

## Germans Gain Foothold in Belgium, Claim Fort; Dutch Fall Back; British Bomb Krupp's Factory; Churchill Picks Eden; Roosevelt Blasts Nazis

### Neutral Act Is Extended To 3 Nations

#### Legislator Urges Debt Law Repeal

WASHINGTON, (AP)—President Roosevelt replied in a most friendly vein last night to an appeal from the king of the Belgians that he support Belgium's fight against the Nazi invaders with all of his "moral authority."

In his message to Leopold III, the soldier-monarch, Mr. Roosevelt denounced the "cruel invasion" of Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg.

"The people of the United States hope, as I do, that policies which seek to dominate peaceful and independent peoples through force and military aggression may be arrested," he said, "and that the government and people of Belgium may preserve their integrity and their freedom."

"As an old personal friend, I send you my warm personal regards."

At the same time, the President issued a proclamation applying the neutrality act to the Low Countries in the same manner that he had invoked it previously against Germany, France and England. The principal practical effect of this action was to forbid American credit to the Dutch government. Regardless of the neutrality act, the Belgian government is barred from borrowing in this country by the Johnson act. The latter statute forbids extension of credit to governments which have defaulted on previous war debts to the United States.

#### Would Repeal Restrictions

Even before Mr. Roosevelt extended application of the neutrality law to the newest belligerents, Chairman May (D., Ky.) of the House Military Committee came out yesterday in favor of repealing the Johnson act and revising the neutrality statute to permit the granting of credit to Britain and her allies.

"If I've got a bulldog in my front yard to scare away burglars," the Kentuckian told reporters, "I'm going to feed him."

Relaxation of the neutrality act had been advocated previously—prior to the German invasion of the Low Countries—by Senator Adams (D., Cal.). When he broached the idea, however, the general reaction was that the suggestion was premature. Chairman Pittman (D., Nev.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said at the time that the Allies were estimated to have sufficient financial resources to go two years without credit. And some senators expressed fear that credits might lead the country into war.

Several legislators predicted privately yesterday that, if the President were to recommend repeal of the Johnson act and neutrality law revision, Congress would support him. Others said, however, it was too early for such a step.

#### Speech Applauded

Many members of both houses praised the address in which Mr. Roosevelt predicted Friday night that the 21 American republics would act together, if necessary, to protect and defend their freedom and civilization.

But Senator Reed (R., Kan.) told newsmen he had a reluctant fear that the President is heading in the direction of participation in the war in Europe.

Stephen Early, Mr. Roosevelt's press secretary said that nine out of every 10 of several thousand telegrams received at the White House in regard to the speech applauded it. The remaining 10 per cent, he added, were from persons



Anthony Eden, Minister of War

### Eden Still Anathema to Italians

ROME, (AP)—The inclusion of Anthony Eden as war minister in Winston Churchill's new British war cabinet means no good for the strained Italian-British relations. In the opinion of Fascists, the news of his appointment, however, came too late last night for official comment.

The name of Eden is indelibly

linked in Italy with the sanctions imposed during her Ethiopian campaign—a move in which he took the lead as British delegate to Geneva.

While he was British foreign secretary, Eden was lampooned almost daily in the Fascist press. In fact, he probably has been the subject of more disparaging cartoons in Italian newspapers than any other world statesman.

### Roman Crowd Beat Envoys, British Charge

ROME, (AP)—Amid mounting Fascist feeling against Great Britain, marked by anti-British posters and a slugging incident, Pope Pius XII sent his blessing from the Vatican yesterday to Germany's newest enemies, with prayers for their victory.

Messages to the Catholic rulers of Belgium and Luxembourg and to Protestant Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, whose countries had been attacked "against their will and right," told of the pope's prayers for their liberation.

Sir Percy Loraine, the British ambassador, was said in reliable quarters to have protested to Italian authorities against both a swarm of posters which sought to impress Italians with the German army's superiority, and a reported assault upon two British diplomats Friday night.

#### Contraband Control "Vexatious"

The Italians counterbalanced this with an intensified campaign against the vexations of the Allied contraband control of their sea commerce. Premier Mussolini applauded in the Senate when Admiral Domenico Cavagnari, undersecretary of the navy, declared that the "disturbance" of Italy's shipping "must change."

Luca Pietromarchi, chief of the "economic war" office of the foreign ministry, reported to 11 Due that the Allied contraband control was becoming "ever more vexatious," and called attention to the "seriousness of the situation."

Italian newspapers and radio made no mention of the pope's messages, which were made public

### War Board Is Reduced To Five Men

#### Halifax, Attlee, Greenwood Are In

LONDON, (AP)—With characteristic speed, Winston Churchill last night formed a new British government of all parties and gathered around himself a new streamlined, five-man war Cabinet while Allied forces raced against time for vantage points in the Low Countries and swapped blows from the air with German warplanes.

The war Cabinet, replacing the old eight-man board of strategy of Neville Chamberlain, includes Chamberlain, Lord Halifax, foreign secretary under the resigned prime minister, and the Labor Party leaders, Clement R. Attlee and Arthur Greenwood.

Its formation was announced as British and French troops sped to positions alongside their new Dutch and Belgian Allies. Royal Air Force planes blasted away at German concentrations and communications in the Rhineland and British naval planes gave Adolf Hitler a dose of his own surprise strategy with sudden stabs against German-occupied Bergen, on Norway's west coast.

#### Churchill Has Two Posts

In addition to the premiership Churchill retained the portfolio of defense minister and designated Chamberlain as lord president of the council. Attlee, lord privy seal, Greenwood, minister without portfolio, and Lord Halifax in his old foreign post.

In appointments outside the war Cabinet, he handed over his former job of first lord of the admiralty to A. V. Alexander, Laborite who held the post in Ramsay MacDonald's government in 1929-1931, and appointed Anthony Eden, Conservative, minister of war, and Sir Archibald Sinclair, Liberal leader, air minister.

Churchill expects to announce other Cabinet appointments tomorrow or Tuesday. There were no immediate indications who will be chancellor of the exchequer or whether Sir John Simon is being replaced in this post.

#### Lloyd George Doubtful

It is regarded now as unlikely that David Lloyd George, World War premier and chief critic of Chamberlain, will be included in the Churchill Cabinet.

Handsome, assertive Anthony Eden, former foreign secretary under Chamberlain and later dominions secretary, supplants Oliver Stanley, whose replacement of popular Leslie Hore-Belisha in the war ministry last January caused sharp criticism.

Attlee, chief of the Labor opposition who helped bring Chamberlain's downfall, replaces Sir Kingsley Wood.

Sir Samuel Hoare is supplanted by Sir Archibald Sinclair, the Liberal opposition spokesman, and Greenwood, deputy Labor leader, takes over the post formerly held by Lord Hankey.

#### Chamberlain Still Powerful

As lord president of the council, Chamberlain is presiding member of the privy council, a position not formerly included in the war Cabinet but listed in last night's announcement as second only to Churchill's post.

The smaller war Cabinet meets the demands of numerous members of Parliament for a less unwieldy body to facilitate quick decisions. Its duty is to step up the British war effort unhampered by departmental red tape.

Chamberlain in his new post is expected to be able to take over a great deal of the House of Commons work formerly falling on the prime minister, thus freeing Churchill for the big job of running the war.

Some criticism of this appointment was heard in the lobby on the ground that it gives the former prime minister too much authority in the government.

#### Four Posts Unfilled

Reconstruction of the war Cabinet leaves out the chancellor of the exchequer and the three service ministers. One of the criticisms of Chamberlain's war Cabinet was that it included service ministers.

The war ministry kept silent on the disposition of British-French forces in the low countries, but the air ministry let it be known that its arm of the service had attacked German concentrations between the Rhine and the Meuse and that "hits were obtained on a bridge over the Rhine near Wesel and one line of traffic at its approaches."

Also, at least 50 German planes



Rescuers Carry Air Raid Victim From Nancy First-Aid Station  
Casualties Followed German Bomber Attack Friday on French City



Belgian Railway Bridge Blown Up by Land Mine as a Defense Measure  
Structure Near Arlon, Destroyed Just Prior to the Nazi Invasion

### Belgians Admit Nazis Have Gained Foothold In Defense Lines in Region of Maastricht

BRUSSELS, (AP)—Supported by planes and armored cars, powerful German forces won a foothold in Belgian defense positions near The Netherlands city of Maastricht yesterday.

But a government communique last night reported the Nazis had sustained "heavy losses" in attacks on Belgian fortifications, and claimed "our positions remained intact" around the fortified town of Liege.

Last night's communique said: "During the day important enemy forces, with the aid of incessant bombardments carried out by powerful aerial units and supported by armored cars, attacked the Maastricht region."

"They succeeded in getting a foothold in our defense line."

"Our troops in Luxembourg continued their operations following a preconceived plan and vigor-

ously held their own against the invaders."

"Around Liege, our positions remain intact. The enemy has suffered heavy losses before certain of our fortifications."

"The enemy aviation has carried out systematic bombardments, attacking numerous localities over a great part of our territory."

An earlier communique said Belgian troops in the first line of defense had established contact with German advance units "in several sectors" of the front, and claimed at least 15 German planes were shot down. "Very active" operations of Belgian flyers and anti-aircraft batteries were cited.

Chief points of contact between the Belgian and German forces were said to be along the Albert Canal and the Meuse River and in the Ardennes Mountains facing German-occupied Luxembourg.

Heavily equipped British and French troops, bringing up artillery, tanks and engineering equipment, moved through Belgium to undisclosed positions and Nazi bombers raided Brussels and other communication centers through the second day of the German attack on the Low Countries. German planes also continued to drop parachute troops.

But the Belgian communique claimed neither of these branches of the German air arm had been particularly effective. It reported the enemy bombardments, two of which were aimed at Brussels, had caused no "important damage," and that most of the parachute troops were "captured or neutralized."

Brussels was bombed twice yesterday, and two persons were killed while seeking shelter from

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### Dutch Troops Claim Border Town Recaptured And Every German in Armored Train Killed

AMSTERDAM, (AP)—Netherlands border troops were reported officially last night to have recaptured one town from the main German invading forces in a four-hour counterattack and to have killed every soldier in a German armored train.

In the interior, the Dutch high command said, the Germans dropped more parachute troops and they, for the most part, were destroyed.

But with German bombs killing at least two score persons in the first air raid on Amsterdam, the country's largest city, the defending army and police ran into new troubles.

German civilians garb tried in vain to capture police headquarters at The Hague and sniped at soldiers and policemen from the roofs of houses.

While first-line Dutch troops

for the most part were falling back according to plan from the eastern frontier after laying waste to means of approach, the high command acknowledged the Germans had "crossed a river," presumably either the IJssel, east of Arnhem, or the Maas, further south.

The front line defenders, however, had accomplished their main purpose: gaining time for complete flooding of the main water line defenses in the middle Netherlands. Moreover, one border fort was holding out stubbornly against the Germans.

The town that was recaptured by the Dutch was identified in Allied advices as Mill, 10 miles inside the frontier and about the same distance southeast of Nijmegen. It is on a main cross-country railway line.

The same advices identified the

fort which is holding out as Penndam, at Velp, east of Arnhem. However, French military advices reported Arnhem, in East Central Netherlands, about 12 miles from the border, had been captured by the Germans.

Although Netherlands troops, aided by British planes and the Dutch river fleet, were reported earlier in the day to have wiped out resistance of parachute troops at Rotterdam and Dordrecht Island, last night's communique indicated the airport at Waalhaven, south of Rotterdam, still was in German hands.

It said: "French and English troops have come hurrying to our aid and, together with the Netherlands troops, will defend our soil. Our border troops gallantly ac-

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### New Weapon Helps Nazis In Thrusts

#### Berlin Asserts 1,000 Surrender

LONDON (SUNDAY), (AP)—A German radio broadcast heard here early today said Essen, where the great German Krupp arms works are located, and two other German towns had been bombed by Allied planes.

Essen is about 50 miles from The Netherlands frontier in the rich Ruhr coal fields.

#### Weapon Is Mystery

BERLIN, (AP)—A "new type of weapon" enabled the armies of Adolf Hitler to capture Eben Emael, described as the strongest fortress in Belgium's Liege defenses, the German high command announced last night. The fort's commander and 1,000 men surrendered, the announcement said.

A picked air force detachment, in a slanting attack from above, already had put the fort out of action on Friday, the command said, and held its garrison in check with the new weapon until an army unit attacking from the north arrived and forced the surrender.

"Further and more precise details must of course be kept in the dark," authorities said of the new weapon.

#### Speculation on Weapon

It was a matter of speculation whether this was the weapon which Hitler mentioned in a speech at Danzig last year and which has had experts guesing at its nature ever since. (There also has been speculation whether it was the magnetic mine.)

Eben Emael was the second fort claimed to have been taken in the Liege fortified zone, where the imperial German steamroller was stalled for a week of frontal assault in 1914.

This time the German armies sliced through the Dutch appendix province of Southern Limburg, which virtually is undefensible, seized Maastricht, on the border between the western edge of Dutch Limburg and Belgium, and captured the vital bridges over the Maas River and the Albert Canal in Maastricht and to the west of it.

#### Fort Is Stormed

Then, according to the official German announcement, they stormed Fort Eben Emael, which controls these crossings, and it surrendered yesterday.

The scene of this action is some 15 miles north of Liege proper. The new Albert Canal runs north from Liege to above Maastricht, thence west to Aalst, and, with its correlated fortresses, is Belgium's shield against invasion from the northeast and north.

The text of the German communique follows: "The strongest fort of the Fortress of Liege, Eben Emael, which commands the crossing over the Maas (river) and the Albert Canal at and west of Maastricht, surrendered this afternoon. The commander and 1,000 were taken prisoners."

The fort was already put out of action May 10 and the garrison was kept in check by a picked detachment of the air force under the leadership of Lieutenant Witzig and by the use of a new type of weapon. When the unit of the army attacking from the north successfully established contact with the Witzig detachment after a hard fighting the garrison gave up."

Authorities were extremely secretive about the new weapon, refusing to tip their hand by giving details.

Authorized sources said German troops who occupied Belgian and Netherlands airports on Friday still held them yesterday, but were "fighting with Belgian and Dutch troops."

#### Allied Submarine Claimed

Germany's cautiously worded communique, however, claimed between 300 and 400 enemy planes were destroyed on the ground and 23 shot down in air fights on Friday. The Germans said they lost 11 and 15 were missing.

The high command also reported the sinking of one enemy submarine by a Nazi submarine, the sinking of an enemy destroyer by a Nazi speed boat, and the sinking of two merchantships of 5,000 and 2,000 tons respectively by aerial bombs between Calais and Dunkerque.

On the far-north Norwegian front, which has settled into an Allied siege of a German garrison

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