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## Fight for Freedom Newsletter, August 25, 1941

Fight for Freedom Committee

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

in the

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

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A newsletter reporting the activities of Fight for Freedom, Inc.  
1270 Sixth Avenue, Room 309, New York City August 25, 1941

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NAZIPHILES IN HIGH PLACES? - Does every Army have its portion of pro-Nazis? We know, of course, that France had its Petain. We know that Norway had its Quisling. What about our own Army?

Last week by the sheerest accident a staff member of FFF read through the 15 mimeographed pages of the manual issued to the soldiers participating in the field maneuvers of the Second Army now being held in Louisiana and Arkansas. It bore the authorization of Major R.A. Griffin, assistant acting chief of staff, and was distributed to thousands of soldiers who are taking part in the mock war for the purpose of being studied. It is a strange document.

The Berlin Bureau of Propaganda and Enlightenment could scarcely have done a better job in explaining Nazi history. The manual which purports to give the background of a fictitious war between the mythical powers of Kotmk and Almat takes pains to explain that Kotmk is Germany, while Almat is equivalent to the Allies.

Kotmk is described in glowing terms. In her people there is found a "resurgence of virility", while only the "tendencies of corruption" in the government of Almat are emphasized. The youth of Kotmk are so racially strong that her program is held up as a model "by medical authorities all over the world".

Bishop Henry W. Hobson immediately telegraphed Secretary Stimson to inform him of this document. "All of us here are shocked beyond measure," the FFF chairman wired, "to find the Army manual...filled with incredible justifications of Germany...At no point is any reminder given of Nazi cruelty and lawlessness, but indeed the whole tone of the document is to picture Kotmk as a victim of abuse. We know you will be shocked immeasurably when you read this horrifying material."

In an interview with the NY Herald-Tribune Major Griffin himself admitted that Kotmk represented Germany, but he said it was only to make the maneuvers more "realistic". The only other official comment from the War Department was that of Col. Walter B. Smith, a member of the general staff, who said, "The German army is the best in circulation. If they (FFF) know a better army, let us know."

FFF replied that if Colonel Smith's viewpoint represented that of the general staff then the time for a complete overhauling had come. How can the soldiers' morale be good, many persons were asking, when they are being fed pro-Nazi propaganda? If Army officials make them feel not only that the Nazis are invincible but also on the side of justice we have lost an important battle before the actual shooting starts.

Prompt public reaction, it is suggested, by letter and wire to General Marshall and Secretary Stimson should prove helpful in clearing up a bad situation.

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FORTHCOMING MEETING - The newly-formed Stage, Screen and Radio division of FFF will sponsor a rally at Madison Sq. Garden in New York on October 5. If you are revisiting the city please keep that evening open. Prominent actors, radio stars and other celebrities will participate. More details later.

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FFF RADIO ENGAGEMENTS - Please put this list near your radio:

- August 27 - CBS network from Station WCKY, Cincinnati, Ohio - 10:15-10:30 PM EDST  
Augustus F. Lindbergh (Cousin of Charles A. Lindbergh)  
Subject: "What is Wrong With The Isolationists?"
- 29 - Station WMCA, New York City - 8:00-8:15 PM EDST, Fight for Freedom Series - Speaker: Herbert Agar (Tentative)
- 30 - CBS Network (local outlet WMCA) - 10:15-10:30 PM EDST  
President Robert Gordon Sproul, University of California
- 31 - St. Charles, Illinois - Mutual network from Station WGY, Chicago  
5:00-5:30 PM Chicago Time - Green Corn Festival  
Speaker: Senator Albert Chandler of Kentucky
- Sept. 5 - Station WMCA, New York - 8:00-8:15 PM EDST - Fight for Freedom Series  
Speaker: James H. Hubert, Secretary New York Urban League

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"AGAR AND ARMAGEDDON" - That was the title of the following editorial which appeared in the New York World-Telegram on August 9:

"Herbert Agar, the bellicose editor from Louisville who is in London as a representative of the Fight for Freedom Committee, is quoted as saying that any U. S. citizen who is not trying to get America into the war is a nuisance.

(over)

"We trust Mr. Agar is finding congenial companions in London. It must be quite a relief to him to take a vacation from a country where out of every ten people he passes on the streets about eight of them, by his standards, are nuisances. The rest of us will just have to bear up under his absence--but we could do it with better spirits had he taken Senator Claude Pepper with him on his search for Armageddon."

The following was sent in reply:

Mr. Roy Howard,  
Scripps-Howard Newspapers,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Howard:-

The editorial in the World Telegram on August 9th entitled "Agar and Armageddon" was as much an attack on the Fight for Freedom Committee as on Mr. Agar.

The whole tone of the editorial is in line with the appeasement policy your publications, under your guidance, have been following from the start--a policy modified only now and then when you begin to take fright lest the tag be put on you too tightly. It sounds a good deal like it is pitched in quite the same tone that Messrs. Hearst, Patterson and McCormick habitually use except that those gentlemen are pretty consistent and do not periodically run to cover.

Our Committee does not understand what motivated this kind of an attack on one of the principal spokesmen of the Fight for Freedom unless it is an attempt simply to discredit a movement in which most outstanding Americans and many thousands in the rank and file have joined. It would be so easy to give support to the fight for freedom issue if you were in the least inclined that way. The only objective of this movement is to save America from the fate of so many nations that listened too long to the Hearsts, Pattersons and McCormicks. Your inclination is obviously the other way.

It is easy to recall the great pains which you took to publish the false scarehead story about the ordering of thousands of coffins for American soldiers. In that instance, of course, you did not have the fairness to publish the facts when protest was made.

This letter is only to serve notice upon you that the editorial in question did not go unnoted and that the Fight for Freedom must regretfully conclude that you and your newspapers are on the opposite side.

Yours

ULRIC BELL, Chairman Executive Committee  
Fight for Freedom, Inc.



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KEEP THE ISOLATIONISTS AT HOME - Fight for Freedom members are supporting the candidacy of Thomas Amlie in a special Wisconsin election in the belief that it is better to have members in Congress who oppose Hitlerism than to argue with them after they reach the Capitol. The following policy has been adopted by the National Executive Committee:

"One of the chief undertakings of Fight for Freedom is to combat the work of isolationist Senators and Representatives as well as to back those who stand behind American foreign policy and work for American security and the defeat of Hitler. We have no desire to enter actively into the field of politics, but there is no reason why, when the issue is clear cut, we should not oppose the election of avowed isolationists and promote the election of candidates who stand for our principles. It is better to keep the subversive ones out of Congress than to be obliged to fight them once they get in.

"With this in view we urge our local committees to work for the election of candidates who favor our foreign policy and to fight those who oppose it. They must, of course, avoid being 'used' by candidates who go out for Fight for Freedom support without being fully committed to our principles. We are confident that the local groups will know how to avoid being tagged as a political pressure group by keeping ever foremost the fight for freedom and democracy."

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CHAPTER ACTIVITIES - Newest state committees are in Iowa, Oregon, Washington and Missouri...Three of our best and most recently formed city chapters are in Seattle, Portland and Milwaukee--alleged isolationist centers...Dr. Francis E. McMahon of Notre Dame reports that the South Bend chapter is going full steam ahead...New England members are looking forward to an FFF rally in New Haven on September 13...Augustus F. Lindbergh, cousin of an eminent airplane mechanic of the same name, will answer the question "What's Wrong with the Isolationists?"

(next page)

on a coast-to-coast broadcast emanating from WCKY in Cincinnati on August 27 (10:15 EST)...Our Chicago, Cincinnati and Denver chapters are publishing their own newsletters...The Chicago "gang of warmongers" has made its No. 1 project the establishment of a morning newspaper to oppose the Chicago Tribune, self-proclaimed "World's Greatest Newspaper"...Senator Albert "Happy" Chandler will speak for FFF at the St. Charles festival in Chicago where our chapter will have a display booth with posters, literature, recordings...Our Pittsburgh members will have a booth at the Alleghany County Fair...The N. Y. chapter of the Committee to Defend America and FFF have merged into the Fight for Freedom Committee to Defend America with an active membership of 50,000 metropolitan citizens.

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NEW MEMBERS - Thousands of average Americans have been joining FFF each week since its inception last April...This week's recruits include John R. Tunis, noted sports authority; Paul Smith, editor San Francisco Chronicle; Mrs. Raymond Clapper, wife of the Scripps-Howard columnist; Channin Pollock, famous playwright and novelist; Kurt Steel, mystery story writer; William L. Shirer, CBS commentator; Ben Hecht, Charles MacArthur and Bert Lytell.

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INCIDENTAL INTELLIGENCE - A massacre of Parisians is being prepared by the Nazis, according to information emanating from various neutral capitals, because of increased sabotage and resistance...Already three anti-Nazi leaders have been executed but the Frenchmen refuse to cease harassing the Gestapo. The familiar pretexts have already been given viz. that Communists and Jews are responsible...Rumors still are being circulated that Hitler plans to "retire" in a gigantic peace offensive...Other stories say that Franz von Papen is behind this move and has been recalled to Berlin because it was prematurely revealed...From Zurich comes the report that Bruno Mussolini died a suicide, not an accident victim...Vichy admits fortifying the African coast--not against the Nazis but against the U. S. Our State Department still insists that we maintain "friendly relations" with the puppet Petain government...Because of Soviet resistance the Swedish government is becoming bolder in its anti-Nazi attitude, reports from Stockholm say...The British Press Service has a sense of humor, the headline on a recent release read: "Russian Navy sinks 14 German U-Boats in Six Weeks, Nazi Make Radio Appeal for Submarine Recruits"...Senator Reynolds' little fascist outfit called the Vindicators says that it started using the "V" first...Must be effective since so many people are claiming it...The September American Mercury carries a courageous document by Eduard Herriot, smuggled out of Vichy...William J. Goodwin, Democratic zone leader in Queens, L. I. is running for the N. Y. City Council with Coughlinite support...Rep. Philip A. Bennett (Mo.) is allowing his frank to be used by D. Leon de Aryan, editor of a little isolationist sheet called "The Broom"...That makes two Missouri Congressmen (Dewey Short and Bennett) and one Senator (Clark) who oppose the Government's effort to resist Hitlerism.

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INVESTIGATION OR WITCH-HUNT? - A sub-committee of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, chaired by Appeaser D. Worth Clark of Idaho, will begin an "investigation" of the movie and radio industries on September 8, although such proceedings have never been approved by the Senate, no funds provided and a similar proposal was never voted out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The sub-committee has no power to subpoena or punish for non-appearance. FFF has learned that the first five days of the so-called "probe" will be taken up with statements by America First members and "appeasers" of every variety. Immediately after that the sub-committee, dominated by the Clark brand of appeasers, will begin what FFF has been told will be an "all-out" anti-semitic campaign pointed toward filling columns of newspaper type with allegations that the Jews in Hollywood and in radio are "plotting to involve this country in a foreign war". First indication of the direction the "investigation" will follow came on August 1 in St. Louis when Senator Gerald P. Nye, of North Dakota, named 17 "Hollywood war-mongers." All of them, with one exception, were Jewish. Nye, incidentally, was co-sponsor of the resolution authorizing the Senate probe...Fight For Freedom, Inc., plans to fight the introduction of Hitler's methods into the U. S. Senate with all the resources at its command. A telegram or letter to your Senator will help.