia, the latter had now the help and co-operation of Britain and America. M. Stalin concluded by saying:

"The defences of Leningrad and Moscow, where our divisions destroyed German cadres and annihilated their division, show that in this national war, Soviet men and their commanders, airmen, gunners, infantry and sailors will to-morrow turn into a thunderbolt for the German army. There is no doubt that all these considerations make the collapse of the *blitzkrieg* in the East a certainty."

### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ATTACK AGAINST HITLER

Mr. Roosevelt, addressing the International Labour Conference at Washington referred to the struggle against aggression now being carried on in the following words:—

"But with all this we have not made any substantial sacrifices in the United States. We are not like the heroic people of Britain, who had to withstand the deluge of death from the skies. Nor can we even grasp the full extent of the sacrifices that

the people of China are making in their struggle for freedom from aggression. We have in amazement witnessed the Russians oppose the Nazi war machine for four long months—at a price of uncounted dead and scorched earth: The most heroic of all, however, has been the struggle of the common men and women of Europe, from Norway to Greece, against brutal force which, however powerful will for ever be inadequate to crush the fight for freedom.

After referring to the few in America who were obstructing war effort, the President pointed out how Berlin was becoming the slave market of the world and what fate the American would have to avoid:—

“To replace the Nazi workers shipped to the front and to meet the gigantic needs of her total war effort, Nazi Germany has imported about two million foreign civilian labourers. They have changed occupied countries into great slave areas for the Nazi rulers. Berlin is the principal slave market of the world. The American worker has no illusions about the fate that awaits him and his free labour organizations if Hitler wins. He knows that his own liberty and the very safety of the people of the United States is not assurable in a world which is three-fourths slave and one-fourth free. He knows we must furnish arms to Britain, Russia and China and that we must do it now—to-day. Our place—the place of the whole of the Western Hemisphere—in the Nazi scheme of world domination has been marked on the Nazi timetable.”

Mr. Roosevelt called the workers to make sacrifices to-day—not to-morrow, by working three shifts, by making full use of every machine every day and every night. That was the path of realism. As for reconstruction after the war, he pointed out:—

“In the process of working and fighting for victory, however, we must never forget the goal which is beyond the victory. The defeat of Hitlerism is necessary so that there may be freedom, but this war, like the last war, will produce nothing but destruction unless we prepare for the future now. We plan now for the better world we aim to build. If that world is to be one in which peace is to prevail, there must be more abundant life for the masses of the people of all countries . . . There are so many millions of people in this world who have never been adequately fed, clothed and housed. By undertaking to provide a decent standard of living for these millions, the free peoples would and can furnish employment to every man and woman who seeks a job. We are already engaged in surveying the immediate post-war requirements of the world whose economies have been disrupted by the war. We are planning to achieve permanent cures—to help to establish a sounder life. To attain these goals will be no easy task. Their fulfilment will require the ‘fullest co-operation of all nations in the economic field.’”

# THE AIR OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY

## WONDERFUL WORK BY THE R. A. F.

As Reichminister for Air, Hermann Goering boasted on 9th August 1939 as follows:—

“ I have convinced myself personally of the measures taken to protect the Ruhr against air attack. In future I will look after every battery, for we will not expose the Ruhr to a single bomb dropped by enemy aircraft.”

By end of January 1941, the Ruhr's great railway centre, Hamm, alone had been bombed on 82 occasions by the Royal Air Force.

Some idea of the persistence and precision of the bombing attacks made on Germany by the Royal Air Force is given in the facts contained in an attractive brochure called “ The Air Offensive against Germany ” published in England, of which this is a summary.

These facts indicate how the vast web of destruction woven day after day and night after night by British bombers, who have struck at over 270 target areas of military and strategic importance in Germany, is clogging Hitler's industrial and war machine. Since the outbreak of war 1,616 area raids have been carried out on German territory, from the Baltic Sea to Switzerland, from the North Sea hundreds of miles inland to Berlin and beyond. These are in addition to raids made on hundreds of other occasions on points of military importance outside Germany and apart from Danzig and Pilsen.

British bombing attacks on Germany have the twofold aim of destroying the industrial basis of Germany's war effort and of producing a situation in which shortage of essential war supplies will sap the energy and effectiveness of the German armed forces.

The synthetic oil plants and the refineries in Germany itself are a vital factor in the German war economy, since the synthetic oil plants are responsible for the bulk of supplies of aviation spirit for the German Air Force, and of higher grade Diesel oil for the submarine fleet, whilst certain of the oil refineries are the chief source of Germany's slender supplies of high quality lubricating oil. Some of the heaviest attacks have been delivered at the famous Leuna hydrogenation plant which produces up to half a million tons of synthetic oil per year, at the Politz (Stettin) plant, at the new Wesseling plant on the Rhine.

Many of the aircraft works (e.g., the B.M.W. aeroengine works at Munich and Berlin, the Fockewulf factory at Bremen, the Messerschmitt and Junkers works at Augsburg and Dessau) have been attacked by the Royal Air Force bombers. One at least of the aircraft factories—the Dornier works at Wismar on the Baltic Coast—is believed to have been so seriously damaged that it is doubtful

whether it has been able to contribute more than a fraction of its normal quota towards replacement of the flights of bombers which have been shot down over Great Britain. Among other works which have suffered heavy damage may be mentioned the Siemens's electrical works in Berlin, the Bosch magneto, the sparking plug factories at Stuttgart, and the famous Zeiss instrument works at Jena.

Other vital points of attack include the great chemical works in the Rhineland, the Krupp works at Essen, which produce a million tons of steel per annum.

Another field in which the bombers of the Royal Air Force have been active is the bombing of ports, docks, railways and canals.

The attacks on the celebrated Dortmund-Ems aqueduct have succeeded in interrupting the internal transport traffic for long periods. The almost nightly visits to Hamm, Soest, etc., in the Ruhr and other industrial areas in which goods trains are made up for despatch to all parts of Germany, have resulted not only in physical damage to the yards themselves and to train loads of goods, but also in dislocation and interruption of activity at these vital centres.

An incidental contribution to the difficulties of the German transport system has been provided by the destruction of barges in the Channel ports.

Many power stations and gasworks have also been hit. Interruption of electricity supplies will be the more severely felt because Germany has for years suffered from a shortage of electricity—struggling always to expand generating capacity in pace with the insatiable demand of the “ Ersatz ” industries.

### NOT A BOMB WASTED

For this reason the full effects of the uninterrupted raids carried out by the Royal Air Force will not be seen in days or even in weeks. But steadily and inexorably the grip will tighten upon the nerve centres of German resistance until it becomes a stranglehold. To this end not a bomb that has been dropped upon Germany has been wasted, and as far as the precision of British pilots can ensure it, not a bomb will be wasted.

Of the 1,616 attacks, 473 were made on railways and communications, 331 on munition and aircraft works, power stations and military stores, 294 on docks and shipping, 272 on oil refineries and storage, 201 on aerodromes and seaplane bases and 45 on other objectives.

The following is a list of major bombing attacks carried out by the Royal Air Force over German territory between the outbreak of war, 3rd September 1939, and April 15th, 1941, as reported in communiques issued by the Air Ministry. Weather conditions during February and March 1941, prevented bombing operations on a full scale; hence the reduction in number of attacks both by British machines on German territory and by German machines on British Isles:—

## DETAILS

Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.
Aachen	8	Grevenbroich	5	Midlum	1
Ahaus	1	Griesheim	2	Misburg	7
Aldekerk	1	Gross-korbetha	1	Monheim	11
Alt-gaarz	1	Hage	2	Mors	2
Altona	4	Halberstadt	1	Mulhausen	2
Amrum	1	Halle	3	Mulheim	3
Agermunden	1	Haltern	3	Muncheu-Gladbach	7
Arsbeck	1	Hamborn	4	Munich	2
Aschersleben	1	Hamburg	63	Munster	13
Augsburg	2	Hamm	32	Mutterstadt	1
Aurich	1	Hana	2	Neckarau	1
Baden	1	Handorf	2	Nechim	1
Bad Rheinfelden	1	Hanover	33	Neuhaidensleben	3
Barge	2	Harburg	4	Neumunster	1
Barmen	1	Hattingen	1	Neuss	2
Barnstorf	1	Heardt	1	Nienburg	1
Bassenheim	1	Heide	1	Nohra	1
Berlin	38	Heidelberg	1	Nordenham	2
Bernburg	2	Heilbronn	1	Norderney	18
Bielefeld	2	Heligoland	3	Nordhausen	3
Bitterfeld	3	Heligoland light	2	Nordhorn	1
Black Forest	5	Herdecke	7	Nuremberg	2
Bobingen	1	Herringen	3	Oberharz mountains	3
Bochum	1	Hildesheim	2	Oberhausen	2
Bohlen	2	Hitzacker	1	Oberndorf	1
Bomlitz	2	Hochst	3	Ohrtermesche	1
Bonn	5	Holtenua	2	Oldenburg	7
Bonninghardt	1	Homberg	12	Osnabrueck	34
Borkum	20	Homburg	5	Osterfeld	2
Bottrop	7	Hornum	4	Ostermoor	3
Bremen	61	Hoya	1	Ostheim	1
Bremerhaven	13	Hantlosen	2	Ottersburg	1
Brunsbüttel	4	Husten	1	Paderborn	5
Brunswick	1	Husum	4	Pilsen	2
Buer	2	Ickern	1	Politz	6
Celle	3	Jagel	1	Pretzsch	1
Coblenz	11	Jena	1	Quakenbruck	3
Cologne	59	Jever	1	Rangsdorf	1
Cuxhaven	11	Juist	1	Rantum Bay	1
Danzig	2	Julich	2	Rathenow	1
Darmstadt	2	Kamen	6	Rebstock	1
Deichshausen	5	Karlsruhe	1	Recklinghausen	2
Delmenhorst	2	Kassel	8	Rees	1
Dessau	4	Kastrop-Rauxel	4	Regensburg	2
Deipholz	8	Kelsterbach	1	Reisholz	9
Distelrath	1	Kerkrade	1	Rendsburg	1
Dollbergen	1	Kiel	37	Rheinberg	1
Dormagen	1	Kloppenburg	2	Rheine	8
Dorsten	2	Knapsack	2	Rheydt	6
Dortmund	20	Kochem	1	Riesenbeck	1
Dortmund-ems canal	15	Kollada	1	Rotha	1
Dresden	2	Konigshofen	1	Rothenburg	4
Duisburg	38	Krefeld	20	Rudersdorf	1
Dusseldorf	27	Kreuzbruch	1	Rugen Island	1
Ehrang	13	Langenhagen	1	Ruhland	2
Elbe estuary	1	Langeoog	1	Saarbrucken	1
Emden	40	Lastrup	4	Saizbergen	5
Emmerich	11	Lauta	1	Salzhof	1
Erkelenz	1	Lehs	1	Schildan	1
Eschwege	5	Leipzig	6	Schlebusch	1
Eschweiler	1	Lemforde	1	Schonebeck	1
Esens	1	Leuna	11	Schwerte	13
Essen	32	Leverkusen	4	Siedenburg	1
Euskirchen	3	Lingen	5	Siegburg	1
Eystrup	1	Lintorf	1	Soest	34
Fehman island	1	Lippstadt	2	Solingen	1
Finkenheerd	1	Lohausen	1	Soltan	1
Flensburg	1	Lubeck	4	Speyer	1
Frankfurt-on-main	17	Ludwigshafen	16	Spieh	1
Frankfurt-on-oder	1	Luhun	10	Stade	3
Freiburg	1	Lutzen	1	Stendal	1
Furstenan	1	Magdeburg	20	Sterkrade	6
Geldern	5	Mainz	3	Stettin	3
Gelsenkirchen	43	Mannheim	35	Stockum	1
Geseke	1	Mannheim	1	Stralsund	1
Gifhorn	2	Mecklenburg	1	Stuttgart	5
Goch	1	Meidrich	1	Sundern	1
Gotha	3	Merseburg	1	Sylt	7
Gottingen	3	Merzig	1		
Gremburg	8	Metelen	1		

(Continued on page 10)

## HELP TO RUSSIA

### THREE MAIN ROUTES OF SUPPLY

The Germans are throwing in fresh reserves into the Battle for Russia but it is generally taken for granted that, despite crippling loss of territory, the core of Russian resistance will remain unbroken when winter really sets in and adds to the difficulties of the invaders. But the danger is that the Soviet Union may be so gravely weakened by losses of material and—still more important—of the vital industrial production in the Moscow region and in the Donetz Basin that only British and American aid can fill the gap and help Marshals Voroshilov and Budenny to reconstitute the Russian armies as a major fighting force by next spring. Expert statisticians now estimate that, if the Russians were to fall back on the lines of the Don and the Volga, their own factories and raw materials in the east could be developed so as to convert their armies once more into a first-rate military machine in twelve months. That is obviously not good enough. The time-lag must be halved at least. That is the measure of the peril and the measure of the opportunity which is presenting itself to the peoples of the British Commonwealth and the United States of America. They must not, and will not, fail but nothing less than an all-out effort will suffice.

The supply lines to Russia are, indeed, being organised rapidly. The three main routes are, of course, from the Persian Gulf or from Baluchistan across Iran to the Caspian Sea or the Caucasus; from the Pacific Coast of North America to Vladivostok; and from Boston (or any other convenient port) on the Atlantic seaboard of the United States to Archangel. In Iran roads are being built and the Trans-Iranian Railway extended to take 3,000 tons of goods per day. This may be compared with the 400 tons per day travelling over the Burma Road to China, as reorganized by the American transport expert, Mr. J. E. Baker. The Trans-Iranian Railway, 868 miles in length, crosses Iran from Bandar Shapur on the Persian Gulf to Bandar Shah touching the Caspian Sea. It is a single track all the way. From Teheran, the Iranian capital which lies on the main line, a branch line runs north-west as far as Zenjan and this is being extended to join the line which runs from the Russian frontier to Tabriz. Another branch line is also under construction to Meshed in the north-east and will eventually reach Kushk, another Russian rail-head bordering on Afghanistan. The land route from Quetta is also being developed rapidly so as to take over supplies going through the port of Karachi and along the Karachi-Quetta railway as well as from supply centres in India. British railway engineers are already at work in Iran and British rolling stock is being shipped to Iran in considerable volume. An American mission is also helping

to supervise the delivery of American supplies to Russia along the Iranian roads and railways.

#### ARCHANGEL ROUTE

Supplies from America, the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies are already going over to Vladivostok and thence by the Trans-Siberian Railway to Moscow and the fighting front. But Japan indulges in threats to cut this route though they have amounted in practice to little more than tall talk and M. Lozovsky, the Russian spokesman, has called her bluff and warned her against any monkey-tricks. Nevertheless, the main bulk of American supplies are now being sent to Archangel, the Soviet's northern port, *via* Boston because this sea-route is *shorter to the front* than *via* Vladivostok. The main American industries concerned are also situated near the Atlantic coast.

By sea from San Francisco to Vladivostok is roughly the same distance as from New York or Boston to Archangel—just over 5,000 miles, writes the *Times* Diplomatic Correspondent. But there are land routes on each side to the ports to consider. The bulk of American industries are nearer to the east coast than to the west; therefore the Atlantic ports are more convenient; and on the Russian railways the advantage of using Archangel rather than Vladivostok is very much greater. If Archangel could not be kept free from ice during the winter, then the Vladivostok route would have to be used, in spite of the greater length. The Soviet Government, however, are confident that their three new ice-breakers, of 12,000 tons each, can keep open the port—which used to be closed by ice from November to May. They are also confident that they can safeguard the railway route from Archangel during winter. An added reason for using the Archangel route is that convoys *via* the Atlantic are already well organized and formidably guarded.

Again, the *News Chronicle's* Special Correspondent at Manila points out that diversion of the delivery of United States supplies to Archangel has created a Gilbertian situation whereby Japan is able to claim a diplomatic victory and yet vital war materials are able to reach Russia by a more direct route and to be quickly ferried by river barges to the vicinity of Moscow. The move, which was decided upon at least a month ago, permits supplies to be transported to the interior of Russia along the Ob, Yenisei and Lena rivers. It is the job of the organization known as the main administration of the Soviet Northern Sea Route to keep the Arctic Sea rivers free from ice. Raw materials from the Philippines,

(Continued on page 9)



# HITLER'S HOLLOW "VICTORIES"

## THE SAME OLD STORY

Here is a passage from Emil Ludwig's 'Napoleon':—

"Now Russia is open to him for the first time, a land like a desert. Endless steppes, covered with snow or mud, no bread, and hardly any roads. After a few skirmishes, the Tsar slowly retreats. Can we follow him? Whither is he enticing us? Who will feed the army? There is nothing in this land to be seized, nothing such as there is in prosperous Germany, no storehouses. . . . When the Emperor is riding towards Pultusk, he hears murmurs from the ranks. His generals report suicides among the men. Thousands of starving soldiers desert, to become marauders. . . . It is not surprising, therefore, that when he compels the Russians to fight, for the first time he should fail to conquer in the open field. He is not actually beaten at Eylau, but both the contending armies sustain terrible losses and the issue is indecisive. . . .

"He writes to his brother: 'We are living here amid snow and mud, without wine, bread or brandy.' But this is a private missive. From Osterode, where he is housed in a barn among the soldiers, his bulletins to Paris speak of a great victory, and of a Russian rout. The casualties are stated at a third of the true figures. . . . Arrangements must be made for the Paris newspapers to publish articles, ostensibly based on information from Bucharest and Tiflis, and describing Russia's desperate situation."

Napoleon, with all his difficulties, entered Moscow twelve weeks after his invasion of Russia began. Hitler, with troops of high

morale (after a long series of victories) and well fed (with food plundered from conquered territories), with excellent lines of communication and supply, was still well out of goosestepping range of the Kremlin eighteen weeks after beginning his invasion. No wonder he uses Napoleon's stratagems in his progress reports to the German people . . . lying communiqués, understatements of casualties, fake news items purporting to come from neutral sources. Every battle, according to Hitler's communiqués, is a "battle of annihilation," but he knows that the Russian armies are far from broken, that his "victories" are indecisive.

"This is a tank war," says Stalin. "The Germans conquered Poland," says Genreal de Gaulle, "because they had 5,000 tanks against 1,000 tanks, they conquered France because they had 10,000 against 3,000 and they are advancing in Russia because they have 25,000 against the Russians' 15,000 tanks."

President Roosevelt is doubling America's tank output and British factories are working day and night to reach the target of 30,000 metal monsters set by Beaverbrook. Wavell—Britain's tank expert—was transferred from the Middle East to the Indian Command to organize the defence of the Allied front south of the Caucasus. Timoshenko—Russia's tank expert—has been transferred from the central to the southern sector of the Russian front so that he can organise the defence of the Donetz Basin and the vital Caucasus. It is in this area that the main weight of any German winter offensive will fall.

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### HELP TO RUSSIA—(Continued from Page 8)

Australia and the East Indies have already reached Archangel *via* Arctic Seas. The captains of the ships conveying these supplies were impressed by the ability of the special Soviet organization to maintain lanes through the ice whereby shipments of supplies from America, Australia and the Far East can be kept flowing all the year around. Far Eastern observers point out that the Democracies, by using a route developed by the Soviet in peace time, have made a "complete monkey" of the concentrated Nazi efforts to cause trouble about Vladivostok, at the same time giving Japan a seeming diplomatic victory, whereby she may save her face. The Archangel route

is no experiment. Regular sea-freighting began to North Siberia in 1934 after the ice-breaker *Siberykov* had negotiated a passage. Dozens of freighters have since made the journey in the depth of winter.

And, lastly, Finnish sources reveal that several large British transport ships have recently arrived at Archangel and war supplies transported rapidly southward. No, the Democracies will not fail Russia and will carry out to the last detail the promise of all-out aid given by Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman to M. Stalin at the Three Power Conference at Moscow.

## WAR OF SUPPLIES

### FOR ALLIES

Supply lorries are rumbling along Russia's "Burma Road"—through Iran—in a continuous stream, carrying 3,000 tons of war materials daily across the Russian frontier. Two thousand lorries have been imported to ease the transport problem.

The Australian Government has undertaken to supply big quantities of rolling stock to Iran's railway, whose carrying capacity will be increased in a year from its present daily total of 350 tons to 3,000 tons.

India's factories are playing an important part in helping to deliver the goods to her soldiers and to the Russians, who together are manning her first line of defence.

American-built war planes, flown or shipped across the Atlantic, are now being ferried by air direct across Central Africa and *via* the Sudan to the Middle East battle fronts.

### AGAINST AXIS

The British Navy has already carried out 14 separate attacks on enemy transports carrying reinforcements for use against the Soviets. The Royal Air Force keeps up a ceaseless bombardment of German ports and supply lines in the West.

In the Mediterranean, British submarines and naval aircraft are sinking Axis supplies at the rate of a shipload a day. British, South African and Australian bombers are ranging far and wide over the Libyan desert, blasting ammunition and petrol dumps, armaments factories and motor transport columns.

Last year, the Italian General, Rodolfo Graziani, was able to begin his invasion of Egypt in mid-September. This year, the German General, Erwin Rommel, is still

marking time on the Egyptian frontier. The reason? British bombs and torpedoes are tearing his supply line to shreds.

### ATLANTIC BRIDGE OF SHIPS

As the volume of American Lease-Lend-Aid increases—Rs. 54 crores worth was shipped in September—German U-boats, surface raiders and bombers are presented with a bigger target. But, instead of sinking more ships in the Atlantic, they are sinking less.

Goebbels feels obliged to explain. The German radio (October 26) speaks of the Battle of the Atlantic as "indescribable hell for German airmen." Two years ago, says the announcer, attacks on British shipping meant just dropping bombs, but "to-day an attack on a convoy can be compared with nothing less than a desperate assault on a mighty and powerful line of fortifications by great infantry assault units. British convoys are now always powerfully escorted by large numbers of fast and heavily armed warships. Moreover, all merchantmen are themselves armed with one or several anti-aircraft guns or machine guns. Finally, convoys carry with them barrage balloons, with their malicious steel cables. It seldom happens now-a-days that aircraft succeed in surprising a British convoy. The enemy has become so efficient and vigilant, he is in such a constant state of preparedness, that, as soon as our bombers approach, the most murderous fire is opened against us. This is directed with uncanny precision and on a cunning system which covers practically every inch of air space. For our bombers to get at a ship is to go down into the shadow of death."

High-speed fighters are now catapulted from British merchantmen to deal with long-range Focke-Wulf Condor bombers—another good reason why Allied shipping losses in the past 12 months have been more than 20 per cent lower than the total for 1917.

### THE AIR OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY—(Continued from Page 7)

Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.	Area.	Number of attacks.
Thuringen Forest ..	2	Wanne Eickel ..	5	Westerland ..	3
Torgau ..	2	Warendorf ..	1	Westhofen ..	1
Trier ..	3	Warnemunda ..	1	Wilhelmshaven ..	45
Tubingen ..	1	Wedau ..	2	Wismar ..	9
Ueberlingen ..	1	Wenzendorf ..	5	Witten ..	1
Ulm ..	1	Werl ..	1	Wittenburg ..	1
Varel ..	3	Wernigerode ..	1	Wunstorf ..	2
Vechta ..	1	Wesel ..	13	Wurzburg ..	1
Vegesack ..	1	Weser-Elbe Canal ..	2	Zschornowitz ..	1
Waldeck ..	1	Wesermunde ..	5	Zweibrucken ..	1
Waldshut ..	1	Wesseling ..	7	Zwischenahu ..	2
Wangeroog ..	2	Westerholt ..	1		

# THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

## Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 18—25, 1941

### SOME NAZI DOUBTS CLEAR

"Londoners are beginning to realize that the Battle of the East is virtually over." (*German news in Hindustani, October 18.*)

"The fresh Soviet troops have been completely annihilated and the war on the Eastern Front has virtually come to an end." (*German news in Hindustani, October 19.*)

"The army of Timoshenko has been annihilated." (*German news in English, October 20.*)

"One realized that there can be no question of the revival of the Soviet armed forces." (*German news in English, October 22.*)

"Pursuit of the Bolsheviks in the Donetz basin continues favourably. Newly arrived Soviet formations are drawn into the general flight." (*German news in English, October 21.*)

"Marshal Budenny of the Southern Sector has been confined to jail in Moscow. Also Marshal Voroshilov has been disposed of." (*German news in Hindustani, October 25.*)

"No official reasons are given for Timoshenko's dismissal. There can be no doubt however, that now he has been found guilty of whatever he may be accused of, we shall not have to wait long for his liquidation." (*German news in English, October 25.*)

"Inhuman and indescribable tactics are being employed by the British to starve out the French colony in Africa." (*German news in English, October 18.*)

As a Swedish paper recently observed, according to *Nazi estimates*, the number of Russians killed and captured is 12,000,000 and when the estimate reaches 15,000,000 (the maximum Russian mobilization figure) which it no doubt will, Berlin will have great difficulty in explaining why she is still fighting at all in Russia.

Dr. Goebbels has not reached the broadcasting station at Moscow, although "*the whole Russian army is in flight*" and "*Timoshenko's forces are annihilated.*"

But for internal consumption the Nazis adopt a more sober tone. On October 15 they said in German "*hard struggle may still be ahead of us. Our forces will not be spared more hard fighting.*"

The Berlin correspondent of the *Stockholm Tidningen* issued a warning against premature jubilation over the Southern move. He said "*The Russians are organizing a new defence line in the Donetz basin.*"

Goebbels has been caught in the trap of his lies inextricably this time, and even for him it will take some wriggling out.

Both Budenny and Voroshilov are free, alive and kicking, and after their present organization of armies behind the front lines, will kick harder still.

As for Timoshenko, he is being sent to the South, the critical area now, where he will no doubt show the same qualities that kept him for four months across the German path to Moscow.

While the Vichy Government attempt to send supplies to their army by submarines, the British have made every possible effort to relieve the suffering of the French population. As far back as June 26 an offer was made to convey all women and children to Madagascar.

The Governor ignored the gesture. A constant stream of supplies of milk for women and children has been kept up and recently increased. Free French doctors are kept in waiting with medicines and food to help as soon as the Governor sees fit to co-operate with those who were once his Allies.

## GERMANY SEEKS A RESPITE

Periodically Goebbels organizes a "Peace Blitz." It takes many shapes and talks in many voices. But it is always an integral part of the Nazi strategy of world-conquest.

As with other German attacks, the *peace-blitz* is begun while its existence is denied :—

"After weapons have had their say and Britain has thrown out Churchill and other people responsible for the war, one might speak of peace-feelers. Of course, they will be exclusively English peace-feelers." (*Nazi Radio in German and English, October 13.*)

Then various countries are tried out.

The Italian radio tell Britain and the U.S.A. on October 8 :—

"If you have any hopes left, let them be based on a peace which will come in spite of Mr. Churchill, and in spite of all the villainies of Bolshevism. Germany would destroy your hopes of winning this war, this unnecessary war, but Germany will in the end grant you one thing for sure, a peace free from Bolshevism."

Another message from Rome is sent out to Canada in French on October 12 :—

"Recent military developments make it obvious that a British victory is impossible.

Then why does she fight. A country with common sense would endeavour to stop fighting to save as much as possible. But Britain has no common sense."

In the same week Berlin probes South Africa :—

"The British would give up the struggle if Russia were beaten. The only factor that might prolong the war is American intervention."

The same day in a broadcast to England Berlin declares :—

"The German people are the ancestors of the British. If there are two races in the world who should have been allies, they are Germany and England."

On October 15 and-16 the Nazi radio issues the pronouncement in English :—

"All rumours of a peace settlement are unfounded. They are spread by democracies."

To understand the tactics of aggressive hypocrisy is to defeat them. This German search for a breathing space before the next assault serves only to strengthen the grim resolve of the Allies to expunge for ever such malice from the surface of the earth.

## DIARY OF THE WAR

### AIR ACTIVITY OVER BRITAIN AND GERMANY

**31st Oct.**—The Royal Air Force carries out numerous offensive sweeps over Northern France and the Channel, attacking factories, communications, barges, etc.

Enemy aircraft drop a few bombs over East Anglia, West and South-west England, causing little damage.

**1st Nov.**—The Royal Air Force bombs Hamburg and the docks at Dunkirk and Boulogne. Successful attacks are also carried out on enemy shipping off the Norwegian coast and the Frisian Islands.

German guns from the other side of the Channel shell the vicinity of Dover.

**2nd Nov.**—The Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force attacks objectives in Kiel and elsewhere in North-west Germany. Docks at Brest, Le Havre, and St. Nazaire are also attacked.

Six enemy planes are destroyed when enemy aircraft drop bombs on scattered points in England and Wales. Small damage is caused at the Merseyside and the South Coast.

**3rd Nov.**—The Royal Air Force again attacks objectives in Northern France, including a wireless station and a number of enemy lorries.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command attacks enemy shipping off the Dutch Islands and objectives on the coast of Norway.

Single enemy aircraft drop bombs at a few isolated points in East Anglia and East Scotland, causing slight damage.

**4th Nov.**—The Royal Air Force makes successful attacks on enemy convoys in the English Channel and off the Frisian Islands.

**5th Nov.**—The German News Agency admits bombing of Western and North-western Germany by the Royal Air Force. French Channel ports are also attacked as well as shipping off the Dutch and Norwegian coasts.

Britain has a raid-free night.

**6th Nov.**—The Royal Air Force again attacks Channel ports and enemy shipping.

A single enemy plane raiding England causes slight damage and no casualty.

### ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

**31st Oct.**—An Italian communiqué admits raids on Tripoli and Benghazi by British aircraft.

Tmimi and Bardia in Libya and Heraklion and Suda Bay in Crète are also heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force.

**1st Nov.**—Naples and the Sicilian ports of Palermo and Licata are raided by the Royal Air Force and numerous fires started.

**2nd Nov.**—British patrols continue to be active on the Egyptian frontier.

Italian positions in the Gondar area are attacked by the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force.

**3rd Nov.**—Widespread havoc is caused by the latest Royal Air Force and South African Air Force raids in North Africa. Military objectives in Benghazi, the harbour and aerodrome at Derna, and aerodromes at Berca are all heavily attacked. Four enemy aircraft are set alight.

**4th Nov.**—British bombers attack Syracuse and Licata and also the aerodrome at Castel Benito, south of Tripoli.

**5th Nov.**—British submarines sink three enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean. Increased enemy activity is reported in the Tobruk area.

**6th Nov.**—Italy admits a Royal Air Force raid on Augusta in Sicily.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

**31st Oct.**—The United States destroyer, *Reuben James* with 120 on board, is torpedoed off the coast of Iceland while on convoy duty. Seven officers and 88 men are missing.

The United States *Journal of Commerce* states that plans are afoot in America to produce 100,000 planes a year by 1943.

**1st Nov.**—Denouncing the sinking of United States ships as worse than piracy, Colonel Knox, Secretary of the Navy, states "We are in this fight to the finish."

Mr. Wendell Wilkie asks for complete repeal of the Neutrality Act.

Naval men in Washington declare they are virtually certain that United States warships have scored direct hits on German submarines since the Navy got orders to shoot.

It is revealed that there has been a rush of Americans to join the United States Navy within an hour of the news of the sinking of the *Reuben James*.

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, begins conversations with President Roosevelt at Hyde Park.

**2nd Nov.**—It is revealed that the output of aircraft engines in the United States has risen 88 per cent during the first nine months of the year. Enough engines are now being produced for about 2,000 aircraft monthly.

The United States Navy now has 344 major fighting ships in hand and 347 are being built.

**3rd Nov.**—The United States warns Finland that she must discontinue promptly military operations against Russia if she desires to maintain her friendship with America.

Two American submarines are being transferred to the British and Polish Navies.

The United States claims three million dollars in full compensation for all claims against the German Government for the sinking of the American steamer *Robin Moor*.

**4th Nov.**—The United States Navy Department announces that the oil tanker *Salinas* was torpedoed without warning off Iceland but has managed to reach port.

**5th Nov.**—Mayor La Guardia, ardent champion of the Allied cause, is elected Mayor of New York for a third term.

Mr. Kurusu, formerly Japanese Ambassador to Germany, is appointed Special Adviser to the Japanese Ambassador to the United States of America. It is said he is carrying a personal message from Premier Tojo to President Roosevelt and is bringing a formula approved by the Emperor of Japan for reaching an agreement with America.

**6th Nov.**—President Roosevelt, addressing the International Labour Office Conference, says that America is determined to play her part in planning a new world after the war.

The International Labour Office Conference approves of the Atlantic Charter.

#### RUSSIA AND FINLAND

**31st Oct.**—A German Communiqué claims a striking advance in the Crimea by German and Rumanian troops.

The German offensive against Orel and Tula has intensified and fierce fighting is in progress in the Central Sector.

The Soviet Midnight Communiqué states that all Nazi attacks on Russian positions have been beaten off with heavy losses.

A Soviet cavalry regiment smashes two German regiments on the Southern front and a Soviet tank unit wipes out an enemy regiment on the Central front.

**1st Nov.**—It is revealed that fresh Russian armies are undergoing vigorous training in Southern Siberia.

The Germans are bringing up fresh reinforcements on the Moscow front for an imminent new assault.

The German News Agency claims that a big force of bombers has raided Moscow.

Soviet motor torpedo-boats sink three enemy ships and damage another in the Baltic.

The Germans have advanced several miles in the Crimea and the Moscow Radio reports fierce fighting in the Crimean front.

A submarine of the Russia Black Sea Fleet has returned to its base after sinking three enemy transports.

**2nd Nov.**—The Russians have commenced counter-attacks in some sectors of the Moscow front.

The Germans claim the capture of Simferopol, capital of the Crimea.

It is claimed that German and Italian troops have broken Soviet resistance in the Donetz basin and occupied further industrial districts.

"Do not step back" is the order issued by M. Stalin to the Red Army in the Moscow sector.

**3rd Nov.**—The Moscow Radio announces that the Battle for Moscow has entered a most serious phase.

The Soviet claims the destruction of two German battalions on the Southern front.

A special announcement by all German radio stations claim that the Soviet troops in the Crimea have been separated into two groups and that the industrial town of Kursk has been captured.

Soviet factories are showing remarkable records of increased output, according to the British Trade Union Congress delegation which visited Russia recently.

Swedish newspapers reveal the arrival at Archangel of several large British transport ships and war supplies.

The suggestion made by Russia that Britain might declare war on Finland, Hungary and Rumania is under active consideration by the British Government in consultation with Dominion Governments, according to informed circles in London.

Finnish troops are stated to be 14 miles from Murmansk in a Helsinki press report.

It is stated that some Russian warships have broken out of the mine-fields in the Gulf of Finland and are steaming west.

Marshal Shaposhnikov is reappointed Chief of the Russian General Staff.

**4th Nov.**—The Germans claim the capture of the harbour town of Feodosia on the Black Sea Coast.

The Russians make many successful counter-attacks on the Moscow and Leningrad fronts and have beaten back a new Nazi offensive at Mojaisk.

The Germans are throwing fresh reserves on the Kalinin front.

The Russian Air Force raids Danzig, Koenigsberg and Riga.

The Finns claim the occupation of an island in the Gulf of Finland, 40 miles north-east of Kronstaedt. They also report an advance into Russian Karelia towards the White Sea.

**5th Nov.**—M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, contradicts the German report to have captured almost the whole of the Crimea and says fierce fighting is going on.

The Germans claim to have reached the Black Sea coast of the Crimea and to have bombed the ports of Sebastopol, Yalta and Kerch.

Fierce fighting is reported at Tula on the Moscow front.

A Soviet advance is reported in the Donetz Basin.

Mr. Lozovsky contradicts the German statement that the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from the Far East to the Western front.

**6th Nov.**—The fresh Nazi offensive is stemmed all along the Moscow front and Russian defence is stabilised.

Another attack on Leningrad is beaten off.

The Germans reach the outer defences of Sebastopol.

The training of powerful reserves for the Red Army is proceeding apace.

M. Stalin, addressing the Moscow Soviet, emphasises Hitler's failure to isolate Russia and points to the Russian deficiency in tanks as the reason for the German successes so far. M. Stalin says that Hitler's *blitzkrieg* is bound to collapse, the German losses in the first four months of the war in Russia being 4½ million as against the Soviet's million and a half.

The Finish Radio states "Military operations are drawing to a close so far as our country is concerned."

President Roosevelt authorises a thousand million dollar loan to Russia.

M. Litvinov (it is understood) has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to the United States of America.

## BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

**1st Nov.**—President Ineunu, opening the Turkish Parliament, says that Turkey will adhere to her announced foreign policy and commitments.

Emir Abdullah of Transjordan declares that the question of an Arab Federation should be left until after the war and for the time being all efforts should be concentrated on helping Britain to win the war.

**2nd Nov.**—The Regent of Iraq, opening the first session of the Iraqi Parliament since May, declares that the Iraqi Government would zealously observe their Treaty of Alliance with Britain.

**6th Nov.**—The Turkish motor boat *Kaynakdere* is stopped and sunk by a submarine in the Black Sea, in Turkish territorial waters.

## SHIPPING

**1st Nov.**—Ten ships including a tanker, a large-sized supply vessel and an escort ship, are hit during Royal Air Force attacks on enemy shipping off the Norwegian Coast and off the Frisian Islands.

**3rd Nov.**—The United States Navy Department announces that fifty escort vessels for Britain are under construction.

It is announced that twenty to thirty ships of a German convoy hugging the European coast have been destroyed during the last three days by the Royal Air Force.

**5th Nov.**—It is revealed that American are actively hunting Hitler's new-type U-boats in the Atlantic.

**6th Nov.**—The Canadian Navy Minister reveals the presence of German U-boats just off Newfoundland.

## FAR EAST

**31st Oct.**—The Australian Premier, Mr. Curtin, broadcasting to the British people, says that Australia wants to see a peaceful Pacific Ocean but is determined and ready to resist any aggression.

**2nd Nov.**—General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief in India, arrives in Singapore.

Chinese forces recapture the important city and railway junction of Chengchow.

The agreement made a year ago for the supply of oil by the Netherlands East Indies to Japan expires to-day.

**3rd Nov.**—General Wavell confers with Mr. Duff Cooper and also has talks with Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, and Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, the

Commander-in-Chief, China Station, and other defence chiefs. He is expected to tour the defences of Malaya.

The Japanese claim to have captured the stronghold of Junan, 200 miles north of Hankow. An attack on Yunnan through Indo-China is predicted.

The Prime Minister of Australia hints that the British Empire is considering a revision of its attitude towards Japan.

Australian naval units have been withdrawn from the Mediterranean and are concentrated in Australian waters.

**4th Nov.**—A spokesman of the Japanese Information Board says that the Japan-United States talks at Washington "have not been stopped or cut off."

The Chinese Minister for Publicity reveals the massing of Japanese troops on Burma and Thailand borders.

The Thailand Consul-General in Singapore denies reports that Japanese troops have crossed the Indo-China border into Thailand.

Chinese reports say that 15,000 Japanese troops have been annihilated in fierce fighting at Kwangwu.

**5th Nov.**—The Netherlands Indies is to control the export of aviation fuel to the Island of Timor where Japan has secured an air base.

**6th Nov.**—Japan protests to Russia against the sinking of the steamer *Kebi Maru*, consequent on its striking a drifting mine on the north-eastern coast of Korea.

More reinforcements arrive in Singapore.

General Wavell tells the press at Singapore that the Far East is the right flank of India, also that there is close liaison between the Indian and Russian Commands.

#### VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

**3rd Nov.**—Marshal Petain nominates 20 new members of the French National Council, from which the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has resigned.

The Admiralty announces that French ships in convoy, attempting to scuttle themselves off South Africa, have been intercepted by British ships.

**4th Nov.**—The Vichy Government protest to Britain against the interception of a French convoy off South Africa.

Britain grants a navicout for fresh United States Red Cross supplies for France.

**5th Nov.**—The Vichy Delegate-General to Occupied France returns to Paris from a visit to Germany.

The German-controlled Paris Radio incites the Vichy authorities to resist with force future searches of their ships by the British Navy.

#### OTHER OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

**31st Oct.**—Fifty communists and Jews are shot in Belgrade as a reprisal for one German soldier found killed.

Thirteen Greek hostages have been hanged as a reprisal for the murder of two Nazi soldiers.

**3rd Nov.**—The Belgrade Radio announces the shooting of a hundred Communists and Jews as a reprisal for attacking a German soldier.

**5th Nov.**—King George of Greece says that he awaits an Allied victory with absolute confidence.

#### NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

**1st Nov.**—Costa Rica, Argentina and Chile protest to Germany against the shooting of French hostages.

A Bill providing for the extension of compulsory military service is presented to the Riksdag by the Swedish Government.

**3rd Nov.**—M. Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman, affirms Russian friendship with Afghanistan.

**N.B.**—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]