

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Soviet-U. S. Relations Strained By Molotov's Attack on FDR; Italy Protects Her Neutrality

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

EUROPE:

Double Feature

All Hallow's eve found every European ear cocked to Moscow, awaiting history-making utterances from Premier Viacheslav Molotov.

Stolen Thunder

A few short hours before Molotov's speech, Il Duce Benito Mussolini pulled a coup that must have stunned his erstwhile colleague in Germany.

Germany. He said Nazi-Russian friendship was getting thicker. Next day it was revealed trade discussions were going forward successfully.

Poland. He said there can be no question of restoring Poland and that it was absurd to continue the war for that cause.

Balkans. He gave no hint of expansion there, but shook a nasty finger at Turkey for signing mutual assistance pacts with the allies.

United States. He precipitated a heated argument which observers thought might end with severance of Soviet-U. S. diplomatic relations.

NEWS QUIZ

Know your news? One hundred points if you can answer all these. Deduct 20 for each complete question you miss.



- 1. Aviation News: (a) Who are Clyde Schlieper and Wes Carroll, shown above, and why are they so tired? (b) What was the intended destination of a nonstop flight that left New York, and did it succeed?

POLITICS: Candidate-of-the-Week

Rooseveltian third-term talk, which took a back seat in early days of the war crisis, loomed again in San Francisco when Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace boomed the President for re-election.

But Henry Wallace had started the political pot boiling again. Into the Republican picture jumped Oregon's Sen. Charles McNary, who tentatively consented to run.

Writing California's Gov. Cuthbert Olson to protest a meeting of "progressive leaders" scheduled next month in Salt Lake City, C. I. O.'s John Lewis gave, among other reasons: "The slight to Senator Wheeler and other great liberals of the west, who have not been consulted."



SENATOR WHEELER AND WIFE Plenty of friends.

Lewis apparently considered the meeting (some of whose participants may be violating the Hatch "no politics" act) as a third-term boom.

It appears there is more scandal, more evidence of violation of law, yet to come. Largely, because of the committee's exposures there probably will be prosecutions of various foreigners or officials of so-called American organizations because they have failed to comply with our law.

COMMUNICATIONS: Twisted Wires

Following an ultimatum from Chicago's District Attorney Thomas J. Courtney and U. S. District Attorney William J. Campbell, the American Telephone and Telegraph company barred Moses Annenberg's race betting information service from using its facilities.

News Quiz Answers

- 1. (a) Schlieper and Carroll are endurance fliers who stayed up six hours more than 30 days over Long Beach, Calif. That's why they're tired; (b) The destination was Lima, Peru, but flight ended in Ecuador.

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Investigation of Un-American Activities in U. S. Bearing Fruit

Gives New Perspective on Foreign Influences at Work in Our Midst; Shows How Our Citizens Are Used To Promote Ends of Dictatorship.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON. — The long, and sometimes wearisome, investigation by the special house committee on un-American activities, headed by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas, has begun to bear fruit.

I have a feeling that when the committee's work finally is brought to a close, most of us will have a new perspective on the foreign influences that have been at work in our midst.

For another thing, it is now evident that whatever else the Dies committee has done, it has disclosed how thoroughly easy it is for a few rat-eyed, scheming foreigners to feed upon American resources and use our citizens to promote the ends of dictatorship.

The testimony has brought out the fact again that one of the simplest things in the world is to "organize" Americans. Some vague promises, delivered with oratorical fervor; citation of some wrongs and theories for correcting them, stated only in generalities, and a group of active organizers, working for pay—that is what you have to have to "organize" in the United States.

Let us look back over the record. It shows that the "German-American Bund" is a tool of the Nazi leaders, if not directly of the German government.

It appears there is more scandal, more evidence of violation of law, yet to come. Largely, because of the committee's exposures there probably will be prosecutions of various foreigners or officials of so-called American organizations because they have failed to comply with our law.

Confidential Information Available to Foreigners

But to get back to the Dies committee list of alleged communists, or fellow travelers, within the government itself.

In addition to all of these, the committee has made a ghastly expose of our own government. It published the names of 563 persons, on the government payroll, who are members of the American League for Peace and Democracy, with the assertion that part of them, at least, were avowed communists.

Publication of Names Considered Grave Mistake

Publication of the list stirred official Washington. It was an action that was undoubtedly a grave mistake, because anyone can examine the list and find "victims" of the racketeer organizers — persons who were misled, persons who believed they were serving a sincerely felt purpose.

It was about this action that President Roosevelt spoke, although it had been known for months that he had little respect for the Dies committee program.

ordinary horse sense ought to have shown him and his committee that only a comparatively small number of those people were "guilty."

In other words, this bad mistake by the Dies committee has done much to nullify the good it has done, otherwise.

I am hopeful that the department of justice will be forced into the position where the real leaders, behind the scenes, will be kicked out of their government jobs from which they have been promoting destruction.

Operations Are Directed From Moscow and Berlin

But how did the Russian "Comintern" operate to get into these various organizations and promote its nefarious schemes toward world revolution in a so-called intelligent race of people here?

The processes, according to the testimony by Browder and others before the committee, were very simple. The American Communist party sends delegates to the Communist Internationale in Moscow. Decisions are made by the Moscow group. Browder explained that the delegates came back with these decisions and policies but he described them as only "voluntary agreements" between the Americans and Russians.

American "Fuehrer" Kuhn, of the German-American bund, appears to have had something of the same system. He nevertheless insisted before the committee that his organization had no connection with the Nazi party leaders and was not guided in any way by them.

There has been considerable suspicion that both Browder and Kuhn have many men and women in their organization who can be described only as racketeers. That is to say, they have numerous "workers" who are fully aware of the general purposes but who are willing to engage in the "movement" solely because they have well-paying jobs within the ranks—which, in my opinion, rates them as completely dirty crooks.

Confidential Information Available to Foreigners

But to get back to the Dies committee list of alleged communists, or fellow travelers, within the government itself. Those of us who have been in constant contact with individuals in various official capacities recognize the dangers that are inherent in their situations.

It is not information that belongs to any one government employee or official and that person has no right to use it or disclose it to others, except as the laws require.

I believe, therefore, it does not take a vivid imagination to see how such information can be used destructively by one of the rats who secretly owes allegiance to the Soviet or the Nazis or to the Fascists, of Italy. America long has proceeded upon faith. If that faith is breached between individuals, our laws and our courts are available for correction, for damages, for enforcement of rights.



IL DUCE'S STARACE His demotion...

France last winter; Gen. Alberto Pariani, friend of Hitler's Col. Gen. Walter von Brauchitsch and author of the Italian "blitzkrieg" plan for a German-Italian-Spanish drive against France; Gen. Giuseppe Valle, friend of Field Marshal Hermann Goering.

In Paris there was a feeling the Rome-Berlin axis had broken down completely. London was also happy, for a few hours earlier Italy's Ambassador Giuseppe Bastianini had made a strong anti-Communist speech.

Ominous Talk

First allied reaction to Premier Molotov's speech was relief over his failure to declare a military alliance with the Reich, even though he did charge Britain and France

sian relations, Molotov said: "One finds it hard to reconcile that with the American policy of neutrality... One might think that matters are in better shape between the United States and... the Philippines... than between the Soviet Union and Finland, which has long ago obtained both freedom and political independence..."

Next day, while Massachusetts' Rep. John McCormack demanded from the house floor that Ambassador Laurence Steinhardt be recalled from Moscow, the President dug from his files an exchange of notes with Soviet President Michael Kalinin last April, when Kalinin cabled an unsolicited "expression of profound sympathy" with the President's efforts to safeguard peace.

(Unspotted, the neutrality bill wormed its way through the house which voted 237 to 177 for sending it to conference with the senate, conferees to have definite instructions. One instruction: To repeal the arms embargo, by a vote of 243 to 181. Thus congress expected to get out of town immediately. Britain hailed the repeal; Nazidom was enraged. One suddenly discovered danger of cash-and-carry is that the allies will indeed buy more arms but will cut other imports from the U. S. One Britisher thought imports of U. S. industrial products and foodstuffs may fall off \$150,000,000 a year.)

Western Front

Abandoning purely defensive positions, German "shock troops" stormed the French frontier at scattered points as murky weather gave way to sunshine. Fears grew that Belgium and the Netherlands might be invaded. The Dutch proclaimed a state of siege in eight provinces, flooding frontier positions to check any Nazi advance.

At Sea

While the embattled U. S. S. City of Flint steamed carefully down the Norwegian coast to Germany under a Nazi prize crew, the U. S. asked both the Reich and Britain to protect her interned American crew. Washington also reported 27 U. S. ships have been detained by belligerents since the war began.



RUSSIAN DEMANDS

The Soviet would give Finland part of Karelia (1) in exchange for moving back Finnish frontier northwest of Leningrad (2); Russia wants (3) islands of Seiskari, Hogland, Lavansaari and Tytarsaari; would lease land (4) at mouth of Finnish gulf for naval bases; asks for Finnish part of Rybachy peninsula (5).

were warning not to preserve democracy or restore Poland, but to safeguard their world empires. But sober reflection made the allies worry about:

Finland. Molotov revealed, much to the Finns' chagrin, the stalemated proposals which have occupied these two countries for the past month. Besides a mutual assistance pact, Russia wanted territorial exchanges (see map) which Finland declared would "rob us of the chance of defending the independence of our land."