

Washington Digest

Allies Ponder Possibilities Of Russ-Nazi Peace Treaty

Soviet Offensive May Mean Sudden End of War With Germany; Stalin Holds High Cards in Diplomatic Game.

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

Washington watches the swift march of events across the Russian plains. The renewed offensive, more than half a month before even the Russian people dreamed it was possible, has quickened all nerves. For the Russians, it means the possibility of a sudden peace.

And while Moscow dreams of the possibility of what it means to them. For there is always that haunting memory of a remark of Stalin's in the back of their minds—the remark that the destruction of the Reichswehr was not a condition of German surrender as far as the Kremlin is concerned. In addition there is the realization of the presence of those German divisions still intact beyond the Alps, not to mention the others still nearer.

Not (we are assured) that Stalin will make a separate peace with Germany but if a temporary truce is written on the stalwart backs of a victorious Russian army, what terms can the Allies insist upon that Stalin will feel called upon to approve unless his own many possible desiderata are agreed to by Britain and the United States?

It does not make the task any easier for the gentlemen in London and Washington now carefully reflecting what the winning of the battle should wear in Moscow. One thing is very certain, no old fashioned regalia will be in style. There will be no opportunity for the polite game where one can risk a little bluff with fair assurance of drawing a wild joker to four of a kind or color if Russia holds all the cards.

What Russia Wants

The optimists say that Russia wants nothing that an honest world cannot afford to offer, and is willing to give in return all the honest world can ask for. The pessimists say that even if Britain and America can be converted to full faith in such an attitude and intent on Russia's part, how are you going to convert communist Russia to an equal faith in the attitude and intentions of the capitalist nations?

Unfortunately, Britain and the United States have a somewhat painful diplomatic record in dealing with Germany when Adolf Hitler held his ace—the strongest air force in the world and a sizable army. We all bowed down at Munich and, indeed, (though it has been forgotten) there was some rivalry for the credit in achieving a peace in our time that was no peace. However, with the help of Russia, the Allies were able to take Hitler's ace in the end.

And so in certain discreet circles it has been suggested that the Allied weakness in the diplomatic field as far as things to trade with Russia are concerned, might become a strength if the Allied joint general staff became the negotiators. These gentlemen might be able to offer what Russia wants most (which is what we all want—security). And these gentlemen might likewise make demands which Russia would desire to consider, namely, co-operation with compromise, refusal of which could lead to nothing better than what Hitler got in the end.

And Hitler's own words, spoken when he addressed a meeting of his party chiefs and generals recently, are worthy of note. The Führer suggested for Germany what Britain and the United States might well contribute to negotiations with Russia in addition to their diplomats and their armies and navies.

The Fuehrer Says

"The (Nazi) party's struggle for power," said Hitler, "is an example for today's struggle of destiny of the German people. . . . arms alone mean nothing if not backed by the will of men."

The Germans made a fatal mistake twice in one generation. They failed to count on the will of the American people. If that will is made clear today, if America's intention is written clearly that all may see, the intention which we profess—a decent peace, justice and security for all—and if that will and intent is backed by the force we have, nothing can resist it. That is

really the thing which can win the peace, as it has made the winning of the war possible, whatever credit may justly go to others who have battled our common enemy.

Visitors to U. S.

The war has brought a great many Englishmen to the United States who otherwise might never have known any more of America than they learned from the movies. Many are highly trained specialists, others are broadly educated, like those in newspaper and radio work. I have met a number, especially of the latter group. And I am struck by one thing which they comment upon—the widespread education in America.

That is one thing which will make up of England's No. 1 postwar reforms—a real public school system. We, in America, underestimate our own schools on the one hand and overestimate our literacy on the other.

At first, the army demanded that a man be able to read and write or he was deferred. By the time a million men to the armed forces—four states have 36 per cent or more adult illiterates.

According to latest information, 35,000 illiterates have already been reclaimed for army service which means that they have been taught to read and write and do simple arithmetic. It is said that there are facilities for giving the same basic instruction to 750,000 more.

But that is by no means the extent of army education. A statement from the Office of War Information the other day said, speaking of the serviceman: "Unless he comes from a well-to-do family, his educational opportunities are in fact rather better than those of the civilians."

That is probably something that few parents thought of when they waved good-bye at the station. They did not realize that the army and navy are operating the largest adult school in the world. One out of every ten adults in the country, 11 out of every 14 able-bodied men between 18 and 38 will probably be students in that school system by the end of this year. A million boys will be in the preinduction courses, the system's prep schools. Nine out of ten of these men will receive advanced training as specialists.

The Future

Much of the education received will be carried over as useful in civilian life, for one out of three of every army and navy job is identical with a civilian job and over two-thirds of the men in the service develop skills that can be used in civilian jobs.

These figures alone, I believe, show that when "D Day" comes, the millions discharged will not be a careless, riotous lot, good for nothing but to fight. As a matter of fact, the vast majority will have, if they have anything like the feeling I and most of my comrades in the last war had, an overweening desire to settle down to a job and the building of a home. "No more to roam." Some, of course, who had the itching foot will have developed chronic cases, but it is doubtful if those rolling stones would have gathered much more anyway.

For the majority of the men who make up our armed forces who want and expect to fill civilian jobs, the careful classification of skills which is a vital part of the army and navy system is going to work in reverse in getting them jobs afterward. In preparation for this, experts are already assembling accurate descriptions of jobs which men learn to do in the service, keeping a cumulative record of the work they are preparing additional tests which will give a clear picture of their achievements and talents to the prospective employer. They are also preparing to tell the serviceman what job he is best fitted for and offering help which will better prepare him for it.

I doubt if ever before in history the military has taken on such a responsibility for fitting the boy back into his natural groove where the fighting is over. This is a total war, everybody is in it, and those who have been forced to take over the abnormal duties of fighting are not going to be set aside.

We're All Got It

Daughter—But, Dad, I really need a new riding habit.
Father—We can't afford it.
Daughter—But what am I to do without a riding habit?
Father—Get the walking habit!

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

Motorists should endorse their gasoline ration coupons immediately and not wait until they buy gas.

In a recent broadcast, Tokyo radio announced that "the military administration over the Philippines has been terminated." The broadcast quoted an announcement from Lt. Gen. Shigenori Kuroda, Japanese army commander of the islands.

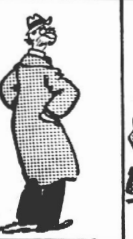
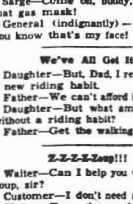
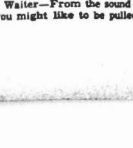
Certificates will be awarded to all soldiers who successfully complete prescribed work in the Army Specialized Training program at colleges and universities, according to the war department. It is anticipated that college credits will be granted if the trainee returns to college after termination of the military service.

OUR COMIC SECTION

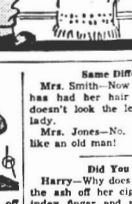
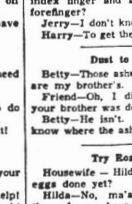
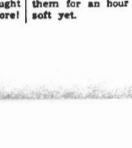
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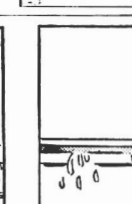
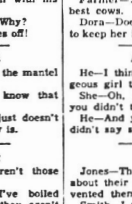
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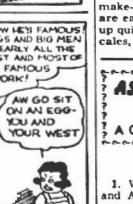
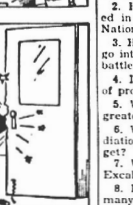
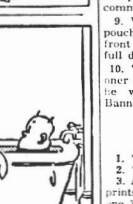
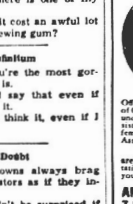
SOMEBODY'S STENOGRAPHER



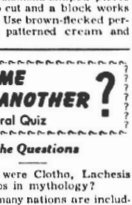
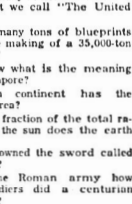
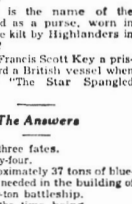
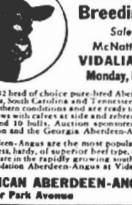
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yellow calicoes, grass-green and leaf-green cottons. Do the center in vivid yellow. Quilt has 12 pieced blocks, each 14 inches square—12 plain blocks.

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Backward French Guiana

Although one-third the size of France, French Guiana has no passenger railroads and only 93 miles of mediocre highways. Not one of its towns, including the capital, Cayenne, employs a street cleaner or garbage collector or has a sewage system; and 5 per cent of its entire population is afflicted with leprosy.

TAME UNLUCKY HAIR
Give it that will, groomed look. Ask for it. Keep your hair lying flat. Always use Mordant Hair Tonic. Large bottle 25c. Small everywhere.

Wages in Washington
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If you suffer from hot flashes, weak, nervous, cranky feelings, are a bit blue at times—due to the functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve your distress. It's a regular—Pinkham's Compound helps build, restores, adjusts such distress. It helps nature. Also a fine stomachic tonic. Follow the directions.

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One Party in Mexico
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A few drops
IF YOUR NOSE
CLOSES UP
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Put 3 drops Vapo-vol on each nostril. It (1) shrinks swollen membranes, (2) soothes irritation, (3) relieves transient nasal congestion, and brings greater breathing comfort. Follow the complete VICKS directions in folder.

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Height of Dust Storms
Dust storms have been recorded reaching to a height of three miles in the United States.

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To Help Ax the Axis

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Acne, pimples, bumps (blackheads), and other skin troubles can be cured with simple home treatment. Use Black and White Cream, the only skin cream that keeps the skin clear, healthy, and free from blemishes. It's the only skin cream that keeps the skin clear, healthy, and free from blemishes. It's the only skin cream that keeps the skin clear, healthy, and free from blemishes.

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