

FACTS vs. FICTION

A Survey of Current Information
on International Affairs

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THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR
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HITLER'S TOTAL WAR

Seldom has the United States joined with such unanimity on any one issue as it has shown in its abhorrence of the brutal Nazi assault on little Holland and Belgium. Newspapers of all complexions and in all sections of the country denounced Nazi Germany as a menace to the world. Here is a small sample of the press comment on the invasion of the Low Countries:

NEW YORK TIMES: The first feeling of the people of this heartsick country must be sheer inability to believe that the thing long feared has actually happened, even when the evidence is spread before our eyes. Hitler has unleashed his total war. He has struck on the main front. He has staked everything on a gigantic gamble which, if he wins, will mean the end of freedom and democracy and culture throughout all Europe in our time.

If ever a war was made deliberately and brutally, without cause and without justification, it is this war which Germany has made on Belgium and the Netherlands. The claim of the Reich Government that these small nations had failed to observe a strict neutrality is belied by the facts in the record.

The American people will know how to evaluate the broken German promises, the brazen disregard of treaty obligations, the obscene falsity of Nazi self-justification, the ruthlessness of Nazi war. They will find in the experience of Belgium and the Netherlands a moral for ourselves: a moral to put our house in order, to strengthen our defenses, to prepare ourselves against the consequences of German success which might spread war across the Atlantic or Pacific to our own hemisphere.

This is the fateful hour. We in America who live behind the defenses of the Western European nations which are the outposts of our own kind of civilization must watch with deep anxiety to see whether the line will hold. Hitler told his armies yesterday that this is a victory or death for Germany. It is also victory or death for decent standards of international conduct and the democratic way of life.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE: It is not simply that for the second time in a generation the whole world is threatened with the scourge of modern warfare. Rather it is the quality of the attack which shocks and appals—force shorn of every vestige of honor, or morality or truth. * * * The sympathies of Americans for the Allies could not be more complete. As for the problem that instantly confronts this nation it is not so much one of active participation in the war, as of preparing itself as swiftly as possible for the grave perils that now unmistakably lie ahead.

KANSAS CITY STAR: What is happening today in Europe is now clear enough. A modern dictator drunk with ambition has let loose upon that continent a reign of terror such as has not been seen since the days of the barbarian invasion. . . . Again, as in the early days of the World War, the fate of Western Europe hangs in the balance—and, with it, the whole system of international life that we Americans, in common with peoples all over the earth, have so long taken for granted.

BOSTON POST: What can be said about it except that it is a crime of the worst order, a ruthless, despicable trampling of everything that is part of civilization? . . . The civilized nations, composed of decent, orderly people, have been assaulted by the thugs and gangsters.

PROVIDENCE EVENING BULLETIN: The most decisive moment in the history of the world is with us as Germany and the Allies grapple for control of the future. For neither Attila standing before Orleans nor the Turks pounding on the gates of Vienna held such menacing implications as Hitler's hordes driving against the citadels of Britain and France. . . . Pray God that its outcome will be victory for the defenders of civilization!

BUFFALO COURIER: The outcome of this fight will determine whether or not the lights of civilization shall go out in Western Europe as they have gone out in Austria, in Czechoslovakia, in Poland—and in Germany, itself.

FUNDS ARE NEEDED

The work of the American Committee for International Information is financed solely by its friends. In order to increase the circulation of *Facts vs. Fiction* the Committee hopes to receive support from those sympathetic with its aims. Send contributions to the Committee, at 551 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

AMERICA'S CARTOONISTS ON HITLER'S WAR



Don Quixote, 'I Had to Do It in Self-Defense'

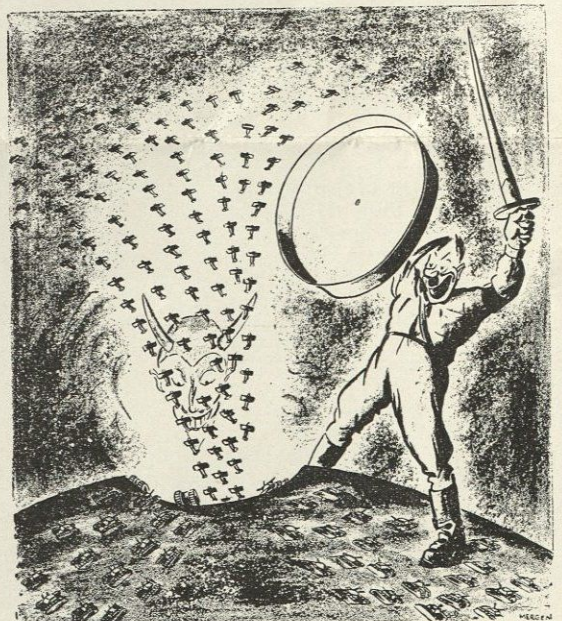
The Crowning Effort



He Is Not Phony Now!



The Madman Of Berlin



Upper left, Lewis in the Milwaukee Journal; Upper right, Duffy in the Baltimore Sun; Lower left, Thomas in the Detroit News; Lower right, Mergan in the Miami Daily News.

Nazi Germany's Foreign Minister

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were hunting for a "bright, young man" who could be served up as the Fuehrer, qualified to capture the imagination of the masses. Such a man, in Ribbentrop's opinion was Adolf Hitler, a young agitator who was playing the leading role in the National Socialist Party. During the next period, when the Nazis sought contact with high-placed German industrialists, Ribbentrop served as contact man.

HELLS THE KING

When the Nazis came to power in 1933, Ribbentrop was soon "paid off" with the ambassadorship to the Court of St. James.

But his first successes in certain English circles were short lived. Domineering, rude and uninformed, he made blunders which bordered on diplomatic discourtesies. On one occasion he greeted the King of England with outstretched hand raised in the Nazi salute and the phrase, "Heil Hitler!" Another time at a social gathering, he burlesqued a high British official who happened to limp.

Because the left-wing of the Nazi Party does not trust Ribbentrop while the generals despise him, his position in the Nazi ranks depends exclusively on remaining in the graces of Adolf Hitler. It is known that after wooing conservative English circles with talk about an anti-Russian alliance, Ribbentrop turned around and played a leading part in negotiating the Nazi-Soviet pact. At that time Hitler feared that a grave error was being made. For this reason, it was Ribbentrop who was assigned to make the broadcast to the German people accepting responsibility for the agreement.

CHEATS AT GOLF

M. de Polignac suggests that Ribbentrop's diplomacy does not

Propaganda Under Postage

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that the Poles used English—produced gas against the Germans. Thin as such "proof" may be, it has a certain appeal to the photo-conscious near-Nazis.

7. "THE JEWS IN U. S. A."

The German Ministry of Propaganda was responsible for a widely-distributed brochure, *The Jews in U. S. A.*, which sought to show in picture and story that "Jews are ruling and ruining the United States." A picture of Justice Pecora, Episcopalian of Italian descent, is labelled "The Jewish Judge, Markus Pecora." Another picture showed the late Charles M. Schwab with an inset drawing attention to his face as "mirroring all Jewish elements." As is well-known, the late steel magnate came from a Catholic background.

8. "LETTERS" FROM BERLIN

Thousands of Americans have received "letters" from the *Berliner Boersen-Zeitung*, one-time organ of Dr. Walther Funk, the successor of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, as German Economics Minister. The letter generously offered to supply information to the recipients. "As one of our German readers furnished us with your address, we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity to send you a few issues of the *Berliner Boersen-Zeitung*." Of course these circular letters are merely propa-

ganda foils. The first issue of the freely donated *Boersen-Zeitung* carried a feature article entitled "Unmasking the Democracies." The bulk of the material consists of attack against democratic governments.

differ very much from his golf game. The Frenchman recalls that when he visited Ribbentrop in 1938 he was invited to join him in a game of golf on his private links outside his villa. Ribbentrop's son was in the party. On their way around, M. de Polignac noticed that Ribbentrop took advantage of a conversational interlude to substitute a new ball for a poor stroke.

His son noticed the cheating and protested. "Must you always cheat when you make a poor stroke?" he said angrily. Joachim Ribbentrop was somewhat embar-

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9. "WORLD SERVICE"

World Service, one of the semi-monthly Nazi publication is published from Frankfort in six languages. Some months ago a seventh was added—*Dutch*. Its founder was Ulrich Fleischauer, a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the German Army, who has now retired from activity on the publication to engage in full-time Nazi war propaganda on an international scale. His successor is Herr Schirmer.

10. "DER AMERIKADIENST"

A subsidiary publication, *Der Amerikadienst*, which has appeared at various times with Berlin and New York datelines, stresses the Nazi role in America. After Germany has completed its mission of "rebuilding" Europe on a National Socialist basis, it must turn its attention finally to America, says this journal. There, "What National Socialism has done for Germany, it must do for America. . ." At the same time, the *Weltmacht der Deutschen* informs its American readers that "Situation in the U. S. A. is the same as in Spain in 1936."

assed and tried to pacify his son, but his wife added her protest. She remarked to de Polignac: "I have never been able to accustom Joachim not to play a second ball. It has almost ruined his career."

But not quite. Because Nazi diplomacy today is based on the principle which Ribbentrop uses in his golf. When *Facts in Review*, Nazi propaganda organ in the United States, publishes a full-page photograph of the Nazi Foreign Minister it does honor to a thorough-going Nazi diplomat.