Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

Mueble 7
Carpeta 47

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

GUERRA EUROPEA

Expediente 611 **Año** 1944.-

NOTAS VARIAS SOBRE EL CURSO DE LA GUERRA

611-44

FORM. 64

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Alb. Tuc

Rec. 20/1/44
Guerra 611

LEGACIÓN
DE LA
REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

Berna, Enero 6 de 1944.-

Nº 7-MRE
RESERVADA

Señor Ministro:

Los numerosos mensajes publicados en ocasión de las fiestas de Navidad por los Jefes de las naciones beligerantes coinciden en predecir que el año que se inicia será extremadamente duro y mortífero.- Todos ellos anuncian que la guerra ha llegado a su faz decisiva y que nos acercamos al momento en que las fuerzas de uno y otro bando han de enfrentarse en un encuentro supremo que ha de decidir el aniquilamiento del adversario.-

Las Naciones Unidas han creído hasta ahora que algunos pueblos no podrían soportar durante tanto tiempo el peso abrumador de los ataques aéreos, olvidando que la capacidad de sufirmiento de los hombres es infinita.- Y han confiado en la reacción de los pueblos subyugados, olvidando también que los movimientos revolucionarios son imposibles, cuando las poblaciones se encuentran sometidas a la tutela despiadada e inexorable de una policía vigilante, respaldada por un ejército de ocupación.-

Fallados estos factores, a los que se les ha atribuído erróneamente una importancia excesiva como

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A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General don Alberto Gilbert.-
BUENOS AIRES.-

ANOTADO

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elementos decisivos para originar un derrumbe del frente interno, los Aliados parecen estar dispuestos al fin a atacar la armadura defensiva con que el Estado Mayor alemán ha rodeado el Continente.-

Alemania ha estado expuesta, en 1943, a un grave peligro.- La brusca defección de Italia le creó, militarmente, una situación dificil.- Debemos pensar que el repentino derrumbamiento del frente italiano, sorprendió más a los propios Aliados que a los mismos alemanes, pues no se explicaría de otro modo que no hayan podido utilizar las ventajas que este hecho extraordinario les ofrecía.-

El Estado Mayor alemán pudo así, cerrar en tiempo, la brecha que arriesgaba abrirse en el dispositivo meridional de su defensa e imponer a los ejércitos anglo-americanos, una guerra de usura que se concreta en un avance lento y costoso, sin aportarles las ventajas estratégicas que esperaban.-

El frente italiano es útil para los Aliados porque fija en él la fuerza de veinte divisiones alemanas, sustraídas al frente ruso; pero no será ya por allí donde ha de intentarse abrir la brecha decisiva en el cerco fortificado del Reich.- El hecho que los Generales Eisenhower y Montgomery hayan sido transferidos a otros Comandos demuestra que el peso de la lucha se ejercerá en otros sectores.-

Es probable que se hayan preparado varios planes de invasión para elegir, en cuanto al lugar, el que mejor se adapte a las circunstancias.- Los Balcanes

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ofrecen perspectivas interesantes para un ataque combinado con el avance de los ejércitos rusos hacia Rumania.- Pero sin extendernos en el examen de las hipótesis que pueden hacerse sobre las maniobras de ataque, existe un hecho cierto e incontestable: que los Aliados se han dado cuenta que para obtener una capitulación del Reich es indispensable destruir su poder militar.- Ni los bombardeos, ni las dificultades económicas del bloqueo, ni la disminución de la producción por la destrucción sistemática de fábricas y usinas militares, pueden producir efectos inmediatos cuando el espíritu combativo del ejército se mantiene inflamado por ánimo de venganza.-

Existen, sin duda, quienes en presencia de la destrucción de las bases industriales del país, se preguntan cómo podrá Alemania reconstruirlas al final de las hostilidades; pero las consideraciones sobre el porvenir no han prevalecido hasta ahora contra el fanatismo de las esferas dirigentes.- El "hitlerismo", fundado en la voluntad de su potencia, continúa la lucha.- Y ha de proseguirla mientras cuente con los medios militares de que dispone.- El ejército, mejor equipado, mejor alimentado y más cuidado que durante la guerra de 1914/18, continúa batiéndose con valor y encarnecimiento admirables.- La inmensa retirada que efectúa en Rusia no ha minado su moral.- Tanto le han repetido las consecuencias espantosas de la derrota, que los soldados no entrevén más solución que la

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dura alternativa proclamada por sus Jefes: vencer o morir.-

Leyendo los mensajes de Navidad lanzados desde Berlín, notamos que la palabra "vencer" ha tomado un nuevo significado.- Ya no se trata de abatir al adversario sino de impedir su victoria.- Alemania no tiene ya la posibilidad de ganar la guerra, de destruir la potencia militar de los Aliados; tampoco puede ya tentar una nueva ofensiva contra Rusia, ni pasar al asalto de Inglaterra.- Fracasada la guerra submarina, la Gran Bretaña se ha asegurado sus vías de comunicación y abastecimientos.- Las represalias tantas veces anunciadas, no modificarán el curso de los acontecimientos.- El Reich no dispone ni podrá disponer de fuerzas aéreas suficientes para apoyar un ataque de gran envergadura.- La supremacia del aire ha pasado a su adversario.-

Descartada la posibilidad de tomar la ofensiva, según lo que leemos en los discursos oficiales, el Reich sólo puede confiar en un éxito defensivo, vale decir, en el fracaso de las tentativas aliadas para poner pié en el Continente.- Es su última carta.- Los dirigentes nazis - no el Estado Mayor - creen que pueden jugarla con algunas probabilidades de éxito.- Piensan que si los desembarcos que se preveen inminentes e inmediatos fracasaran, los Anglosajones serán más accesibles a las sugestiones de paz.- Es lo que aparece leyendo los discursos de Hitler y de Goebbels.- Ya no buscan estimular al pueblo alemán con las perspectivas de nuevas con-

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quistas, ni por el anuncio de la destrucción del "Coloso Bolchevique".- Procuran simplemente obtener de su pueblo el esfuerzo supremo a fin que la "Wehrmacht" pueda contener la entrada del enemigo en la fortaleza continental.-

Si no lo consiguen; si los Aliados llegan a poder lanzar sus ejércitos contra el territorio del Reich, la guerra terminará rápidamente, pues si Alemania no logra contener el empuje ruso, no podrá luchar sobre dos frentes, por falta de reservas humanas y de aviones.- En cambio, si fracasaran las primeras tentativas, las hostilidades se prolongarán, pues los Aliados no se dejarán impresionar por los contratiempos iniciales.- Continuará la lucha con mayor amplitud; los ataques aéreos a las ciudades alemanas serán más encarnizados y terribles, mientras preparen la concentración de fuerzas más poderosas para desembarcar en el Continente.- Tal es, sin duda, el curso futuro de los acontecimientos.- Y esas perspectivas explican el tono grave de las alocuciones alemanas.-

Saludo a V.E. con las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Carlos Brebbia

LEGACION DE LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA EN SUIZA
BERNA

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//////nos Aires, mayo 29 de 1944.

Agréguese a la nota confidencial-reservada No.36 de la misma procedencia.

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MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
29 MAY. 1944
Dirección General Asuntos Técnicos

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Corresponde a las notas reservadas Nos.7 y 32 de enero 6 y febrero 29 de 1944, y confidencial-reservada 36 del 9 de marzo de 1944.

Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores y Culto
D.A.P.

//////////nos Aires, mayo 29 de 1944.

Acúsese recibo y pasen a conocimiento del Señor Oficial de Enlace de Estado Mayor General del Ejército, Teniente Coronel Don Juan J.Polero, encareciéndole su posterior devolución.

MINISTERIO RELACIONES EXTERIORES
29 MAY. 1944
Dirección General Asuntos Políticos

Tomado conocimiento, vuelva a la Dirección Gral.de Asuntos Políticos.

Buenos Aires, 6 de junio de 1944.

JUAN J. POLERO
TENIENTE CORONEL
OFICIAL DE ENLACE DEL E.M.G.E.

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FÓRM. 218

COPIA

Buenos Aires, mayo 29 de 1944.

D.A.P.
RESERVADA

4.6

Señor Embajador:

Tengo el honor de acusar recibo a V.E. de sus notas reservadas Nos.7 y 32 del 6 de enero y 29 de febrero del año en curso y confidencial-reservada 36 del 9 de marzo último, en las que el Señor Embajador se extiende en consideraciones acerca de la situación europea en el terreno de las actividades bélicas y de la política interna e internacional de algunos países de ese Continente.

Al manifestar a V.E. que esta Cancillería se ha impuesto con atención de las notas que contesto, reitérole las seguridades de mi más alta consideración.

CARLOS L. TORRIANI
DIRECTOR GENERAL

MINISTERIO
RELACIONES
29 MAY. 1944

A S.E. el Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de la República Argentina, Señor Don Carlos Brebbia.
BERNA - SUIZA.

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Guerra 611-

00102

TOMEN CONOCIMIENTO:
Política

TELEGRAMA CIFRADO N° 1050

Londres, 10/10 julio de 1944

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores
Buenos Aires

N° 230. Reservado. De acuerdo con mi cablegrama 212 recién puedo informar a V.E. después del discurso del Primer Ministro sobre las bombas voladoras.

Primero. Desde hace un mes con diversos intervalos Londres y una parte del sud de Inglaterra han sido bombardeados sin interrupción. Los daños en el orden militar son muy pequeños y la eficiencia combativa de los aliados no ha sido afectada mayormente. La gente ha tomado sus precauciones y el Gobierno facilita la salida de los niños, mujeres y ancianos. Los servicios públicos funcionan con regularidad, especialmente, bomberos, sanidad, transportes y reparación de daños.

Segundo. Los edificios de la Embajada y la Cancillería han sufrido desperfectos como consecuencia de explosiones próximas.

Tercero Desde el primer momento he tomado las precauciones necesarias para proteger la vida de los funcionarios, autorizándolos a trasladarse a lugares más seguros en el campo y estableciendo turnos para atender, a pesar de todo, los servicios de la Embajada.

Es para mí muy satisfactorio expresar a V.E. la conducta de los funcionarios de la Cancillería, ninguno de los cuales ha querido ausentarse de Londres y dejar de trabajar en las horas habituales.

Cuarto. Teniendo en cuenta las circunstancias he dispuesto algunas obras en la Embajada y la Cancillería

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ger el personal y los edificios, trabajo que todavía está en vías de ejecución y que realizo siguiendo las precauciones tomadas en diversas oficinas públicas. Espero que quiera V.E. aprobar estos gastos ordenados con urgencia y cuyo monto no excedería de 100 libras esterlinas.

Cárcano

FPB.

Es traducción:



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MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
— A —
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

Guerra 611-

LEGACIÓN
DE LA
REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

Nº 218 M.R.E.

Lisboa, agosto 11 de 1944.

MESA DE ENTRADAS
Y EXPEDICIONES
2 OCT. 1944
SECRETARIA DE RELACIONES
EXTERIORES Y CULTO

Señor Ministro:

Tengo el honor de elevar a V.E. la presente nota informándole sobre las repercusiones que se Observan en Portugal, derivadas de las apreciaciones del Señor Churchill en relación con la marcha de la guerra y del desarrollo de las operaciones de ésta en los varios frentes de batalla.

Las palabras pronunciadas por el "premier" inglés el día 3 de los corrientes, del mismo modo que han inculcado buen optimismo en el ánimo de los británicos, también lo han producido en la opinión lusitana. No es Portugal un pais en guerra, y sin embargo, tiene un gran interés en que se llegue a un desenlace, pues además de los deseos humanitarios que poseen todos los paises neutrales, quienes no pueden ver sin profundo dolor la pérdida de tantas vidas y bienes y con ellos acaso esenciales valores de nuestra civilización, concurren en esta Nación factores de índole especial que la impelen a preocuparse con una prolongación de la lucha.

En primer lugar, es éste uno de los pocos paises de Europa que conserva una neutralidad, que una guerra demorada mucho más tiempo, pudiera llegar a cambiar las circunstancias y hacer aquélla imposible. En segundo, tiene intereses coloniales en juego, que si materialmente no suponen gran cosa desde un punto de vista absoluto, por el escaso provecho que de ellos se obtiene, en cambio implican derechos territoriales de soberanía a los que ni quiere, ni puede dignamente renunciar. En tercer lugar, la gran escasez de artículos que la guerra ha originado y la carrera ascensional de precios a que se llegó en Portugal, le causan un trastorno económico de consecuencias tan graves - incluso con alarmante reflejos de índole social - que ya solo se cifra aquí la esperanza, en que el establecimiento de la paz haga posible poder corregir en gran parte un desequilibrio que necesita apremientemente proporcionarle remedio. La paz puede traerle por tanto, el evitarle verse envuelta en el conflicto mundial, la recuperación de su colonia de Timor, y el

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A S.E.
el Señor General de Brigada Don Orlando L. Peluffo
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto.

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de patriotas, sostener continuadas operaciones en Yogoeslavia, que aunque no sean de gran envergadura suponen siempre un entretenimiento de tropas y una sangría en hombres y material, aguantar tres potentes ofensivas - o según frase del Sr. Smuts "una ofensiva triangular" - y sostener la moral de un pueblo, que por más que afirme en contrario la propaganda, ha de resentirse notablemente ante el espectáculo de la serie de fracasos ininterrumpidos que vienen sufriendo sus armas desde hace casi dos años y ante la falta de algo real y positivo que sirva para cimentar una esperanza de victoria o de una paz en que el pais no quede totalmente vencido. A esto ha de unirse el que pese a la gran potencia que representó Alemania, sus reservas de hombres y material tienen ya que estar bastante quebrantadas, y es ahora cuando más necesita de las mismas, puesto que precisa levantar un muro de contención en una línea que mide muchos kilómetros, disponer de un buen sistema de comunicaciones, y poseer una enorme cantidad de material de guerra y de abastecimientos para resistir la fuerte embestida que le viene por tres lados.

El recuerdo del Jefe del Estado Mayor Alemán, General von Schlieffen, surge ahora en todos los comentarios y se traen nuevamente a la luz sus frases sobre la imposibilidad de conducir victoriosamente la guerra en Francia existiendo un avance ruso en el frente oriental y sobre la necesidad de evitar a todo trance el tener que luchar en dos frentes.

A medida que se acentúa el avance aliado, son mayores las proporciones que alcanza en los paises ocupados, la resistencia que oponen las distintas fuerzas nacionales, que ora en grupos de guerrilla, ora organizados más macizamente como ocurre con las tropas del mariscal Tito, es lo cierto que constituye un serio problema al que forzosamente hay que atender a diario y no descuidarlo en lo más mínimo.

La enorme extensión de terreno invadido obliga a los alemanes para sostener su ocupación a la defensa de mucha costa, de la que no pueden distraer hombres, sino con peligro de un desguarnecimiento que haga más posible a los aliados nuevos desembarcos y el poder establecer más cabezas de puente, aumentando así los lugares donde vibrar otros golpes.

La superioridad que viene mostrando el arma aérea de las Naciones Unidas, tiene una enorme repercusión tanto en los frentes como en la retaguardia alemana, pues si en los primeros es factor decisivo de los avances aliados, en la segunda desorganiza y estanca la producción y al desbaratar todo el sistema de comunicaciones, impide la rapida movilidad de las reservas, tan necesaria en los casos en que por no ser ya muy cuantiosas hay que suplir su número con el veloz traslado de un punto a otro y atender con urgencia el abastecimiento de víveres, municiones y material a los frentes.

La moral de la retaguardia, esa fé tan necesaria en la victoria para que un pueblo aguante estoicamente los sacrificios y conserve un elevado entusiasmo para la lucha, ha de estar indudablemente bastante más rebajada de lo que intentan hacer creer la propaganda y los dirigentes nazis. Aunque se carece del conocimiento exacto de las ramificaciones que haya tenido el reciente atentado contra el Fuhrer, a nadie se oculta que es un evidente síntoma de descomposición y, bien haya sido con propósitos de simple eliminación personal para imprimir otra dirección a la conducción de la guerra o bien un complot más vasto para poder encontrar una salida a la dificil situación presente - de tipo más o menos parecido al de Italia hace un año - no ofrece duda, que tanto en uno como en otro ca-

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encontrar medios para un reajuste de la economía nacional que suponga un índice del costo de vida asequible con mayor o menor esfuerzo a cada ciudadano para cubrir cuando menos sus primeras necesidades y salir de un estado de depauperación y miseria que le lleva a una desesperación, que cuando es colectiva constituye siempre un grave peligro para el Estado y para la causa del orden.

Pero no es un simple armisticio o una paz de compromiso, con posibilidades de una nueva conflagración, lo que desea la opinión portuguesa. En general, lo que quiere ésta es la paz que se produzca por el triunfo de las Naciones Unidas, tanto porque se halla ligada por tradicional amistad a la Gran Bretaña, como porque sus intereses comerciales y económicos es en el seno de aquéllas donde tienen su principal desarrollo y además son ellas las que le devolverían su territorio colonial hoy invadido por los nipones.

Cierto es que al decir Naciones Unidas, va envuelta en esa denominación la U.R.S.S., con la que, salvo en las masas obreras, no solo no se siente hacia ella ninguna simpatía en los otros medios portugueses, sino que existe un fuerte recelo sobre sus apetitos políticos y su influencia sobre el proletariado mundial, no obstante la tan publicada disolución del "Komirten" y la indudable tendencia al aburguesamiento que entre los comunistas rusos se observa. Pero, ya se considera aquí que es indispensable correr ese riesgo y aunque no se desvanecen los temores sobre el mismo, alimentados más por la presuntas reacciones que puedan darse en la clase trabajadora de cada pais, que por la actitud que puedan asumir los soviets eslavos, se tiene la esperanza de que por un lado el sentido político de Inglaterra y la difícil situación en que quedara Rusia se concilien para evitar una conmoción revolucionaria que al desembocar en el caos destruiría completamente lo que se haya salvado del conflicto guerrero y por otro, una mejoría del nivel de vida alejará el peligro de subversión al no sentirse el obrero bajo el imperioso y ofuscador acicate de la miseria.

Por eso, fuera de los momentos de temerosa interrogación sobre el futuro, la opinión portuguesa se muestra optimista, pues si las palabras del Señor Churchill le dan pié para ello, los sucesos de los frentes son aquí demostración evidente del fundamento que aquéllas tienen.

La atención pública sin apartarse de lo que ocurre en el Este y de que este frente tiene para los alemanes una movilidad de excesiva retirada, que les obliga a preocuparse seria y urgentemente de la defensa de su territorio nacional y preparar con rapidez la de la Prusia Oriental, se fija principalmente en lo que está aconteciendo en suelo francés. Tampoco se olvida nadie de los avances aliados en la península italiana, pero como queda dicho, son las operaciones anglo-americanas en el norte de Francia, las que prenden el principal interés de los portugueses.

La situación actual de Alemania se juzga aquí aún más crítica de lo que lo era al comenzar el mes de Agosto de 1918. Entonces solo tenía que atender un solo frente y a la ofensiva que los aliados habían desencadenado el 8 de dicho mes, y hasta ese momento no había sentido la posibilidad de derrota. Ahora en cambio, tiene que luchar en tres frentes en una enorme extensión de terreno, cubrir una línea de litoral que comprende la mayor parte de Europa, mantener importantes efectivos en los paises ocupados para evitar las peligrosas actividades de los diferentes grupos

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so,lo mismo para intentar medios más eficaces de lucha,que para preparar el camino de un cese de nostilidades,supone un resquebrajamiento de la homogeneidad de opinión y lo que acaso sea aún mas grave,una fisura - cuyo alcance todavía no se puede medir - en la cohesión del Ejército alemán y en esa rígida disciplina que siempre ha sido una de sus características mas destacadas.

Todas las anteriores apreciaciones llevan a los portugueses a considerar que el fin de la contienda puede estar próximo y que es indudable el triunfo rotundo de las armas aliadas,bien por una rapidez en los avances con operaciones de destrozamiento del ejército enemigo que conduzca a Alemania a una decisiva derrota militar,bien por un derrumbamiento total de la retaguardia nazi.

Al lado de las cuestiones que se acaban de exponer,la espectación lusitana es también despertada por los sucesos del que bien puede llamarse "frente diplomático" en Turquía. La evolición que este pais ha tenido en los últimos días,constituyeron materia de interés para Portugal. Cuando Churchill manifestó que esa Nación no tendría en la nueva organización de Europa la intervención que esperaba,se vió bien claro que su situación quedaba bastante comprometida,ya que aislada frente a un vecino tan poderoso como la U.R.S.S.,que nunca ocultó sus deseos de tener por el Mar Negro una salida al Mediterráneo y poseer la llave de los estrechos del Bósforo y Dardanelos,pudiera encontrarse un día en posición sumamente dificil y peligrosa ante quien de pronto se puede tornar en potente enemigo. La neutralidad turca tan trabajosamente mantenida,se vió frente a circunstancias que pueden llevarla a zozobrar completamente,puesto que el sentido de supervivencia nacional es siempre una realidad que se impone sobre cualquier género de consideraciones y propósitos,si con ello no sufre la dignidad del pais - salvada en este caso con el pretexto de una amistad y alianza como la que mantiene con los ingleses -. Se observó,que aunque por parte de la Gran Bretaña hubo fuerte presión para la ruptura de las relaciones turco-alemanas,se ejerció en forma tal,que no sufrió menoscabo la dignidad nacional y,si bien las palabras de Churchill son una amenaza en el fondo,por la manera como están proferidas pueden ser también interpretadas como un aviso simple para el futuro,sin más transcendencia que la prevenir cual sería la posición de una Turquía amiga de Alemania y con unas relaciones de extrema frialdad con los aliados.

Las últimas noticias aquí llegadas sobre la iniciación de conversaciones militares anglo-americano-turcas,indican que Turquí no solo tomó la decisión de la ruptura mencionada,sino que pasó a reconsiderar su política de neutralidad,lo que equivale a colocarse abiertamente como auxiliar más eficaz de las Naciones Unidas y prepararse para una posible entrada en la guerra a su lado. La situación de ese pais es siempre delicada, ya que su posición geográfica constituye el verdadero entroncamiento de tres continentes; por eso tiene que ajustar su conducta a las realidades y plegarse a los dictados de las circunstancias,con la salvedad consiguiente de su honor nacional.

Portugal sigue atentamente las vicisitudes que atraviesa esa Nación,que acaso venga a aminorar el número ya bastante exiguo de las que en el continente europeo han podido mantenerse neutrales. En esta observación que se hace por los lusitanos,no ha dejado de llamar la atención el hecho de que no haya noticias de figurar elementos rusos en las aludidas conversaciones de Ankara,pues se estima que pese a la buena amistad con los anglo-americanos,interesa especialmente a los turcos la de sus vecinos soviéticos y asegurar con unos y con otros la posesión del

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Mar de Mármara, que además de servir de importante enlace a sus dos porciones territoriales, europea y asiática, la sitúa en un plano de importancia política en tre las Naciones de Europa.

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Al elevar a V.E. el presente informe, aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterarle el testimonio de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Buenos Aires, Octubre 7 de 1944

ACÚSESE RECIBO y ARCHÍVESE.-

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MINISTERIO RELACIONES EXTERIORES 7 OCT. Dirección

MARIO AMADEO
DIRECTOR de ASUNTOS POLITICOS

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Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

D.A.P.

Buenos Aires, octubre 7 de 1944.

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Señor Ministro:

Tengo el agrado de acusar recibo de la nota nº218 del 11 de agosto último, en la que V.E. informa sobre las repercusiones que tienen en Portugal las apreciaciones del señor Churchill relacionadas con la marcha de la guerra y el desarrollo de la misma.

Al comunica a V.E. que esta Cancillería se ha impuesto con todo interés del contenido de dicha nota, me complazco en reiterarle las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.



A S.E. el Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de la República Argentina en Portugal
Don Edgardo Pérez Quesada

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P Guerra 611

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
15 NOV 1944
MINISTERIO de RELACIONES EXTERIORES y CULTO

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
— A —
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

M

EMBAJADA DE LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Nº106

Londres, setiembre 1 de 1944

Señor Ministro:

Los ataques a Londres y Sur de Inglaterra

con bombas voladoras

1. Desde la noche del jueves 15 de junio, Londres y la zona sur de Inglaterra han sido contínua y fuertemente atacados por las "bombas voladoras" alemanas (conocidas también bajo los nombres de "aviones sin piloto" o "robots"), causando destrozos importantes, además de numerosos muertos y heridos. El Ministro del Interior y Seguridad Interna, Mr. Herbert Morrison, dió las primeras referencias oficiales sobre las características del nuevo arma el viernes 16 de junio, en la Cámara de los Comunes, al día siguiente del primer ataque.

ANEXO CONFORME
ANEXADO

2. En un comienzo, el gobierno prohibió la transmisión y publicación de noticias al respecto y, al citarse los lugares donde caían las bombas, se hacía referencia a la "zona sur de Inglaterra", sin mencionar a Londres en forma alguna. Interpelado el Poder Ejecutivo en el Parlamento, prometió dar una información más

A S.E. el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General de Brigada Don Orlando Peluffo,
Buenos Aires.

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concreta y detallada, para satisfacer a la opinión pública, cuando así lo permitieran las circunstancias y sin descubrir datos que fueran de utilidad para el enemigo. El 2 de agosto el Primer Ministro, Mr. Winston Churchill, dió una serie de cifras al respecto y desde ese día se hace especial mención de Londrès en los comunicados y en la prensa. No se dan, sin embargo, los números de bombas no interceptadas por las defensas británicas, mencionándose hasta ahora solamente las cantidades de bombas lanzadas por el enemigo.

3. El Servicio de Inteligencia británico tenía informado al gobierno sobre ésta y otras armas secretas alemanas, desde hacía más de seis meses. El 2 de febrero, Mr. Churchill dió el primer aviso oficial de los ataques que se preparaban con un nuevo arma, ante la Cámara de los Comunes. Con el objeto de prevenirse contra esa posibilidad el gobierno británico ordenó contínuos bombardeos en el Canal de la Mancha, que tendían a destruir los emplazamientos lanza-bombas. Los bombardeos sobre Penemünde y Schurmke buscaban la destrucción de los laboratorios y emplazamientos experimentales, y de los investigadores allí ocupados.

4. A pesar de ello, el gobierno fué sorprendido en cierto modo por la abundancia de "roboots" y la dificultad de organizar rápidamente la defensa contra un arma cuyas características requerían constatación en la práctica. En la población cundió una visible intranquilidad y el gobierno decidió, como medida de precaución, proceder a la evacuación de niños, mujeres y enfermos. Para la población que permanece en Londres se han habilitado los refugios existentes, inclusive los recientemente construídos de gran profundidad. En las oficinas públicas se han tomado diversas medidas, reforzándose los edificios convenientemente.

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El Parlamento reunióse últimamente en un edificio protegido y los ministros duermen en subterráneos previstos para estos casos.

5. En todos los barrios de Londres han caído bombas y las cifras oficiales británicas, dadas por el Primer Ministro en la Cámara de los Comunes el 2 de agosto (siete semanas después del primer ataque), son las siguientes:

5.340 bombas voladoras fueron lanzadas por el enemigo.
4.735 personas perdieron la vida como consecuencia.
14.000 personas resultaron gravemente heridas.
Muchas personas fueron levemente heridas.
17.000 inmuebles totalmente destruídos.
800.000 inmuebles resultaron dañados, pero ¾ partes han sido rehabilitados.
1.000.000 personas aproximadamente fueron evacuadas de Londres, de cuyo total 225.000 corresponde a mujeres y niños.

Los ministerios de Aviación y del Interior dieron un comunicado el 25 de agosto, expresando que habían sido lanzadas (a esa fecha) 7.700 bombas voladoras, desde el comienzo de los ataques con ese arma, un promedio de 100 bombas diarias aproximadamente.

6. Muy próximas a la Embajada y Cancillería, y de las residencias de los funcionarios, han explotado varias bombas voladoras, dos de ellas, que cayeron en Constitution Hill, cerca de Hyde Park Corner (a 500 metros de la Embajada) dañaron puertas, ventanas, vidrios y cielos-rasos de nuestros edificios. En el mapa adjunto se puede apreciar la situación de los impactos relativamente a la ubicación de nuestras residencias y oficinas.

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7. En estas circunstancias decidí, siguiendo las indicaciones y ejemplos de las oficinas públicas, mejorar la protección de nuestros edificios, colocando en los vidrios telas especiales y tapiando con bolsas de arena las ventanas de los pisos bajos, conforme comunicara a V.E. en mi cable No. 230 (párrafo cuarto), del 10 de julio.

8. Al mismo tiempo autoricé para que los funcionarios pudieran ausentarse de Londres, aconsejando especialmente a los que tenían señoras o hijos habitar en la campaña. Establecimos turnos de servicio y tomé todas las disposiciones necesarias para proteger la vida del personal, dentro de lo posible, creyendo que ese era mi primer deber de jefe de misión. Todas estas medidas no impidieron, en lo más mínimo, atender las tareas de la Embajada y durante muchos días debió trabajarse en la oficina hasta altas horas de la noche. A pesar de mis indicaciones, la mayoría de los funcionarios no se ausentaron de la capital, viajando algunos temporariamente al campo. La situación delicada de las relaciones con el Reino Unido y el cúmulo de trabajo nos tenía absorbidos en el desempeño de nuestras funciones, con riesgo evidente para la vida del personal.

9. A pesar de que se ha mejorado mucho la defensa de Londres, continúan los ataques con el consiguiente riesgo. Aunque el éxito de la ofensiva aliada en Francia permite suponer que muy pronto lleguen al Paso de Calais y destruyan los emplazamientos lanza-bombas en esa región, las recientes declaraciones del Primer Ministro en los Comunes previenen, no sólamente que el bombardeo de bombas voladoras podrá continuar desde las costas de los Países Bajos y Alemania, sino también la posibilidad de que lancen "rockets" de hasta 10 toneladas de explosivos, de gran po-

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der destructivo. A las declaraciones del Primer Ministro a este respecto han seguido otras de diversos miembros del gabinete. Se me informa que, además de la evacuación de la población civil, el gobierno ha previsto el traslado de ministerios e instituciones públicas; los diarios tienen ya organizada la impresión de sus ediciones en ciudades de provincia, especialmente en Manchester.

10. Al Cuerpo Diplomático el gobierno no le ha hecho ninguna indicación directa al respecto y cada Misión, según su criterio y posibilidades, ha buscado la mejor forma de protegerse del bombardeo. Todas las representaciones sudamericanas viven en los alrededores de Londres; las embajadas de Brasil y Chile tienen casa en el campo desde el comienzo de la guerra y sus respectivos gobiernos les han acordado fondos extraordinarios a ese fin. Personalmente, durante 15 días ocupé con mi familia una casa a media hora de Londres, la que me cedió un amigo, a £ 30 semanales, y la puse a disposición de mis colaboradores.

11. En esta situación y en previsión de los acontecimientos que pudieran sobrevenir, envié a V.E. mi cable No. 277 (párrafo segundo) del 7 de agosto, recomendando la conveniencia de alquilar una casa en el campo, para trasladar el personal y archivo de la Embajada, para disminuir así los riesgos hasta donde lo permita el cumplimiento de la labor de la Embajada que debe estar centralizada en Londres.

12. La dificultad en hallar una casa suficientemente grande, como para alojarlos a todos, trasladar el archivo y quizá las oficinas, es muy grande. Las que no han sido requisadas por el gobierno, han sido ocupadas por quienes salen de Londres por cuenta propia. Después de un mes de búsqueda encontré una casa que satisfacía es-

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tas condiciones, lo que comuniqué a V.E. en cable No. 295 del 21 de agosto, (que había podido obtener una casa) cerca de Guilford a £ 40 semanales, y en mi cable No. 303, de 26 de agosto, confirmé que podía conseguir.contrato por dos meses a partir del primero de setiembre.

13. He creído indispensable, como una medida de gobierno, que V.E. me autorice a tomar una casa para la Embajada, que pueda ofrecer protección y defensa a todo el personal, si así fuera necesario, y servir para su eventual traslado. La medida es conveniente, no sólo del punto de vista personal, sino también administrativo. Si se llegara a destruir el edificio de la Cancillería, la pérdida sería irreparable y nuestro trabajo sufriría un serio tropiezo. Si se dañan las casas de los funcionarios, éstos no tendrían donde alojarse, pues además de las dificultades que sobrevienen en esos desagradables momentos, la escasez de alojamiento es enorme. Algunos de ellos están durmiendo en los dormitorios de los abrigos públicos, para poder así descansar sin que los despierten las explosiones.

14. Era así necesario encarar el problema administrativamente, para asegurar la protección de la vida de los funcionarios, el buen desempeño de la Cancillería y la guarda del archivo y documentos. Durante la guerra en Francia tuvimos la suerte de que ni un sólo día dejáramos de estar en contacto con la Cancillería, ni que se extraviara o destruyera ningún documento, ni se perdiera la vida de un sólo funcionario. Con la cooperación espontáneamente acordada por V.E. en el cable No. 149, de 26 de agosto, sólamente debo agregar que constituye mi más ferviente deseo poder, al fin de las hostilidades, decir lo mismo de nuestra misión en Londres.

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15. Reitero a V.E. el alto espíritu y el valor que siempre ha demostrado el personal de la Cancillería. En los momentos más difíciles, no solamente ha cumplido con su deber, sino también ha hecho los mayores esfuerzos para la mejor eficacia del trabajo. Con las medidas tomadas se disminuye sus riesgos dentro de lo humanamente posible, pues la labor principal debe continuar en Londres, sede del gobierno y centro de nuestras relaciones de toda índole.

Saludo a V.E. con mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

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Buenos Aires, 30/11/de 19 44

Acúsese recibo y pase a conocimiento de la Oficina de Coordinación de Informaciones y de los Señores Oficiales de Estado Mayor de Enlace de los Ministerios de Guerra y de Marina, encareciéndoles su posterior devolución.-

MARIO AMADEO
DIRECTOR de ASUNTOS POLITICOS

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
12 DIC. 1944
General

Buenos Aires, diciembre 22 de 1944.-

Tomado conocimiento.-

ALBERTO MORELLO
MAYOR
JEFE COORDINACIÓN INFORMACIONES
RELACIONES EXTERIORES

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Enterado: 5.I.1945.

AUGUSTO C. GARCIA
MAYOR
JEFE DE LA OFICINA DE ENLACE
DEL M.R.E. y C.

Enterado: 5.I.1945

ALFREDO A. LAVALLE
CAPITAN DE FRAGATA
OFICIAL DE ENLACE DEL E.M.G.A.

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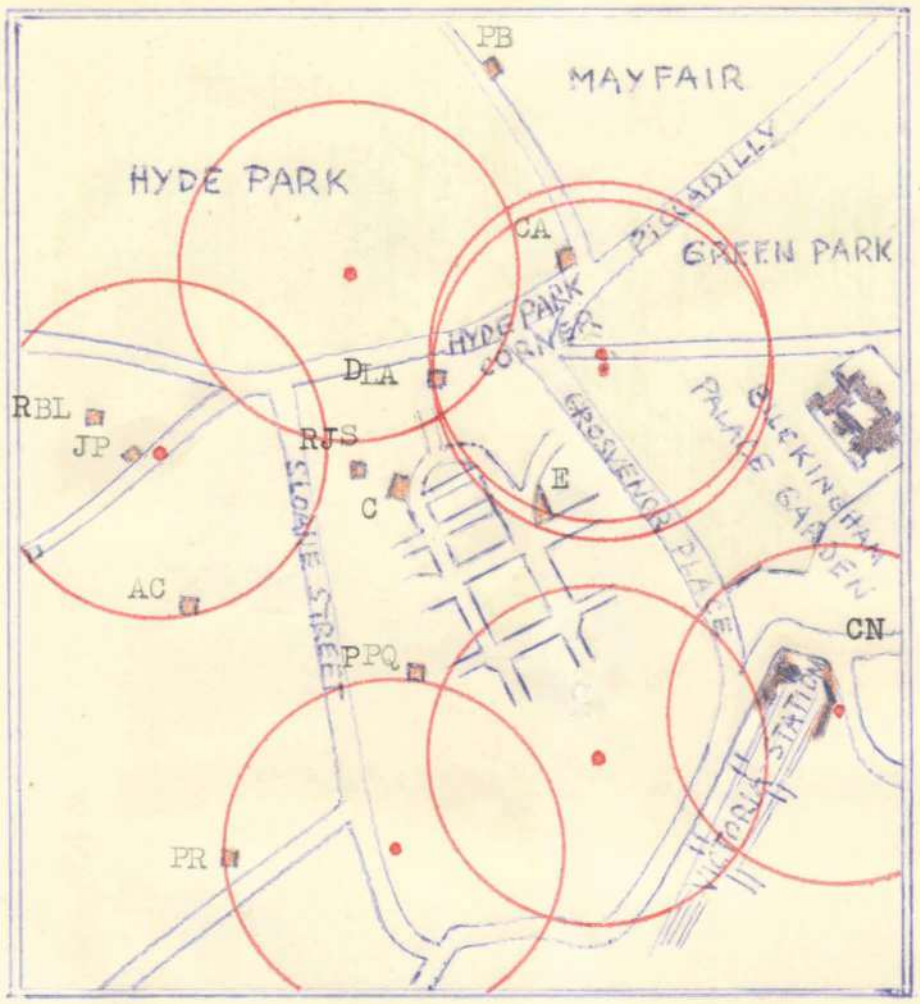
Referencias al mapa

E Embajada Argentina, 49 Belgrave Square, SW1.

C Cancilleria, 9 Wilton Crescent, SW1.
CN Comisión Naval, 171 Victoria Street, SW1.
CA Club Argentino, 1 Hamilton Place, SW1.

Residencias de los funcionarios

RJS Consejero Dr. Ricardo J. Siri.
PB Agregado Militar Coronel Pablo Berretta.
RBL Consejero Financiero Dr. Ricardo Blamey-Lafone.
JP Agregado Aereo Mayor Jorge Peluffo.
AC Secretario Sr. Alejandro Cullen.
DLA Agregado Económico Dr. Diego Lezica-Alvear.
PR Agregado Agricola Sr. Pascual Russo.
PPQ Canciller Sr. Patricio Pérez-Quesada.



. Los puntos rojos indican el impacto de las bombas voladoras (Jun.-Ago.-1944). Los círculos O muestran aproximadamente el radio de acción del "blast".

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PLANES WITH NO PILOTS

Times Sabado Junio 17/944.

FIRST RAIDS ON ENGLAND

COUNTER-MEASURES TAKEN

WESTMINSTER, FRIDAY

After Thursday night's raid by the enemy on southern England, MR. HERBERT MORRISON, Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security, gave the first news to the House of Commons to-day that the enemy had now begun to use pilotless aircraft against this country. The enemy's preparations, he said, had not passed unnoticed, and counter-measures had already been and would continue to be applied with full vigour. It was, however, probable that attacks would continue and, subject to experience, the usual siren warning would be given for such attacks.

In a statement of guidance to the public about pilotless aircraft issued last night, Mr. Morrison said: "The damage it has caused has been relatively small, and the new weapon will not interfere with our war effort and our sure and steady march to victory.

"The enemy's aim is clearly, in view of the difficulty of his military situation, to try to upset our morale and interfere with our work. It is essential that there should be the least possible interruption in all work vital to the country's needs at this time, and the Government counsel is that everyone should get on with his or her job in the ordinary way and only take cover when danger is imminent. There is already an efficient system for giving warning of imminent danger in factories.

"For the general public the advice is that if they see or hear one of these things or hear gunfire near, then they should keep under cover. When the engine of the pilotless aircraft stops and the light at the end of the machine is seen to go out, it may mean that explosion will soon follow, perhaps in five to 15 seconds. So take refuge from blast. Those indoors should keep out of the way of blast and use the most solid protection immediately available.

"There is no reason to think that raids by this weapon will be worse than, or indeed as heavy as, the raids with which the people of this country are already familiar and have borne so bravely."

NEW WEAPON NOT A SURPRISE

LAUNCHING PLATFORMS IN PAS DE CALAIS

FROM OUR AERONAUTICAL CORRESPONDENT

In using radio-controlled pilotless aircraft the enemy did not spring a surprise on us. Their existence—and many details of them—had long been known in this country.

The launching platforms for these machines in the Pas de Calais have been attacked systematically by day and night, although they were referred to officially merely as "military installations." Last February Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that the Germans were preparing on the French coast new means of attack on Britain, either by pilotless aircraft or possibly rockets, or both, on a considerable scale. He added that we "have been watching this with the utmost vigilance and striking at all evidences of these preparations on suitable occasions."

There is nothing new in the principle of radio-controlled aircraft. A type known as the "Queen Bee" has long been used in this country as a gunnery target. The German weapon is a development of the same idea. The machines are launched from concrete platforms raised at an angle, and are guided in the desired direction by radio control from the ground. It should be emphasized that this is a haphazard and indiscriminate form of attack; the aircraft cannot be directed from a distance with even reasonable accuracy.

HASTENED BY INVASION

The use of these machines while they are still in the experimental stage has, no doubt, been hastened by the allied invasion of Europe and fears that our troops would occupy the area from which they are dispatched before Hitler would have an opportunity to use this "secret weapon." In the raids so far made orthodox aircraft have been mixed with the pilotless craft in the hope that the crews will be able to report where the radio-controlled machines and their bombs have fallen.

In level flight the pilotless aircraft are slow—a reliable estimate of their speed is 200 m.p.h.—and they are thus vulnerable to attack by gunfire and fighters. In a dive, however, they attain a considerable speed, aided, it is believed, by a rocket device in the tail.

The allied air forces caused great damage to the launching platforms during their day and night attacks, notwithstanding the fact that they are difficult targets to hit and are strongly protected. When allied bombers were diverted to other objectives in preparation for the allied invasion of Europe, many of the platforms had been knocked out by precision bombing. Since that time the Germans may well have constructed more, and it is possible that they are also using mobile platforms.

SEEN AT NIGHT

On Thursday night and yesterday pilotless aircraft came over southern England at intervals. They were met by A.D.G.B. fighters and terrific anti-aircraft fire. Some flew so low that they could be seen clearly even during the night. Many people noticed the lights to which Mr. Morrison refers.

The Ministry of Home Security report on the night raid (which was issued yesterday morning before Mr. Morrison's statement in Parliament) stated: "Last [Thursday] night there was enemy activity over southern England, where damage and casualties have been reported."

It was also officially stated yesterday evening that enemy activity had been continued intermittently throughout the day, though on a smaller scale than on Thursday night. Incidents had occurred at several places in southern England and damage and casualties had been reported.

RAID LAST NIGHT

Enemy aircraft were over southern England after dark last night.

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5,340 FLYING BOMBS LAUNCHED

I am now trying to give the House what cannot be more than a sweeping glance of this world-wide war and of this war as it approaches the end of its fifth year; and as it approaches perhaps its closing phase. (Cheers.) I naturally end my military survey at home here in famous and mighty London—in London which, with the surrounding counties, particularly those upon what may be called the bomb-highway, has now been under almost continual bombardment for seven weeks. In all, by our calculations—and I procured the latest for the House—5,340 of these robots have been launched upon us, killing 4,735 persons, with 14,000 more or less seriously injured. There are also many slightly injured. The result has been a sad tale of human sorrow and suffering and a wholesale destruction of homes, with all the difficult circumstances attaching to that for people who have lost all the little articles on which their memories were centred. (Hear, hear.)

We are sure that our defences are gaining in power. We press to the utmost our counter-offensive measures. The patience and courage of our people at a time when they might have thought that London's trials were passed has been wonderful. (Cheers.) We are sure that the people will continue to the end. (Cheers.) I fear greatly to raise false hopes, but I no longer feel bound to deny that victory may come perhaps soon. (Cheers.) If not, we must go on till it does. (Cheers.) How long it will be we do not know, but we have faith in all the brave hearts that never fail. The working of all the civil defence services, men and women, has been a model.

About 17,000 houses have been totally destroyed and about 800,000 have received damage. One can judge the efficiency and vigour of the measures taken by the Ministries involved—Labour, Health, and Works—and the strength of our building and repair resources throughout the country from which volunteers have come forward in large numbers. One may judge the efficiency, I say, of these forces by the fact that three-quarters, or upwards of 600,000 houses, have already been made at least habitable again, and in the last two weeks the rate at which repairs have been overtaking new damage has very sensibly increased.

NEARLY 1,000,000 EVACUATED

Nearly 1,000,000 people who have no war business here, among them 225,000 mothers with children, have been encouraged and assisted to leave London and, thanks to the hospitality and kindness of those in areas not affected, have been welcomed and comforted. There have been a few exceptions, but they are not worth recording beside the good spirit which has prevailed. They are not worth recording except for the purpose of reprobation. (Cheers.) A large number of extra trains were laid on to meet this considerable outward move.

It is remarkable, as showing the outlook of the people of this country, that many of these trains—including sometimes the extra relief trains—have come back to London nearly as full as they went out. (Laughter.) While the daring and adventurous spirit is to be commended, this kind of needless risk and movement will be discouraged in every way. (Cheers.) I only mention it now because it gives the lie in the most effective manner to the fantastic German stories of London being in panic under a perpetual pall of smoke and flames. (Cheers.)

If the Germans imagine that the continuance of this present attack—which has cost them dear in many ways in other branches of production—will have the slightest effect upon the course of the war, or upon the resolve of the nation, or the morale of the men, women, and children who are under fire, they will only be making another of those psychological blunders for which they have so long been celebrated. (Cheers and laughter.) The only result of the use of this indiscriminate weapon, as far as they are concerned, will be that the severity of the punishment which they will receive after their weapons have been struck from their hands by our fighting men will be appreciably increased. (Loud cheers.) There is no question of diverting our strength from the extreme prosecution of the war, or of allowing this particular infliction to weaken in any way our energetic support of our allies.

DEFENCE MEASURES

Every effort in human power is being made to prevent and mitigate the effects of this bombardment. Hundreds of the best expert brains we have are constantly riveted upon the problem. My hon. friend was not right when, in an earlier discussion, he threw out the suggestion that it was all makeshift and improvisation. Very careful plans have been prepared, for instance, for the artillery—the great gun belt—but it is not always possible to foresee accurately what form the attack will take or how things will go.

At the same time as these preparations were made a quite different disposition of the guns had to be made to guard the invasion ports from which our convoys to France were to start, and we expected that very likely the flying bombs would begin at the same time as we landed, in order to cheer up the German people. But there was a slight interval, and it was convenient in that interval that we were able to make a quick redistribution of the batteries. It was a very complicated matter, and I am so glad that members of the House have attended the various meetings addressed by the Home Secretary and by the Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Supply and have been able to ask them questions.

Here I must say that I cannot understand why anybody should say that there is any constitutional issue involved in any member or any number of members taking a Committee room and talking to each other on any conceivable subject. It is likely that a grave constitutional issue would arise if members were to be hampered and obstructed in taking counsel with one another. I think it would be unfortunate if a kind of gulf were made between Ministers and other members, as if they were a sort of élite of the House, and had no right to mingle with their Parliamentary colleagues. I think there are a good many arguments I could use to free us of the charge of having infringed the constitution.

LONG-RANGE ROCKETS

As I was saying, hundreds of the best brains we have are riveted on the problem, but I can hold out no guarantee that it will be completely solved until we have occupied the region from which these bombs are launched, as we shall no doubt do before the unconditional surrender of the enemy has been received. But even that will be good enough. (Cheers and laughter.) As long ago as February 22 I warned the House that Hitler was preparing to attack this country by new methods, and it is quite possible that attempts will be made with long-range rockets containing a heavier explosive charge than the flying bomb and intended to produce a great deal more mischief.

London we may expect will be the primary target on account of the probable inaccuracy of the rocket weapon. We therefore advise the classes for whom evacuation facilities have been provided by the Government, and others with no war duties here, and who can make their own arrangements, to take the opportunity of leaving the capital in a timely, orderly, and gradual manner. It is by no means certain that the enemy has solved the difficult technical problems connected with the aiming of the rockets, but none the less I do not wish to minimize the ordeal to which we may be subjected. But I am sure it is not one we shall not be able to bear.

I have finished with this, and as a grim comment on all I have said, this fact must be added. The hon. member for Eye (Mr. Granville) put a question to the Secretary of State for Air the answer to which I thought might come in here, so he kindly consented to defer his question. I think it makes a grim comment upon what I have just been saying. The weight of flying bombs launched against this country from the night of June 15 to the night of July 31 is estimated to be some 4,500 tons. During the same period the allied air forces dropped approximately 48,000 tons of high-explosive bombs on Germany. Of course, we try in the main to aim at important military objectives, and consequently it may be that there is less loss of life in particular places than when a weapon is used which has no other object than the indiscriminate slaughter of the civilian population.

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DINING ROOMS HIT BY FLYING BOMB

Times — Aug. 3/544.

CUSTOMERS TRAPPED

Flying bombs caused casualties and damage in the southern counties, including the London area, yesterday morning and afternoon as well as during darkness early yesterday.

One bomb which fell in a residential area struck a building used as dining rooms and crowded with customers. Most of the occupants were trapped, and it was feared the death roll would be heavy.

A bomb on a housing estate demolished four or five houses and damaged others. At least four persons were killed, and search was made for other casualties.

The third bomb to fall in one street killed four persons who were neighbours. At another place two pavilions were demolished on a well-known sports ground.

A.A. guns which opened fire on bombs over the south coast destroyed two.

DAMAGE TO DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY

MASTERPIECES IN SAFETY

It may now be revealed that Dulwich Picture Gallery was severely damaged recently by a flying bomb, which also wrecked the adjoining mausoleum and disturbed the remains of the three founders buried there. The outer stone shells of the coffins of the founders, Sir Francis Bourgeois, Noel Desenfans, and Mme. Desenfans, were destroyed, but the inner leaden shells remained intact.

Much of the gallery was left standing, although the roof was blown out and other damage done. About 100 pictures of the full collection of 600 were on the walls. Not all of them have been damaged and those which have suffered are considered fit for restoration. Masterpieces by Watteau, Rembrandt, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Rubens, Velazquez, Van Dyck, and others had been placed in secret security in 1939.

Mr. W. S. Connop, clerk to the governors, said:—" The damaged pictures have a certain amount of value, but are not priceless. The gallery itself is badly hit, but not irreparably. I imagine we shall be able to preserve the greater part of the structure."

During a recent attack a flying bomb exploded within a few feet of the *Daily Herald* building. No one was hurt, but much damage was done. Publication of the paper was not delayed.

** Pictures on page 10.

SEVEN HOSPITALS BOMBED

Times — Aug. 4/544.

INCREASED ATTACKS

Hospitals suffered badly late on Wednesday night and early yesterday when the enemy increased the scale of flying bomb attacks on southern England, including the London area, where damage and casualties were caused. The attack in one area was the heaviest known. The missiles, which continued to come over during daylight, were launched at shorter intervals than usual, especially during the hours of darkness. Seven hospitals were affected.

Ten patients were killed yesterday at one hospital when a bomb landed on a first-floor ward occupied by infirm and elderly women. More than 200 patients were in the hospital at the time, and most of the wards were extensively damaged, including that in which men patients were sleeping. Windows were shattered, ceilings crashed down on patients' beds, and doors were wrenched off their hinges. A few male and female nurses who were attending to the elderly and sick patients were injured by flying glass. Fire broke out as soon as the bomb fell but was quickly extinguished by the N.F.S. Hours later rescue workers were digging among the débris in an effort to find two missing patients.

All the patients had to be evacuated, a fleet of ambulances, some of them converted motor-coaches, taking them away to safer areas. Remarkable fortitude was shown by the elderly patients as they were carried on stretchers along wrecked corridors and by patients wheeled in chairs away from the building. The matron, commending the calmness and efficiency of the staff, said that wards where old men and women had been sleeping were reduced to rubble. Although the kitchens were wrecked, improvised meals were given to the patients before they left.

FEVER HOSPITAL HIT

A sergeant in the Royal Engineers and a civilian were killed when a fever hospital received a direct hit during Wednesday night. The ward which they occupied collapsed and completely buried them. Other wards full of children and men escaped the full force of the blast, the children because they were lying on mattresses underneath the beds and cots. By the light of electric torches they were carried to other blocks. One child, who was on a balcony at the end of the ward which collapsed, fell in his cot to the ground floor, a distance of about 20ft., but was found to be uninjured when nurses took him out of the débris. Other nurses and doctors began tunnelling into the collapsed ward and only stopped when the heavy rescue workers arrived. Two babies were born shortly after the bombing.

There were a few slight casualties among the patients at another hospital yesterday, when a bomb fell in the grounds; at yet another no one was hurt.

Ten bomb damage repair workers, among them men who had just arrived from Scotland and Ireland, were killed when their huts were struck.

PRINCESS ROYAL'S TOUR

The Princess Royal, who is Controller Commandant of the A.T.S., yesterday toured mixed A.A. batteries in southern England engaged in shooting down flying bombs. She talked with the girls and gunners and inspected the sleeping and dining tents. The Princess was accompanied by Brigadier E. V. Hallinan, who in spite of a broken ankle, is visiting his sites in a jeep and with his foot in plaster.

EVACUATION REGISTER OPENED

BILLETS FOR MOTHERS OF SCHOOLCHILDREN

The Ministry of Health announced yesterday that from to-day mothers with children of school age living in the evacuation areas of Greater London may register for evecuation in official parties under the Government scheme. Hitherto evacuation to billets found by the Government has been limited to schoolchildren, mothers who have a child under five years of age, and expectant mothers. Mothers with a child under five have been able to take their other children of school age with them.

Mothers whose children are all of school age have been eligible for assistance if they went to friends or relatives in a safer area; they can now go out with official parties and have billets found for them.

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Argentina

MORE FLYING BOMBS INTERCEPTED

Times — Ago 5/944

ATTACK RESUMED BY DAY

Yesterday afternoon, after a lull of several hours, the enemy resumed his flying bomb attack on the London area and southern counties, and it was continued during the evening, causing further damage and some casualties. As on Thursday night, when the attack lasted from shortly before midnight until dawn, the combined British defence services destroyed many of the missiles, a number of which fell harmlessly into the sea.

People in the streets of a southern town last night cheered loudly when an R.A.F. pilot within 10 minutes sent three out of four flying bombs crashing to earth. Another missile, caught by a balloon barrage, fell near a council school and a hospital. Two houses were wrecked, and several people were slightly injured, but there were no fatal casualties.

Hit by cannon fire, a flying bomb hung in flames for some minutes before diving on a block of small offices next to a Roman Catholic school. The offices were demolished, and the school was wrecked. No one was killed, and few people were hurt.

In another district near a town three flying bombs were destroyed in quick succession in the early evening. All were exploded in the air.

Three people sheltering in a public-house cellar were trapped on Thursday night when a flying bomb wrecked the building. By blowing whistles they drew the attention of rescue workers, and they were dug out unhurt. Although a number of houses were destroyed, only one person, the wife of a fireman, was killed. A police surgeon, though he had lost his home, was first on the scene to tend the injured. Elsewhere, another doctor had his home wrecked and his wife was killed.

EVACUATION SCHEME

WAR CABINET'S THANKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Minister of Health, Mr. Henry Willink, has informed all local authorities in England and Wales that the War Cabinet has requested him to convey to them its appreciation of "the fine work which has been carried out by all concerned in the evacuation and reception areas during the present emergency."

Registration began yesterday of London mothers with children of school age for official evacuation to billets provided by the Government in safe areas. It was the first time that mothers with children over five have been included in the Government scheme, and large numbers registered their names within the first few hours. The first batch leave London by special trains next Tuesday.

The Minister of Health has set up a small selection panel to consider the registration, for official evacuation, of specially recommended elderly able-bodied people who cannot make any arrangements for themselves. An official said yesterday: "Cases of elderly folk who have suffered shock or have been bombed out, or are living with younger relatives who come under the official scheme but cannot leave the old folk, are being considered sympathetically by the panel, and a certain number have already been accepted for evacuation. However, we would prefer that these old people should make their own arrangements to go to friends and relatives. If they do this they can claim travel vouchers and billeting allowances."

Mr. William Mabane, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, is visiting food committees in the areas to which evacuated people have been sent to ascertain the effects of the impact of evacuation on local food distribution. He said at Huddersfield yesterday that the traditional friendliness of Lancashire and Yorkshire had been very much in evidence during the past four or five weeks. Everywhere he was assured that the hosts had made their guests welcome.

FLYING BOMB DEATHS

Times — Ago. 7/944.

RESCUE SQUADS AT WORK

SHOPPING CENTRE HIT

The enemy sent more flying bombs over this country during the week-end, some of which reached London and the southern counties and caused casualties and damage.

A bomb fell yesterday on an old cleared bomb site beside a block of working-class tenements. One wing which was not being used collapsed and a day nursery which is closed on Sundays was damaged. A few people were injured by flying glass.

The flying bomb activity was on a somewhat reduced scale on Saturday night. In one area several of the small number that came over were destroyed. Night fighters were believed to be responsible for these successes. A.A. defences were also in action.

Two people were killed and others injured in one district of southern England on Saturday night; four others were trapped. Four houses were demolished and many damaged. A flying bomb fell on Saturday on a condemned cinema that had already been damaged.

The mayor and mayoress of one borough were sleeping in their Morrison shelter on Saturday when they were aroused by a flying bomb which crashed in the same road. The mayor put on his slippers, and with a dressing gown over his pyjamas went out to comfort and help others whose homes had been smashed. Four persons, including a husband and wife, were killed. Ten others were detained. All who were in their shelters escaped unhurt.

A number of people were injured when a flying bomb made a direct hit on a block of flats in southern England during Saturday night. Two other blocks immediately opposite were damaged by the blast. Some of the occupants were buried. Digging was still proceeding yesterday and a number of bodies were recovered.

STORE AND SHOPS WRECKED

A flying bomb fell in a shopping centre in southern England at a busy time on Saturday, causing a number of deaths. The bomb dropped on a crowded store which was reduced to a heap of débris. Two adjoining shops were also wrecked and much damage done to others. Rescue parties worked for many hours digging out the bodies. A number of people were also injured and taken to hospital.

No one apparently heard the approach of the bomb, which seemed to have glided for a considerable distance.

Heavy rescue squads were still working by the aid of flood-lights late at night and two large cranes were used to clear away the débris. It is feared that some people are still trapped in the ruins.

Four persons were killed and a number injured when a flying bomb fell in some gardens on Saturday morning. A number of houses were demolished and others damaged.

A bomb fell on downs near a well known racecourse in southern England on Saturday afternoon. It crashed some distance from a group of houses. Windows and ceilings were damaged, but there were no casualties.

Eleven people were killed and a number injured by a bomb which fell on Saturday evening, destroying four houses and damaging others. A police sergeant and his wife were among the killed. Two unidentified women were spending the week-end with a man and his wife and daughter. All five lost their lives.

An Air Defence of Great Britain fighter pilot scored his fourth hat trick against flying bombs in a patrol early yesterday. The R.A.F. pilot comes from Nottingham.

USE OF SEARCHLIGHTS

The Air Ministry and the Ministry of Home Security announce that searchlights are being used in the London area to illuminate flying bombs at night when weather conditions are suitable. By watching the movements of the searchlights people in the streets will be able to judge the direction in which the bombs are flying and decide when it is necessary to take cover.

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FLYING BOMBS SHOT DOWN

Times — Ago. 8/944.

SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL DAMAGED

Flying bombs were again launched in daylight yesterday against Southern England, including the London area. The attacks were resumed at daybreak after a somewhat quieter night.

A.A. defences had more successes in coastal areas. Three flying bombs were shot down into the sea in one district in a very short time. In another coastal district at least three more which came under fire were heard to explode.

A bomb which fell in a residential district demolished four cottages and a Congregational chapel. Some other houses were damaged. A number of people were injured, three seriously. Later in the morning a bomb fell on farmland in a neighbouring district and damaged a farmhouse. No casualties were reported.

There was a number of casualties when some houses in one road were destroyed early yesterday. Several people were released, but a long search was made for others, including a woman aged 90.

TWIN SISTERS KILLED

Twin sisters, Vera and Kate Hetherington, aged nine, who were sleeping in an Anderson shelter in their garden, were killed when the shelter received a direct hit by a flying bomb yesterday morning. Their mother, who had gone indoors to prepare breakfast, was cut and bruised but otherwise unhurt.

A new wing of a technical school was damaged by a flying bomb yesterday. Fire watchers were the only people on the premises and no one was injured.

An isolation hospital which had been used as a mortuary for air raid victims was wrecked. The lodge-keeper's house was reduced to ruins, but there was only a small number of casualties, none fatal.

SHELTER BEHIND BUNKERS

Bank Holiday golfers approaching the sixth green on a Southern England course had narrow escapes when a flying bomb fell near them yesterday. Throwing themselves behind bunkers, they were unhurt except for one man, ahead of the others, who was cut and burnt.

The Air Ministry announced yesterday:—Further successes against the flying bombs have been scored by the combined defences during the last 24 hours. Fighters of Air Defence of Great Britain had a successful period. A Polish pilot intercepted three bombs over the sea, and shot them down in the Channel.

A flying bomb which fell in a Southern England district on Sunday night demolished several houses and damaged a number of other houses and shops. A number of people were injured, some seriously. One of the injured died in hospital yesterday.

MINISTER'S TRIBUTE TO LONDONERS

Colonel Llewellin, Minister of Food, speaking at a "Dig for Victory" campaign at Usk, Monmouthshire, yesterday, said: "London has for almost two months been under the strain of what amounts to heavy shelling by day and by night. These conditions have, as in the days of the blitz, shown London at its best and Londoners at their best. These people are in every way worthy to live in the capital of our great Empire and in the largest and still the most important city in the world.

"But there is one thing about which little has been said which has helped London to remain staunch and steadfast. Londoners have been fed. Not enough praise has been given to those who have played a part in doing this."

17,000 MORE EVACUEES TO LEAVE TO-DAY

Seventeen thousand mothers and children in the London region were packing yesterday for an unknown destination. They registered on Friday and Saturday for evacuation to safe areas, and all they know is that they are going away to-day until the danger is over. The party comprises nearly 6,000 mothers and 11,000 children of school age.

Twenty-two special trains will leave during the morning from the main line stations to which the evacuees, including 1,265 unaccompanied children, will be taken by bus and train. Most of the 17,000 were medically examined yesterday.

FLYING BOMBS SHOT DOWN

Times — Ago. 9/944

SUCCESS OF AIR DEFENCES

CIVILIANS KILLED

During Monday night and at daybreak yesterday the enemy sent flying bombs over the southern counties including the London area. Damage and casualties were caused. A.A. defences and R.A.F. fighters broke up many of the bombs. They were being destroyed one after the other in one coastal district as they came across the Channel. A good number were sent crashing into the sea or exploded in the air.

After being hit by A.A. gunfire one bomb fell in a residential area of a coast town. No one was fatally injured but damage was done to streets of small houses. Another wave of flying bombs was sent across the Channel later yesterday morning and A.A. guns were in action again.

Three people were killed and others injured, some seriously, when a flying bomb demolished houses in southern England yesterday morning. In another incident two persons were killed and others injured. A number of people were trapped in the wreckage of their homes when a flying bomb fell in another area. Fire broke out in the wreckage, but was quickly put out by the N.F.S. and the victims were freed and taken to hospital.

A school suffered considerably when a flying bomb fell on a row of houses near by early yesterday morning. The school was empty, as it had suffered from previous blast damage, and the children had been transferred elsewhere. Among the buildings damaged were a police station and a 300-year-old inn. Living quarters at the rear of the police station were badly blasted and several officers asleep inside were smothered in broken glass and plaster, but there were no casualties. Adjoining houses were wrecked, one of the occupants being killed and several seriously injured.

CHURCH NEARLY WRECKED

Nurses, volunteer first aid workers, and a doctor worked in pyjamas after a flying bomb caused injuries at one place early yesterday morning. Shops and houses were damaged. A church was almost completely wrecked, most of the roof being smashed, timbers scattered about the nave, and débris from the church flung over gravestones in the churchyard. The vicarage adjoining was extensively damaged. The vicar was in bed when the bomb fell and was unhurt.

A street surface shelter near by was extensively damaged but four people sleeping in it were only slightly injured. Two people were killed in a laundry, the proprietor and his wife.

A boy aged about six was found by a policeman buried up to his neck in the wreckage of his demolished home. He was uninjured but suffering from shock.

One man was injured and serious damage was done to a farmhouse when a flying bomb fell in a country district.

The barking of a dog trapped in a bomb-wrecked house on Monday night attracted rescue workers to a woman, Miss Scholfield, pinned by the legs amid débris. She was brought out alive after four hours and taken to hospital. When the bomb crashed the woman fell through the bedroom floor into the basement. The dog whose barking guided the rescuers had also been trapped.

Shelters saved the lives of a score of families, whose homes in the road were demolished during Monday night. The bomb burst on the roadway, and people in Anderson shelters a few yards away were brought out uninjured.

WOMEN KILLED

Two women were killed when a flying bomb crashed at the side of their Anderson shelter in another area. Rescue workers and firemen dug their way to two boys trapped in a demolished house, and brought them out safely. The boys' mother was killed. A six-weeks-old baby was rescued uninjured with a number of other people who had been trapped by bomb wreckage. A new church and some houses were damaged but no one was killed.

Visiting a friend in Southern England, Private Dudley, of the Halton (Cheshire) Home Guard, was killed by a flying bomb. His body was recovered on Monday from the débris under which it had been concealed for seven weeks. An A.R.P. official said that after extensive searches it was thought that Dudley had been blown to pieces. His body was found under the ruins of a wall.

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EVACUATION IN FULL SWING

Times — Ago. 9/944.

SCHEME OPERATING SMOOTHLY

267,000 PEOPLE LEAVE LONDON

The removal of mothers and children from the Metropolitan evacuation area (roughly the Greater London area) continues with commendable efficiency. Yesterday 17,000 mothers and children left for reception areas, bringing the total of those evacuated since the reopening of the scheme at the beginning of July to 267,000.

Excluding yesterday's departures, the figures were:—" Unaccompanied children, 104,000; mothers, 46,000; children under five years of age, 61,000; children over five, 39,000. Yesterday's party comprised nearly 6,000 mothers and 11,000 children of school age, of whom 1,265 were unaccompanied. The London County Council schools' contribution to the total of those evacuated was 40 per cent.

Hitherto most of the evacuees have been sent to reception areas in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and Wales. Now it has been found possible to dispatch parties to areas in the south-western counties, and of those who travelled yesterday the largest party left from Paddington. So far the London County Council has sent 850 teachers to education authorities in reception areas.

EXCHANGE OF TEACHERS

A scheme has been put into operation under which L.C.C. teachers may spend a period of six weeks in a reception area and then return to London for a period, thus enabling them to keep in touch with their homes and schools, their places in the reception areas being taken by other teachers from London. In some cases it is expected that the children can be absorbed in schools in the reception area, without the immediate need for additional staff. It is estimated that there are still 160,000 children of school age left in the L.C.C. area. The London schools will reopen after the holidays on August 22.

While in some cases there may be reluctance on the part of mothers to let their children go away, it is pointed out that they should consider it their duty to the children to get them away from London. Generally the scheme is working very smoothly and a wonderful cheerfulness attends the almost daily departures.

Mothers who wish to remove their children or who may wish to accompany them may register at the local school or other address published in official notices. They receive a printed statement outlining the scheme and informing them of the clothing, &c., they must take with them on the train journey. They are also informed that before departure the children must be medically examined and where they must attend for that purpose. A day or two later they are instructed where mothers and children must assemble to be taken to the main line departure station. Passes are made out at the divisional centres in London, and the parties are dispatched in special trains provided by the Ministry of Transport.

RECEIVED AT THE STATION

Billets in the reception areas are found by the Ministry of Health. At each destination station the local billeting officer, who has been advised in advance of the number of evacuees, receives the party and arranges for their distribution to the available billets as quickly as possible. The present daily evacuation figures are not comparable with those of the earlier evacuation in 1939, when the London schoolchildren were dispatched from London within a period of four days. In the present evacuation the daily departures up to July 22 were between 6,000 and 10,000. Since then there have been intervals of a day or perhaps two days between departures, according to transport arrangements.

FLYING BOMB DEPÔTS DESTROYED

Times — Ago. 10/944.

Halifaxes, with fighter cover, attacked more of the enemy's flying bomb sites in Northern France yesterday afternoon. The weather was clear and the bombing was concentrated.

Reconnaissance shows that in the recent attacks on L'Isle Adam, one of the enemy's supply depôts for flying bombs, some 15 miles north of Paris, six storage units were entirely destroyed and another six almost completely destroyed.

MORE ATTACKS

For short periods, one just before midnight on Tuesday and the other early yesterday morning, the enemy sent flying bombs over the Southern Counties, including the London area. Damage and casualties were caused.

In one coast area anti-aircraft defences did particularly well, and bombs were shot down into the sea or exploded in the air. Two of the missiles, which were shot down into the sea in one area, caused some blast damage to shops and houses, but nobody was injured.

A hospital escaped with broken windows, but a nurses' home adjoining was damaged when a flying bomb fell in a residential district. No one was injured.

INCENDIARIES ON FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 11/944.

SCATTERED BY FORCE OF EXPLOSION

The Ministry of Home Security announced yesterday that some of the flying bombs falling in southern England during the past few days have carried a few small incendiary bombs, in each instance about a score. These incendiaries were scattered by the explosion of the flying bomb on impact. This development, it was added, does not call for any modification in the present fire guard arrangements.

For a short period at daybreak yesterday, after a lull of nearly 24 hours, the enemy sent flying bombs against southern England, including the London area. Some damage was caused and a number of people were injured. More flying bombs were sent across the Channel last evening.

The Air Ministry announced last night that R.A.F. fighters, anti-aircraft guns, and balloon defences all scored successes over flying bombs launched against this country yesterday.

MORE EVACUEES GO NORTH

The removal of mothers with children of school age from London continued yesterday with the departure of more than 3,000 in four special trains to Yorkshire and farther north.

Within half an hour of each other, two special trains with a total of 1,800 evacuees left Euston and St. Pancras. There were some small school parties, but the majority of children were with their mothers. At Euston over 500 mothers and children were bound for Newcastle-under-Lyme, and over 300 for Stoke, while from St. Pancras the evacuees, numbering about 900, went to Sheffield.

The Ministry of Home Security points out that people who are removing from London should remember to take their gas masks with them.

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VALIANT WORK OF RESCUE TEAMS

RELEASING TRAPPED BOMB VICTIMS

Times — Ago. 12/1944

DARING FEATS BY THE "HEAVIES"

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

No section of the Civil Defence services has done more to earn the gratitude of the public since the advent of the flying bomb than the rescue workers, in both the heavy and light sections.

Most of these men were in the fighting services in the last war. Now, in spite of advancing years, they are doing an equally valuable and valiant job, and have added to the laurels they gained in the days of the bombing attacks of 1940-41.

The "heavies" are a highly specialized corps composed entirely of building trade workers. They operate in parties of 10, each under an officer who is a qualified architect, and their expert knowledge of structures of all kinds and everything connected with building and demolition—including water mains and gas and electricity services—is invaluable in the speedy rescue of people trapped in bombed premises. Helped by mobile crane groups, equipped with cranes capable of lifting a seven-ton load, they can get quickly to work in removing the heavy surface débris and then tunnel to basements and other retreats of the bomb victims.

Nearly 30 people were trapped when a café was demolished recently. All were got out, including one woman who was found under the staircase, sitting in a chair with débris on top of her. After careful tunnelling the leader of the rescue party freed her, but, in so cramped a space, was unable alone to pull her out. He therefore gripped her firmly while the next rescuer seized his legs, and by continuing this process a human chain of seven men was formed and the woman dragged out to safety.

THREAT OF SHIFTING DEBRIS

In another recent incident, three "heavies" worked for two hours under the constant threat of 50 tons of shifting débris to rescue a girl from a small cavity in which she was imprisoned. These are only instances of the almost everyday experiences of the rescue service since the flying bombs were directed against this country.

Normally the men are 24 hours on duty and 24 hours off, but when an incident occurs, off-duty men in the area cannot be kept from joining in the rescue work.

The light section of the service is composed of what, in the earlier days of the war, were known as stretcher-bearers. They are able to deal with cases trapped under surface débris where tunnelling and special structural knowledge are not essential. They also search the whole area for casualties, a task often involving clambering over roofs and other perilous feats which would have seemed fantastic to them in their peace-time lives.

In the London Region the rescue and casualty services combined—the latter includes ambulance and first-aid post workers—have received 194 awards for gallantry since the war began.

SHORT ATTACKS WITH FLYING BOMBS

MISSILES DESTROYED IN SPITE OF SEA FOG

Early on Thursday evening, again after midnight, and in the morning and afternoon yesterday, there were four short periods during which the enemy sent flying bombs over the Southern Counties including the London area. Casualties and damage were caused. A number of the missiles were destroyed by fighters and the ground defences.

About breakfast time yesterday the bombs were launched in foggy weather and, although visibility in the Straits of Dover was no more than 200 yards at the time, two missiles were shot down into the sea by the A.A. guns. Early in the afternoon, when a sharp attack was made, one coast town was shaken several times in a few minutes by the explosions of flying bombs, some of which were destroyed in the air as they approached the coast.

A brewery garage was demolished by a direct hit in daylight. A driver was killed, another workman is missing, and others were injured. Most of the men had taken shelter in pits below the garage and this prevented a much heavier casualty list. Six men were in one pit on which steel girders and other débris fell. All were injured, but one of them, who had only minor head injuries, dug his way out to direct rescue workers. Lorries and carts were buried in the wreckage and flats and houses in the same street were damaged.

NO FOOD SCARCITY IN RECEPTION AREAS

Mr. WILLIAM MABANE, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, has just returned from a 10 days' visit to reception areas in the Midlands, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and North Wales. He hopes soon to visit the south and south-west.

Giving some impressions of his tour yesterday, he said:—"I was extremely gratified, and not a little surprised, to find how successful had been the efforts of the Ministry of Food to secure that there should be no shortage of essential, or, indeed, unessential foods. In many cases it was found that for some reason or another retailers of chocolate and sugar confectionery had dissipated their points capital, but we have made arrangements for the loan of further capital, so that chocolate and sweets in the reception areas will not be in short supply. All the places were rapidly making arrangements for the proper priorities and welfare foods to be available for children and mothers, as they were before the evacuees left London."

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MORE FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 10/944

CHURCH, HOSPITAL, AND FLATS DAMAGED

During the week-end the enemy continued his activity with flying bombs, at intervals during Saturday night and for a short period yesterday morning, over the southern counties, including the London area. Damage and casualties were caused. Subsequently, up to seven o'clock last evening, there was nothing to report.

More successes were scored by our fighters and anti-aircraft gunners. Two pilots of one squadron each shot down three bombs.

Yesterday a communion service was being held in the hall of a church when a bomb landed not far away. Two of the congregation were slightly cut by splinters of glass, but after the crash the communion continued.

A school was badly damaged in another area. Sailors helped in rescue work. Electric drills were used to break up the massive brickwork under which people were believed to be trapped.

A church was seriously damaged and a group of fourteenth-century houses blasted. The organ was blown into the middle of the church, and it is believed that much of the interior fabric was destroyed. The vicarage was also badly damaged.

The enemy stepped up his attacks during Friday night and after dawn.

On Saturday, at breakfast time, people were killed and others injured when a bomb struck a block of flats. In another incident, window frames of a hospital were blown in and ceilings of a number of wards collapsed. Two or three nurses received slight cuts. The hospital laboratory was practically demolished, and the out-patients' department was damaged. There was also damage to neighbouring flats. Casualties were reported, and it is feared that some persons are still buried.

General Sir Frederick Pile, G.O.C.-in-C. of Anti-Aircraft Command, visited his advanced headquarters in an old country house in Southern England during the week-end to hear special reports of recent actions against flying bombs.

REST FOR CIVIL DEFENCE WORKERS

Arrangements have been made whereby in certain areas in Southern England which are mainly affected by the flying bomb attacks (to be designated by the Regional Commissioners concerned), whole-time Civil Defence workers may be granted special leave with pay to spend a short period of recuperative rest at one of the country resthouses run by the Civil Defence Workers' Health Department of the British Red Cross and St. John War Organization. Those eligible are whole-time members of the Civil Defence General Services, Civil Defence Reserve, National Fire Service and local authority Fire Guard, and police auxiliaries who are suffering from strain.

MORE FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 14/944

ANOTHER HOSPITAL DAMAGED

A satisfactory proportion of the flying bombs sent across the Channel by the enemy shortly before midnight and during yesterday morning were destroyed over the sea or in the air by the A.A. defences and R.A.F. fighters.

Casualties and damage were caused by those which penetrated to the southern counties, including the London area. The nurses' quarters of a hospital were damaged, but there were no fatal casualties. Three people were killed by a direct hit on two adjoining Anderson shelters at the rear of a long row of terrace houses. The bomb fell close to a siren point and caused an erroneous " All clear " signal.

Other flying bombs fell on a coal dump, a children's paddling pool, a reservoir, and a golf course, where buildings near by were damaged.

MORE FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 16/944.

SEARCH FOR TRAPPED PEOPLE

At intervals throughout the 24 hours up to 7 p.m. last evening, the enemy sent flying bombs over the southern counties, including the London area. Damage and casualties were caused.

Our defences operated with success during Monday night and again in daylight yesterday. One Mosquito pilot shot down two bombs in one patrol, both falling harmlessly into the sea.

A warden was one of four people killed when one of the bombs fell on a garage used as a shelter. Two other persons in houses were injured.

A doctor was killed when another dropped on a house, but his wife was brought out alive after rescue workers had tunnelled beneath débris for three hours. Search is continuing for a number of people who are believed to have lost their lives. Six bodies have so far been recovered. Other people were injured, 10 of them seriously.

Two hospitals were damaged by flying bombs which fell near, but in neither case was anyone in the hospitals injured.

Men from nearly every region in the country have been sent to the southern counties to help in the civil defence heavy rescue services. London's rescue services were reorganized after the blitz and incidents which in the old days took a week to clear up can now be covered in two or three hours, while some flying bomb incidents have been " closed " in 40 minutes.

2,441 CIVILIANS KILLED IN JULY

The Ministry of Home Security announces the following figures of civilian casualties due to air raids in the United Kingdom during July:—

Killed (or missing, believed killed), 2,441; injured and detained in hospital, 7,107.

Of those killed, or missing, believed killed, 1,022 were men, 1,187 women, and 232 children under 16. The injured in hospital are:—Men, 2,746; women, 3,876; children under 16, 485.

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SHARP ATTACKS BY FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 17/944

DEATHS IN A SHOPPING CENTRE

Waves of flying bombs were launched across the Channel early last evening in a series of sharp attacks. A.A. gunfire along the coast was heavy and bombs were destroyed.

Two, after being hit over the sea, flew on in flames. They crashed in a country area near the coast and between two towns. Crowds of bathers and picnic parties who had forced their way on to the beach at a south-east coast town remained while bursting A.A. shells sprayed the sea a mile or so off shore.

A.A. coastal guns also scored repeated successes when the enemy tried short concentrated attacks early yesterday and later in the morning. Fighters of A.D.G.B. took further toll of the bombs yesterday and during Tuesday night. A number were destroyed at sea, or shot down harmlessly in open country.

A flying bomb fell yesterday in a shopping district at the junction of two streets in a town in southern England. The shops were filled and the roads were busy with traffic. The bomb crashed on the shops, some people were injured and others were trapped or killed outright. A bus was wrecked and two others were blasted. Drivers and passengers were victims. Some hours afterwards rescue workers were still getting shop assistants out of wrecked premises.

It was feared that the manager, manageress, and staff of a demolished wet-fish shop were under tons of débris. Housewives were in a queue for fish when the bomb exploded. There were a number of casualties among them. The damage in the immediate shopping area was widespread, a bank on the corner was completely wrecked, but the staff escaped injury by diving under the counters.

Men of all the services joined in rescue work at one incident last evening, when factory workers, tea-time restaurant customers, and the owners of a confectioner's shop were among the casualties. The bomb fell near a main road, demolishing some shops, some of which had been previously damaged, and blasting a small factory.

One bomb scored a direct hit on a fire station. The building was demolished, but with the exception of one who suffered from shock the firemen escaped.

At another place flying bombs caused a fire in which a church was burnt out.

Every window in a children's hospital was blasted by a flying bomb which fell some yards from the building last evening, but all the staff and every patient escaped injury.

DEATHS AND DAMAGE BY BOMBS

Times — Ago. 18/944.

Y.M.C.A. CENTRE AND TWO CANTEENS DESTROYED

At intervals yesterday morning and afternoon the enemy sent flying bombs over the southern counties, including the London area. Damage and casualties were caused. A.A. gunners and A.D.G.B. fighters destroyed a number of bombs.

When a bomb fell near a Y.M.C.A. centre a boy of 14, the youngest worker, was killed, and all the helpers were taken to hospital. The centre and two mobile canteens were destroyed.

A hospital escaped damage when a bomb fell close to it. Houses were blasted. There were a few minor casualties.

Eight men and women, buried alive, were rescued from their houses by light rescue and mobile warden squads. A bomb fell in the road between their homes and a modern block of workers' flats. Two women were killed in the flats, and two other persons were found dead in houses opposite.

The regional commissioner visited the scene and kept in constant touch with the rescue operations after a flying bomb had caused casualties among pedestrians, passengers on a bus, and others. Business premises and flats were severely damaged. The conductor of the bus was killed outright and the driver was badly injured. The passengers included a number of children. A lorry was blown to pieces. Fires broke out, but were soon under control. Property damaged included a cinema, a library, a bank, and an emporium.

BOMB IN BUCKINGHAM PALACE GROUNDS

BUTCHERS' HALL DAMAGED

The grounds of Buckingham Palace, Butchers' Hall, in the City of London, and Dr. Johnson's house in Gough Square were hit or damaged by blast in recent flying bomb attacks.

A flying bomb which fell in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, near the wall separating the Palace gardens from Constitution Hill, hit a tall ash tree and exploded before reaching the ground. Several windows and window frames were blown out in the Palace, and half a dozen trees were burnt down. A small summerhouse was wrecked. There were no casualties.

Butchers' Hall, St. Bartholomew's Close, was damaged when a flying bomb crashed on the roof. The beadle, Mr. W. R. Long, was away, but his wife and three daughters were asleep in a flat on the top floor It was the only part of the floor that was not wrecked. Mrs. Long and her daughters and a dog were rescued with a fire escape run up to the front window. Only one daughter was injured. Wreckage of the hall, which had been used recently as the City Livery Club, penetrated the ceilings to the ground floor, and the staircase was damaged. Among the documents saved in the strong room were the earliest indentures, royal charters, and records of members going back for 800 years.

The house in Gough Square, off Fleet Street, which Dr. Johnson occupied for over 10 years and in which he compiled the greater part of his dictionary, was damaged by blast. The relics had already been removed to a place of safety. The roof and attics were burnt during the blitz.

M.P.s' SUGGESTIONS

Sir Ernest Gowers, Senior Regional Commissioner for London, who was accompanied by Alderman Charles Key, M.P., one of London's Commissioners, met 20 M.P.s in London yesterday and replied to a number of questions on problems arising from the flying bomb attacks. He undertook to bring to the notice of the Minister concerned various suggestions made by members.

Appreciation was expressed by the London members of the work being done by the London Civil Defence Services and of the assistance given by civil defence members from other regions as well as the N.F.S., the police, and the Home Guard.

Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

WEEK-END BOMB ATTACKS

Times — Ago. 21/944

COAST ROCKED BY EXPLOSIONS

After a lull of about 20 hours, more flying bombs were launched by the enemy against southern England, including the London area, soon after dawn on Saturday, and the attacks were continued at intervals throughout the week-end.

Many were launched from the extreme north of France. During Saturday night there was practically a procession of bombs up to nearly midnight, after which there was a lull of several hours.

More successes against the machines were scored by R.A.F. pilots and the A.A. defences, and towns and villages in the coastal area were rocked by their destruction.

One bomb fell on an isolation hospital early on Saturday, but there were no casualties. In another area a 72-year-old woman and her daughter were killed, several people injured, and four houses demolished. Later in the day another bomb caused considerable damage to shops and houses in a coast town, and some casualties, but none was fatal.

At midday yesterday the explosion of a flying bomb on a block of flats in southern England killed six people and injured several others. In another residential area five people were killed, including two Canadian soldiers. Others fell in open ground, on a common, and in gardens at the rear of a row of houses without causing any casualties.

There were some casualties, none fatal, and blast damage when one bomb fell near a power station. Another caused the death of one woman and injuries to 10 other people. A factory received a direct hit.

Twenty aged women inmates of almshouses had narrow escapes yesterday when a flying bomb fell near a school. Only one suffered from shock. Mrs. G. Thomas, wife of the caretaker of the school, also received treatment for shock, but there were no other casualties.

SAFETY FOR HOSPITAL PATIENTS

10,000 MOVED FROM LONDON

The Ministry of Health has arranged to transfer patients from hospitals in the London area who are fit to be moved to hospitals in safer areas. During the last 14 days about 10,000 patients have been transferred, some to Scotland and to Wales and others to the northern and western parts of England. Special ambulance trains have been used.

The precise destination of a patient cannot be determined until the ambulance train reaches the end of its journey and the patients are dispersed to the receiving hospitals; but patients can send post-cards to their relatives on arrival at the receiving hospital.

In addition each receiving hospital supplies the Ministry of Health with a list of the names and addresses of the patients received. These lists are being sent to the sending hospitals as quickly as possible, but relatives and friends should wait a reasonable time before making inquiries.

To facilitate movements of this kind and to enable battle and flying bomb casualties to be properly treated, the Minister of Health has asked hospitals all over the country to restrict admissions of civilian patients to those in need of immediate treatment.

CHILDREN KILLED BY FLYING BOMB

Times — Ago. 23/944

CAUGHT WHILE PLAYING IN A STREET

More deaths and destruction were caused by flying bombs which were sent over the southern counties, including the London area, throughout most of yesterday, and after midnight on Sunday. A number of the bombs were destroyed by A.A fire and by pilots of A.D.G.B. One bomb brought down by a balloon yesterday fell at a lonely spot, causing no casualties.

At one place yesterday a bomb demolished several houses, killing some people and injuring others. Children playing in a street were among the casualties. Two buses were passing at the time. Passengers in one were taken to hospital with cuts and shock. A newspaper seller was killed. A public house and shops were blasted. Heavy and light rescue workers dug rapidly to reach people who were trapped.

Hearing cries from beneath the débris of a house, rescue workers tried to release a man and his wife, both over 80, who were trapped. They were dead when found. A man, his wife, and their seven-year-old daughter were sitting down to a meal when the bomb fell. The table for three stood untouched, but the family were trapped, believed killed, beneath the ruins of their house.

When a bomb demolished a few houses adjoining a park and partly demolished others, a few people were killed and others injured. A man blinded in this war arrived back from a walk to find his house badly blasted and uninhabitable.

ROCKET PROJECTORS USED AGAINST BOMBS

Rocket projectors are among the anti-aircraft weapons preventing numbers of flying bombs from reaching their objectives. The rocket crews were among many gunners visited yesterday by General Sir Frederick Pile, C.-in-C., Anti-Aircraft Command, who has had good reports to pass on to higher authorities about the command's accurate shooting.

To obtain a complete picture after his daylight tour, General Pile arranged to spend last night as a watcher with the guns. He planned to get his staff officers' opinions on possible improvements in night shooting.

Nearly 700 people at Paignton have offered to surrender their Morrison shelters for the protection of people in the London area and other parts of southern England. The announcement was made at yesterday's meeting of Paignton Urban District Council.

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BUSY NIGHT FOR A.A. DEFENCES

Times — Ago 23/8/44

FLYING BOMBS EXPLODED IN THE AIR

After a busy night anti-aircraft guns on the coast were in action again after daybreak yesterday when flying bomb attacks on southern England and the London area were made during two short periods. A number of the bombs were heard to blow up in the air.

One flying bomb made a direct hit yesterday afternoon on a factory. The building was demolished and fire broke out. A church was severely damaged by blast which also did damage to a coroner's court, a mortuary, and shops and flats. Eight persons are believed to have been killed and passers-by were among those who received injuries.

During Monday night an elderly man who was on the third floor of a building which received a direct hit crashed to the ground floor in his bed. A door wedged against a beam held him in bed until Civil Defence workers released him half an hour later.

Building trade workers who had been brought to southern England to carry out emergency repairs on bombed sites turned out on Monday night to help in rescuing their neighbours in a block of flats which was struck by a flying bomb. Their hostel, which was next door, was superficially damaged and many of the men were injured. The block of flats was cut in half, and one end was left standing like a tower with its rooms open to the sky. Many occupants were rescued by a fire escape.

A bomb which fell on working-class houses yesterday morning killed three persons and injured 10.

Cutting their way with cold chisels and crowbars through a wall and tunnelling under tons of masonry from three floors above, Civil Defence workers yesterday rescued a family of 10 almost unharmed from what was described as "a living tomb." Most people were in shelters and escaped injury, but 25 who were sleeping in the flats are in hospital. Two are dead, and it is feared that there is no hope for two families of four who are trapped under tons of wreckage.

KLAXONS IN THE CITY

The City of London will soon be fully equipped with the "imminent danger" signals for flying bombs. Already three such public signals—klaxon horns—have been installed at different premises in the area, and these will be added to in the course of the next few days. Each klaxon is audible over a radius of at least half a mile, and care is being taken to ensure that there will be no overlapping of signals here and elsewhere throughout the Metropolitan area, where hundreds of klaxons will ultimately be required.

7,250 FLYING BOMBS LAUNCHED

Times — Ago 25/8/44

2,000 IN FIRST THREE WEEKS OF AUGUST

It was officially stated last night that since the attacks were started about 7,250 flying bombs have been launched on this country.

From the middle of June, the start of the attacks, up to the end of July, it is estimated that the enemy launched some 5,250 flying bombs. Approximately 2,000 were dispatched during the first three weeks of August.

Waves of flying bombs were fired across the Channel on Wednesday night, early yesterday, and again last evening. The attacks were again reported to be on a heavier scale than for some time.

R.A.F. fighters and A.A. defences recorded more successes. The cannon fire of A.A. fighters over the Channel was interspersed with explosions out to sea as the bombs were destroyed.

Road transport passengers were among the casualties when a flying bomb fell on a main road last evening. A block of flats and a publichouse were damaged by blast and a number of people were killed. It is feared that children were among the casualties.

Two people were killed during Wednesday night when a bomb made a direct hit on a house. Several people were injured, six seriously, and houses and shops were damaged.

FLYING BOMB ATTACKS

Times — Ago 24/8/44.

MANY GIRLS TRAPPED IN WOODSHOP

The flying bomb attacks launched by the enemy from the Pas de Calais before and after dawn yesterday were more sustained than usual.

Waves of bombs were fired across the Channel for about an hour in each attack. Observers described the gunfire of the defences as "heavier than ever." A good number of the bombs were destroyed, most of them in mid-air.

One South Coast observer said, "judging by the number of his flying bombs and the rapidity with which he sent them over during the night and keeps doing so, the enemy is anxious to get rid of them while the going is good."

During the night attack the top floor of a block of workers' flats was hit, but only two persons were killed and there were few other casualties.

Shortly after dawn a bomb hit the ground floor of a block of flats, killing a merchant seaman and his wife and injuring his daughter. The man was home on leave after 3½ years at sea. Another bomb turned a block of flats into a pile of rubble and started a fire. Nine people were rescued after two rescue squads had tunnelled in from each side of the débris.

Search was continued all day for several girl workers trapped when another bomb made a direct hit on a woodshop in southern England yesterday as employees were clocking in. Most of the casualties were girls, including a number killed and others severely injured.

Two women were killed and eight people were taken to hospital following the explosion of a bomb in the centre of a residential road. Another fell on a tennis club pavilion, wrecking surrounding houses and scattering fruit and vegetables from a greengrocer's shop all over the main road.

A bomb in another residential area killed an American officer and a man waiting for a bus. A Methodist church was destroyed and a hospital suffered blast, but none of the patients was hurt. The fall of a flying bomb in a park killed two people and injured 12, and demolished a factory.

Imminent danger warning of flying bombs was given by klaxons in the London area last night after a lull which had extended for some hours.

R.A.F. fighter pilots and A.A. gunners destroyed some of the flying bombs sent across the Channel when the attacks were resumed yesterday evening. The fighters went near the French coast to shoot them down before they reached the coast of Southern England.

Nearly 26,000 Anderson and Morrison shelters have been brought by the L.M.S. Railway from the Midlands to the London area since the flying bomb attacks began.

APPEAL TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS

The Minister of Health (Mr. Henry Willink) has sent a message to expectant mothers in the Greater London area in which he says:—

"Mr. Churchill has warned us twice that women who will have to have a time in bed and will have the care of a baby should go away. Please therefore register for evacuation now, and make sure that your baby shall be safe and have a good start."

With the cooperation of the London County Council and other evacuation authorities, this message is being distributed to all expectant mothers attending ante-natal clinics.

Nearly 700 expectant mothers are being sent out of London every week to emergency maternity homes in safer areas under the Ministry's evacuation scheme.

Over 1,600 sick civilians have been transferred from hospitals in the London area to Scotland during the past three weeks.

Ten A.T.S. girls were injured while at breakfast yesterday when a flying bomb fell near their billet in southern England. Some shops and houses in the neighbourhood were partly wrecked and other people were injured, but none fatally.

Another bomb fell on the roof of an industrial building, but casualties were light. One fire watcher on the roof and a man in the street were killed, and passengers in four buses were injured by glass. In another two incidents there was neither damage nor injury.

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FLYING BOMBS LIKELY TO CONTINUE

Times — Ago. 26/944

MR. WILLINK'S WARNING TO EVACUEES

The Minister of Health, Mr. Willink, during a tour with Lord Woolton of bombed districts in the London area yesterday, warned people that any drift back of evacuees to London at the present time was wrong. Parents must not let the glorious victories of the allied armies blind them to the risks to which children who were kept in London and other evacuation areas were still exposed, he said. We had to expect these dangers to continue for some time.

Mr. Churchill had warned the country about the possibility of other forms of attack, and advised the mothers and children still in the London area to go out under the evacuation scheme. That advice stood as strongly as ever, the Minister added.

The number of mothers and children who had come back from the reception areas was very small compared with nearly 300,000 who had been evacuated to official billets. Those who were out should stay out until they could be told that it was safe to return.

Flying bombs were still falling in London and practically 100 a day, on an average, had been launched in August. Some in the last few days had caused heavy casualties as well as shocking damage to property.

LONDON'S SEVERE TRIAL

During the past 10 weeks the workers of Greater London, and those who had to stay with them, had stood firm under a severe and continuous trial. Many had lost their lives, many more were seriously injured, still more had lost not only their homes but all those treasured personal possessions which meant so much in every home. Thousands of houses had been blasted. But London had carried on just as bravely as in the blitz days of 1940 and 1941. No one could give higher praise than that.

Referring to "the tremendous amount of damage to house property" caused by flying bombs, the Minister said that since the Prime Minister's statement on August 2, when he gave the figures as 17,000 houses destroyed, 800,000 damaged, and 600,000 made habitable again, the total amount of destruction and damage had increased, but the percentage of houses made habitable had increased still more. The standard of repairs, while the attack continued, was inevitably low. The policy must be to make as many houses as possible wind and weather proof in the shortest possible time and not to leave houses untouched while others got extended repairs. Most of the repair done up to now was not even first-aid: it was no more than a field-dressing.

RAID-FREE NIGHT

After a raid-free night flying bombs were sent across the Channel again yesterday morning. The attack was on a smaller scale. A.A. guns on the coast destroyed a number of bombs.

LINCOLN'S INN HIT BY FLYING BOMB

NINE PATIENTS KILLED AT MOORFIELDS HOSPITAL

Lincoln's Inn and Moorfields Hospital were damaged in recent flying bomb attacks.

At Lincoln's Inn windows and woodwork of the gatehouse facing Chancery Lane, which bears the date 1518, and of Old Buildings, a block of chambers and residential flats adjoining, were smashed and leaded windows of the hall and chapel were broken. Some damage was also done to the roofs of both buildings and to the parapet of the hall.

Seven patients were killed and two died later when the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, or as it is more commonly known Moorfields, in City Road, was hit. The bomb fell on and wrecked a cubicle block at one end of the building, and the patients were buried on the first and second floors. Nine of the nursing staff were injured, two of them severely. Fire broke out in the wrecked block and in an adjoining building, and rescue work was done by the light of the flames. Nurses and medical staff cleared the hospital of patients in about 10 minutes. Several of the patients were victims of earlier raids on London. Moorfields is temporarily empty, but it is hoped to reopen the out-patients' department in the near future.

7,700 FLYING BOMBS

Times — Ago. 29/944

FURTHER ATTACKS EXPECTED

WARNING AGAINST UNDUE OPTIMISM

An Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security announcement issued yesterday stated:—

"During the week ended 6 a.m. to-day it is estimated that the enemy launched some 450 flying bombs against this country, making a total of approximately 7,700 launched since the attacks began."

An authoritative statement issued last night said that some reports have spoken of our troops approaching the flying bomb sites, and have implied that the flying bomb menace will soon be at an end. This is by no means necessarily the case.

Even assuming that all the main sites are in the Pas de Calais area, which is now threatened, the Germans may very well put up a very stubborn defence here, and might even go to the lengths of bringing troops and reinforcements from other places.

The flying bomb is one of Germany's principal propaganda weapons. The German and enemy controlled Press contains glowing accounts of devastation in London and other cities, and morale is being boosted up by the hope that the flying bomb may still be Germany's war-winning weapon. That being so, the Germans are bound to use it as long as they can and defend bitterly the bases from which it is launched. Although they could not keep us from the Pas de Calais indefinitely, they could impose a certain delay if they made a serious stand and might very well decide to do so.

Apart altogether from the Pas de Calais, it appears that an increasing number of flying bombs have been coming from a more easterly direction, as though they were being launched from bases in Belgium or Holland. Even if the Pas de Calais is occupied quickly, it does not necessarily mean that the flying bomb attacks will be stopped. The allied armies are steadily and remorselessly crushing the German armies: that is the main objective.

If the flying bomb menace can be crushed quickly in the process, so much the better, but the public must not be too optimistic about an early cessation of the attacks.

30 HOURS' LULL BROKEN

After a lull of approximately 30 hours, the enemy yesterday afternoon sent flying bombs over the southern counties, including the London area. Damage was caused and there were casualties, a small number of which were fatal. The attacks were met with an intense barrage from ground defences and some were shot down, a number into the sea, both by guns and fighter patrols. Others were exploded in the air or crashed on land. Alerts were sounded in the London area.

Some of the bombs were destroyed by A.A. gunfire in one coastal area, being blown to pieces in the sky as they approached the coast. The explosions shook one coastal town repeatedly.

Some people were killed and a number injured when a flying bomb fell at the back of a doctor's house in southern England yesterday. The doctor had a very narrow escape. After the bomb had crashed he was rescued from the basement of his house. He was slightly injured. Miss Thompson, his dispenser, was killed. The house adjoining was also destroyed and several others were badly damaged by blast. The glass roof of a printing works crashed in splinters among the workers, but none was seriously injured.

A number of people had narrow escapes yesterday when a flying bomb fell in a potato field in southern England. Although it did considerable damage to roofs and windows, there were only two slight casualties. A man and a horse at work in the next field were uninjured.

Dr. Somerville Hastings, chairman of the London County Council, visited Birmingham yesterday to start a week's tour of centres that have received London evacuees. He visited two schools attended by 340 London children and also a special hostel for evacuees who need medical supervision.

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Argentina

Buenos Aires, 30 de noviembre de 1944.

D.A.P.

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Señor Embajador:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a V.E. para acusar recibo de su nota nº 106, del 1º de septiembre último, por la cual informa a esta Cancillería sobre los bombardeos efectuados a Londres por medio de las "bombas voladoras" o "robots" alemanas, desde el mes de junio anterior.

En respuesta, cúmpleme manifestar a V.E. que se ha tomado debida nota del interesante informe que contesto y que se ha hecho conocer a los oficiales de enlace de los Ministerios de Guerra y Marina.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para reiterar a V.E. las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

OSCAR IBARRA GARCIA
SUBSECRETARIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

MINISTERIO
RELACIONES EXTERIORES
7 DIC. 1944
Sección
Asuntos Políticos

A S.E. el Dr. Miguel Angel Cárcano, Embajador Extraordinario y
Plenipotenciario de la República Argentina en Londres.

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Guerra 611-

LA NACION 24 oct. 1944.

LA NACION

Fundado por Bartolomé Mitre el IV I MDCCCLXX — *Director* LUIS MITRE — *LA NACION será una tribuna de doctrina (Núm. 1, Año 1)*

La reconstrucción de los países liberados

Gran Bretaña, los Estados Unidos y varias otras naciones han reconocido el régimen del general Gaulle como gobierno provisional de Francia. Con esa medida, la autoridad francesa tendrá plena libertad para proceder a la reconstrucción del país. La obra de reorganizar las naciones conmovidas por el ciclón de la guerra será ardua, y lo será con especialidad la de aquellas que han soportado la dominación del invasor, con las siniestras consecuencias de que se han tenido informes relativamente amplios. En esos Estados, antes prósperos y con una alta civilización, se plantean problemas difíciles, algunos apremiantes y otros que a pesar de su importancia necesitarán un largo lapso para ser resueltos en la forma exigida por los intereses nacionales. Sin referirnos a los de esta última clase, por ejemplo el demográfico, es indudable que el proceso de varios de los de urgente solución será seguido atentamente en todas partes, inclusive en América, debido a las condiciones mundiales de esta época. A semejanza de otros períodos históricos, en la actualidad la unidad del género humano es todavía una quimera, no obstante los adelantos que en determinados aspectos sea posible señalar. Sin embargo, a falta de esa unidad existe la influencia de los miembros de la comunidad internacional, acrecentada de modo considerable por el acortamiento de las distancias en el tiempo.

A la República Argentina y las demás naciones americanas, el régimen constitucional definitivo que se implante en los países europeos no las afectará directamente, por ser indudable que los sistemas políticos dependen de las tradiciones y de otros factores. Pero el acercamiento derivado de los nuevos medios de comunicación es causa de que la influencia recíproca sea más intensa que en otras edades de la historia. Si la revolución inglesa de 1688 y la francesa de 1789 son piedras miliares en el movimiento emancipador de los pueblos, no podría ser indiferente que en estos instantes surgiese en Francia cualquier forma de gobierno. La fuerza expansiva de las ideas de libertad de los descendientes de los galos, obligó a considerar sus instituciones, a examinarlas, a verificar un estudio minucioso de ellas para utilizar las capaces de contribuir al perfeccionamiento de las ajenas. Desde que la enseñanza de la historia no se reduce al simple conocimiento de los hechos, es menester apreciarla en todas sus fases para desentrañar su significado. En países como el nuestro, de honda raigambre democrática, interesa la evolución de los que como Francia siguieron, si bien con interrupciones, en el siglo anterior y en el presente, una curva ascendente en el sentido republicano.

Cuando Francia, Grecia, Holanda, Bélgica, Noruega y los demás países invadidos, y, asimismo, los que fueron aliados del conquistador se reorganicen, las instituciones que se dicten serán una nueva pauta para su desenvolvimiento. Mas también, según hemos dicho, han de ser considerados fuera de las fronteras respectivas. En un mundo pequeño, la transmisión de los conceptos dominantes en cada Estado se hará con facilidad, y las mismas relaciones internacionales se facilitarán entre los que no tengan regímenes antagónicos.

De la horrenda guerra a que asistimos ha de salir una humanidad de mejores condiciones para los pueblos. No es esta una contradicción, porque el sufrimiento traerá la convicción de la necesidad de cambiar de métodos. Se dirá que es una esperanza desmentida por la realidad histórica; es un argumento no difícil de refutar, pues ha de tenerse en cuenta que en lo futuro habrá una organización internacional capacitada para evitar la reproducción de los choques sangrientos de las naciones. Por otra parte, poner en duda esa contingencia, sería negar la posibilidad del perfeccionamiento de la humanidad.

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Argentina

P. Guerra 611-

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
A
DIRECCION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

LEGACIÓN
DE LA
REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

Berna, Noviembre 1º de 1944.-

Nº 145-MRE

MESA DE ENTRADAS
Y EXPEDICIONES
-4 ENE. 1945
Señor MINISTRO DE
RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO

Un reciente artículo del periodista francés Pertinax en el "New York Times" y los sueltos de los diarios londinenses relativos a la sede de la futura Sociedad de las Naciones han colocado el problema en un plano de actualidad.-

Es interesante recordar que despues de la firma del Tratado de Versalles y de la designación de Ginebra como sede de la precedente Liga de las Naciones, el pueblo suizo fué llamado a pronunciarse sobre la cuestión, que contó con una viva oposición en la Suiza alemana, entonces muy germanófila.- A pesar de la intervención de los miembros del Consejo Federal, la adhesión del pueblo helvético se consiguió apenas y fué gracias al voto del Cantón de Appenzell-Rhodes-Interior que el proyecto se aprobó.-

Cuando el retiro del Japón y despues de Alemania, la opinión pública suiza se dió cuenta que ese organismo, que no era ya realmente universal y que no disponía de los medios propios para asegurar el respeto de sus decisiones, terminaría por un resonante "fiasco",

ANOTADO

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General don Orlando L. Peluffo.-
BUENOS AIRES.-

Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

lo que acabó por suceder.-

Desde hace tiempo se ventila la cuestión de la designación de otra sede y son numerosos los suizos que piensan que su país, para llenar integralmente los deberes que le impone su neutralidad total e incondicional, estaría en mejor postura si Ginebra conservara algunos organismos internacionales como la Oficina Internacional del Trabajo, pero no la Sociedad de las Naciones propiamente dicha.- Es evidente que el Cantón de Ginebra, que se encuentra en una posición económica dificil, desearía conservar a pesar de todo la sede de la Liga.- Por razones menos interesadas, las opiniones difieren en el resto del país.-

Resulta de los trabajos realizados bajo los auspicios del "Royal Institut of International Affairs", que los diplomáticos antiguamente acreditados en Ginebra serían partidarios del mantenimiento de Ginebra como sede de la futura Liga de las Naciones; pero exigen condiciones que obligan a Suiza a oponer formales reservas.-

Se ha lanzado la idea de que no solamente todos los órganos de la futura Sociedad de las Naciones gocen de los privilegios de la inmunidad diplomática, sinó también que el pequeño territorio formado por el Palacio de las Naciones sea extraterritorializado, transformándose en un Estado minúsculo, a la manera, por ejemplo, de la Ciudad del Vaticano.-

Ahora bien: jamás la Confederación Hel-

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tantes anexos; pero el pueblo suizo se opondría, si esta decisión no fuera, desde todo punto de vista, compatible con el estricto respeto a la neutralidad integral de la Confederación.-

La probada lealtad de Suiza en el ejercicio de su neutralidad; su tradición como país de orden; el rol que ha desempeñado durante las dos últimas guerras como Nación protectora de los intereses de ambos campos beligerantes y el hecho de existir en Ginebra, nuevo y casi sin estrenar, el enorme y suntuoso palacio de la ex-Sociedad de las Naciones, en cuya construcción se han invertido cuarenta millones de francos, induce a pensar que el buen sentido terminará por imponerse y que Ginebra será al fin la sede del futuro organismo internacional en proyecto.-

Saludo a V.E. con las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Carlos Pueyrredón

EMBAJADA DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA EN SUIZA
BERNA

Buenos Aires, 17 de enero de 1945.

Hallándose interrumpida la comunicación postal con Suiza, resérvese hasta su oportunidad.

MARIO AMADEO
DIRECTOR DE ASUNTOS POLÍTICOS DEL MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

17 ENE 1945
Dirección General Asuntos Políticos

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Guerra 611-
00828

TOMEN CONOCIMIENTO:

Política.	

OFICINA DE CLAVE y S. TELEGRAFICOS
- 5 NOV. 1944
RELACIONES EXTERIORES

TELEGRAMA CIFRADO Nº 1778.

Londres, 4/4 de noviembre de 1944.

A S.E. el señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.

Buenos Aires.

Nº 387.- .....

.....

Aunque sin la intensidad anterior, Londres continúa bombardeada por las bombas voladoras y los nuevos rockets.

CARCANO.

AEC.

Es traducción:

OLINTO ALBERTO PAULSEN
CAPITAN (R. S. R.)
JEFE DE CLAVE y SERVICIOS TELEGRAFICOS

ANOTADO

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MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

Suecia 611

EMBAJADA
DE LA
REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

Lima, noviembre 22 de 1944.

Nº 698

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
25 NOV. 1944
MINISTERIO de RELACIONES EXTERIORES y CULTO

Señor Ministro:

William C. Bullit, que fué Embajador de los Estados Unidos en Francia y en Rusia, y que se halla vinculado al Presidente Roosevelt por una amistad íntima, publicó en la revista " Life " un artículo que, según mis noticias, causó verdadera sensación en la República del Norte.

Por considerarlo de interés, en cuanto un hombre de la experiencia del Señor Bullit hace una exposición panorámica de la política internacional europea atribuyendo las opiniones que emite a " los italianos " aún cuando se transparenta que son las propias, me he permitido traducirlo para el más fácil conocimiento de esa Cancillería, y acompaño con esta nota dicha traducción.

Saludo al Señor Ministro con mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

CON EL ANEXO CONFORME

Buenos Aires, enero 10 de 1945
ACÁSESE RECIBO y ARCHÍVESE.-

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General D. Orlando L. Peluffo
Buenos Aires.

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MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
A
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

EMBAJADA
DE LA
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Nº 698

Lima, noviembre 22 de 1944.

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
25 NOV 1944
MINISTERIO de RELACIONES EXTERIORES y CULTO

Buenos Aires, nov. 29 de 1944
Acúsese recibo y pase a conocimiento de la Oficina de Coordinación de Informaciones y de los [illegible] de Estado Mayor [illegible] Guerra y de Marina, encareciéndoles su posterior devolución.-

Señor Ministro:

William C. Bullit, que fué Embajador de los Estados Unidos en Francia y en Rusia, y que se halla vinculado al Presidente Roosevelt por una amistad íntima, publicó en la revista " Life " un artículo que, según mis noticias, causó verdadera sensación en la República del Norte.

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Saludo al Señor Ministro con mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

ARCHIVADO

CONFORME

Buenos Aires, Enero 10 de 1945
ACÚSESE RECIBO y ARCHÍVESE.-

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General D. Orlando L. Peluffo
Buenos Aires.

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"Life", número correspondiente al 4 de Setiembre de 1944.
(Páginas 94, 95, 96, 98, 100, 103, 104, 106 y 109).

EL MUNDO DESDE ROMA

LA CIUDAD ETERNA TEME UNA LUCHA ENTRE CRISTIANISMO

Y COMUNISMO

Por

William C. Bullit,
ex-Embajador de los Estados Unidos de América en
Francia y Rusia.

"Porque a todo aquel a quien mucho fué dado mucho le será pedido".
(San Lucas- Capítulo XII, versículo 48.)

Hallarse de nuevo en el Pincio, gozando del aire fresco de un atardecer de verano, entre paredes quebradas y columnas de 2,000 años que se yerguen suavemente como envueltas en un resplandor dorado y como diseños sobre una alfombra, mientras nos hablan de Rómulo y César, de Nerón y Marco Aurelio, de Atila el Huno y Alarico el Vándalo, de Médicis y Borgias, de Garibaldi y Cavour, de emperadores y hombres de Estado y de innumerables guerreros cuyo poder se transformó en polvo y cuya fama ha sido olvidada, es contemplar a la luz de la eternidad las pequeñas vidas humanas sobre este insignificante planeta.

Flotando sobre amplias y niveladas olas luminosas y crepusculares, por encima de destruídas reliquias que evocan antigua grandeza y pretéritos combates, se levanta intacto el símbolo de la eterna Fé: la cúpula de San Pedro sosteniendo la Cruz.

Allí sobre la tumba de un simple pescador, a quien Cristo llamó para que fuese pescador de hombres, se alza el monumento conmemorativo de todos los Santos, que supieron que mientras reyes, emperadores y conquistadores se suceden y pasan, El siempre queda, por los siglos de los siglos....

Para el Vaticano el mundo es un pueblo. Obispos, Arzobispos, Cardenales no son más que curas de una parroquia que abraza a la humanidad.

Ni Armadas ni Fuerzas Aéreas sirven a la Santa Sede. Sus armas son la Fé, la Esperanza y la Caridad. Su Termópila es el alma inconquistable del hombre. Por lo tanto es natural que en tiempos de guerra el Vaticano avisore el panorama y luche por comprender y hacer comprender las corrientes profundas que mueven a las naciones.

Y la influencia que el Vaticano ejerce sobre Roma, tranquila y naturalmente, explica el sentido de cada nuevo acontecimiento en el cuadro mundial.

¿Cuál es ese cuadro visto desde Roma?

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Es una tela antigua que ha sido familiar a los romanos desde el tiempo de los Césares: un cuadro de la Europa y de la civilización occidental amenazada por las hordas invasoras que vienen desde el este.

La misión de los Césares, que era la de contener a esas hordas dentro de los límites del imperio y de preservar a la civilización que tuvo su origen en Atenas y su fuerza en Roma, fracasó finalmente. Después de siglos de lucha Roma fué reducida a escombros. Los bárbaros, en olas sucesivas, arrollaron a la Europa occidental, y a través de la Edad Media la antorcha de su cultura fué salvada por la Iglesia.

Hoy, cuando la unidad moral de la civilización de occidente ha sido destrozada por los crímenes de los alemanes, -crímenes que están por recibir su justo y debido castigo-, Roma advierte que se aproxima nuevamente por el este otra ola de conquistadores, y al dominar los espíritus y los corazones, la preocupación de todos los hombres en Italia se concreta en una sola pregunta: "¿Será por ventura el resultado de esta guerra la sujeción de Europa a Moscú en lugar de la sujeción a Berlín?".

Ningún romano osa dar una respuesta segura a esta pregunta.

Esperanzados sostienen que Gran Bretaña ha resistido implacable contra la dominación de Europa por parte de cualquier poder desde los días de Felipe II de España.

Inglaterra sabe hoy en día, como lo supo siempre a través de los últimos cuatrocientos años, que estará a la merced de cualquier poder que llegue a dominar a Europa. Por lo tanto debe lógicamente oponerse a la dominación europea por parte de la Unión Soviética.

Es enorme el prestigio de Gran Bretaña en Italia. Las órdenes del Comandante en Jefe británico de la zona mediterránea, Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, son ley en todas las regiones liberadas de la península, pero se reconoce que el poder de Gran Bretaña ya no es lo que fué en el siglo XVIII, sobre todo en comparación con la fuerza de otras grandes potencias, y mientras los romanos piensan que debería ser erigido un monumento al Canal Inglés, como al padre de la victoria en esta guerra, pues impidió a los tanques de Hitler penetrar en Gran Bretaña, admiten que el avión fué el eficaz medio utilizado para descubrir en ella cada fábrica, cada puerto y cada hogar a fin de atacarlos luego desde el continente.

Del punto de vista italiano Gran Bretaña surgirá de esta guerra como un vencedor cansado, con mucho de su poder monetario perdido, con sus inversiones ultra marinas de pre-guerra grandemente disminuídas, y con deudas en el extranjero que quizás alcancen a catorce billones de dólares, estando imposibilitada, por lo tanto, para financiar la reconstrucción de Europa.

En consecuencia, los romanos creen que Gran Bretaña no vá a ser suficientemente fuerte para detener por sí sola la amenaza del este.

En Roma se espera que los intereses vitales de los Estados Unidos nos obligarán a apoyar a Gran Bretaña y a los otros

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estados democráticos de la Europa Occidental, pero los romanos distan de estar muy seguros de que nosotros reconozcamos nuestros propios intereses o lo que debiera hacerse para asegurarlos. Están perplejos ante lo que ellos consideran verdaderas aberraciones en la política americana. Saben que para los Estados Unidos fué necesario abastecer en toda forma a la Unión Soviética en cuanto Hitler rompió relaciones con Stalin y atacó a Rusia en 1941, pero creen que el día en que los historiadores del futuro señalen los mayores errores de esta guerra Estados Unidos ocupará un sitio preponderante por la enorme equivocación de su gobierno, durante el transcurso del verano de 1941, cuando el señor Hopkins fué enviado a Moscú y no obtuvo la promesa del gobierno soviético de respetar la independencia de los estados europeos.

Sostienen los italianos que estaría claramente dentro de los intereses de los Estados Unidos el tener una Europa integrada por estados democráticos independientes, adictos a nuestros mismos ideales y unidos en una libre federación para su protección mútua, y consideran que rara vez en la historia un gobierno ha cometido error de más trágicas consecuencias para su propio país y para el mundo que el que cometió el gobierno americano al no asegurar la promesa de Stalin, no bien comenzó el ataque alemán o más tarde, de que no exigiría nuestra ayuda para el establecimiento de la dominación soviética en los estados independientes de Europa.

La única razón que hallan los romanos, para explicar este fracaso de nuestra política internacional, es que no creyendo quizás el Presidente Roosevelt en el cumplimiento de una promesa hecha por Stalin no juzgó necesario asegurarla.

Pero esta explicación no los satisface, pues piensan que el incumplimiento de tal promesa hubiese revelado ante los ojos del mundo las intenciones del régimen soviético, y que, por lo tanto, el quebrantamiento de la palabra dada hubiese sido mil veces mejor que la inexistencia de la promesa.

Esto no quiere decir que los italianos conserven sentimientos de ternura hacia los alemanes. Roma fué dominada durante cuatro años y gobernada durante nueve meses por alemanes. La desdeñosa arrogancia y la crueldad de los nazis curó a todos los italianos de la ilusión de ser tratados como iguales por la "raza superior".

Ahora realizan que en su alianza con los alemanes solo obtuvieron derrotas y el desprecio del mundo. Están avergonzados y se sonrojan al hablar del ataque a Francia: la "puñalada por la espalda" que dieron cuando este país atravesaba por sus horas más difíciles. Saben que ya no se les respeta y que están arruinados, y naturalmente culpan a Alemania que fué su aliada en el crimen. Esto, después de todo, es un hábito antiguo de la naturaleza humana: Adán culpó a Eva.

POLONIA DESDE ROMA.- Los italianos esperan para Navidad, como máximo, el derrumbe de Alemania y tienen fé en que la guerra terminará en Octubre, pero contemplan con poca esperanza y con mucho temor el final de la lucha pues creen que con la retirada de las fuerzas americanas e inglesas del continente, ellos quedarán a la merced de la Unión Soviética, y aprecian lo que significará a juzgar por la manera como los rusos tratan a los polacos.

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Los romanos están extraordinariamente bien informados acerca de los acontecimientos de Polonia, y aunque no han sido sorprendidos, han sufrido un sobresalto ante el reconocimiento del llamado Comité Polaco de Liberación Nacional, como autoridad administrativa de Polonia por parte de la Unión Soviética. Creen que este Comité sólo representa al Gobierno soviético.

El partido comunista en Polonia ha sido durante muchos años una organización clandestina sin ninguna popularidad, por la sencilla razón de que los polacos son patriotas que miran a los comunistas como a agentes de Moscú.

Nueve de los quince miembros del llamado Comité Polaco de Liberación Nacional, organizado por el gobierno soviético, son comunistas, y el resto, con una excepción, desconocidos. La excepción es Emil Sommertein, un respetable judío sionista, a quien se le ha dado el insignificante puesto de Director de Abastecimientos de Guerra.

El Presidente y Director de Relaciones Exteriores, Edouard Osupka Morawski, es un comunista surgido del momento.

El Director de la Defensa Nacional es el conocido General Michael Rola Zymierski que combatió a las órdenes de Pilsudski y más tarde fué nombrado Jefe del Departamento de Armamentos en el Ministerio de Guerra. En ese puesto fué acusado de dejarse sobornar por los fabricantes de armamentos. Fué arrestado, juzgado, condenado y dado de baja del ejército polaco después de haber sido degradado y sentenciado a cinco años de prisión.

Al abandonar la cárcel, deshonrado y en la miseria, se fué a París, en donde se incorporó como agente al partido comunista. Más tarde fué re-introducido a Polonia como Director de la Defensa Nacional y Comandante de las fuerzas ruso-polacas.

Los italianos saben que el Gobierno polaco con sede en Londres, reconocido como Gobierno legal por Inglaterra y los Estados Unidos, cuenta con el verdadero apoyo de casi todos los polacos en Polonia, y controla totalmente al ejército subterráneo que ha combatido contra los alemanes en las recientes batallas de Vilna, Libonia y Varsovia. Saben también que miembros del estado mayor del ejército subterráneo de dichos sectores fueron arrestados después de haber ayudado a los rusos con su propia sangre, y que patriotas polacos de la región ocupada por los rusos fueron deportados a Siberia (así como fueron deportados 1'700,000 polacos después del triunfo soviético al este de Polonia en 1939).

Consideran también los italianos que la política soviética con respecto a Polonia ha hecho tabla rasa de la Carta del Atlántico, mera expresión de esperanza que no será sostenida por los Estados Unidos ni por Inglaterra.

Los romanos esperan la dominación soviética sobre Finlandia, Estonia, Latvia, Lituania, Polonia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hundría y Checoeslovaquia.

Suponen que los rusos usarán varios métodos para mantener un contralor y evitar el establecimiento inmediato de un Gobierno comunista en países donde el comunismo es escaso, pues presienten que los imperialistas soviéticos actuales han

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aprendido por la experiencia del Gobierno comunista de Bela Kun (establecido en Hungría después de la primera guerra mundial pero tan incompetente que cayó a raiz de un tumulto de violentas reacciones) que deben ser organizados fuertes partidos y burocracias comunistas antes de la instalación de los Gobiernos. Por lo tanto esperan que al comienzo la Unión Soviética solo insistirá en la instalación de lo que sus propagandistas llaman "un genuino y amistosos gobierno democrático", es decir, un gobierno bajo el cual los soviéticos puedan tener absoluta libertad para organizarse de una manera tan firme que resulte fácil destruir toda libertad democrática y llevar al poder a un régimen soviético totalitario.

Este fué el método empleado por el Gobierno soviético al anexarse Estonia, Latvia y Lituania.

Después de haber amenazado con una invasión el Gobierno soviético obligó a los estados bálticos a que permitieran la ocupación por el Ejército Rojo de puntos estratégicos dentro de sus territorios.

Los rusos se comportaron con cortesía y discreción hasta que terminaron de elaborar la estructura comunista en aquellos pequeños estados valientes y sentenciados.

Cuando todo estuvo pronto asestaron el golpe.

Los romanos esperan que el imperialismo soviético emplee este mismo método o una variante en el caso de Finlandia.

Creen que al comienzo Finlandia será tratada cortesmente, como fueron tratadas al principio Latvia, Estonia y Lituania, pero tienen la certeza de que al final será aniquilada por el estado soviético y que las ejecuciones y deportaciones dejarán a pocos finlandeses para contar el cuento.

Esperan que Polonia oriental, así como Estonia, Latvia y Lituania, será incorporada inmediatamente a la Unión Soviética, y sospechan que el resto de Polonia será mantenido en apariencia como un estado independiente, aunque en el hecho carezca, como es el caso de Ucrania, de independencia verdadera.

Por ser de la misma raza que Machiavello los italianos no pueden ocultar la pesarosa admiración que les causa la habilidad con la cual se está sometiendo a Polonia a las miras del imperialismo soviético.

Esperan que además de Polonia oriental los rusos anexarán también a Prusia Oriental, incluyendo Könichberg, hasta trazar una línea al este de Danzig, para dar a la llamada Polonia independiente todo el este de Alemania hasta el río Oder.

Hacen notar los romanos que esto facilitará a Moscú un contralor hasta el Oder, pues el llamado gobierno polaco será controlado desde Mosú, y, además, en esta forma volcarán todo el odio alemán contra los polacos en lugar de contra los rusos.

No se espera mucho en Italia con respecto a la independencia de Rumania. Más aún, en Roma se cree que existe un pacto entre la Unión Soviética y Gran Bretaña para que mientras Rumania sea controlada por Rusia Grecia caiga dentro de la esfera de influencia de Inglaterra.

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Creen también los italianos que Hungría será ocupada por el Ejército Rojo, el que dominará rápidamente a la pequeña aristocracia y burguesía húngaras con ejecuciones y deportaciones a Siberia.

"Genuinos y amistosos gobiernos democráticos" serán instalados tanto allí como en Rumania y bajo su protección serán organizados eficaces partidos y burocracias comunistas. Cuando todo esté listo ambos países serán controlados abiertamente por Moscú, y en todo caso Moscú tendrá el control desde el momento de la ocupación del Ejército Rojo.

Los romanos creen también que Bulgaria y Checoeslovaquia serán análogamente controladas por Rusia, pero no están tan seguros acerca del destino de Yugoeslavia.

Yugoeslavia es el vecino más próximo de Italia, y los italianos tienen una amplia prueba documentada de que la Unión Soviética ha empleado y está empleando todos los medios a su alcance para instalar un Gobierno comunista controlado desde Moscú.

Esto lo comprenden,pero no logran entender la política americana e inglesa en Yugoeslavia, y no están satisfechos con la explicación demasiado simple de que no existe una política americana, como no sea la de abastecer con armas a todos aquellos que quieran emplearlas en matar alemanes, pues saben que el séquito comunista del Mariscal Tito (el viejo agente de Moscú Josip Broz) usán a menudo las armas en una forma muy diferente al matar a los paisanos Servios opuestos al comunismo y adheridos al General Miahailovich.

Austria y Yugoeslavia comunistas?.-

Los romanos quisieran creer que la explicación de estos extraños sucesos sea la de que los británicos están decididos a extender su contralor sobre el sud-este de Europa hasta el Adriático, y como en las predominantes regiones croatas que lindan con el Adriático Tito el croata es más fuerte que Miahailovich el servio, los británicos han resuelto hacer el juego con él para evitar su alianza con los rusos.

Creen sin embargo los italianos que este no es un buen negocio y suponen que para un viejo comunista como Tito es difícil sustraerse a la influencia de Moscú, por lo que temen que al fin Moscú personificado en Tito se instale en la frontera oriental. Esta perspectiva los aterroriza.

Pero están más temerosos aún ante la idea de que Austria, su vecino del sur, pueda caer bajo el contralor de Moscú.

Temen que los bolcheviques en el Brenner signifiquen muy pronto el "stalinismo" en Lombardia.

Saben, además, que la mayoría de los austriacos están hoy políticamente divididos entre comunistas que reciben órdenes de Moscú y monárquicos que luchan y oran por el retorno de Otto de Hasburgo.

En los últimos meses los italianos fueron sorprendidos por la radio de Moscú cuando ésta abogó por el restablecimiento de Otto en el trono, y lo interpretan como una maniobra de Stalin, que aceptaría el reinado de Otto durante el tiempo que juz-

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gara necesario para la organización del partido comunista.

En todo caso los romanos esperan que el ejército británico pueda llegar a Austria antes que el Ejército Rojo para instalar un Gobierno democrático dentro de una monarquía suficientemente liberal a fin de captarse el apoyo de los socialistas y de los monárquicos, pudiendo en esta forma tener una posibilidad de ser duradero.

Los italianos no tienen un plan con respecto a Alemania y solo esperan no tener que vivir nuevamente bajo el terror alemán.

Confían en el debilitamiento de Alemania y rezan por la transformación de la Europa Occidental, así como se transformó la "bestia" en "hombre", pues se dan cuenta mejor que otros, que el problema esencial de Europa es la integración de Alemania en algún sistema jurídico europeo é internacional.

Esperan que Alemania pierda todos sus territorios al este del Oder hasta Rusia, así como creen en una Polonia controlada desde Moscú.

Sospechan que la Unión Soviética estará en situación de establecer cualquier género de estado alemán de su preferencia entre el Oder y el Elba, y confían que los ingleses, franceses y americanos podrán defender el oeste del Elba del contralor ruso y establecer en alguna forma en esa región un gobierno democrático estrechamente ligado al mundo occidental por lazos económicos é ideológicos.

Creen que Alemania occidental, desde Baviera a Hamburgo, es de importancia vital para la Europa de occidente, y presienten que si se perdiese para ella quedaría poca fuerza en el oeste para resistir a la presión del imperialismo soviético.

Esta convicción nace del espectro que ha aterrorizado a Roma desde que Hitler nombró a Himmler Comandante en Jefe de las fuerzas internas de Alemania.

Los romanos conocen bien a Hitler y le han oído asegurar que si Alemania era vencida derribaría los pilares de la civilización occidental sobre la cabeza de los aliados. Temen por eso que ello signifique la entrega que pueda hacer Himmler de Alemania a los comunistas en el momento de la derrota, y de esta manera aunque los aliados ocuparan Alemania occidental, sólo tendrían temporalmente entre sus manos otra región controlada desde Moscú.

Si esta pesadilla se convirtiese en realidad terminaría con la débil esperanza que existe hoy en día en Italia, esperanza que está basada en fundamentos históricos.

Por entre la sangre y el horror de la actual guerra, los romanos ven surgir la posibilidad de que bajo la dirección británica pueda ser creada en Europa occidental y en el valle del Mediterráneo una unidad de pensamiento, propósito y acción, que dentro de sus límites geográficos puede parecerse curiosamente al imperio romano.

Esperan también ver reunidas por los británicos en una libre asociación a Turquía, Grecia, Albania, Yugoeslavia,

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Austria, Alemania Occidental, Francia, Bélgica, los Netherlands, Dinamarca, Noruega, Suecia, España, Portugal, y por supuesto ellos mismos y todos los estados del cercano este y de Africa del Norte.

No creen sin embargo que este sueño implique una paz duradera, pero afirman que su realización daría una oportunidad de supervivencia a la civilización occidental.

El espíritu de su esperanza se expresa en una triste humorada que corre por toda Roma: "¿Qué es un optimista?. Un hombre que cree que la tercera guerra mundial entre la Unión Soviética y Europa Occidental respaldada por Gran Bretaña y en contra de los Estados Unidos comenzará dentro de cinco años más o menos". "¿Qué es un pesimista?. Un hombre que cree que Europa, Gran Bretaña y los Estados Unidos no se animarán a pelear."

Hasta allí llega el optimismo romano, puesto que los italianos sienten que el fracaso de los Estados Unidos y Gran Bretaña para asegurar la independencia de todos los estados de Europa ha afirmado la inminencia de una nueva guerra mundial.

Lo que esperan todos los italianos es un lugar relativamente pequeño en la amenazada Europa Occidental y no están del todo seguros que puedan obtener ni siquiera éso, pues tienen poderosas razones para temer que Italia sea conquistada desde adentro por los agentes comunistas de Moscú.

A Italia, vencida en la guerra, arruinada financieramente, destruída económicamente, sembrada de ciudades demolidas, de pueblos y de puentes deshechos, sin dignidad, viviendo precariamente con lo que le envía Norte América, le queda muy poco salvo la fuerza humana, la paciencia de sus paisanos y trabajadores y la vieja sabiduría de la Iglesia.

Actualmente nadie se muere de hambre en Italia gracias a las importaciones de trigo americano y hay pan al alcance de todos por un precio artificialmente bajo. Al estado italiano le cuesta 14 liras el kilo y es vendido con tarjetas de racionamiento a 5 liras el kilo.

Esto empobrece al estado en billones de liras anuales, pero si fuese permitido subir el precio del pan a su verdadero nivel los jornales fijados tendrían que elevarse en proporción y se abriría el camino para la inflación desbocada y la ruina total.

La economía nacional italiana es aún una economía de guerra dirigida por nosotros en lugar de serlo por los fascistas y nazistas.

Esta economía va a mantener a la gente dentro de un nivel mínimo mientras duren nuestras operaciones militares en la península. Pero, ¿y después?. La respuesta a esta pregunta depende en parte de la habilidad con que el Gobierno italiano maneje los extraordinariamente dificultosos problemas económicos, financieros y políticos, pero en su mayor parte de la habilidad y determinación de Gran Bretaña y los Estados Unidos para colocar nuevamente a Italia en perfecto funcionamiento.

Italia se rindió incondicionalmente y los términos

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del armisticio dan al Comandante en Jefe de las Fuerzas Aliadas en el teatro de operaciones del Mediterráneo absoluta autoridad sobre cada aspecto de la vida italiana.

Por miedo a una conmoción de la opinión pública los términos del armisticio no fueron publicados en Italia ni en ningún otro lugar, pero todo el mundo sabe allí que las órdenes del Comandante en Jefe, el General inglés Sir Henry Maitland Wilson gobiernan la vida de Italia.

También es sabido en Roma que el Presidente Roosevelt convino con el Primer Ministro Churchill que Italia sería considerada al comienzo como un interés británico y no americano, y los representantes británicos han asumido por eso los papeles predominantes.

Tanto los militares como los civiles americanos los apoyan con entera lealtad y con visible habilidad.

El 13 de Octubre de 1943 el estatuto legal de Italia sufrió un cambio de nombre: de "enemigo vencido" se convirtió en "co-beligerante", y se encomendó al nuevo gobierno italiano algún contralor sobre la vida civil.

Pero la esencia de todo Gobierno es la autoridad, y, por lo tanto, el actual Gobierno de Italia tiene más de agencia que de Gobierno pues solamente interviene en ciertos aspectos de la vida nacional y está sujeto a cada rato a la aprobación de los aliados.

Este nuevo "status" legal de "co-beligerante" es poco satisfactorio para todos los italianos, ya que no son enemigos totalmente conquistados sino actualmente aliados.

De cualquier modo, el punto de vista sostenido por los aliados es que mientras un enorme ejército alemán combate al norte de Italia el contralor de la vida del país no puede ser abandonado por el comando aliado sin que peligre todo el esfuerzo militar. Lo que es más, se sostiene que el actual Gobierno italiano no tiene hombres honestos y capaces para gobernar el país pues todos los que han trabajado desde noviembre de 1922 han sido, de una u otra manera, sirvientes de Mussolini, y deben ser juzgados.

Italia necesita una nueva y joven dirección. Esto es cierto. Los dirigentes fascistas han ido al norte de Italia donde se encuentran protegidos actualmente por el ejército alemán. No han de volver más.

Los partidos democráticos que gobernaron a Italia antes de Mussolini no poseen elementos adecuados, capaces y jóvenes, pues ningún muchacho de 22 años que creyese en la democracia y no se comprometiese con el fascismo tiene posibilidad de hacer una carrera política.

El actual Primer Ministro Bonomi es un hombre de 71 años bien conservado. El ex-Primer Ministro Orlando es un alegre muchacho de 84 años.

Estos políticos tienen partidarios jóvenes pero no colegas jóvenes.

Una generación entera debe ser educada en la democra-

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cia y eso no puede hacerse en un día.

La re-educación comenzó con la derrota y continúa no solamente por medio de la prensa, discursos y conferencias, sino también por medio de la comisión de justicia que encabeza el Conde Sforza, la que juzgará y condenará tanto a los dirigentes fascistas como a sus agentes criminales.

Esta comisión desempeñará también un papel constructivo al juzgar y libertar para usos futuros a muchos hombres que habiendo estado unidos en muchas formas al régimen fascista no creyeron en su filosofía ni tomaron parte activa en sus hechos.

Esto se realizará durante las próximas semanas o meses.

Cuando se cierren los procesos aquellos que no hayan sido condenados podrán reanudar su vida política y económica como cualquier ciudadano.

Unicamente de esta manera el Gobierno italiano podrá disponer de una cantidad suficiente de hombres para constituir un Gobierno bien fundado y con autoridad.

Hoy en día Italia depende enteramente de la caridad del contribuyente americano. Esa caridad ha sido dictada por necesidades militares, pues no nos conviene tener un caos económico a nuestras espaldas.

Cualquiera que sea el grado de autonomía política interna a que se llegue, las posibilidades de supervivencia de Italia dependerán, por un largo tiempo,del abastecimiento de materiales en bruto, máquinas y medios de transporte que le proporcione América y Gran Bretaña, y en cuanto a sus necesidades básicas deberán obtenerse con crédito o sin él.

Si negáramos ese abastecimiento el hambre destruiría a Italia y unido a la inflación la arrasaría lo mismo que arrasó a Alemania después de la última guerra mundial, llevando a tantos de los que quedaron arruinados, particularmente dentro de la clase media, a buscar su salvación en la bestialidad nazi.

Puesto que las experiencias de totalitarismo nazista y fascista son igualmente impopulares en Italia, queda solamente el comunismo como una posible panacea totalitaria. Y cuando los romanos leen que el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos está considerando el acordar un crédito de diez billones de dólares a la Unión Soviética para su reconstrucción y comprueban que no se hace mención alguna de créditos para Italia, preguntan seria y sinceramente si la política deliberada del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos es convertir en dictador de Europa al Gobierno soviético.

Si los ingleses y nosotros salimos de Italia prematuramente el Gobierno soviético no tardará en entrar, como resalta de muchos indicios.

Hace algunos meses, y pocos días después del retorno de Togliatti, alias Ercole, que vino directamente desde Moscú, -, aparecieron depositados en un Banco de Nápoles y al crédito del partido comunista 25 millones de liras.

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Desde entonces ese partido ha realizado una campaña vigorosa y efectiva en toda la península, con fondos ilimitados a su disposición para organizarse y realizar su propaganda.

Togliatti es un jefe extremadamente apto y adiestrado en todas las técnicas revolucionarias. En 1927 dejó Italia para ir a Moscú, en donde se convirtió en jefe del "Comintern" bajo el nombre de Ercole.

Trabajó también dos años en España durante la guerra civil pero luego volvió a Moscú para dirigir las actividades comunistas en Italia.

Bajo de estatura, rápido, inteligente y enérgico está dirigiendo con maestría la campaña comunista. Sus tácticas son las recomendadas por el Congreso del "Comintern" de 1935, que es la táctica del Caballo de Troya.

Puesto que los italianos tienen verdadera devoción por su tierra, su familia y su religión, el partido comunista se ha revestido de un patriotismo convencional (hogar y Dios), y con este disfraz trata de probar a las masas italianas que los comunistas son también patriotas que defienden la propiedad privada, la libertad individual y la religión.

Esta farsa tiene una apariencia de realidad por el hecho de que en Italia los partidarios comunistas han combatido y están combatiendo valerosamente contra los alemanes.

Por el momento están actuando efectivamente como patriotas porque tienen órdenes de Moscú de conducirse como tales y han logrado, por éso, tener prestigio tanto en las regiones del norte de Italia ocupadas por los alemanes como en las zonas liberadas.

Su organización funciona tan fácilmente que a medida que los alemanes se retiran a menudo una administración comunista se instala en cada población y recibe a los ejércitos aliados.

Más aún, después de transcurridos uno o dos días de la captura de cualquier pueblo por los aliados los comunistas vienen del sur con medios de transporte, acopiados no se sabe dónde, con dinero y con organizadores y folletos de propaganda.

Los partidos políticos democráticos, en cambio, carecen tanto de dinero como de medios de transporte y organización para seguir el ejemplo de eficiencia comunista, y este último partido está ganándose por ello ciudades y pueblos en donde no existían en el pasado.

Los socialistas controlan el futuro de Italia.- Los italianos son gente tranquila a quienes no les gustan los conflictos y quieren estar siempre del lado del más fuerte.

Este rasgo racial está siendo inteligentemente explotado por los comunistas.

Han convencido a más de un italiano, de cualquier clase social, que el triunfo del comunismo en Italia es inevitable y que para asegurar el futuro deben de ingresar al partido inmediatamente.

Contra la propaganda comunista y contra los fondos ilimitados que la sostienen los partidos democráticos de Italia

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tienen poco que ofrecer salvo antiguos gritos de guerra y símbolos harapientos que no enardecen a nadie, pero tienen la ventaja de que sus gritos guerreros así como sus símbolos son verdaderos, y el escéptico sentido común del promedio de los italianos hace que tomen a los comunistas olor a enemigo por más que estén astutamente escondidos en el interior de un Caballo de Troya.

Los principales partidos democráticos en Italia son el Liberal, el Partido Democrático Laborista, el Democrático Cristiano, el Partido de Acción y el Partido Socialista.

Estos cinco partidos democráticos, así como los comunistas, están representados en el actual Gobierno de Italia, y han acordado que el Gobierno de Bonomi, que fué miembro del Partido Reformista Socialista pero que ahora no tiene compromisos con ningún partido, regirá hasta la completa liberación del norte de Italia. Luego vendrá la lucha.

Los comunistas y socialistas son fuertes en las ciudades industriales del norte, especialmente en Milán, Turín y Génova, y cuando todo el norte sea liberado los comunistas intentarán su golpe para llegar al poder.

El resultado puede depender de la acción de los socialistas que a pesar de estar en desacuerdo con los comunistas, como en todos los países, han cooperado sin embargo con ellos.

La línea de combate está casi ya definida.

Los liberales, el Partido Democrático Laborista y los demócratas cristianos batallan por la democracia parlamentaria y por grandes reformas sociales.

Los comunistas usarán tácticas circunstanciales, en cuanto puedan. No es probable que arriesguen una revuelta armada. Quizás puedan obligar al Gobierno a que les dé más puestos en el Gabinete que los dos con que cuentan actualmente, o quizás prefieran estar en franca oposición con el Gobierno, en cuyo caso el ex-Primer Ministro Orlando pueda ser posiblemente de nuevo Jefe del Gabinete.

Pero en todo caso los comunistas están seguros que la liberación del norte los fortalecerá lo suficiente como para obtener, en las elecciones que se llevarán a cabo después de la liberación, una representación de minoría sino de mayoría, de modo que reunidos con los socialistas puedan formar una mayoría.

Si los esfuerzos unidos de los gobiernos británico, americano e italiano, para evitar el hambre y la inflación fracasan en definitiva, los comunistas llegarán seguramente al poder arrastrados por el sufrimiento.

Quizás, a la larga, los comunistas triunfen, aunque fracasen en tomar el poder poco después de la liberación del norte de Italia. Su triunfo es quizás seguro si Austria y Yugoeslavia fueran controladas desde Moscú.

Pero hay un factor permanente en la vida italiana que le será difícil vencer.

No es la Casa de Saboya, puesto que el Rey Victorio Emmanuel está completamente desacreditado y el Príncipe Humber-

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to carece de popularidad y puede ser descartado.

Es el Vaticano. Nunca ha sido mayor la autoridad del Papa sobre los espíritus y los corazones de hombres y mujeres en Italia.

La salvación de Roma le es atribuída al Papa, y en un mundo de pesares, cuando los ideales caen, los hombres se vuelven hacia Dios para ser consolados y guiados.

Italia es un país eminentemente católico, y para todos, salvo raras excepciones, el Papa es en verdad el Santo Padre y el Vicario de Cristo.

A pesar de toda la propaganda que proviene de Moscú y que realizan los agentes comunistas y los incautos en Italia y en el mundo entero, los italianos saben que el Gobierno soviético asesinó y persiguió a sacerdotes y ministros de todas las religiones o denominaciones religiosas como no fueron perseguidos jamás ni por estados semi-civilizados.

Los italianos saben que si Moscú gobernase a Italia su mano se levantaría contra el Santo Padre. El Vicario de Cristo sería forzado a dejar Roma, puesto que no podría quedarse con probabilidades de sobrevivir.

Si los comunistas se acercaran al poder la brisa del espíritu soplaría en toda Italia, y los italianos que ya no tienen mucho por qué vivir pero que poseen fé suficiente para morir por ella, marcharían en defensa del Padre Santo como marchaban los Cruzados al grito de guerra de ¡"Los cristianos tienen razón"!.

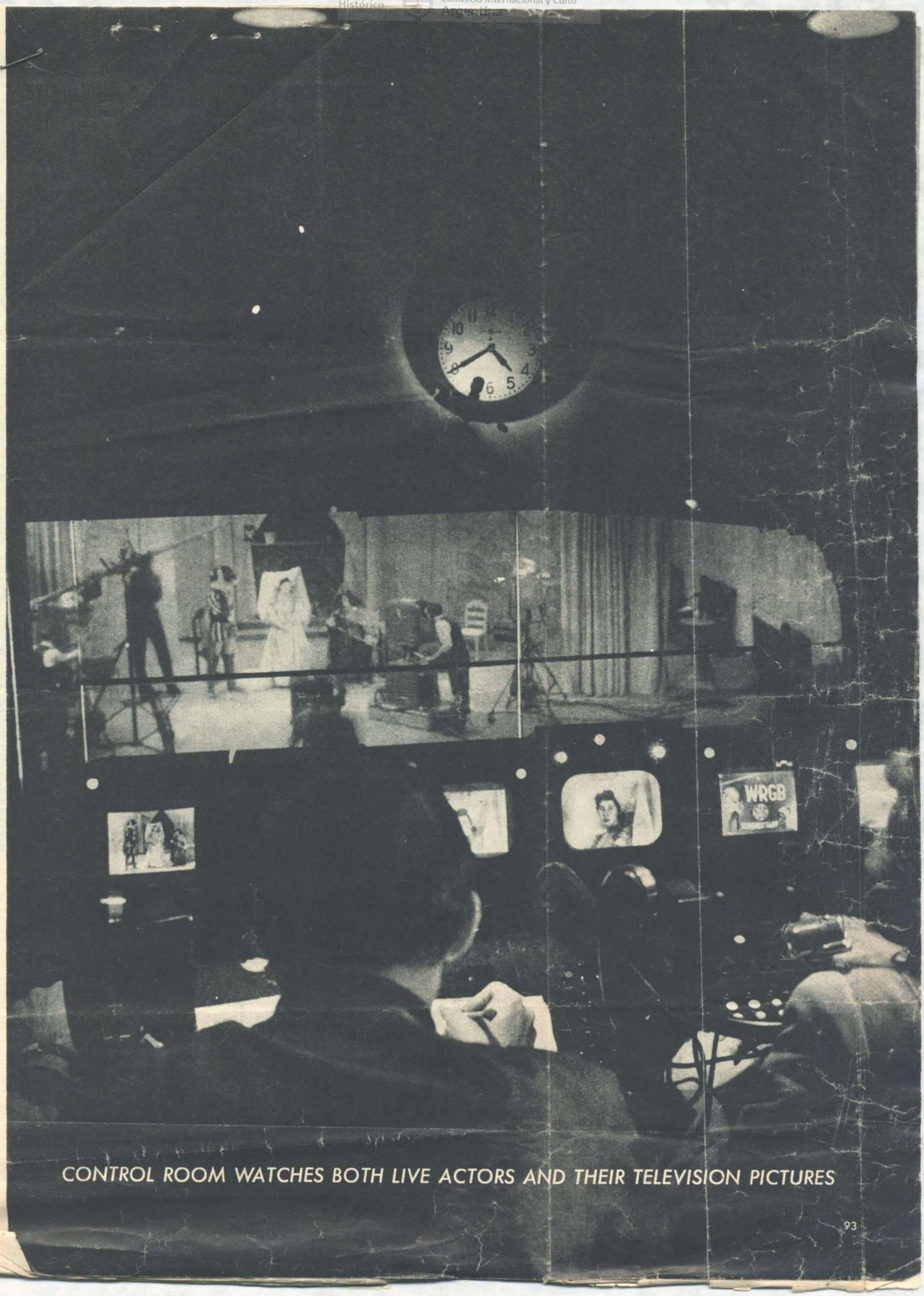
El problema moral más profundo del mundo moderno; el problema del hombre como hijo de Dios, con un alma inmortal y un fin en si mismo, contra el hombre como compuesto químico, instrumento de un estado prepotente y con fin en el estado, puede ser la próxima contienda en Italia.

La fuerza del Espíritu Santo brilla en Roma a través de las nubes. Brilla en los ojos de miles de soldados de todas las naciones y religiones que vienen diariamente al Vaticano a ver al Santo Padre y a hablar con él; brilla en la reverencia de los muchachos americanos que quieren volver al hogar y que tendrán un hogar al cual volver; en la profunda mirada de los soldados polacos que pueden morir por su patria pero que no podrán verla y que no podrán volver a su hogar en esta tierra; en los ojos de los soldados franceses que desean luchar para abrir el camino que los conducirá al jardín de Juana de Arco que es la Francia.

Todos estos ganarán su lucha contra los alemanes pero ¿vencerán en su combate contra el mal del cual los alemanes son solamente una personificación?.

Eso es lo que nos toca resolver a nosotros, a todos nosotros.

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CONTROL ROOM WATCHES BOTH LIVE ACTORS AND THEIR TELEVISION PICTURES

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ST. PETER'S DOME TOWERS SYMBOLICALLY ABOVE VATICAN GARDENS AND OVER ROME



VATICAN'S GREAT LIBRARY CONTAINS OLDEST AND RAREST MANUSCRIPTS IN THE WORLD



ACROSS THE TIBER STANDS CASTLE SANT' ANGELO, BUILT BY GREAT EMPEROR HADRIAN



THE TEMPLE OF VESTA WAS BUILT WHEN ROME WAS THE CENTER OF A PAGAN WORLD

THE WORLD FROM ROME

THE ETERNAL CITY FEARS A STRUGGLE BETWEEN CHRISTIANITY AND COMMUNISM

by WILLIAM C. BULLITT

William C. Bullitt, the former ambassador to France and Russia, flew last month to Rome from Algiers where he had gone as a special LIFE correspondent to write "The Future of France" (LIFE, Aug. 14). In the Italian capital he was granted interviews with well-informed and authoritative personages, among them Pope Pius XII. After writing the present article Mr. Bullitt joined the French army with the rank of commandant (equivalent to major) but with the condition that he could retain his American citizenship.

"*For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.*" *St. Luke 13:48.*

To stand again on the Pincian hill in the soft air of a summer evening with the broken walls and columns of 2,000 years rising gently in the golden light like patterns in a carpet—telling of Romulus and Caesar, of Nero and Marcus Aurelius, of Attila the Hun and Alaric the Vandal, of Medicis and Borgias, of Garibaldi and Cavour, of emperors and statesmen and warriors without number whose power turned to dust, whose fame has been forgotten—is to be forced to see the little lives of men on this petty planet in the light of eternity. Floating on the long and level waves of evening light, above all broken relics of far-off grandeur and battles long ago, rises the symbol of eternal hope, unbroken, the dome of St. Peter's, bearing the Cross. There above the grave of the simple fisherman, whom Christ called to be a fisher of men, stands the memorial of all the saints who knew that while kings and emperors and conquerors change and pass, the One remains, *saecula saeculorum.*

To the Vatican the world is a village. Bishops, archbishops, cardinals are

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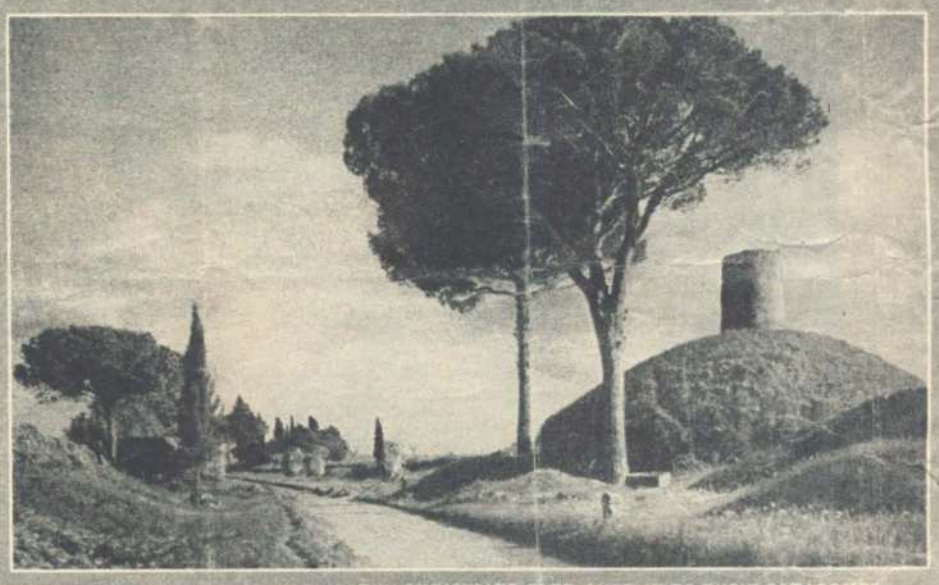
COLOSSEUM, WHICH COULD EVEN BE FLOODED FOR NAVAL BATTLES, IS 1,860 YEARS OLD



ARCH OF TITUS WAS ERECTED 18 CENTURIES AGO AT HEIGHT OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE



FORUM ROMANUM, WHERE ANTONY READ CAESAR'S WILL, WAS BIRTHPLACE OF THE CITY



APPIAN WAY IS 2,256 YEARS OLD. EARLY CHRISTIANS FLED OVER IT TO THEIR CATACOMBS

but priests of a parish that enfolds humanity. No army or navy or air force serves the Holy See. Its weapons are faith, hope and charity. Its Thermopylae is man's unconquerable soul. It is but natural, therefore, that even in time of world war the Vatican should take the long view of events and strive to understand, and make understood, the deep tides that move the nations. And from the Vatican spreads throughout Rome, quietly and naturally, a comprehension of the place of each new event in the world picture.

What is that picture as seen from Rome?

It is an old picture which has been familiar to the Romans since the time of the Caesars—a picture of western Europe and Western civilization threatened by hordes of invaders from the East. The task of the Caesars was to hold back those hordes and preserve within the limits of the Roman Empire the civilization which had its source in Athens and its strength in Rome. In the end, after centuries of struggle, they failed. Rome was reduced to rubble. The barbarians in successive waves rolled over western Europe, and through the Dark Ages the light of Western civilization was preserved only by the Church.

Today, when the moral unity of Western civilization has been shattered by the crimes of the Germans—crimes which are about to receive their just and due punishment—Rome sees again approaching from the East a wave of conquerors. And dominating the hearts and minds and, indeed, the talk of all men throughout Italy is the question: "Will the result of this war be the subjugation of Europe by Moscow instead of by Berlin?"

To this question no Roman dares give an assured answer. On the side of hope they argue that Great Britain has stood implacably against domination of Europe by any power since the days of Philip II of Spain. She knows as well today as she has known throughout the past four centuries that she would be at the mercy of any power which should dominate Europe. She must therefore oppose domination of Europe by the Soviet Union.

The prestige of Great Britain is enormous in Italy. The will of the British commander in chief of the Mediterranean area, Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, is law throughout all liberated regions of the peninsula. But it is recognized that the power of Great Britain, in comparison with the strength of other great powers, is no longer what it was in the 19th Century. And while the Romans feel that a monument should be raised to the English Channel as the father of victory in this war—since it kept Hitler's tanks from rolling into England—they recognize that the airplane has laid open every factory and port and home in England to attack from the Continent.

In the Italian view Great Britain will emerge from this war a tired victor—much of her financial power lost, her prewar overseas investments greatly diminished, her debts abroad perhaps 14 billion dollars, unable therefore to finance the reconstruction of Europe. In consequence, the Romans believe that Great Britain alone will not be strong enough to stop the threat from the East.

In Rome it is hoped that the vital interests of the U. S. will compel our support of Great Britain and the other democratic states of western Europe. But the Romans are by no means sure that we recognize our own interests or what should be done to implement them. They are puzzled by what they consider aberrations in American policy. They know that it was necessary for the U. S. to send supplies of all sorts to the Soviet Union when Hitler broke

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with Stalin and attacked Russia in 1941. But they believe that when future historians draw up the major mistakes in this war, a high place among the errors will be given to the decision of the American government in the summer of 1941, when Mr. Hopkins was sent to Moscow, to ask no promise of the Soviet government respecting the independence of the states of Europe.

They argue that it would be clearly in the interest of the U. S. to have a Europe composed of independent democratic states devoted to the same ideals as ourselves and united in a loose federation for mutual protection. And they feel that rarely in history has any government made an error of more tragic consequence to its own people and the world than the error of the American government in failing to ask Stalin at the outset, or later, to pledge himself not to use our help to establish the domination of the Soviet Union over the independent states of Europe. The only reason the Romans have thought of to explain this failure in foreign policy is that perhaps President Roosevelt did not believe that Stalin would keep such a promise and therefore did not think it worth while to get one. But this does not satisfy them because they feel that the breaking of such a pledge would have made clear to all the world the intentions of the Soviet regime. They argue that a broken pledge would have been far better, therefore, than no pledge at all.

This does not mean that the Italians have any lingering tenderness for Germany. Rome was dominated for four years and ruled for nine months by the Germans. The contemptuous arrogance and cruelty of the Nazis cured all Italians of the illusion that they might be treated as equals by the "master race." They feel now that by their alliance with Germany they achieved only defeat and the contempt of the world. They are ashamed. And when they speak of their attack on France—the "stab in the back" in France's darkest hour—they blush. They know that they are no longer respected and that they are ruined. And naturally they blame their partner in crime, Germany. That is after all an old habit of human nature. Adam blamed Eve.

Poland from Rome

The Italians expect Germany to collapse by Christmas at the latest and they hope intensely that the war will end in October. But they look beyond the end of the fighting with little hope and much fear because they are afraid that the withdrawal of American and British forces from the Continent will leave them at the mercy of the Soviet Union. And they judge the quality of that mercy by the Russians' treatment of the Poles.

The Romans are surprisingly well informed about events in Poland. And, although they have not been surprised, they have been shocked by the recognition of the so-called Polish Committee of National Liberation as the administrative authority of Poland by the Soviet Union. They believe that this committee represents no one in Poland except the Soviet government. The Communist Party in Poland for many years has been a small clandestine organization with no popular following for the simple reason that Poles are patriots who rightly regard Communists as agents of Moscow. But nine of the 15 members of the so-called Polish Committee of National Liberation set up by the Soviet government are Communists; and the rest, with one exception, are unknowns. The one exception is Emil Sommerstein, a respectable Jewish Zionist who has been given the minor post of director of war supplies. The chairman and director of foreign affairs, Edouard Osupka-Morawski, is a Communist whose standing in Poland is nil. The director of national defense is the notorious General Michal Rola-Zymierski who fought under Pilsudski and later was made chief of the department of armaments in the Ministry of War. In that post he was accused of taking bribes from armament manufacturers. He was arrested, tried, condemned, dismissed in degradation from the Polish Army and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. After leaving prison, penniless and disgraced, he quit Poland for Paris where allegedly he became an agent of the Communist Party. He has now been reintroduced to Poland as director of national defense and commander of the Russian-sponsored Polish army.

The Italians know that the Polish government in London, which is recognized as the legal government by Great Britain and the U. S., has the united support of nearly all Poles in Poland and controls completely the Underground Army which has fought against the Germans in the recent battles at Vilna, Lwów and Warsaw. They know also that, after helping the Russians with their blood, members of the staffs of the Underground Army in those areas were arrested and that Polish patriots from the areas occupied by the Russians are already being deported to Siberia—as about 1,700,000 were deported after the Soviet seizure of eastern Poland in 1939. They feel

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Villa Umberto Primo, sometimes called Villa Borghese, was built by Cardinal Scipione Borghese in 17th Century, is now one of Rome's most magnificent garden parks.

THE WORLD FROM ROME (continued)

that Soviet policy toward Poland has already made the Atlantic Charter a dead letter, a mere expression of a pious hope that will never seriously be supported by either the U. S. or Great Britain.

The Romans expect the Soviet Union to dominate Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. They expect the Russians to use varied methods in establishing control and to avoid setting up communist governments immediately in countries where communists are few. They feel that the present Soviet imperialists have learned from the experience of the Communist Béla Kun government (established in Hungary after World War I but so incompetent that it went down in a welter of violent reaction) that strong communist parties and administrations must be organized before the installation of communist governments. Therefore, they expect the Soviet Union at first to insist only on the installation of the strange thing its propagandists call a "genuinely friendly democratic government," *i.e.*, a government under which the communists will be at liberty to organize themselves strongly enough to destroy all democratic liberties and install a soviet totalitarian regime.

This was the method employed by the Soviet government to annex Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. After the Soviet government, by threats of invasion, had compelled these Baltic States to permit the Red Army to occupy strategic points within their territories, the Russians behaved with great courtesy and restraint—until they had had time to build up the communist apparatus in the brave but doomed little states. Then, when all was ready, they struck.

The Romans expect this method, or some variant of it, to be employed by Soviet imperialism in the case of Finland. They believe that Finland may be treated as politely—at first—as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were treated—at first—but they feel sure that in the end Finland will be swallowed by the Soviet state and that the shootings and deportations will leave few Finns to tell the tale.

Eastern Poland, as well as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, they expect to be incorporated immediately in the Soviet Union. The remainder of Poland they believe will be set up as a so-called independent state with no more real independence than the Ukraine.

The Italians, being of the same race as Machiavelli, cannot conceal a regretful admiration for the skill with which Poland is being subjected to the aims of Soviet imperialism. They expect that, besides eastern Poland, the Russians will also annex East Prussia, including Königsberg, as far as a line to the east of Danzig; but to give to the so-called independent Poland all eastern Germany as far as the river Oder. The Romans point out that this will give Moscow control as far as the Oder, since the so-called Polish government will

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be controlled from Moscow; and in addition will turn German hatred more against the Poles than against the Russians.

No hope whatsoever is held in Italy that Rumania will remain an independent state. Indeed, it is believed in Rome that the Soviet Union and Great Britain already have made a deal whereby Rumania will be controlled by the Soviet Union while Greece will fall into the British sphere of influence. Hungary, the Romans believe, will be occupied by the Red Army which will rapidly eliminate by shooting or deportation to Siberia the small Hungarian upper and middle classes. "Genuinely friendly democratic governments" will be installed both there and in Rumania, under whose protection efficient communist parties and administrations will be organized. When they are ready both countries will be drawn openly under the control of Moscow; but in any event, Moscow will control them completely from the moment they are occupied by the Red Army. The Romans believe that both Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia will be similarly controlled, but they are not so sure about the fate of Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia is the next-door neighbor of Italy, and the Italians have ample documentary proof that the Soviet Union has used and is using every means within its power to set up in Yugoslavia a communist government controlled from Moscow. This they understand. But they do not understand British and American policy in Yugoslavia. And they are not satisfied by the too-simple explanation that there is no American policy except the policy of supplying arms to anyone who will use them to kill Germans. For they know that the Communist followers of Marshal Tito—the oldtime Moscow agent, Josip Broz—often use the arms for the quite different purpose of killing Serbian peasants who are opposed to communism and adhere to General Mihailovich.

Communist Austria and Yugoslavia?

The Romans would like to believe that the explanation of these strange goings on is that the British are absolutely determined not to permit the Russians to extend their control of southeastern Europe as far as the Adriatic; and that since Tito, the Croat, is stronger than Mihailovich, the Serb, in the predominantly Croat regions of Yugoslavia which border the Adriatic, the British have decided that they have to play with him and try to win him away from his allegiance to the Russians. The Romans think this is not a good gamble. They do not believe that an old Communist like Tito is easy to withdraw from the influence of Moscow. And they fear that in the end Moscow, in the form of Tito, will be installed on their eastern frontier. This prospect terrifies them.

They are even more frightened by the prospect that their northern neighbor, Austria, may fall under the control of Moscow. Bolshevists on the Brenner would, they fear, mean Stalinism soon in Lombardy. They know that the people of Austria today are, in the main, divided politically between Communists who take their orders from Moscow and monarchists who work and pray for the return of Otto of Hapsburg. The Italians have been amazed in recent months to hear the Moscow radio advocating Otto's return. This they interpret to mean that Stalin is ready to accept Otto, for a time, in order to gain the months needed to build up and arm the Communist Party. In any event the Romans hope that the British Army will reach Austria before the Red Army, and that it will install a democratic government under a monarchy so liberal that it may obtain the support of socialists as well as monarchists, and have some chance to survive.

The Italians have no formula for Germany. All they hope is that they will never again have to live in terror of the Germans. They hope that Germany will be weakened and they pray that somehow Germany may be transformed from the Mr. Hyde of western Europe into the Dr. Jekyll—since they realize more fully than any other people that the central problem of Europe is the integration of Germany in some system of European and international law.

They expect Germany to lose all her territories east of the Oder to Russia and a Moscow-controlled Poland. They suspect that the Soviet Union will be in a position to set up any sort of a German state it may prefer between the Oder and the Elbe. They trust that the British, the French and the Americans will be able to keep all Germany west of the Elbe out of communist control, and will somehow set up a democratic government in the area and attach it by strong economic and ideological bonds to the western world. They believe that western Germany from southeastern Bavaria to Hamburg is vital to western Europe, and they feel that if it should be lost there would be insufficient strength left in the west to resist the pressure of Soviet imperialism.

This conviction is the source of the specter that has scared Rome

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Pius XII is given credit in Italy for having saved Rome from war's destruction. Mr. Bullitt reports Pope's authority over hearts of Italian people has never been greater.

THE WORLD FROM ROME (continued)

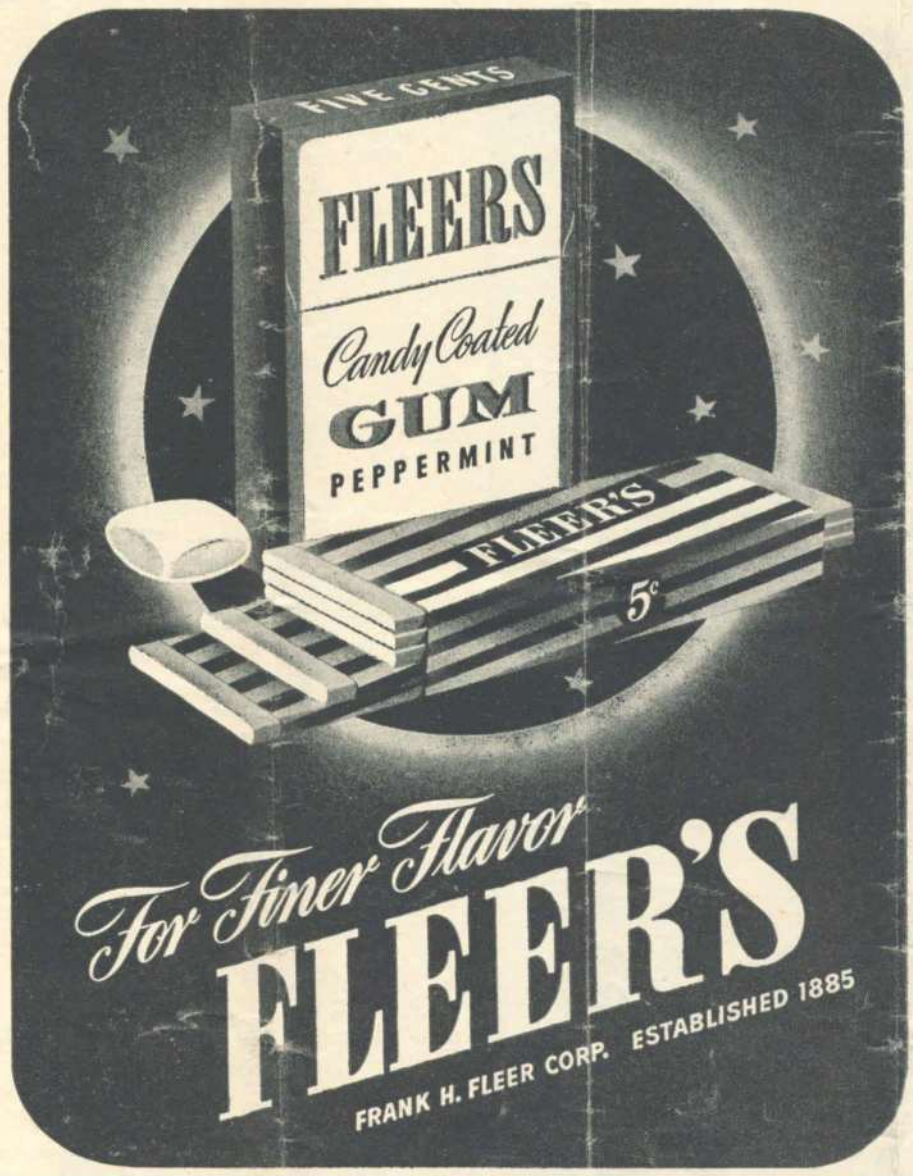
since Hitler made Himmler commander in chief of the internal forces in Germany. The Romans know Hitler, and they have heard him swear that if Germany should face defeat he would pull down the pillars of Western civilization on the heads of the Allies. This, they fear he means to do by having Himmler turn over Germany at the moment of collapse to the Communists—so that even though the Allies should occupy western Germany they would have in their hands, only temporarily, another area controlled from Moscow.

If this nightmare should become reality, it would put an end to the slim hopes for the future which today exist in Italy. These hopes are based on historic foundations. From the blood and horror of the present war the Romans see emerging the possibility that under British leadership a unity of thought, purpose and action may be created throughout western Europe and the whole basin of the Mediterranean—a unity which in its geographic boundaries may, to a curious degree, resemble the Roman Empire. They hope now to see gathered in loose association by the British: Turkey, Greece, Albania, Yugoslavia, Austria, western Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Spain and Portugal—and of course themselves and all the states of the Near East and North Africa. They do not claim that even this dream means lasting peace. But they do claim that its realization would give Western civilization a fighting chance for survival. A sad joke going the rounds in Rome gives the spirit of their hope: What is an optimist? A man who believes that the third world war will begin in about 15 years between the Soviet Union and western Europe backed by Great Britain and the U. S. What is a pessimist? A man who believes that western Europe, Great Britain and the U. S. will not dare to fight. That is as far as Roman optimism dares to go, since the Italians feel that failure of the U. S. and Great Britain to stand strongly for independence for all the states of Europe has made certain a new world war.

The most the Italians hope for is a relatively minor place in a menaced western Europe. And they are not at all sure they will achieve even that, since they have good reason to fear that Italy may be captured from within by the Communist agents of Moscow. Italy, defeated in war, financially ruined, economically wrecked, strewn with destroyed towns, villages and bridges, self-respect gone, living precariously on supplies of food from America, has little left but the human strength and patience of her peasants and workmen, and the old wisdom of the Church. At the moment no one in Italy is starving. Thanks to imports of wheat from America, bread is available for everyone at an artificially low price. It costs the Italian state 14 liras a kilo. It is sold on ration cards for 5 liras a kilo. This drains billions of liras a year from the state; but if the price of bread should be allowed to rise to its true level, wages, which are now fixed, would have to rise in proportion and the way would be open for runaway inflation and total ruin.

The national economy of Italy is still a war economy, now directed by us instead of by the Fascists and Nazis. It will support the people at minimum levels so long as our military operations in the peninsula continue. But what then? The answer to that question depends in part on the ability of the Italian government to handle extraordinarily difficult economic, financial and political problems, but in greater part on the ability and determination of Great Britain and the U. S. to make Italy again a going concern.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE







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Italy surrendered unconditionally and the terms of the armistice were designed to give the commander in chief of the Allied forces in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations absolute authority over every phase of Italian life. For fear of shocking public opinion, the armistice terms have never been published in Italy or anywhere else. But everyone in Italy knows that the orders of the commander in chief, the British general, Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, govern life in Italy. It is also generally understood in Rome that President Roosevelt agreed with Prime Minister Churchill that Italy should be primarily a British concern and not an American, and throughout Italy the leading role is played by the British representatives. The Americans, both military and civilian, are backing them with entire loyalty and conspicuous skill.

On Oct. 13, 1943 the status of Italy was, in name, changed from that of a defeated enemy to that of a "cobelligerent"; and some control over civilian life has been turned over to the Italian government. But the essence of government is authority, and the present government of Italy, therefore, is less a government than an agency to which the Allies have turned over the running of certain phases of the national life—subject to Allied approval of all acts.

This novel status of "cobelligerent" is highly unsatisfactory to all Italians. They are neither quite conquered enemies nor allies. However, the position held by the Allies is that so long as a large German army is fighting in North Italy, control of the physical life of the country cannot be relinquished by the Allied commander in chief without danger to the total military effort. Furthermore, it is argued, the Italian government at the present time has not enough trustworthy and trained administrators to run the country because every government official who has held office since November 1922 has been in one way or another a servant of Mussolini—and must be judged.

Italy needs young, new leadership

This is true. The leading Fascists have fled to northern Italy where they are protected, for the moment, by the German army. They will never return. The democratic parties which governed Italy before Mussolini have no trained young leaders. For 22 years young men who believed in democracy and would not compromise with fascism had no political careers. The present Prime Minister, Bonomi, is a well-preserved 71. Former Prime Minister Orlando is a buoyant 84. They have young followers but they have no young colleagues.

A whole generation must be educated in democracy. That cannot be done in a day. Re-education was begun by defeat. It is being continued not only by the press and the spoken word but also by a purge commission, headed by Count Sforza, which will try, judge and condemn the leaders of the Fascists and their criminal agents. This commission will also play a constructive role by judging and liberating for future usefulness many men who, while they have been in some way connected with the Fascist regime, have not believed in its philosophy or instigated its acts. This will be done in the next few weeks and months. The trials will then be declared closed, and those who have not been condemned will be as free as any other citizen to serve in economic or political life. Only thus will the Italian government have available enough men to begin to staff efficiently a government with authority.

Italy today is dependent for life on the charity of the American taxpayer. That charity has been dictated by military necessity. We could not afford to have economic chaos behind our lines. Whatever the degree of internal political autonomy she may receive, for a long time to come Italy's chances to survive as an independent democratic nation will depend on supplies of raw materials, machinery and means of transportation from America and Great Britain—basic necessities, which she must obtain on credit or not at all.

If we should refuse such supplies, Italy would be gripped immediately by starvation and swamped by a tidal wave of inflation of the sort that swept Germany after the last war and drove so many of the ruined middle class to seek salvation in the bestiality of the Nazis. Since the Nazi and fascist brands of totalitarianism are equally unpopular in Italy, only communism remains as a possible totalitarian panacea. And when the Romans read that the government of the U. S. is considering extending ten billion dollars' worth of credits to the Soviet Union for rebuilding the strength of the Soviet state, and can find no mention of credits to Italy, they ask seriously and sincerely if it is the deliberate policy of the present government of the U. S. to make the Soviet government dictator over all Europe.

There are many signs in Italy that if the British and ourselves pull out prematurely the Soviet government will step in. Several months ago, a few days after the return to Italy of Togliatti, alias Ercole, from Moscow, 25,000,000 lira suddenly appeared to the credit of the

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Communist Party in a bank in Naples. Since then the Communist Party has been conducting a vigorous and effective campaign throughout the peninsula, with unlimited funds at its disposal for organization and propaganda.

Togliatti is an extremely able leader, trained in all the techniques of revolution. In 1927 he left Italy for Moscow where he became a leader of the Comintern under the name of Ercole. He worked two years in Spain during the Spanish civil war, then returned to Moscow whence he directed Communist activities in Italy. Short, quick, intelligent and energetic, he is now running the Communist campaign with mastery. His tactics are those prescribed by the Comintern Congress of 1935—the tactics of the Trojan horse. Since the Italians are deeply devoted to their land, family and religion, the Communist Party has put on the clothing of patriotism, home and God, and in this disguise is trying to prove to the masses of Italy that Communists are patriots who stand for private property, individual liberty and religion. A semblance of reality is given to this masquerade by the fact that the communist partisans throughout Italy have fought and are fighting bravely against the Germans. They are acting as patriots at the moment because they have orders from Moscow to act as patriots, but nevertheless they have won prestige.

Their organization, both in the German-occupied regions of northern Italy and in the liberated regions, functions so smoothly that, as the Germans withdraw, a communist administration often takes charge immediately of each town and greets the advancing Allied armies. Moreover, within a day or two after the capture of any town by the Allies, the communists move in from the south with means of transport garnered from somewhere, money, propaganda tracts and organizers. The democratic political parties have neither the money, the means of transport nor the organization to follow this example of communist efficiency, and the Communist Party is gaining a hold in towns and villages where in the past it did not exist.

The Socialists control Italy's future

The Italians are a gentle people and they do not like conflict and do like to be on the side of the stronger battalions. This racial trait is being exploited cleverly by the Communists. They have convinced many Italians of all walks of life that the triumph of communism in Italy is inevitable and that to insure their future they must jump on the communist bandwagon now.

Against the communist propaganda and the unlimited funds by which it is supported, the democratic parties of Italy have little to offer but old battle cries and tattered symbols that no longer stir the blood. But they have the advantage that their symbols and battle cries are real. And the skeptical common sense of the average Italian makes him able to smell an enemy no matter how cleverly he may be hidden in the belly of a Trojan horse.

The leading democratic parties of Italy are the Liberals, the Democratic Labor Party, the Christian Democrats, the Party of Action and the Socialist Party.

These five democratic parties and the Communists are represented in the present government of Italy. They have agreed that the present government under Bonomi, who was once a member of the Socialist Reformist Party but is now without party ties, shall stand until the liberation of northern Italy. Then will come the fight.

The Communists and Socialists are strong in the industrial cities of the north, especially in Milan, Turin and Genoa. And when the north is liberated the Communists will make their drive for power. The outcome may depend on the action of the Socialists who have basic disagreements with the Communists, as Socialists in all countries do, but who nevertheless have been cooperating with them closely.

The lines of battle may already be discerned. The Liberals, the Democratic Labor Party and the Christian Democrats will stand for parliamentary democracy and large social reforms. The Communists will suit their tactics to the moment—charging all the traffic will bear. At this moment it seems likely that they will not risk armed revolt. They may be able to force the government to give them more places in the cabinet than the two they now hold, or they may prefer to go into frank opposition to the government—in which case former Prime Minister Orlando might possibly become prime minister. But in any event the Communists are certain to be much strengthened by the liberation of the north and to emerge from such elections as may be held after the liberation with such a strong minority representation, if not with a majority, that together with the Socialists they might form a majority. If the joint efforts of the British, American and Italian governments fail to prevent starvation and runaway inflation, the Communists surely will be swept into power by waves of suffering.

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THE WORLD FROM ROME (continued)

In the long run the Communists may win anyhow, even though they fail to seize power soon after the liberation of the north. They will almost certainly win if Austria and Yugoslavia should be controlled from Moscow. But there is a permanent factor in Italian life which they will find difficult to overcome. It is not the House of Savoy, for King Victor Emmanuel is totally discredited and Prince Umberto has no popular appeal and may be discarded. It is the Vatican. The authority of the Pope over the hearts and minds of men and women throughout Italy has never been greater. To the Pope is attributed the saving of Rome from destruction. And in a world of trouble when idols fall, men turn to God for comfort and for guidance.

Italy is a deeply Catholic country, and to all but a handful of Italians the Pope is in very truth the Holy Father, the Vicar of Christ. And in spite of all the propaganda which emanates from Moscow and from Communist agents and dupes in Italy and throughout the world, the Italians know that the Soviet government murdered and persecuted priests and ministers of all faiths and denominations as they had never been persecuted by even a semicivilized state. The Italians know that if the Communists should rule Italy, the hand of Moscow would be laid on the Holy Father. The Vicar of Christ would be driven from Rome since he could not remain in a position of subservience. If the Communists come close to power there will arise, therefore, a wind in Italy, a gale of the spirit, and the Italians, who have no longer much to live for but have much faith to die for, will begin to march in defense of the Holy Father, as the Crusaders marched to the old battle cry: "Christians are right!"

The deepest moral issue of the modern world—the issue of man as a son of God with an immortal soul, an end in himself, against man as a chemical compound, the tool of an omnipotent state, an end in itself—may thus be fought out in Italy.

The strength of the Holy Spirit shines through the gloom even in Rome today. It shines in the eyes of the thousands of soldiers of all nations and all faiths who come to the Vatican each day to see the Holy Father and to talk with him; in the reverent eyes of American boys who want to go home and will have a home to go to; in the deep gaze of Polish soldiers who know that they may die for their native land but will never see it, will never reach home on this earth; in the eyes of French soldiers aching to fight their way back to the garden of Jeanne d'Arc which is France.

They will win their fight against the Germans. Will they win their fight against the evil of which the Nazis are but an embodiment? That is for us—all of us—to say.



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LEGACIÓN
DE LA
REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

Berna, 4 de diciembre de 1944.-

No.153 MRE.

RESERVADA (por avión).

Señor Ministro:

La guerra adquiere de día en día un carcater más inexorable y dramático. Del Este, del Oeste y del Sur numerosos ejpercitos convergen sobre Alemania. Los anglo-americanos han penetrado en Renania, los rusos en Prusia Oriental, los franceses en Alsacia. Por primera vez después de Napoleón el suelo alemán es hollado por tropas extranjeras. Un pueblo europeo de ochenta millones de almas se vé amenazado por tropas que vienen de todas las tierras del Imperio Británico, de Rusia, del fondo de Asia, de Oceania y de América. Un círculo de acero erizado de ametralladoras, de tanques y de cañones se extiende alrededor del país de la revolución nacional-socialista. Es el sitio implacable de toda la nación. Y dentro de ese círculo de fuego, a golpes de bombas incendiarias y explosivas, ataques aéreos cada día más intensos no cesan de sembrar la muerte y la destrucción.

Le ha llegado a Alemania el turno del Talión! Bajo un huracán de fuego y de llamas, las más importantes ciudades alemanas no son más que escombros. Catedrales, iglesias, monumentos históricos, tesoros de arquitectura cubren el suelo de ruinas. De los grandes establecimientos indus -

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto,
General don Orlando L.Peluffo
Buenos Aires.-

ANOTADO

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triales solo quedan en esqueletos sus paredes calcinadas.Los empalmes ferroviarios, estaciones, puentes y diques han sido destruidos en su mayor parte. Las comunicaciones son difíciles y el aprovisionamiento del ejército y población civil es laborioso y esporádico. Ya no se consigue ropa y calzado para reponer el sobre-uso de cinco años y lo destruido por los bombardeos. Millones de familias lloran a sus seres queridos. Millones de personas han perdido sus hogares, sus muebles y su situación. Todas las clases sociales de la población se confunden en un único y gigantesco proletariado.

La "Wehrmacht" en un último y desesperado esfuerzo procura sostenerse frente a un enemigo númericamente superior en hombres y material. El Reich no quiere someterse. Ante la gravedad de la hora, las virtudes y las energías ancestrales de la raza han readquirido su mayor vigor. La Gestapo, por otra parte, vigila a los pusilámines y procura neutralizar la acción deletérea del derrotismo. Los alemanes no aceptan que su nación sea fragmentada y dividida en una serie de pequeños estados; que su industria sea transferida a otros países; que sus universidades sean suprimidas; que la educación de sus hijos sea confiada a extranjeros como lo proclaman las radios enemigas al anunciar los planes de venganza que se elaboran en Londres, Washington y Moscú.

"Está en juego la vida alemana"...Tal es el " leitmotiv " general. Ello provoca la palabra de orden que resuena en todas partes: luchar con resolución, resistir cuerpo a cuerpo y sin desfallecimiento. La nación en armas está decidida a todo. "Los aliados no entrarán en Alemania a paso de parada" - escribe el "Völkischer Beobachter". "No habrá en Berlín desfile de la victoria".

Para hacer frente a la superioridad numérica y material del enemigo, Alemania - a semejanza de Rusia,de los Balcanes y de Francia - adopta el sistema del "maquis" y de

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la guerilla en toda su amplitud. La muerte estará en todas partes, detrás de cada parva, en cada casa, en los trenes, en las rutas, en el restaurant, en los bosques. Será la guerilla integral, erigida en sistema, estudiada y llevada a las más extremas consecuencias. Es el heroismo de la desesperación.

Falta saber la capacidad del pueblo alemán para esta clase de guerra. El francés es individualista y gracias a su espíritu de iniciativa se adapta a todas las circunstancias. Es más guerrero que soldado. El alemán es de espíritu gregario; bien regimentado es un combatiente valeroso e incomparable; aislado se desorienta fácilmente.

Mientras Alemania multiplica sus esfuerzos para defender la vida y asegurar la independencia de su pueblo, sus adversarios aumentan la presión política por todas partes. Es una lucha entre gigantes. El drama es de una grandeza impresionante porque de su fin depende el porvenir del Continente.

Europa está postrada por una horrible miseria moral y material. La crisis política es general. En muchos países se afrontan gobiernos de tendencias diversas. Según las fluctuaciones de la guerra, unos se han constituido bajo la égida de las grandes democracias, otros según las doctrinas del Reich y otros más, bajo el signo de Rusia.

En el momento en que escribimos existe un Gobierno polaco reconocido por los anglo-americanos con residencia en Londres; otro reconocido por Rusia opera en Lublín. Mientras que en Bucarest, Sofia y Belgrado se han constituido gobiernos extremistas de izquierda, existen un Gobierno nacional rumano (Horia Sima), otro búlgaro (Zankof) y otro servio (Neditch) que se han refugiado en Alemania. Un Gobierno noruego (Quisling) tiene su asiento en Oslo, otro

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en Londres. Un Gobierno griego monárquico tiene su residencia en El Cairo, mientras en Grecia ejercen funciones de gobierno, cada uno según las zonas en que actúan, comités republicanos y comités comunistas que no reconocen la autoridad del rey. Italia está dividida por el frente de guerra, entre un gobierno demo-comunista y un gobierno republicano fascista. Existen además diversas corrientes llamadas " de resistencia" o "de liberación" que se rehusan a reconocer la autoridad del gobierno que ocupa el poder y que se unen circunstancialmente para luchar contra el primero. En la Italia de Bonomi hay seis partidos: el comunista, el socialista, el democristiano, el liberal, el del trabajo y el de acción, sobre los cuales se asienta el poder tambaleante del gobierno sostenido por los aliados, prontos - sin embargo - a dejarlo correr su suerte al primer estallido de la discordia latente en que se debate. Hay además otros partidos que se agitan como franco-tiradores: son el liberal social, el comunista independiente, el progresista, el repúblicano y el libertario. La lista no ha terminado. Existe la "Unión antifascista intransigente", la Unión de paisanos, la Unión monárquica, que son organizaciones con programas políticos propios.

En países como Francia e Italia hay porciones de territorio que no obedecen a ningún gobierno y solo se someten a juntas locales inserruccionales y constituyen de hecho regiones más o menos autónomas. Tal es el caso en la Alta Saboya y en la región de Domodossola. Es la guerrilla ejercitada por los rojos españoles, por criminales escapados de la cárcel que se denominan "patriotas"; por polacos, checos, rusos, toda gente de la peor especie. Es la guerra civil en todo su apogeo. Con cualquier pretexto se degüella, se saquean aldeas y se asaltan caminos. Trenes de la Cruz Roja han debido regresar a Suiza porque fueron asaltados y some-

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tidos al pillaje antes de haber podido cumplir su cometido. El Arzobispo de Lyon, Cardenal Gerlier, acaba de condenar públicamente "las violaciones contínuas de la legalidad y del derecho..., el desencadenamiento sangriento de la ven - ganza y del odio".

En los Balcanes combaten en la más horrible confu sión tropas alemanas, británicas, rusas, "oustachis" de la milicia croata, nacionalistas, comunistas, anarquistas, ger manófilos, anglófilos, ortodoxos, católicos, judíos escapa- dos de los campos de concentración, presidiarios evadidos de las cárceles, desertores, en una sucesión de golpes de ma - no, atentados, sabotajes, razias de rehenes, masacres de cen tinelas, destrucción de vías férreas y líneas telefónicas, incendios de aldeas. Es a la vez una guerra extranjera, una guerra ideológica, una guerra de religión, una guerra civil. Es un caos tal, que ni puede ya calificarse de guerra. El frente está en todas partes y en ninguna parte. Es una vasta guerrilla espasmódica, un cuadro dantesco de condenados, el infierno en su juicio final. En pleno territorio francés ex isten algunas regiones dominadas por bandidos y salteadores de caminos, asesinos profesionales sin ley ni confesión. Los atentados contra las personas y propiedades ya no se cuentan. El terror reina en la campaña y en las aldeas. Los paisanos viven con el arma al brazo; cada chacra es un fortín por te mor a los ataques. Es lo que Taine definía como "la anar - quía espontánea" en los tiempos más sangrientos y sombrios de la historia.

Las Convenciones y Leyes internacionales no tie - nen ya valor ni significado alguno. La aviación ametralla las poblaciones civiles. El espacio aéreo de los países neu trales es violado a diario. Estamos en plena crisis de los

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valores morales. Los compromisos más sagrados, las promesas formales, los tratados más solemnes no son sino tiras de papel. En el espacio de pocas horas, combatientes que durante años derramaron su sangre por la misma causa, de la noche a la mañana se convierten en enemigos.

Cada guerra ha pasado a la historia con un nombre que define el espíritu que la caracteriza. La guerra actual podrá llamarse "la guerra de las defecciones. Jefes de gobierno, mariscales, reyes se pasan al enemigo con la mayor desenvoltura. La palabra empeñada y la noción del honor son palabras huecas, han dejado de ser sentimientos sagrados. Gobiernos que han firmado alianzas con el Reich cuando Alemania dominaba Europa, son considerados como criminales cuando presienten que será derrotada. Lo único que cuenta, la preocupación dominante es estar en el campo victorioso. Son síntomas peligrosos. Traducen el fin del concepto del deber, de camaradería, de lealtad, de heroismo, de gloria, de toda la nobleza de sentimientos que el espíritu caballeresco de Europa consideraba como un patrimonio honroso de sus tradiciones.

Nunca las condiciones han sido tan favorables para Rusia. En todas partes, en todos los países, hasta en los neutrales, la situación se caracteriza por una verdadera oleada de comunismo. Moscú triunfa. Todas las izquierdas europeas y la misma prensa burguesa aprueban abiertamente los armisticios que sancionan la desaparición de las pequeñas democracias libres. La bandera roja flamea en Finlandia, Polonia, Hungría, Yugoeslavia, Estonia, Lituania, Rumania y Bulgaria. La Rusia bolcheviqui domina desde el mar Báltico al Egeo. Los países de la Europa occidental son simples etapas para las tropas rojas y más aun: algunos de ellos han puesto sus soldados a disposición de Mos-

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cú. Es un terrible salto hacia lo desconocido que puede llevarlos al abismo. En todos esos países, comisiones soviéticas han sido investidas de poderes dictatoriales en substitución de los gobiernos nacionales que han negociado el armisticio y firmado las convenciones de paz. Vendrá en seguida la "votación popular", el referendum que decidirá por unanimidad la adhesión voluntaria a la Unión de las Repúblicas Soviéticas Socialistas.

En Francia los partidos de izquierda se sienten los más fuertes. Los comunistas son los más agresivos. Son ellos quienes han sostenido la "resistencia" con mayor fervor y pretenden ahora hacer valer el derecho adquirido. Las masas populares, envilecidas y miserables, los siguen ciegamente. Contrariamente a la burguesia que espera todavia en la posibilidad de una restauración de la República, el comunismo aspira en la revolución que llevará el proletariado al poder.

Bélgica se encuentra en la misma situación. La crisis alimenticia ha provocado una seria crisis política. En las minifestaciones públicas provocadas por los partidos de izquierda en Bruselas, se grita: "Pierlot al patíbulo." La guerra actual está engendrando el monstruo de la revolución bolcheviqui.

Desde lo alto de nuestro observatorio suizo, en todas las direcciones, la situación europea aparece como catastrófica. Zonas inmensas son arrasadas. Los Países Bajos desaparecen lentamente invadidos por las aguas del mar, destruyendo la obra de siglos de adaptación y saneamiento. En la mayor parte de los países, la circulación ferroviaria está paralizada. Los viajes más simples se han transformado en expediciones peligrosas. Se parte sin saber cómo y cuándo se llegará a destino. Las monedas, en un proceso de infla

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ción vertiginosa, causan la ruina de la clase media y humil de, dejando en la miseria a millones de personas durante va rias generaciones. En varios países reina el hambre. Existen regiones de Francia, Italia, Bélgica y Grecia donde la falta de víveres es alarmante. En Roma numerosas familias de altos funcionarios, senadores, generales, etc., tienen que vender sus muebles para poder adquirir los alimentos más indispen- sables. Los tumultos callejeros de Palermo, reprimidos bru- talmente por las tropas, han sido provocados por el hambre. Las muchedumbres hambrientas y sin trabajo son fáciles pre- sas de los agitadores políticos. Hasta hoy, los aliados no han podido organizar el aprovisionamiento de la península. Los transportes de que disponen son acaparados totalmente para el servicio de los ejércitos en Europa, de modo que de be descartarse durante mucho tiempo la importación de víve- res para la población civil. Los aliados se presentan a los pueblos liberados con las manos vacías. Es quimérica y fa - laz ilusión pensar en una vuelta más o menos inmediata a la vida y al bienestar normal de antaño. Cuando en una situa - ción turbulenta y agitada como la que pasa Europa falta una autoridad, la anarquía, la confusión y el caos se apoderan de las masas. En ninguna parte la liberación ha traido con sigo lo que muchos europeos esperaban: el orden y la conci liación. Al contrario: ha favorecido la eclosión de un profundo movimiento revolucionario.

El cuadro que acabamos de esbozar es incompleto. Habría que acumular muchas páginas para describir los sínto mas de descomposición que se perciben por todas partes en la vida europea. Cabe preguntarse cuál es el sentido de los acontecimientos a que asistimos. ¿Es que ha sonado la hora de la declinación irremediable del Occidente y el fin de la

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civilización europea?

En este momento, tres principios políticos se ofrecen a la sociedad del futuro: la fórmula liberal; la fórmula comunista y la fórmula social-fascista. La primera, que es a la vez la del capitalismo, tiene sus campeones en Inglaterra y en los Estados Unidos. La segunda, que repudia los conceptos fundamentales de nuestra civilización, emana de Rusia. La tercera, que pretende eliminar los inconvenientes de las otras dos a base de la racionalización económica del comunismo, tiene sus principales defensores en Alemania e Italia. Actualmente, el liberalismo y el comunismo, aunque adversarios, luchan de común acuerdo contra el social-fascismo. Es la liga de los extremos contra el término medio. Pero sería absurdo creer que liberalismo y comunismo hayan llegado a conciliar sus fórmulas opuestas para una solución del problema. Su alianza circunstancial se funda, por arriba de todo, en un sentimiento negativo: el odio hacia Alemania. Eso no basta para cimentar un orden nuevo que asegure la felicidad de la sociedad de mañana. Los principios y sentimientos opuestos persisten aun bajo la apariencia de un golpe de timón hacia la izquierda de parte de los anglosajones y de una atenuación del extremismo bolcheviqui. Para la Rusia roja, los conceptos políticos, económicos y sociales de Inglaterra y de los Estados Unidos son doctrinas agotadas que, quiérase o no, el aluvión de la historia arrastra hacia otros destinos. Los rusos, en general, sienten además un repudio instintivo por todo lo que es occidental. Para ellos los liberales, socialistas, conservadores, extremistas, fascistas o antifascistas son todos del mismo origen: son occidentales. Los medios de que dispone Rusia para proseguir la lucha son formidables. Cuentan ante todo con la ayuda fa

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nática y gratuita de todos los comunistas europeos visibles u ocultos y de los pueblos eslavos de Europa, mientras que los anglo-americanos no disponen de ningún hermano de raza en el Continente. La favorece además su posición geográfica que pone a Europa al alcance de sus tropas; su fuerza pro - funda, casi virgen; sus recursos incalculables; su desprecio por el dinero; sus instintos oscuros; su aversión hacia el extranjero; su genio sombrio y fanático...

Terminada la guerra, vencida Alemania, la victo - ria no será el triunfo del liberalismo inglés o americano, sino del comunismo. Al antiguo orden europeo sucederá el or den ruso. La ley será dictada por Moscú. Es difícil prever las consecuencias que tendrá para Europa la caída de Alema- nia. Este país ocupa una posición central, es el corazón del Occidente. El día en que comunistas alemanes y bolcheviquis rusos hagan causa común, nacerá un nuevo período en la histo ria del mundo. Europa, en su formación anterior, se disloca rá víctima de un horrible desgarramiento moral, político y social. Una Europa roja no será seguramente el reino de los cielos!.. Y se advertirá, acaso demasiado tarde, el peso de Alemania en la balanza del mundo. Cuando la bandera roja fla meará en Berlín, Hamburgo, Colonia, Munich y Viena, como flamea hoy en Helsinki, en Petsamo, Reval, Riga, Kaunas, Bu carest, Sofia, Nisch y Belgrado, los ingleses y americanos podrán esperar hasta el juicio final la reapertura de los mercados europeos y el restablecimiento del equilibrio conti nental.

Acaso las grandes democracias se apercibirán en - tonces que no han combatido sino en beneficio de otros. Han sostenido esta guerra para eliminar el peligro de la hegemo nía alemana, pero han provocado la afirmación del imperialis mo bolcheviqui y paneslavo que ya domina la mitad de Europa, desde el Báltico al Mediterráneo... y sigue avanzando! Hay quien piensa que para detenerlo será necesaria una reversión

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de alianzas que llevará fatalmente a otra guerra.

Dígnese, aceptar, Señor Ministro, las segurida - des de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Carlos Bruchhausen

LEGACION DE LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA EN SUIZA
BERNA

Buenos Aires, 7/3/945 de 19

ACÚSESE RECIBO Y ARCHÍVESE.

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
7 MAR. 1945
General Archivo

Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

Buenos Aires, marzo 7 de 1945

D.A.P.
RESERVADA
18

Señor Embajador:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a V. E. a fin de acusar recibo de su nota reservada N° 153, de fecha 4 de diciembre último, en la que hace un interesante relato sobre el actual conflicto europeo.

Al expresar a V. E. que esta Cancillería se ha impuesto con interés de la nota que contesto, renuévole las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

MINISTERIO
RELACIONES
7 MAR. 1945
Gral. Asuntos

CARLOS L.
DIRECTOR GENERAL

A S. E. el señor Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario
de La República Argentina, don Carlos Brebbia.

BERNA-SUIZA

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Sección 611-

EMBAJADA
DE LA
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Rio de Janeiro enero 12 de 1945

R.E.-Nº 80

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
10 FEB 1945
MINISTERIO de RELACIONES EXTERIORES y CULTO

OFICINA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
— A —
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

Señor Ministro:

Tengo el honor de remitir a V.E.como anexo a la presente y a simple título informativo tres recortes de los diarios "Jornal do Brasil",Diario Carioca" y "Brasil-Portugal" en los que se publica un telegrama de Londres según el cual,la primera persona que advirtió a los ingleses la existencia de bombas voladoras alemanas fué un argentino que las vió en una visita que hiciera el año 1942 a la fábrica alemana de armamentos "Krupp".-

Aprovecho la oportunidad para saludar al Señor Ministro con mi más alta y distinguida consideración

EN EL ANEXO
CONFORME

Rolando J.Aguirre
Encargado de Negocios e.i.

Buenos Aires, 20-2- de 1945

ACUSESE RECIBO y ARCHIVESE.-

20 FEB 1945
Dirección General Asuntos Políticos

ANOTADO

A S.E.el Señor General de Brigada Don Orlando I.Peluffo
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto.
BUENOS AIRES

Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

"JORNAL DO BRASIL"

Rio de Janeiro enero 12 de 1945

Informam de Londres que teria sido "uma personalidade argentina"

A PRIMEIRA PESSOA A ADVERTIR OS INGLESES DE QUE OS ALEMAES ESTAVAM MANUFATURANDO AS "BOMBAS-VOADORAS"

LONDRES, 11 (A. P.) — Informações colhidas nos circulos latino-americanos dizem que foi "uma personalidade argentina" a primeira pessoa a advertir os ingleses de que os alemães estavam manufaturando as "bombas-voadoras".

No verão de 1942, um diplomata argentino visitou as Usinas "Krupp". Em sua visita, viu êle um grande galpão, ou "hangar", onde era proibida a entrada. De passagem, esse diplomata argentino viu alguns aviões dotados de um sistema original e estranho de propulsão, mas logo teve que se afastar, conduzido por seus acompanhantes alemães.

Muitos meses depois, esse argentino encontrou-se com um seu compatriota em Madrid, quando este se achava a caminho de Londres, e revelou a este as suas suspeitas de que os alemães estavam produzindo em massa uma nova especie de aviões, talvez para a guerra de gases.

O cidadão argentino que vinha para Londres chegou á Inglaterra no começo de 1943 e transmitiu a informação ás autoridades britanicas.

Deve-se recordar que a primeira informação oficial da existencia de uma nova arma alemã foi dada pelo proprio Churchill, na Camara dos Comuns, em Fevereiro do ano passado.

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Argentina

"DIARIO CARIOCA"

Rio de Janeiro enero 12 de 1945

FOI UM ARGENTINO QUEM REVELOU

A Existência das Bombas Voadoras Alemãs

LONDRES, 11 (A. P.) — Informações colhidas nos círculos latino-americanos dizem que foi "uma personalidade argentina" a primeira pessoa a advertir os ingleses de que os alemães estavam manufaturando as "bombas-voadoras".

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"BRASIL-PORTUGAL"

Rio de Janeiro enero 12 de 1945

Foi uma personalidade argentina quem comunicou aos ingleses que os alemães estavam construindo bombas-voadoras

LONDRES 11 (A. P.) — Informações colhidas nos círculos latino-americanos dizem que foi "uma personalidade argentina" a primeira pessoa a advertir os ingleses de que os alemães estavam manufaturando as "bombas-voadoras".

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Argentina

Buenos Aires, 20 de febrero de 1945.

D.A. 141

Señor Encargado de Negocios:

Tengo el agrado de acusar recibo de la nota nº 30, del 12 de enero último, con la cual S.S. remite varios recortes de diarios locales en los que se publica un telegrama de Londres expresando que fué un argentino el primero en advertir a los ingleses sobre la existencia de bombas voladoras alemanas.

Saludo a S.S. con mi consideración más distinguida.

CARLOS L. TORRIANI
DIRECTOR GENERAL

MINISTERIO
RELACIONES EXTERIORES
20 FEB. 1945
Dirección
General Asuntos Políticos

A S.S. el señor Rolando J. Aguirre, Encargado de Negocios a.i. de la República Argentina en los Estados Unidos del Brasil.

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Argentina

Sección 611 - Brasil 7/944

EMBAJADA
DE LA
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

R.E.Nº 142

Con anexo

Río de Janeiro, 6 de febrero de 1945.

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
- 8 FEB 1945
MINISTERIO de RELACIONES EXTERIORES y CULTO

MESA DE ENTRADAS Y EXPEDICIONES
A
DIVISION ASUNTOS POLITICOS

Señor Ministro:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a V.E. acompañando con la presente un reportaje al General Pedro Aurélio Goes Monteiro, aparecido en"Folha Carioca" del día de ayer que, por su interés, remito a esa Cancillería.

El ex-Ministro de Guerra y Jefe del Estado Mayor del Ejército comenzó por referirse al curso de la guerra y la violenta ofensiva de los ejércitos rusos sobre Berlín, destacando que, a su juicio, si bien no puede darse por terminada la contienda, está próxima a su fin.

Interrogado por el periodista acerca de las relaciones del Brasil con la Unión Soviética, respondió:

"Soy favorable al establecimiento de las rela-
"ciones diplomáticas del Brasil con Rusia y, naturalmente, con
"la paz futura, todas las naciones deberán tener lazos recípro-
"cos de amistad", y agregó: "Como se sabe, el comunismo es una
"doctrina basada en una filosofía materialista y que está sien-
"do instrumentada bajo la forma de socialismo integral, única-
"mente como régimen político de transición en la URSS".

SE EL ARCHIVO
CONFORME

En cuanto a las elecciones que se realizarían en este país, como lo anunciara el Presidente Vargas en su discurso del 31 de diciembre último en la comida de las Fuerzas Armadas, declaró el General Goes Monteiro:

"Ciertamente el Jefe del Gobierno habrá pensa-
"do en la estructura definitiva de nuestras instituciones, a
"fin de ponerlas en vigor, como acontece en todas las nacio-
"nes democráticas".

///

ANOTADO

A S.E. el Señor Dr. César Ameghino,
Ministro Interino de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto.
BUENOS AIRES

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A una pregunta del cronista si pensaba que el pueblo brasileño se encontraba en condiciones para ejercer lealmente el voto, manifestó:

"Por lo menos, con casi ocho años de práctica del "actual régimen, los brasileños habrán tenido tiempo suficien- "te para poder hoy, con discernimiento, reconocer los perjui- "cios o beneficios de esta situación".

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterar a V.E. las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Rolando J. Aguirre
Encargado de Negocios ad interim.

///nos Aires, 20 de febrero de 1945.

Acúsese recibo junto con la nota nº 146.

Oal

20 FEB. 1945
General Asuntos Políticos

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Argentina

Guerra 611 -
Brasil 7/945 -

EMBAJADA
DE LA
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Río de Janeiro, febrero 6 de 1945.

R.E. Nº 142.

Con anexo.

Señor Ministro:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a V.E. acompañando con la presente un reportaje al General Pedro Aurelio Goes Monteiro, aparecido en "Folha Carioca" del día de ayer que, por su interés, remito a esa Cancillería.

El ex-Ministro de Guerra y Jefe del Estado Mayor del Ejército comenzó por referirse al curso de la guerra y la violenta ofensiva de los ejércitos rusos sobre Berlín, destacando que, a su juicio, si bien no puede darse por terminada la contienda, está próxima a su rifa.

Interrogado por el periodista acerca de las relaciones del Brasil con la Unión Soviética, respondió:

"Soy favorable al establecimiento de las relaciones diplomáticas del Brasil con Rusia y, naturalmente, con la paz futura, todas las naciones deberán tener lazos recíprocos de amistad", y agregó: "Como se sabe, el comunismo es una doctrina basada en una filosofía materialista y que está siendo instrumentada bajo la forma de socialismo integral, únicamente como régimen político de transición en la URSS".

En cuanto a las elecciones que se realizarían en este país, como lo anunciara el Presidente Vargas en su discurso del 31 de diciembre último en la comida de las Fuerzas Armadas, declaró el General Goes Monteiro:

"Ciertamente el Jefe del Gobierno habrá pensado en la estructura definitiva de nuestras instituciones, a fin de ponerlas en vigor, como acontece en todas las naciones democráticas".

A una pregunta del cronista si pensaba que el pueblo brasileño se encontraba en condiciones para ejercer lealmente el voto, manifestó:

"Por lo menos, con casi ocho años de práctica del actual régimen, los brasileños habrán tenido tiempo suficiente para poder hoy, con discernimiento, reconocer los perjuicios o beneficios de esta situación".

MIV. ES COPIA.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterar a V.E. las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Fdo.: Rolando J. Aguirre.

A S.E. el Señor Dr.César Ameghino,
Ministro Interino de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto.

FOLHA CARIOCA, 5 ★ II ★ 945

Archivo Histórico
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

"SOU PELO VOTO GERAL E DIRETO" DIZ O GENERAL GOIS MONTEIRO

Favoravel às relações do Brasil com a Russia — "Formidavel a contribuição soviética" na luta pela liberdade — Só o voto geral e direto exprimirá a vontade nacional — Regimes políticos inadequados — Acabar com a miseria e formar uma elite capaz no Brasil — Liberdade de imprensa — Comunismo, após-guerra, eleições e anistia

Tendo-se esgotado a edição em que foi publicada a sensacional entrevista do general Góis Monteiro a FOLHA CARIOCA, cuja repercussão, em todo o pais, está assumindo as proporções dum excepcional acontecimento de significação politica, e continuando a ser procurado a cada instante esse jornal por parte de leitores que desejam ler, no seu texto integral, as históricas declarações do antigo ministro da Guerra e chefe do Estado Maior do Exército, este vespertino divulga-as aqui de novo.

Embora isto não seja de praxe na imprensa, visamos tão só atender ao grande interesse do público pelo importante documento, que passamos a reproduzir:

Por OSEAS MARTINS

Embora doente, o general Góis Monteiro não se recusou a conceder esta longa e substanciosa entrevista á FOLHA CARIOCA. E foi com um sorriso e gestos acolhedores, de pijama e com um cigarro nos labios, que me recebeu na noite de ontem, respondendo com vivacidade ás perguntas que lhe fiz, numa tranquila sala de sua residencia em Copacabana.

Não é preciso chamar a atenção do leitor para a importancia e oportunidade desta reportagem, nem dizer coisa alguma sobre a figura de tão conhecido militar e revolucionario, cuja atuação avulta na historia politica do Brasil destes últimos anos. Limito-me a reproduzir objetivamente, — e é o que interessa ao público, — as palavras do general, e o faço dentro do programa deste jornal, de livre exposição das idéias.

Trata-se de declarações positivas, definidoras e de palpitante atualidade, e apenas desejo frizar que o entrevistado não se socorreu dos clássicos recursos com que alguns homens públicos costumam fugir á indiscreção da imprensa. Somente uma das minhas perguntas, sobre um tema internacional, deixou de ser respondida, mas, em vez de se entrincheirar numa evasiva qualquer, o general Góis Monteiro, numa simpática demonstração de confiança, explicou francamente porque preferia o silencio sobre o assunto.

O FIM DA GUERRA

A conversa começou, naturalmente, versando sobre os fatos que estão empolgando a opinião pública mundial, ou seja, especialmente, a triturante ofensiva soviética.

— E' justa a repercussão extraordinaria desses episodios — disse o general Góis — porque, segundo tudo indica, chegou a fase decisiva da catastrofe, pelo menos na Europa. A entrada dos russos em Berlim pode não significar o fim do conflito, como se depreende da intenção do proprio Hitler. Mas, de qualquer modo, a queda da capital do Reich assinala o começo do fim.

— Não muito, — confessa ele, com um ar meio cético.

E, como eu insisto nesse ponto, acrescenta:

— O abalo foi bastante profundo. As condições naturais da evolução da sociedade humana, oriundas das transformações impostas pela ciencia e pelas necessidades de vida dos povos, parecem anunciar uma ordem que elimine o perigo das guerras e das lutas socials, mas os regimes politicos adotados estão ainda longe de se adaptarem a essa evolução.

"FORMIDAVEL O PAPEL DA RUSSIA"

Sobre o papel da Russia nesta guerra, o general Góis Monteiro o proclamou "formidavel", ajuntando que, inegavelmente, o esforço dessa nação unida influiu decisivamente para o esmagamento do poderio germanico.

— E como pressente a influencia soviética no mundo de após-guerra? — interrogo-o.

— Isso depende da capacidade de adaptação dos povos á evolução á que já me referi.

REVOLUÇÕES NO APÓS-GUERRA

Pergunto ao general como ele imagina ou pretende que seja o prenunciado mundo melhor, ao que ele observa que a ninguem é licito se manifestar sobre isso com segurança.

— Pode-se, quanto muito lançar mão de frases vagas. A meu ver, a dificuldade maior está em saber como se vai concertar a paz entre os povos, beligerantes ou não, as grandes e pequenas nações, e se o remate das hostilidades não vai importar somente na ausencia da guerra por um periodo não muito longo, devido ás revoluções do caracter das que já estão ocorrendo em alguns países libertados e que talvez se propaguem a outros, ou se os aliados conseguirão alicerçar a paz em bases sólidas, conforme os indicios que já se entremostram, como, por exemplo, na Carta do Atlantico e no pacto que se começou a firmar em Dumbarton Oaks.

O ESFORÇO DE GUERRA DO BRASIL

O general se levanta para atender uma telefonema do interventor Agamemnon Magalhães, e eu aproveito o intervalo para um olhar em torno da sala onde se realiza esta entrevista. Há fotografias da familia pelas paredes e uma arca de vidro repleta de condecorações, mas, antes que eu possa ver tudo, o general está de novo ao meu lado, recomeçando, ele mesmo, a palestra interrompida.

Sondo-o agora acerca do momento e dos problemas nacionais, e ele assim me fala:

— Como é sabido, o Brasil está participando da guerra como beligerante associado ás demais nações unidas. Certamente não se pode comparar sua contribuição com a das grandes potencias. Mas, sob muitos aspectos e nas circunstancias em que entramos na luta, nossa cooperação tem sido a mais valiosa e nossos sacrificios, guardadas as proporções, podem figurar entre os maiores que se teem feito, pois que arriscamos, intrépida e firmemente, nosso futuro sem mirar proveitos materiais de qualquer natureza, não só para sermos fieis aos compromissos com os Estados Unidos na defesa comum da América, como tambem para resguardarmos nossa integridade e honra.

O GOLPE DE ESTADO DE 37

Passando a analisar a atualidade brasileira, sob o aspecto politico, lembra o general que, em 1937, para evitar males maiores que as circunstancias de então ameaçavam, o regime vigente foi mudado, por meio dum golpe de Estado.



Finda a guerra, operar-se-ão em todos os paises transformações bem mais profundas do que as que já se verificaram, e forçosamente o Brasil terá de acompanhá-los, mesmo porque as circunstancias atuais são bem diferentes das de 1937, — diz, entre outras importantes declarações, o general Góis Monteiro, na sua entrevista exclusiva a FOLHA CARIOCA

— As forças armadas, — comenta — tiveram uma grande responsabilidade na implantação dessa ordem, destinada a melhor garantir a unidade nacional.

MAS HOJE É DIFERENTE

Durante os anos que se seguiram a essa mudança, — prossegue o entrevistado — nos quais se colheram os frutos da situação assim implantada, muitas transformações sofreu o nosso país e o mundo em geral, inclusive, sobretudo, esta longa guerra a que fomos arrastados. Findo o conflito, outras modificações, bem mais profundas, se operarão em todos os países e forçosamente teremos que acompanhá-los, mesmo porque as circunstancias atuais são bem diferentes das de 1937.

ELEIÇÕES E DEMOCRACIA

Quanto a eleições, declara o general que o que conhece de positivo é a afirmação do presidente da República, feita no almoço que as forças armadas lhe ofereceram no dia 31 de dezembro, e segundo a qual brevemente se completarão os atos indispensaveis á normalização da vida juridica do país.

— Certamente — acrescenta, — a luta contra grupos ultranacionalistas que procuram dificultar os entendimentos entre nosso país e a América do Norte, no que toca aos nossos planos de industrialização.

O general Góis Monteiro sorri e diz:

— Eu acho que nós, brasileiros e ianques, estamos de tal modo ligados, pelo destino e pelas circunstancias da propria vida nacional de cada povo, que as nossas relações não só tendem a se conservar, mas tambem a se estreitar progressivamente, graças aos interesses comuns que vão cada vez mais criando raizes.

ACABAR COM A MISERIA E FORMAR UMA ELITE NO BRASIL

Encerrando o meu questionario, o general se põe a falar mais á vontade, e então discorre sobre questões politicas e socials, alude á plasticidade da democracia inglesa e ao liberalismo ianque, — dois climas favoraveis ás transformações cujo preludio já se sente. Refere-se á Suiça e á Escandinavia, cujos povos atingiram um alto grau de democracia e cultura, tanto que estão isentos das lutas de classes.

— Mas no Brasil a situação é bem diversa. A realidade é que temos u'a massa mergulhada na miseria. Mesmo a classe media vive num estado de pobreza e, quanto ás elites, são tristemente corrompidas. Daí resulta claro que o que necessitamos é erguer o nivel de vida da população, sendo básica a tarefa de formar uma elite capaz de assumir os postos de direção.

A CONFERENCIA DO MÉXICO

Interrogado, finalmente, sobre quando voltará a Montevideu, afim de reassumir seu cargo no Comité de Defesa Politica do Continente, informou o general Góis Monteiro que não sabe ainda.

— Isso depende da Conferencia do México.

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Uma pausa e:

— De resto, o desfecho da luta no Velho Mundo precipitará, logicamente, o termino da guerra com o Japão.

Em resumo, o general Góis Monteiro acha que, sobre a cessação do conflito, as informações são bastante auspiciosas e acredita que os fatos não desmentirão as previsões formuladas pelos lideres aliados.

REGIMES POLITICOS INADEQUADOS

Interpelado sobre como encara a marcha dos acontecimentos mun[illegible]ais, sob o ponto de vista politi[illegible]co, respondeu o general que [illegible]te respeito, a questão é [illegible]evidente transcendencia.

— Mas o senhor se [illegible]socialmente, otimista? — i

PAPEL DA RUSSIA

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República Argentina

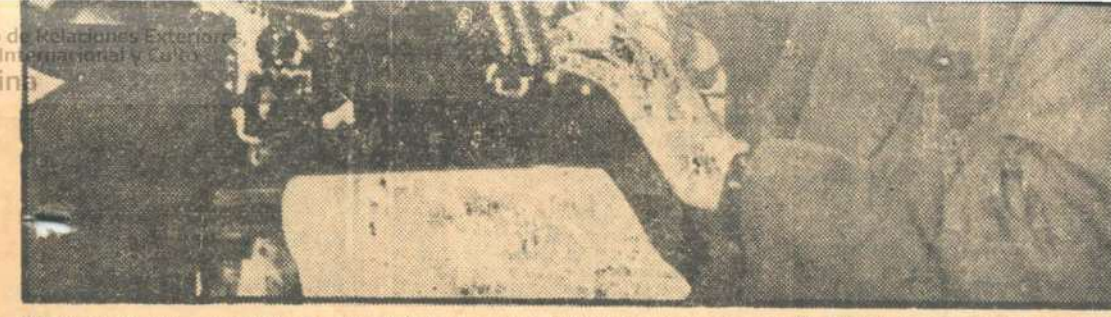
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— Certamente — acrescenta, — o chefe do governo terá pensado na estrutura definitiva das nossas instituições, afim de pô-las em vigor, como acontece em todas as nações democraticas.

VOTO GERAL E DIRETO

— Na minha opinião, — responde o general a uma pergunta que lhe faço a esta altura, — no atual momento, as primeiras eleições depois de 1935, para a escolha dos governantes e dos representantes da nação, devem ser realizadas pelo sufragio geral e direto. Só assim se poderá exprimir, pelos votos de todos os eleitores, a sanção ou não das atuais instituições politicas e sociais.

Pergunto-lhe se acha o nosso povo amadurecido para exercer nobremente o voto, e a resposta é esta:

— Pelo menos, com quasi oito anos de prática do atual regime, os brasileiros tiveram tempo suficiente para poder, hoje, com discernimento, reconhecer os maleficios ou beneficios desta situação.

ANISTIA

Desejo saber o que pensa o general sobre a concessão da anistia.

— A anistia, — responde ele, — é naturalmente um corolario da união nacional, e trata-se duma questão cuja solução depende da forma como se constituir o governo, nos termos que já mencionei.

RELAÇÕES COM A RUSSIA

O nome da Russia volta á pa[illegible]a, e eu indago ao general que [illegible]sa da possibilidade de relações do Brasil com esse país aliado. Sem vacilar, ele diz:

— Sou favoravel ao estabelecimento de relações diplomaticas do Brasil com a Russia e naturalmente, com a paz futura, todas as nações deverão ter laços reciprocos de amizade.

O COMUNISMO

Interpelado sobre si acredita em perigo comunista, o general Góis Monteiro responde:

— Como se sabe, o comunismo é uma doutrina baseada numa filosofia materialista, e que está sendo instrumentado sob a forma de socialismo integral e como regime politico de transição unicamente na URSS.

POLITICA URUGUAIA

Lembrando que o general acaba de vir de Montevidéo, pergunto-lhe se é verdade, conforme se informou num jornal carioca, que o comunismo está campeando lá.

— Não, — diz ele, — o que há no Uruguai é a pluralidade de partidos, e sendo assim existe o Partido Comunista. Nada mais.

LIBERDADE DE IMPRENSA

Peço a opinião do general, a proposito da noticia de que o governo está cogitando de abolir a censura á imprensa.

— A censura — declara ele — só se justifica como medida de emergencia, em tempo de guerra, por exemplo. Apenas deve haver uma lei a ser cumprida contra os abusos, pois se trata de uma arma poderosa, e a responsabilidade dos que a manejam precisa ser definida, de modo especial.

RELAÇÕES COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS

Outro ponto da entrevista são as relações do Brasil com os Estados Unidos. Pergunto ao general se acha que a luta contra grupos ultranacionalistas que procuram dificultar os entendimentos entre nosso país e a América do Norte, no que toca aos nossos planos de industrialização.

O general Góis Monteiro sorri e diz:

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Encerrando o meu questionario, o general se põe a falar mais á vontade, e então discorre sobre questões politicas e sociais, alude á plasticidade da democracia inglesa e ao liberalismo ianque, — dois climas favoraveis ás transformações cujo preludio já se sente. fere-se á Suiça e á Escandin[illegible] cujos povos atingiram um grau de democracia e cultura, to que estão isentos das luta classes.

— Mas no Brasil a situaç[illegible] bem diversa. A realidade é qu[illegible]mos u'a massa mergulhada na seria. Mesmo a classe media num estado de pobreza e, qu[illegible] ás elites, são tristemente cor[illegible]pidas. Daí resulta claro que o necessitamos é erguer o nive[illegible] vida da população, sendo bá[illegible] a tarefa de formar uma elite[illegible] paz de assumir os postos de reção.

A CONFERENCIA DO MÉXICO

Interrogado, finalmente, s[illegible] quando voltará a Montevideu, [illegible] de reassumir seu cargo no Co[illegible] de Defesa Politica do Contin[illegible] Informou o general Góis Mon[illegible] que não sabe ainda.

— Isso depende da Confere[illegible] do México.

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Argentina

D.A.P.

Buenos Aires, 20 de febrero de 1945.

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Señor Encargado de Negocios:

Tengo el agrado de acusar recibo de las notas números 142 y 146, de 6 del corriente, con las cuales S.S. remite varios recortes de diarios locales que se refieren al establecimiento de relaciones diplomáticas entre Brasil y Rusia.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para reiterar a S.S. las seguridades de mi consideración más distinguida.

CARLOS L. TORRIANI
DIRECTOR GENERAL

MINISTERIO
RELACIONES EXTERIORES
20 FEB. 1945
Dirección
General Asuntos Políticos

Dal

Al S.S. el señor Rolando J. Aguirre, Encargado de Negocios a.i. de la República Argentina en los Estados Unidos del Brasil.

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Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
Argentina

Serrano 611 - TOMEN CONOCIMIENTO:

Política	

OFICINA DE CLAVE Y R. CIFRADAS
30 MAR 1945
ANOTADO

TELEGRAMA CIFRADO Nº 00472

Berna, 29/30 marzo de 1945

A S.E. el Señor Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores

Buenos Aires

Nº 40.- Informaciones de fuente autorizada aseguran que ante la inminencia de la derrota definitiva el comando alemán habría decidido retirarse paulatinamente del frente del Rin, presentando una resistencia más aparente que real, mientras en el frente oriental sostienen una lucha desesperada para contener el avance de los rusos a fin de dar tiempo a que las tropas anglo-americanas ocupen la mayor parte de Alemania antes que lo hagan las fuerzas soviéticas, cuyo paso por las regiones invadidas se caracteriza por la exterminación de las poblaciones sometidas a actos de crueldad más propios de la ferocidad de hordas asiáticas que a la severidad de un ejército vencedor.

Brebbia

FPB.

Es traducción.

F.P.B.

OLINTO AUGUSTO PAULSEN
TRADUCTOR (A.C.)
DPTO. DE CLAVE Y SERVICIOS TELEGRAFICOS

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Argentina

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

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Expediente..... Año.....