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SIXTY-FIRST YEAR. No. 135. FORT WORTH, TEXAS ★★★ Where the West Begins ★★★ SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 1941. SIXTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE TEN CENTS

Roosevelt Freezes German and Italian Assets in U. S.

Soviet-Nazi Rift Rumors Fly in Europe

Important Developments Imminent, Turks Declare; Roads Reported Mined.

Ankara Gets Assurances From Berlin; Heavy Troop Concentrations Continue.

NEW YORK, June 14 (AP).—The Germans cut telephone communications Saturday night between Berlin and Bern, main relay point in neutral Switzerland for European news.

HELSINKI, Finland, June 14 (AP).—Diplomatic quarters were reported to have received advices from Moscow Saturday night that Joseph Stalin is encountering strong army opposition to his "policy of German appeasement."

LONDON, June 14 (AP).—Information reaching London from Turkey late Saturday night said all roads leading to Soviet-occupied Bessarabia from Rumania have been closed and mined and that well-informed quarters in the Turkish capital are in agreement that important developments are imminent.

This report said there was frequent reference in diplomatic corridor conversatoins to a quotation attributed to Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering that "Germany needs the Ukraine for a long war against the Anglo-Saxons."

Assurances given Ankara Friday night that Germany "never demanded and does not intend to demand military transit through Turkey" and the simultaneous maneuvers in Rumania were declared in British dispatches from the Turkish capital to bear "the hallmark of the Wilhelmstrasse."

The German assurances, included in a Berlin dispatch of the official Turkish news agency, Agence Anatolia, declared "the Reich neither attempted to menace Turkey's security, nor had any intention of making demands contrary to the will of the Turkish public or the dignity of the interests of the Turkish nation."

In the event of war, Turkey's re-

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Lyndon Johnson for Senator

(AN EDITORIAL)

THE special election for filling the office left vacant by the death of Texas' great Senator, Morris Sheppard, has produced a long list of candidates. This is understandable, since the office is a highly honorable one, appealing to the instinct for public service as well as to personal ambition. With the final stage of the campaign approaching, it is obvious that the voters of Texas have wide scope for choice among many able men, any of whom might fill the office with honesty and integrity. Yet it must also be obvious that among the many who might serve without blame or stain, the voters have the obligation of choosing one who will serve also with effectiveness and to the increase of the high prestige Texas has enjoyed in the national Congress, due to the services of Senator Connally, the late Senator Sheppard and its House delegation.

After considering carefully all the points of issue in the present campaign, The Star-Telegram believes that the right man for the job is Lyndon Johnson, now serving his third term in the House of Representatives, who is one of the candidates recognized as leading the race at the present moment.

Mr. Johnson shares with several other candidates the advantage of relative youth, a winning personality, and a remarkable measure of political success achieved within a comparatively short time. If the thoughtful voter in Texas stopped with these considerations, there would be indeed little reason why any one of perhaps four leading candidates should be chosen above the other three. But the thoughtful Texas voter—in these times above all—should inquire further into the individual candidacies which are put before him. For, as high as we hold Texas' own particular interests, there are interests at this time which every patriotic Texan holds still higher. These are the interests of the Nation, threatened by Axis aggression—interests which are to be served by upholding the hands of the President whom we, as American voters, have put in charge of the Government at Washington. When consideration is directed along this line, it seems to us the best choice possible for Senator from Texas is Mr. Johnson, whose election would be hailed at the National Capital as strengthening the hands of President Roosevelt and testifying to the existence in Texas of that spirit of loyal cooperation which in this national emergency is demanded of every American who desires the security of our land and its free institutions.

In asserting our belief that Mr. Johnson's election would do the greatest credit to Texas at this time, we do not intend, nor do we believe we can be fairly charged with, any aspersion upon the character or ability of any other candidate. So far as we know, or wish to know, they are all good men and true, willing and eager to serve to the best of their ability in the causes which Americans regard as of greatest importance at this time. But circumstances affect a man's ability, and we believe that it is Mr. Johnson's good fortune to be so situated that he can render the most effective service to his constituents in Texas. This is no reflection upon any of the other candidates; any man elected would do his best. The point is simply that Mr. Johnson's best, because of his ability and the high regard in which he is held by the Administration at Washington, would be better than that of any other man we might send to Washington on June 28.

Mr. Johnson, comparatively a newcomer in Congress, developed early into one of the leaders on Capitol Hill. His soundness and marked ability, demonstrated on the floor and in the committee rooms of Congress, brought him into increasing confidence and collaboration with the men who get things done at Washington, in Congress and in the Administration. Such a position is of extreme value to a man's ability to serve the Nation; and it does not hurt his ability to serve his own State in its special concerns.

Mr. Johnson's experience in the national service has been of great length and in intimate association with the principal figures in our national life. Beginning as secretary to Texas' dynamic Representative Dick Kleberg, Mr. Johnson's abilities came to the attention of the White House and President Roosevelt appointed him state director of National Youth Administration work in Texas. Under his care, the Texas NYA became a model for the Nation, aiding thousands of deserving young Texans to obtain an education. Elected to Congress in 1937 to succeed Representative Buchanan, Mr. Johnson's experience plus his relations with the Administration, instantly made him one of the leaders of Congress. Re-elected in 1938 and 1940, Mr. Johnson took a vital part in the national rural electrification program. In

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.)

Merchant Marine May Mount Guns

Legislator Thinks Robin Moor Case May Mean Ships Will Try to Protect Themselves.

Sumner Welles Declares Americans Will Not Be Bluffed on Sea Freedom.

WASHINGTON, June 14 (AP).—Arming of American merchant vessels was predicted in well informed congressional circles Saturday after Sumner Welles, Undersecretary of State, declared the United States would maintain its insistence on freedom of the seas despite German "bluster and threats."

One legislator, unwilling to be quoted by name but high in Administration confidence, said that in view of the circumstances of the sinking of the freighter Robin Moor "the President is going to have to arm our merchant ships and tell them to protect themselves."

At the same time, the gravity of the current world situation was emphasized by a navy disclosure that waters off New York harbor are to be mined immediately.

The army, which has charge of harbor defenses, described it as primarily a practice operation but the navy noted in formal advices to shipping that "when loaded mines are planted the area will be patrolled constantly." The mine planting, it was said, would tkae place between June 15 and Sept. 30.

Not Impressed by Bluster.

Welles commented at a press conference on a German spokesman's assertion that every ship carrying contraband to England would be sunk.

"Throughout the history of the United States," Welles asserted, "the American people have never been impressed by what they regarded as bluster and threats."

Welles also repeated this country's contention that the torpedoing of the Robin Moor on May 21 by a Nazi submarine was in flagrant violation of every law of humanity and international morality as well as of German treaty obligations.

The Undersecretary made his observations with the reservation that he would not make a final statement on the sinking of the Robin Moor until the depositions of the 11 survivors—due here by Clipper Monday—have been carefully studied.

May Await Reply.

It was believed that any such step as the armin gof American merchantmen would be deferred until Germany replies to a stern diplomatic protest against the sinking of the Robin Moor.

This protest, it has been learned authoritatively, will be dispatched as quickly a sthe full facts are established. At the same time, it was predicted in informed quarters that Secretary Hull would demand restitution for the American lives and property loss and guarantees by Germany of the safety in the future of American ships on the high seas.

What the American people want to do in a very quiet and dispassionate way, Welles said in answer to questions at his press conference, is to look at the issues that are presented by the sinking of the Robin Moor—the first American vessel to be sunk by belligerent action in this war.

The facts already very clear, Welles declared, were:

An American vessel, in accord-

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—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

British at Gibraltar Prepare for 'Chutists

NEW YORK, June 14 (AP).—The Rome radio quoted dispatches from Algeciras, Spain, to the newspaper Il Lavoro Fascista Saturday night said the British at Gibraltar fear a parachute attack soon and have instituted new air defense training for the fortress troops.

The reports from the Spanish town, which is just across the bay from Gibraltar, said British gunners were practicing shooting at small balloons dropped from planes.

The Weather

June 15 (by U. S. Weather Bureau.)—Fort Worth and vicinity Sunday—Partly cloudy with scattered showers at night. Highest temperature 84 degrees.

Sun rises 5:19; sets 7:39.

Maximum precipitation this date 3.31 inches in 1935.

Highest temperature, 105 in 1924.

Lowest temperature, 59 in 1933.

Highest Saturday, 83.

Lowest Saturday, 62.

East Texas—Considerable cloudiness Sunday; scattered thundershowers in north portion and near upper coast.

West Texas — Scattered thundershowers Sunday; little change in temperature.

Laughing Cow Traced to U-Boat Hero

On the side of this German submarine, once commanded by Lieut. Comm. Gunther Prien, right, German U-boat hero, who has been given up as lost, is the sketched figure of a cow, Prien's insignia commemorating the exploit that gave him the nickname, "The Bull of Scapa Flow." The insignia of the laughing cow was described by survivors as being on the submarine that sank the American ship Robin Moor, thus giving rise to conjecture that the skipper may have been a comrade-at-arms of Prien.

—Associated Press Photo.

British Claim Blows at Sea

LONDON, June 14 (AP). — British submarines were officially reported Saturday to have sunk seven Axis vessels and damaged three others in the Mediterranean, and fresh blows were recorded against German efforts to get Nazi surface raiders loose in the Atlantic.

"Attacks not only have been carried out at sea," the admiralty said of the Mediterranean warfare, "but our submarines have sought out the enemy and destroyed him in his harbors."

By gunfire or torpedoes, the admiralty reported, British underseas craft raiding Axis communication lines between the Italian island of Lampedusa and the Aegean sank an armed Italian trawler, four schooners, a large supply lighter and a fully-laden supply ship of about 1,000 tons.

In other raids, it was claimed, an Italian armed merchant cruiser and two tankers, of 5,232 and 8,000 tons, were damaged by torpedo hits, and the largest tanker was "almost certainly" sunk.

Harbors of Lampedusa, which lies south of Sicily; Bengasi, Libya, and the Aegean island of Mytilene were listed as the scenes of much of this activity. The period covered was not disclosed.

Elsewhere, the British announced, berths of Nazi warships at Brest again were bombed heavily over night and the seventh ship from the sunken Bismarck's flotilla was destroyed.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Son of Edsel Ford Rejected by Army

DETROIT, June 14 (AP).—Army medical examiners Saturday rejected Benson Ford, 21-year-old son of Edsel Ford, president of the Ford Motor Company, from military service under the selective service act.

Army officials withheld announcement of the reason for the rejection, but young Ford said it was due to a "congenital cataract of the left eye" which prevented him from disguishing objects.

"I would have been glad to go," said Ford, "yet I'm glad it's over."

Young Ford's brother, Henry Ford II, is serving as an ensign in the navy.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Haifa Port 'Unusable'

NEW YORK, June 14 (AP).—The Berlin radio reported Saturday night in a broadcast heard by NBC that the important port of Haifa, Palestine, had been made "unusable" by repeated bombings.

Haifa is the terminus of an oil pipeline and a strategic harbor in British Middle East operations.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Axis Planes Driven Back

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, June 14 (AP).—British night fighters and fleet antiaircraft guns forced off several Axis planes sweeping over the harbor here early Saturday.

Several bombs were dropped but officials said there was no damage.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Spider Bite Fatal to Baby.

VALPARAISO, Ind., June 14.—Infection caused by a spider bite proved fatal Saturday to Larry Lee Van Asdall, 6-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Van Asdall of Valparaiso.

French Attack British Fleet

DAMASCUS, Syria, June 14 (AP).—French warships and planes delivered a joint attack upon the British Mediterranean fleet while it was continuing a systematic pounding of the Lebanese coast, French quarters reported Saturday.

Allied land attacks were declared beaten back on all fronts in Syria and Lebanon.

The British shelling from the sea was said to be directed principally at Sidon, 20 miles below Beirut, Lebanese capital, in support of a thwarted tank-led ground assault.

It was the second reported French naval sortie of the week, two British destroyers having been declared damaged in the earlier engagement, making a total of four of this type of craft claimed damaged since the Allied invasion started.

In the Merdjayoun sector, southwest of Damascus, heavy British bombing was reported, but in the Kissoue sector to the south of the capital fighting was said to have practically stopped.

British claims that negotiations are under way for a peaceful surrender of this capital and that Kissoue, keystone of the city's defenses, had been abandoned were denied officially.

The Syrian population, which is following progress of the invasion calmly, is praiseful of the French defense and appears to doubt that the relatively slow progress of the British since the first two days of fighting is due to British unwillingness to shed French blood.

They feel rather that a firm French stand has checked the attackers.

Although there were indications that Damascus would be declared an open city, no steps having been taken to fortify it. Officials denied that they were negotiating with the

(TURN TO PAGE 4, COLUMN 5.)

Restrictions Put on Deals With Russia

Order Includes Countries Overrun by Axis; Surprise Expressed as Japs Left Out.

Action Taken to Prevent Harm to Defense, Curb Subversive Activities.

WASHINGTON, June 14 (AP).—At President Roosevelt's direction, the Treasury Saturday froze the American assets of Germany and Italy and simultaneously imposed a strict supervision upon all financial transactions with Soviet Russia or its citizens.

How much the freezing order might accomplish was brought into question, however, by those who recalled that Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau recently said the Axis powers, acting in anticipation of such a move, had already withdrawn sizable portions of their American funds.

"The barn is empty," was Morgenthau's comment.

Nevertheless, to determine the extent of whatever German and Italian holdings remain, and to acquire information of general usefulness in the present situation, the President also ordered an immediate census of all foreign-owned property in the United States.

Japan Not Included.

In view of the sweeping geographical nature of the order and of the fact that Japan is an Axis partner, some surprise was expressed that that country was not included. Some saw in it additional indications that this country's diplomacy is now directed at improving relations with the Tokio government and possibly weaning it away from the Axis.

The Russian aspect of the development aroused extensive speculation. Technically, Roosevelt included all the countries of Continental Europe in the freezing order. But an accompanying explanatory statement said that in the cases of Russia, Finland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland transactions would be permitted under a general licensing system.

Must Give Assurances.

Licenses, however, will not be issued unless these governments give "adequate assurances" that they will not be used to evade the general purposes of the freezing order which were enumerated as—to prevent transactions which might be harmful to national defense, to prevent liquidation of assets seized from "looted countries" and "to curb subversive activities." Further, all transactions involving these countries "will be subject to reporting and careful scrutiny."

Thus the President made it clear to Russia that her American funds may be frozen, if it is found that they are being used to finance the purchase of food and materials intended for transshipment to Germany or used to finance sabotage and other subversive activities here.

The freezing order means, in effect, that the Treasury has taken German and Italian funds and property and the American holdings of all invaded countries into protective custody, to prevent their uses for purposes harmful to this Nation and the objectives of its foreign policy.

Forbidden Transactions.

In the future, transactions with Germany and Italy or their na-

(TURN TO PAGE 4, COLUMN 7.)

O'Daniel Vetoes Driving Bill

AUSTIN, June 14 (AP).—Governor O'Daniel Saturday vetoed a bill which would reduce from felony to misdemeanor the first offense for driving while drunk.

"The result of this bill," he said, "would be to substantially increase the sale of intoxicating liquors to motorists in Texas and to substantially increase the number of fatal and non-fatal automobile accidents."

The bill was pushed through the Legislature by members who contended that juries were reluctant to convict first offenders of a felony. It makes the first offense a misdemeanor punishable by fine or jail sentence and subsequent offenses a felony punishable by penitentiary sentence.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

FBI Opens Quiz After Steamer Limps to Port

SAN DIEGO, Cal., June 14 (AP).—The FBI began an investigation into the possibility of sabotage after the new Moore-McCormick Company's South America-bound steamer Normacster was forced to put into port because of engine trouble.

Capt. E. H. Petrelius, master, declined to disclose the exact nature of the trouble.

All of the ship's officers are members of the naval reserve. Its complement is 51. Several passengers from Washington, Arizona and California were aboard.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Schmeling Gets Decoration

BERLIN, June 14 (AP).—Parachutist Max Schmeling, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, has been promoted to sergeant and awarded the Iron Cross of the second class, it was learned Saturday, for bravery in the invasion of Crete, where he was stricken with a slight illness.

Four of Sect Charged With Beating Children

COLUMBUS, Texas, June 14 (AP). A self-styled interdenominational Gospel minister, his wife and two other women were held here Saturday charged with aggravated assault after their arrest at their camp near here Thursday night.

They were charged with beating five child members of their sect during a day-long ritualistic "service."

Rev. Louis Walker, 41, his wife, Pearl, 29; Mrs. Maysel Lucas, 55, and Mrs. Annie Carter, 45, members of an itinerant party of about 15 persons from Cincinnati, were charged before County Judge H. Buescher.

Sheriff Harvey Lee said the minister told him the children were beaten to drive out evil spirits and to cleanse them of sin.

The four were arrested at the tarpaulin-covered truck in which all 15 lived.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Bandits Pen 5 in Bathroom

LAREDO, June 14 (AP).—Two masked men with drawn revolvers penned five people in a bathroom here Friday night and escaped with about $100 taken from Host Bob Bauer.

Victims were Mr. and Mrs. Bauer and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Fansler and Mrs. Bob Camp.

THINK IT OVER

BY H. M. STANSIFER.

HAPPINESS consists in the enjoyment rather than in the mere possession of things.

Navy Launches 2 Destroyers

BOSTON, June 14 (AP). — The United States Navy destroyers Forrest and Fitch were launched Saturday at the Boston Navy Yard and within a few minutes keels for two more destroyers—634 and 635—were laid.

The new destroyers, constructed in less than a year, are of 1,700 tons and among the first of the Bristol type constructed. They were ordered last year as part of the 1941 naval program.

Under overcast skies, a large crowd of workmen joined the launching party in witnessing the completion of the two vessels and the start of a similar construction job.

Mrs. H. Walton Thomas of Salt Lake City, sponsor of the Fitch, is a grand niece of Comdr. Leroy Fitch, naval hero of the Civil War, who frustrated the attempt of Confederate Gen. John H. Morgan to recross the Ohio River, thereby contributing to his capture.

Sponsor of the Forrest was Eileen Fairfax Thomson, 14, a great-great-grand niece of Lieut. Dulaney Forrest, who was severely wounded in the naval battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812, and won commendation from Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

French Deny Report Fleet Has Left Toulon

BERN, Switzerland, June 14 (AP).—DNB, the official German news agency, said in a dispatch from Vichy Saturday night that it was learned in well-informed quarters there that the French fleet had sailed from Toulon.

VICHY, June 14 (AP).—An official French spokesman Saturday night denied flatly that the French fleet had left Toulon.

Axis Powers Preparing to Take Croatia Into Fold

BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER.

BERLIN, June 14. — Germany, Italy and Japan were getting ready Saturday night to accept a new signatory to the tripartite pact—probably Croatia—into their fold at Venice.

Although a visit to the Italian city by German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop was announced merely as an "official" one the highly-placed commentary Dienst Aus Deutschland observed "it is expectable that membership in the tripartite accord will be extended in conformity with developments in Southeast Europe."

It is anybody's guess that Croatia now will follow the footsteps of Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia and Bulgaria. As Croatia's designated king is Italian, Venice obviously seemed a more fit place for the act of joining than Berlin or Vienna, which almost have become traditional for state acts of this kind.

Meanwhile, the head of old Goettinger University helped intensify cordial relations between Germany and Japan by conferring an honorary doctor's degree on Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Oshima "in recogniteion of his services for deepening relations between Germany and Japan."

Obviously studied secrecy obscured German-Russian relations.

To some observers the daily press conference had an element of surprise in that authorized quarters in no wise angrily rejected the query whether Russia might join the tripartite pact, but merely said: "We can not discuss Russia. There's no 'actual' element in the current situation which might make such discussion desirable or necessary."

It was obvious that Germany once again regards herself in the midst of what Hitler calls a "creative pause."

In such times, an authorized commentator observed, "the lack of clarity some times is not the worst thing."

In other words the Nazi regime, fond of surprises, does not mind the whole world discussing German-Russian relations, the possibilities of the invasion of the British Isles, the status of French-German and Spanish-German relations and the progress of the African campaign.

But the German press itself is silent on these subjects except as the high command's daily report affords possibility for comment.

German authorities said there was nothing new on the Robin Moor.