

# 'KNOCKOUT BLOW' NEAR, AXIS HINTS

London Resists Hail of  
Bombs but Nazis Report  
Defense Is Weaker.

(Continued from Page One)

rubble of jack straw ruins this morning had died out.

Two of the bodies recovered from the ruins were believed to be those of small children but identification was next to impossible.

German claims that 1000 planes dropped more than 2,200,000 pounds of bombs on the metropolis were ridiculous.

**Italy Says British Sub Sun.**

British bombers, meanwhile, were reported hitting chiefly at the heart of German military strength, seeking to destroy the supplies of the Reich and thus to stall the Nazi aerial armada. The big naval base at Kiel, the Hamburg docks and similar German targets again were attacked heavily during the night, the London Air Ministry said.

The British claimed heavy damage in a naval bombardment of the French port of Dunkirk. The Admiralty said fires were started.

The German aerial onslaught against Britain, however, seemed more than ever to be an immediate prelude to a general offensive which the Axis powers reportedly have decided to launch in an effort to win the war by starting the disintegration of the British Empire on many fronts.

In the Mediterranean area, where Italy reported sinking a British submarine in a duel with a Fascist undersea craft following the naval clash of last week during which, the British said, the cruiser Ajax sank three destroyers, there were new reports of impending action.

**Virginia Gayda, the Fascist mouthpiece, reported in the Adria-Della Doria as "near thrast" being prepared in North Africa and that the Italians already have pushed about 20 miles past the captured British base of Sidi Barrani in Egypt.**

**Reds Admit Activity.**

Further uncertainty came with a statement in the Istanbul newspaper, Son-Posta, which declared that Soviet Russia will refuse to tolerate Axis blows against the Dardanelles Straits or the Near East.

Soviet sources, however, admitted that Red Army troops are building "defensive fortifications" on the Russian-Romanian frontier, but a high ranking Soviet legation official denied reports abroad that Russia had concentrated 12 divisions on the border.

For days the surge of German troops into Rumania and the known readiness of both Italy and Germany for military operations in the Balkans have created extreme nervousness in Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria and have caused Turkey to check on the outlook for aid from Soviet Russia.

The Soviets have never worked harder to create a surface impression that they are in a position to jump in any direction or to stay put indefinitely. Reports that Mos-

cov is negotiating with Turkey or receiving Turkish inquiries as to defense of the Dardanelles were met with icy silence at the Kremlin.

A denial by the official Tass agency of a specific report that Germany had "timely informed" the Soviets that German troops would be sent to Rumania and as to why the troops would be sent might seem on the surface to indicate a possibility of trouble between Berlin and Moscow. Actually, however, the denial was so limited in scope and so indirect that tomorrow the Soviets can make it mean anything they please.

Adolf Hitler's newspaper, Voelkischer Beobachter, reaffirmed the friendliness of Germany and Italy. "Since the conclusion of the German-Russian pact, nothing has occurred to affect the principles of the newly regulated relations of both states," the newspaper said.

**Four-Power Parley Hinted**

Only positive statements from Moscow in recent days have concerned defense preparations and thus, it was insisted, have been pushed steadily on all fronts including the Balkan area.

On the other hand, the Japanese newspaper Hochi published a sensational report in connection with Japan's vigorous efforts to achieve friendly relations with Russia and thus to free the Japanese war machine for action in the South Seas.

Joseph Stalin, according to the Tokyo newspaper, plans a four-power conference at Moscow in which Germany, Italy and Japan will participate, probably early in November.

The conference will be called to decide Soviet diplomatic policy and to "meet the international situation," it added.

**China Gets Trucks Ready**

In Washington, President Roosevelt conferred with Australian Minister Richard G. Casey, presumably on the Far Eastern situation and the matter of increased co-operation between the United States and Australia in that area. Mr. Casey declined to say whether the conversion had touched upon the possible use of the British naval base at Singapore by the United States.

The Thai Rassad Daily News, important newspaper, advocated an immediate declaration of war on French Indo-China because of refusal of the French Government to cede important Indo-China territories to Thailand.

Chinese technicians overhauled an estimated 2,000 American-made trucks at Lashio, Burma, preparatory to the reopening Friday of the Burma Road, main supply route to China. Within a week, observers said, Chinese trucks would be rolling over the road with material for Chinese fighting troops.

Great Britain ceased normal trade relations with Rumania since it became apparent that the Balkan oil state was under German economic domination. R. A. Butler, Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs told the House of Commons.

At the same time in the House of Lords, Lord Snell declared that Britain's major task was to win the air "with the support of the United States."

## Prefers Air Force



"If I am called, I hope it's to some duty in the air force," commented I. J. "Nish" Dienhart, 34, manager of the Municipal Airport, as he registered at 30th and Meridian Sts.

## 'Looks Like Standing Army' Draftee Says as Line Grows

(Continued from Page One)

why I know? Well I passed the government physical examinations once before, that's how I know."

At one corner, the schoolboy patrol members were kidding the traffic policeman who was helping them with their work. They were on the sidewalk, he was in the middle of the intersection.

"Oh, boy," they called, "as soon as school takes up, what'll you be doing?"

The policeman smiled. "I'll be registering," they called, and all concerned laughed.

As school time approached, the school Boy Patrol members had a double duty where registration also was in progress. They protected the children from traffic and directed the men to the registration room.

All was orderly. A principal of a West Side school said the registration was the quietest assembly of adults he could remember ever being in his school building.

For Lieut. Col. Robinson Hitchcock, State Selective Service director, the get-away this morning was just like shooting fish in a bucket. He sat quietly in his office at 711 N. Pennsylvania St., and read a paper.

After all, he'd completed his work several hours before—in fact he'd been working on the project for more than two years.

Two men were standing in line. One of them turned and asked a neighbor:

"What do you really think of this—this registration and all. Do you think it's really necessary?"

The other thought a moment. "Well," he said, "I think it's a good bluff. And since so many of the international moves these days are bluffs, I guess it's all right."

A young fellow, dressed in overalls and a railroadman's cap, stepped into one registering place, put down his dinner bucket, and furnished the information necessary for registration.

Then they gave him his card and the little pamphlet that each person who registered got. He left the table, started to read the pamphlet, suddenly looked at the clock.

He saw the time, folded the pamphlet, and left hurriedly. He had a late ride—and the impact of national selective service breaks routine in a nation's homes from the lowest to the highest.

On this day more than 16,000,000 young Americans are reviving the 300-year-old American custom of the "muster"—the President is broadcasting from the White House to the nation's young manhood just and hour after registration begins.

He tells them we are long on men but short on army, that we are mobilizing the citizenship, and not one of those guys," pointing to the workers.

"That might be a little too much excitement," the other replied.

"Go ahead," a third laughed. "He'd forgotten it."

"Not much excitement here," one fellow said as several of them waited in line.

"Well," his friend said, "you might start some by tripping up one of those guys," pointing to the workers.

"That might be a little too much excitement," the other replied.

"Go ahead," a third laughed. "He'd forgotten the Army behind you."

At draft headquarters, there were six telephone girls on the switchboard and two ready at all times to handle them when they were answering two principal questions:

"Do I have to register?" and "Where do I register?"

Before the girls came on at 7 a. m., the janitor, who admits he's no wizard with telephone equipment, said the board was lighted like a Christmas tree with incoming calls. It started to blaze at 6 o'clock, he said.

Two men were standing in line. One of them turned and asked a neighbor:

"What do you really think of this—this registration and all. Do you think it's really necessary?"

If some one shows up at a registration place today who can speak only Spanish, German, Italian, French, Portuguese, low German or Yiddish, the County Clerk's office will be ready for him.

Byron Y. Reavis, 918 Morgan Drive, who can speak all these languages, has volunteered his services as an interpreter for the day and will be stationed at the County Clerk's office.

He will be sent out to the registration places to act as an interpreter if some one appears who can speak only one of the above languages.

County Clerk Charles Ettinger began early in the day to try to get police to waive the no-double parking rule on the Washington Street side of the Court House to facilitate the work.

With the rule waived, officials could drive up, double park, and drive out and out of the building with supplies for the various registration places.

The head man of each precinct registering team arrived with a bulging brief case which contained, besides the cards, pen holders and brand new pen points, bottles of ink, blotters stapled together, large facsimiles of the cards filled in by the workers, and a stack of the pamphlets to be given those registering.

Heaven only knows how many people were driving husbands to the places and then driving away; school children tattered on the way to class; little traffic jams developed; taxis occasionally swung in and out.

It was subdued and not too easily detected, but excitement was there, all right.

Twenty-five dentists showed up at the Indiana University Dental School at 8 a. m. to register and found no one to register them.

Headquarters had understood they were to have appeared at 9 a. m. instead of 8 a. m. and would have been ready for them an hour later.

A couple of men were rushed out from headquarters to fill the cavity.

Some of the addresses of the registering places were a little vague. Some of the entrances, like the building, were around the corner of the building, sort of hard to find.

As a result, these places had slack business during the early hours. But those in charge of most of them found a way to appropriately mark the entrances and guide those intending to register.

"The New Deal has tried to buy its way out of trouble," he said.

They all went to their seats. Like registrants ready for business. The registrants registered and left.

The registrars went back to talking. This time it was about the foreign situation and pretty soon, sure enough, they were in a conversational snarl again. They decided not to talk about THAT.

Another registrant appeared, and they went to their places.

That's the way it went almost all day.

## IT'S ZERO HOUR FOR 16,000,000 YOUNG CITIZENS

High and Low, Rich and  
Poor Respond to Begin  
A New Era.

(Continued from Page One)

are open in New England. They are giving their names, addresses, ages, in school houses in New York. The Atlantic seaboard is signing up and this first segment of the registration extends instantaneously south and westward to the flat lands of Indiana.

**Some Dissent**

There are little blobs of dissent. A teacher here, a parson there cannot reconcile conscience to assist the draft. Some young students—so young—that they cannot conscientiously give their names despite assured deferment.

Seventeen hours overall and the job will be done.

Seven a. m. to 9 p. m. is the span and the Pacific Coast will be matched for those hours after all is finished in the East.

Military service is the destination of the fit. Intelligent leadership, comfortable clothing, good food and adequate arms is Germany's part of the bargain. Acceptance is a fundamental obligation of citizenship. The registrant's contribution.

"America," says President Roosevelt, "stands at the cross roads of its destiny."

**To Protect the Nation**

The class of Oct. 16, 1940, is signing on to protect her there.

"The method," says the President of the draft, "is fair, it is sure, it is democratic—it is the will of the people."

That is in the President's proclamation of the draft.

Today he is up early—he usually is a late riser—and the impact of national selective service breaks routine in a nation's homes from the lowest to the highest.

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