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# Yorkshire Green Post

LEEDS TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1942 No. 16,058

**FINAL**



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## WAR CABINET'S "LAST WORD" TO INDIANS

### "REVIVING HOPE" OF SETTLEMENT

Britain's "last word," which has been awaited with suspense by Congress, is believed to have been delivered. A Reuter report from New Delhi says that Dr. Azad, Congress President, and Pandit Nehru saw Sir Stafford Cripps to-day, and it is thought were handed the War Cabinet's reply to their resolution.

A later New Delhi telegram stated that Congress quarters regard a speech made by Nehru "as a clear indication that negotiations are breaking down." Nehru particularly referred to the problem of the Indian States.

Still later, however, it was reported that the general impression after this morning's talks is one of reviving hope. It is felt that some adjustments may have been made to the original Congress declaration.

Reports persist that President Roosevelt is intervening in the negotiations in an attempt to end the deadlock over the issue of defence (says British United Press).

### Reported U.S. Move

**NEW DELHI, Tuesday.**

Reports of intervention by President Roosevelt to end the Indian deadlock persist to-day, as both sides delay making any definite announcement which might close the door to further negotiation.

The British Government's reply to the Congress party observations on the plan for India were to have been delivered by Sir Stafford Cripps in New Delhi to-day, but he has postponed publication, and the delay is welcomed in Indian political circles.

It is believed to mean either:

- (1) That London and Washington are in contact over India; or
- (2) That London is considering communications from Sir Stafford Cripps, General Wavell and the Viceroy in order to evolve a formula on the defence question, which would be acceptable to the political parties.

A message from Mr. Roosevelt urging the support of the United Nations, and guaranteeing India's status after the war is now said to have been delivered to Pandit Nehru, the Congress leader, by the American Minister, Mr. Louis Johnson, when they met yesterday.

allow provinces to secede from the proposed post-war federation is bitterly criticised in a statement issued by Dr. Moonjee, vice-president of the Hindu Mahasabha, the Orthodox Hindu organisation.

**Communal Strife Danger**

This statement, a copy of which was cabled to President Roosevelt, declares that the secession clause would inevitably result in the partition of India on religious and communal lines, resulting in constant communal strife and even civil war.

"Historically and culturally it is untrue to imply that India was and is not one single nation from times immemorial," declares Dr. Moonjee.

He says that Sir Stafford insisted on his proposals being accepted or rejected in toto, and that this left the Hindu Mahasabha no alternative but to reject them.—British United Press.

### BREAKDOWN DANGER

**Nehru Refers to States Problem**

New Delhi, Tuesday.

Congress quarters regard as a clear indication that negotiations are breaking down the speech given by Pandit Nehru at a reception to Thanu Pillay, President of the Transjore States People's Conference.

Nehru declared his opposition to any settlement which did not embrace the peoples of the Indian States, and described those who talked of treaties with the Indian States as "lunatics, fools or knaves."

He also indicated that whatever the British Government, or its Embassy (Sir Stafford Cripps) might say the Indian people had essential unity, and would fight those who meant to disrupt India.

"We have remained united in slavery, and we shall remain united in freedom," he added.—Associated Press.

### Congress Meeting

The Congress Working Committee has been called to meet this afternoon to hear the report of Dr. Azad and Pandit Nehru.

The Working Committee of the Moslem League has been summoned to meet to-morrow morning to consider the final British proposals, in the light of Mr. Jinnah's half-hour talk with Sir Stafford to-day.—Reuter.

### JAP INVASION FLEET

**Chungking, Tuesday.**

The Chinese military spokesman said to-day that 13 Japanese transports, five warships and one gunboat have been sighted off Amoy, the South China Treaty port, opposite the Japanese island of Formosa.

Three Japanese divisions are concentrated in Formosa, but their destination has not been ascertained, he continued.—Reuter.

### ALEXANDRIA BOMBED

Eight persons were killed and 32 injured during an air raid on Alexandria last night, states an Egyptian Ministry of the Interior communique from Cairo. Damage to property was slight.

### Another Allied Air Attack on Japs

An official communique issued in Melbourne this afternoon says Allied bombers and fighters attacked Japanese-occupied Lae, New Guinea (says Reuter).

Runways and buildings were bombed successfully, and several enemy aircraft were damaged by fire.

An earlier communique (quoted by British United Press) said in yesterday's raid on Port Moresby, New Guinea, the Japanese planes making the attack were intercepted by our fighters and driven off, after several of them had been damaged by bursts of machine-gun fire.

"One of our aircraft was shot down and one other is missing, but the pilot of one of these was saved."—British United Press.

### BURMA LULL

Today's Burma communique says: Yesterday there was contact only with enemy patrols on the Irrawaddy front. There was not much air activity during the day. Our forces are still in the process of taking up their new positions, which are now north of Thayetmyo. The oil and cement installations at Thayetmyo and Alannyo were successfully demolished before our forces withdrew.

The latest information about the enemy is that a column on the west bank was located north of Kama, and another on the east bank about Myaungthazek, with elements moving north-east to the Sinjok Valley.

A town in Central Burma was bombed yesterday morning. There were very few casualties and no damage.

There is no substantial change either on the Irrawaddy front or around Toungeo, it was stated authoritatively in London. The Japanese are still a long way from the main oilfields, which are just north of Magwe.

### BATAVA BATTLE

Washington, Tuesday.

The Japanese are using an increasing number of fresh troops, dive bombers and tanks in the battle against General Wainwright's forces in the Bataan Peninsula, which enters its fifth month to-day.

The battle appears to be nearing a crucial stage. The American and Filipino defenders, vastly outnumbered, are making a terrific pounding. Military experts have warned the public against expecting too much from them, since the strain they had been living under for the past four months was almost beyond human endurance.

Yet the past fortnight they have been under virtually non-stop land and air attacks.

Military expert Yamashita, commanding the Japanese forces, is apparently determined to wear down the defenders by sheer weight of men and machines.

It is by these tactics that the Japanese have made some gains during the past few days. The Japanese, meanwhile, are being stubbornly resisted, and savage fighting is still in progress.—British United Press.

### THE POPE'S INFLUENCE

#### Archbishop Mannix Glad of Japanese Repudiation

Melbourne, Tuesday.

Archbishop Mannix, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, declared in a speech that he was glad Stalin had written to the Pope and was glad that Japan had a representative at the Vatican.

With Japan so represented, the Pope would be in a position to protest against things which might appear to him to be wrong and would be better able to protect his Catholic people in Japan and elsewhere. The Pope would stand by the principles he had always enunciated. He was the spiritual father of the whole world.—Exchange.

#### China Joins

Chungking, Tuesday.

An exchange of diplomatic representatives between China and the Vatican has been arranged, a Government spokesman announced to-day.—Associated Press.

#### Sir Albert Barratt, of Totterside Park, Herts, a former chairman of Barratt and Co., sweet manufacturers, left £181,000.

### DIRECTOR OF A.T.C. HERE



Mr. W. W. Wakefield, M.P., Director of the Air Training Corps, at the presentation of certificates at Ilkley to-day. Mr. Wakefield is to visit other Yorkshire squadrons this week.

"It is vital that every boy who desires to fly should have preparatory training in the Air Training Corps," said Mr. Wakefield when he spoke at Ilkley Grammar School.

"Recruits for air crews must come from the young age groups, and it is these age groups which are now leaving school or at work in apprenticeships—the 16's, 17's, and 18's. I do not think it is fully realised how very few are able to reach the necessary standard, physical and mental, required for air crew duties."

It might be that if a boy did not get his preparatory training in the

A.T.C., then, when he got to the age of 18, and wanted to join the R.A.F., he would find he was not physically or mentally fit.

Early training in the R.A.F. was now based on the assumption that all the future intake would have come from the A.T.C., and would have got their proficiency certificate.

Mr. Wakefield presented proficiency certificates to W. O. R. H. Morgan, Corporal P. E. Platt, Corporal G. Holdsworth, Cadet D. F. Jennings and Cadet P. Watts. There were certificates also for Cadet Hatfield, Corporal Pullan and Cadet Flatner, who were unable to be present.

## STRENGTH TESTS BEFORE RUSSIA CLASH

LOCAL attack and counter-attack are the order of the day in Russia. Both sides appear to be testing the other's strength as they summon their forces for the coming big offensives.

"The winter battle in the East can now be regarded as over," said Berlin Radio to-day. "In this intermediate phase both sides are regrouping and concentrating their forces for the operations at the beginning of the dry period. Measures for the new offensive and defensive operations can be noticed on both the German and Russian sides."

### BERLIN SHOUTING

**Soviet Losses a Million This Year**

Stockholm, Tuesday.

The Berlin correspondents of two Swedish newspapers, the "Svenska Dagbladet" and the "Social Demokraten," say military circles in the German capital assert that latest reports from the Russian front indicate increased German activity.

The Germans estimate that the Russian losses already this year, in killed, wounded and prisoners, total a million. They declare that the German thrust in the central sector which, as claimed in yesterday's communique, led to the taking of 63 German thrusts in the central sector which, as claimed in yesterday's communique, was not a counter-attack due to Russian activity but a local offensive on German initiative.

The German military spokesman said when the spring offensive opens it will consist not of these small local operations with not more than a division engaged but that army groups will carry out comprehensive actions over large areas.—Exchange.

### STILL KALININ

**Eleven Localities and Heavy Nazi Losses**

Moscow, Tuesday.

The Soviet communique to-day reports, "No substantial changes," but a supplement says that on the Kalinin Front eleven inhabited localities were captured, the enemy having heavy losses with much material.

The supplement also describes several minor engagements including the repulse of a German counter-attack with the loss to the enemy of 100 killed, the destruction of 38 blockhouses and machine-gun nests and the explosion of a munition dump.

Eighting with guerrilla activities the supplement says that in one month parties which combined dealt with 770 "Hitlerites," destroyed a railway in two places, mined roads and blew up 30 loaded lorries.—Reuter.

### EIRE BUS SERVICES CUT

Owing to the virtual impossibility of replacing stocks of motor tyres, the chief road transport companies in Eire—Great Southern Railways, Great Northern Railway and the Dublin United Transport Co.—have decided on drastic cuts in their bus services, at the request of the Government.

First of the cuts will begin on Monday and others will be introduced on or before May 1. By May 1 there will be no Dublin city buses after 10 p.m. as against 11 now.

