

Sweden Foiled Nazi Invasion By Mobilizing Quickly On Stranger's Tip

By NAT A. BARROWS
Times Foreign Correspondent

BERLIN, July 10.—Sweden escaped the ravages of a scheduled German invasion in February, 1942, by the narrowest margin.

Only by a sheer stroke of luck did the Swedish foreign office receive an unsolicited "leak" from the German high command. Sweden acted upon the tip—after frantic discussion as to its authenticity. The country's 600,000-man conscript army of su-

perb forest fighters was promptly mobilized.

The checkmate of the minutely planned German blitzkrieg against Sweden can now be verified from documents available in Berlin. It is the real story of how Sweden escaped war.

Hilter gave orders early in 1942 that Sweden was to be attacked, according to plans already drawn up.

All big cities—Stockholm, Malmo, Gothenburg—were to be

mobbed simultaneously from airbases in occupied Norway and Denmark.

Field Marshal Fedor von Bock, as commander of the Swedish invasion, was assigned 45 divisions for the job. Five to six weeks was the estimated time for the success of the invasion.

Sweden must be invaded. Hitler told his general staff, in order to secure Germany's communication and supply lines on the Leningrad and Finnish fronts. The invasion was to be another step in build-

ing the campaign for encircling Moscow, capturing the Caucasian oil fields and pushing toward Stalingrad.

Further, Hitler told his general staff at a meeting in Berlin's chancellery that now lies in rubble: "We cannot longer tolerate the existence of a state inimical to Germany, within the framework of the European new order."

Another meeting was called for Feb. 14 to hear final plans—and for Hitler to give the order.

But exactly 10 days before that

meeting, here in Hitler's chancellery, Swedish Foreign Minister Christian Guenther received a civilian visitor, who refused to reveal his identity and said:

"I cannot now tell you who sent me or why I bring you this information. But I assure you that it's true and advise you with all urgency, to act upon it immediately."

That man, it can now be revealed—was Dr. Karl Goerdeler, former lord mayor of Leipzig. It was he who engineered the July

20, 1944, plot to assassinate Hitler. It was he who would have taken Hitler's job last summer if the bomb had exploded as intended.

Goerdeler gave the Swedish foreign minister the exact details of the planned invasion: The date, the number of divisions, times for bombing Stockholm—all details.

Guenther quickly called Prime Minister Per Albin Hansson, the Swedish cabinet and the high command into session. They debated long about the word that

the strange German, calling himself "Colonel," had brought. Was he telling the truth? Was he a Nazi agent?

They decided—luckily for Sweden—to act upon his tip, and immediately ordered mobilization on an emergency basis.

Ten days later, on Feb. 14, Marshal Von Bock angrily told Hitler and the German general staff that somehow Sweden had obtained word about top secret plans and was fully prepared to resist attack.

He said that he could not guarantee the success of the Swedish invasion unless he had 20 more divisions in addition to the 45 already waiting for the zero hour.

That would have meant, he said, endangering the success of the Stalingrad offensive.

Reluctantly, after much debate, Hitler agreed to abandon Swedish invasion plans—and the lights of Stockholm continued to shine.

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PAUL B. DAVIS GETS PARK JOB

Assumes Duties as Acting State Forester.

Paul B. Davis, Bloomington, whose appointment as assistant state forester was announced today by Milton Matter, director of the Indiana Department of Conservation, will move here this week to begin his duties July 15.

Mr. Davis will serve as acting state forester succeeding T. E. (Ted) Shaw, whose resignation from that post was also revealed today, until a new state forester is named later this summer.

Mr. Shaw, acting state forester since 1942, resigned, Mr. Matter said, in order to give full time to his post as extension forester for Purdue University, but will continue to work in close co-operation with the forestry division.

Reduce Publication

Mr. Davis, who has been engaged in forestry work 15 years, is a project forester for the U. S. forest service. He holds a bachelor of science degree in forestry from Penn State college and is a member of the Sigma Pi, national honorary forestry society.

Members of the conservation board paid tribute to Mr. Shaw's record of service and voted to contribute financial aid annually to Purdue in exchange for his services as a consultant in the forestry division.

The board also voted to discontinue publication of *Outdoor Indiana*, on a monthly basis. Owing to paper shortage and increased production costs, the pamphlet will come out only eight times a year.

SERIOUSLY BURNED BY STORM-BLOWN WIRE

Mrs. Viola Glynn, 43, of 914 S. East st., was burned critically in Franklin yesterday when she walked across a live wire blown down by a storm.

She is in City hospital where she is being treated for shock and burns on the hands, face and arms.

Gordon K. Cohn Gets Promotion

GORDON K. COHN, husband of Mrs. Marjorie S. Cohn, Picard apartments, has been promoted to captain.

Stationed in England for the past two years, he is disbursing officer attached to the 8th air force.

A graduate of Shortridge high school and Michigan university, he was connected with the investment house of Kiser, Cohn & Shumaker, Inc., in civilian life. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Cohn, 5474 N. Capitol ave., and has a daughter, Barbara Ruth, whom he has not seen since she was three weeks old.

BOY SERIOUSLY HURT WHEN HIT BY TRUCK

Six-year-old Bernard Holzer is in a serious condition in City hospital today following injuries received yesterday when he was struck by a truck in the 1300 block of Madison ave.

Son of L. J. Holzer, 1614 S. Delaware st., he received a possible fractured skull.

James Matlock, 18, of Bloomington, was arrested on charges of reckless driving, no operator's license, inadequate brakes, failure to give a pedestrian the right of way, no certificate of registration and vagrancy.

WOMAN HIT ON HEAD BY FALLING HAMMER

Mrs. Elizabeth Henry, 1125 Larch ave., received head lacerations today when a hammer fell on her from the 10th floor of the Guaranty building at 20 N. Meridian st.

The hammer was dropped by a carpenter, Everett R. Butcher, 1236 Oliver st., who was putting a window in the building, police said.

Mrs. Henry was given first aid by Sgt. William Reed of the police emergency squad and taken to City Hospital where her condition is reported critical.

She is in City hospital where she is being treated for shock and burns on the hands, face and arms.

RECEPTION PLANNED FOR NEW SCOUT HEAD

A reception for Theodore H. Simpson, new district executive of the central Indiana council, Boy Scouts of America, and Mrs. Simpson will be held Sunday in the Jordan hall of the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. Simpson came here from Logan, W. Va., where he had been

associated with the school system for 18 years.

The reception, to be held from 7 to 9 p.m., is in charge of Mrs. O. A. Johnson, Mrs. W. L. G. King, Mrs. Corwell W. Shelton, Mrs. Robert O. Johnson, Mrs. Eschol McCalm, Mrs. Frederick G. Schatz, Mrs. Emily A. James, Mrs. Franklyn D. Thompson, Mrs. Charles E. Harry, Mrs. Lionel F. Artis and Mrs. Oliver T. Martin.

Invitations have been sent to more than 500 persons, including Governor and Mrs. Gates and Mayor and Mrs. Tyndall.

W. Sgt. Lindsey Given Discharge

WASHINGTON, July 10 (U. P.)—T. Sgt. Jake Lindsey, who received the medal of honor from President Truman in the presence of congress nearly two months ago, was expected back in the capital today as Mr. Jake Lindsey, civilian.

On May 21 he was the toast of the town as the 100th infantryman to win the nation's highest

award, a man who single-handedly had staved off a German tank assault.

Today the Lucedale, Miss., hero will slip quietly into town as just another ex-G. I. his medal and service record having earned him a discharge.

His 19-year-old wife, the former Beverly Hargraves, was awaiting him here.

FRANCE TO LAUNCH VOTING 'REVOLUTION'

PARIS, July 10 (U. P.)—France entered a period of "orderly political revolution" today with an announcement that the cabinet had decided to call for a referendum for Oct. 14, setting a course toward republican government.

On the same day the voters will pass on the question of calling a constituent assembly and ballot for

members of an assembly. If the assembly is approved, the men they select will be members of it. If the vote is negative, those elected will become members of a chamber of deputies.

If the constituent assembly is voted, it will operate for seven months, during which it will write a constitution and elect a president—presumably Gen. Charles de Gaulle—who would name his cabinet. The 1875 constitution of the Third Republic will be revived if the chamber of deputies is voted instead.

By MARIE S. SAWYER
United Press
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