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What's Happening in the Fight for Freedom, August 12, 1941

Fight for Freedom Committee

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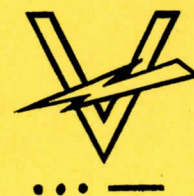
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

in the

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM



A newsletter reporting the activities of Fight for Freedom, Inc.
1270 Sixth Avenue, Room 309, New York City August 12, 1941

STRANGE INTERLUDE - The silence this past week has been ominous. It does not indicate any relaxation amongst the Axis conspirators. It merely indicates that the warlords are busy discussing their plans. Increasing American armament production, the bad effects of the Russian campaign, and the possibility that Britain might invade the Continent--all these are giving the Axis Chieftain many headaches. It is consoling to know that the Axis has its troubles, too.

But the week of August 11 may be a disheartening one for the democracies, unless we are ready for strong resistance. The signs point to a severe crisis in the Far East, where Japan is likely to invade Thailand. At the same time there are indications from Vichy that the Petain puppet-government will permit the Germans to occupy Dakar and even allow them into Martinique.

Dakar is half-way around the world from Thailand but the two events are not unconnected. They are special diversions created for the benefit of the United States. This week our government must make important decisions. Shall we continue appeasing Tokyo? Or shall we together with the Dutch, the Russians, and the British inform Japan that further adventures mean shooting? Shall we continue to recognize Vichy, which is prepared to give away strategic Atlantic bases? Or shall we recognize the Free French who oppose Hitlerism? What are we going to do about it?

May we suggest that you write both your Congressmen and the State Department urging firm action on both these matters?

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND BROADCASTS - Have you ever held a radio party? Why not invite your undecided friends some night this week to listen to an FFF radio feature? Afterwards you can have a fruitful discussion. You might end your party by thinking up ways to help in the movement. The following programs have been arranged by our Speakers Bureau:

- Aug. 15 WMCA, New York - 8:00-8:15 PM EDST - Fight for Freedom Series
Speaker: Major Alexander P. de Seversky
- 22 WMCA, New York - 8:00-8:15 PM EDST - Fight for Freedom Series
Speaker: Edgar Ansel Mowrer (Tentative)
- 23 CBS Network - 10:15-10:30 PM EDST - Bishop Henry W. Hobson, for FFF
- 29 WMCA, New York - 8:00-8:15 PM EDST - Fight for Freedom Series

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HITLER'S FORTHCOMING "ILLNESS" - Private advices from the German underground movement indicate that the Nazis are planning a sensational but fake "peace" drive before Fall. Franz von Papen has already been busily at work dropping hints amongst neutral sources in Ankara that Germany does not really want to "prolong" the war. Former Ambassador Cudahy calls for a "Roosevelt" peace.

The newest peace plan is said to emphasize six major points. (1) Hitler, feigning illness and the need of a long rest, will drop temporarily into the background while the "peace-loving" German army takes over the leadership. (2) The Nazis will allow the conquered countries some measure of cultural autonomy, the use of their own language, and some autonomy in the administration of their own affairs. (3) All European countries will disarm. There will be a "Pan-European Army" under German control. (4) The British Empire will be permitted to remain intact, except that it will be obliged to recognize Italian and German hegemony in the Mediterranean. (5) Under Nazi control, British capital will be "encouraged" to develop and rebuild Russia, the Near East, and other lands requiring investments. (6) The Nazis will make "marked concessions" to the Protestant and Catholic churches, particularly to the Vatican.

Fight for Freedom learns that the Germans are trying to break their story under "respectable" American peace-organization sponsorship. The terms are purposefully moderate. But their transparent fraud is evidenced in the proposals to permit persons in the occupied territories to speak their own language. They already speak their own language. The Nazis of course will continue to control the economies, foreign policies and military affairs of the conquered nations.

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RED SALUTE - Back in the good old days when the world conflict was just an "imperialist war" the Communists used to have a slogan. "The Yanks Are Not Coming" they chanted in demonstrations and on the picket line. But now things

(over)

have changed. Without batting an eyelash, Pal Joey's children are whooping it up for war. Result: One new slogan. It reads "The Yanks Are Not Coming-Too Late".

Various front organizations are busily at work. Amongst them are the newly-christened American Peoples' Mobilization, the American Youth Congress, the Jewish Peoples' Committee, the Council for Pan-American Democracy, and the Council for Democracy in Education. Their representatives have come around to "offer their services" to our New York and Chicago offices. They were promptly rejected. One FFF volunteer asked: "Where have you been for the last two years?"

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CHAPTER NEWS - Mr. Fred Cagle, commander of the Knoxville, Tenn. American Legion Post is chairman of our chapter there...Newly elected officers of the Stamford Conn. chapter include Gen. Gilbert L. Fitch, chairman; Clayton E. Rich and Mrs. A. C. Speirs, vice chairmen; Samuel Plotnick, secretary...Visitors to national headquarters during the past week included: Mrs. Horace Hammond, chairman of the Birmingham, Ala. chapter; Mrs. Herbert Satterlee, New Hampshire vice-chairman; and Carlton G. Ketchum, publicity director of the Western Pennsylvania FFF...The Portland, Oregon FFF has selected John C. Higgins as temporary chairman...Bailey Walsh of Memphis, Tenn. is organizational chairman in that city...Our Pittsburgh chapter placed a very effective ad in local papers...More than 3,000 Indiana citizens took part in a pilgrimage to Rushville, Indiana where they lauded Wendell L. Willkie for his defense stand. FFF and the Indiana Committee for National Defense arranged the rally.

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RADIO BROADCAST - If your local radio station would care to rebroadcast an excellent 15-minute speech by Mrs. Irving Berlin, Mr. George Havell of the Speakers' Bureau can arrange to send a transcription. Recordings have already been sent to 50 stations.

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OBSTRUCTIONISTS AT WORK - The recent appeal of ex-President Hoover, ex-Governor Landon, and ex-CIO chairman John L. Lewis for less American resistance to Hitlerism has met with little response.

In commenting on it Bishop Henry W. Hobson, national FFF chairman said, "It is greatly to be regretted that the statement...gives the impression that there are only 'warmongers' in America and only 'peace-lovers' in Berlin. It is an even more unhappy circumstance that these eminent gentlemen are bringing politics into national defense. They do not seem to recognize that the election of 1940 is over. In fact they talk as if they want to re-fight every campaign back to 1896...Perhaps the saddest aspect of the whole statement is the fact that John L. Lewis could endorse the view that it is matter of no concern to workers whether they live under a democratic or Nazi form of government. That, after all, is the real issue."

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INCIDENTAL INFORMATION - The American Legion post at Helena, Mont. has passed a resolution condemning the censorship of anti-isolationist broadcasts over local stations caused by pressure from local Wheelberghs...Fr. Martin D'Arcy, British Catholic leader, has publicized a portion of the Nazi "catechism" which says: "Our people have been ruined by Christ and his priests. Only the return of our ancient beliefs has made us free again."...The Coughlinites have threatened a boycott against stores displaying the sign of the V...There are 248 Japanese language schools in California, urging loyalty to the Land of the Rising (Setting?) Sun...Look magazine carries a powerful article entitled "Why Congress Should Investigate Lindbergh" by Samuel Grafton...N.Y. stores announce "Victory V" dresses, Stern Bros. was first...Bergdorf-Goodman and Gimbels have FFF window displays...Congressman Emanuel Celler is another member of Congress to endorse FFF...Information from France says that Marx Dormoy was assassinated while drafting an anti-Vichy document...the youth section of FFF is called the "First-to-Fight" Division...At Stamford, Conn. America "First" held a meeting at which 9,000 persons attended. About 300 were from Stamford, the remainder brought up in trains from Brooklyn and New Jersey towns to swell the throng...British sources report that 2,587 Nazi aircraft have been shot down in seven months...THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRACY WILL HOLD A MASS MEETING AT MADISON SQ. GARDEN IN NYC ON AUGUST 19...The American Committee for Defense of British Homes, 10 Warren Street, NYC, is collecting old pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns, ammunition, binoculars, stop-watches, and steel helmets. If you wish to help please send arms by express since they cannot go thru the mails...The NY World-Telegram carried an editorial attack on Herbert Agar and FFF...but they featured a story on the NY secretary of America "First"...The NY Daily News is spreading the rumor that there may be elections in 1942--as a means of scaring Congressmen into opposing Selective Service extension..."America" a 90-page booklet by David Cushman Coyle is worth reading. It sells for 25¢.