

## Roosevelt Asks Congress for 50,000 Warplanes; Germans Expand Crack in French Outer Defense; British Repulse Attacks on Their Line in Belgium

### Army Given Jurisdiction Over Paris

#### Situation at Front Viewed as Grave

PARIS (FRIDAY). (AP)—A government decree placed Paris in the army zone last night and transferred control of the capital from civil to military authorities as dispatches reported Allied warplanes fighting terrific battles to stop the lightning strokes of the German Army along the Meuse in Northern France.

There was no official explanation of the sudden decree extending the army zone to Paris. (The censor deleted 25 words in the dispatch at this point.)

Paris' anti-aircraft guns were firing last night, but no air raid alarm had been sounded up to past midnight. The war was brought closer to Paris also. (Here 22 words were censored.)

A close guard was posted over the city's gates in a roundup of foreigners and the internment of those of German origin as authorities guarded against any "fifth column" uprising. (22 words were censored here.)

**Americans Warned**  
Americans were urged by their embassy to leave unless they had compelling reasons to stay.

The army zone decree was proclaimed just after Premier Reynaud had warned of the "peril" of the Nazi invasion.

The French War Ministry's spokesman admitted that German armored columns had pushed deep into France after breaking through the Allies' Meuse River front in the Sedan sector.

But he said the Germans were pinned down by counterattacks from the air.

The premier spoke twice during the day, once to the cheering Chamber of Deputies in person and again to the nation by radio.

Reynaud warned the chamber that "we will be called to take measures which in other times would have seemed revolutionary."

Nevertheless, he emphatically denied alarming rumors spreading through Paris that the government was quitting the capital and the Germans were approaching it.

He also called false other rumors that the Germans had reached Reims, about 85 miles northeast of Paris, and that they were using "new and irresistible arms."

**Nests Abandoned**  
The enemy has succeeded only in crossing the Meuse and opening a large pocket which our valiant troops are cleaning up," he said.

The principal battlefield was reported by the ministry still to be the west bank of the Meuse northwest of Sedan, where German tanks Wednesday penetrated the French pillbox line.

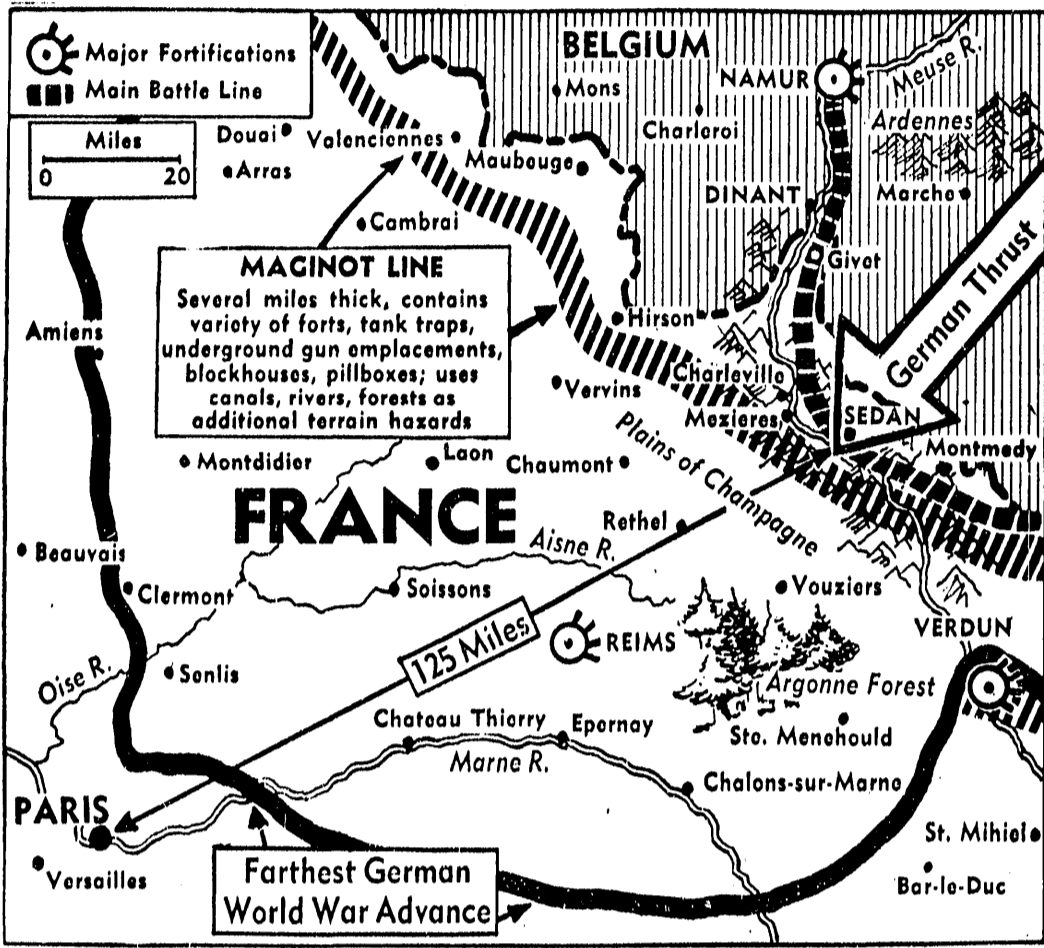
French troops abandoned their concrete-covered machine gun nests under the Allied command's new orders to meet enemy movement with movement and aerial squadrons dived in to bomb and machinegun the German mechanized forces.

Last night's communiqué claimed success for the aerial counterattack with reconnaissance planes scouting out the columns, pursuit planes clearing up the skies and bombing planes raining destruction on German armor.

**Spearheads Held Back**  
No details were given, however, by the British news agency, reported from the Belgian frontier, that wave after wave of British fighters had bombed German positions and troops in the Meuse Valley since dawn.

The Germans appeared to be holding back their spearheads to wait for anti-aircraft batteries and supporting forces to come up before they moved on.

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Nazi Forces Crack the Allied Defenses at Sedan and Mezieres Map Shows Where Fighting Rages in the Plains of Champagne

### Nazi Drive Seeks Ports On Channel

#### German Wing Being Strengthened

BERLIN. (AP)—Hitler's legions massed in the Dyle River sector— from Antwerp south to Namur— last night for a fast-moving drive aimed at the strategic channel ports and a hopping off place for direct attacks upon Britain.

Authorized sources indicated the German right wing was being strengthened with troops released as a result of The Netherlands capitulation to perfect the Von Schleffen plan for a wide assault.

—to turn France's northern flank —in what may be the "battle of the ages."

DNB, official news agency, said "several million of the best equipped soldiers are facing each other in this area." Reports from the front further gave the impression of an imminent attack and repeated that Brussels would be in German hands within the next few days.

**Advance in Sedan**  
Advances reaching here linked movements in the Dyle area with those farther south, where the greatest advance was in the vicinity of French Sedan.

Deep penetration of the Sedan section, it was conjectured, might have the double effect of forcing Allied withdrawal from Belgium and the Dyle sector and, at the same time, forcing withdrawals from the westernmost section of the main Maginot Line.

DNB reports from the front describing the importance of an imminent battle between Antwerp and Namur, emphasized that Britain was insisting that the Belgians do their utmost to hold the area because of the prospect the Germans might gain positions directly across the narrow channel from the British coast.

Along the Meuse River, south of Namur and in the Sedan region, DNB reported the Germans were gaining slowly but steadily.

The German left wing, in the vicinity of Sedan, must be protected, DNB said "to prevent flanking by the French with a

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### King Asks May 26 Be Day of Prayer

LONDON. (AP)—King George asked Britain yesterday to make May 26 a day of "national prayer on behalf of the nation and empire, their Allies and of the cause in which they are united."

The ministry of home security warned that "there now is a risk that enemy parachutists may attempt to land in this country," and urged motorists to keep their cars out of German hands.

"All owners of vehicles should see that from dusk to dawn their vehicles cannot readily be taken away," the ministry said, recommending that cars be locked in garages and spark plugs removed.

The war office announced more than 250,000 had volunteered to join the home defense force against invasion by parachute troops up to last midnight.

### German Force Nears Border Of Hungary

BUDAPEST. (FRIDAY). (AP)—Germany is pouring thousands of mechanized and motorized troops —her "Blitz" divisions—into the region near the Slovak-Hungarian frontier, with temporary headquarters 140 miles from Rumania, reports from Bratislava said early today.

A steady stream of troop trains and swift columns of high speed fighting equipment complete with artillery, tanks, armored cars, field kitchens and truck trains were reported moving into eastern Slovakia, the German-protected area left after the breakup of Czechoslovakia. Nazi warplanes by the hundreds were said to be poised at Vienna and Slovak airports.

**Movement Since Monday**  
The troop movements were reported to have begun Monday through the Zistersdorf Basin north of Vienna and on to Poprad in eastern Slovakia.

German army officers quartered at Vienna were reported here as telling foreigners they had orders to march through Hungary, but that they had no idea when they would start.

Military observers linked the concentrations with the Reich's need of oil to press her oil-consuming western offensive.

**Shipments in Arrears**  
These observers pointed out that these troops could rapidly move through Hungary to Rumanian oil fields if an offensive were determined upon.

Rumanian oil deliveries to the Reich, it was pointed out, are now well over 1,000,000 tons in arrears of the quota agreed upon by the two countries.

With the average warplane on the West Front burning 15 gallons of high-grade gasoline an hour, military sources said, 1,000

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### Picked Troops Turn Germans At Louvain

#### Street Fighting Said To Be 'Terrible'

By Drew Middleton  
WITH THE BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN BELGIUM —(PASSED BY FIELD CENSOR)—  
—(P)—Picked British troops assaulted German positions in the eastern edge of Louvain three times yesterday and, by furious hand-to-hand fighting and rifle fire, threw the Germans back across the railroad tracks.

A Reuters—British news agency —dispatch commented that the British troops were likely to abandon their unprepared positions near Louvain for stronger lines.

It was a fierce day of fighting in the streets of this Belgian town, 16 miles east of Brussels, which was ruined during the last war and whose magnificent library was restored by penny contributions from American school children.

**Shells Rip Positions**  
Late in the day the British were digging in after hours of combat in which early German advantage had been overcome by the three British infantry attacks.

"They lived up to traditions," one British officer remarked, "I don't say more."

Last night German shells were ripping into British positions at the edge of the town, and British metal was shattering over its towers at the German artillery as the ancient university town once again became the objective of warring armies.

The action started Wednesday night when, after an artillery duel, the Germans attacked behind a skirmish line of armored cars. The first thrust was directed at companies of an Irish regiment holding the strategically situated railroad station.

**Furious Rifle Fire**  
The Avenue Des Allies (formerly Rue de la Station) leads straight from the station to the center of the town.

The Irish infantrymen met the German assault with furious rifle, antitank and machinegun fire, but the Germans prevailed and carried the important position which commands the city.

Immediately after the Germans took over, they began to consolidate their positions.

The first British counterattack struck them at early dawn. It was followed by another attack and still another, the last forcing the Germans to retire from a position dearly won and retreat across the railroad beyond the town.

Officers reported British troops who sifted through the sun-splashed streets smashed the German positions as much by superior rifle fire as anything else, although the Germans evidently had some difficulty in bringing up ammunition.

Their communication lines ran along roads leading to Louvain from the east which were heavily

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### 3,000 Aliens In Custody In England

#### Heavy Attacks Made by Planes

LONDON. (AP)—Britain swept about 3,000 enemy aliens into "protective custody" yesterday in a drive to stifle any "fifth column" threat while her massed warplanes winged over Germany with "tons of bombs" in their greatest attack of the war.

Aliens affected by yesterday's order of the home ministry were in category "B," male Germans and Austrians between 16 and 60 who had been under control but not detained.

The swiftness with which Prime Minister Churchill's government followed up criticism that the first big swoop on aliens May 12 was too late and not broad enough led to belief in some quarters that enemy alien women soon would be interned.

**"Heaviest Attack" Claimed**  
About two-thirds of the aliens rounded up yesterday were refugees from the Nazi rule.

Previously they merely had been forbidden to own automobiles or cameras, travel more than four miles from their homes or change their addresses without police approval.

The air ministry said British fliers had waged "the heaviest attack yet made by the Royal Air Force during the war" east of the Rhine throughout Wednesday night.

The air offensive apparently was a follow-up of an attack Wednesday by 150 Allied planes, described as the largest fleet they had massed for a single raid up to then. That attack, the air ministry said, helped stem the German drive in the Meuse-Sedan sector.

The second wave of bombardments, it said, was against "the enemy's road and rail communications which are supporting his forces in their invasion of the Low Countries and Luxembourg." Many tons of bombs were released — fires broke out and heavy explosions were caused.

**Toll "Three to One"**  
The air ministry declared that "the toll inflicted on enemy aircraft is working out at more than three to one in our favor" on the Western Front.

It said 50 German planes were destroyed during yesterday and that in two mass flights the British had lost only three, one during the night attack and two in the day.

Among the targets it said were squarely hit were German highways, railroads, a military encampment and a two-mile-long motorized column.

Allied military sources said the heaviest fighting in the momentous battle of the Meuse was between Dinant, Belgium, and the French city of Sedan, where the situation admittedly was serious "but not critical."

They said the Germans had failed to enlarge their "dent" in the French fortifications at Sedan and were held by the Allies east of that point.

**Liege, Namur Isolated**  
Liege and Namur, Belgian anchors of the Allied Meuse line, admittedly were isolated but a British military commentator said they still were holding out.

Sporadic fighting was reported along the U-shaped front east of the Belgian port of Antwerp through Charleroi and Louvain, south to the French town of Mezieres and from Sedan to Longwy.

The meager reports said also that fighting in the vicinity of

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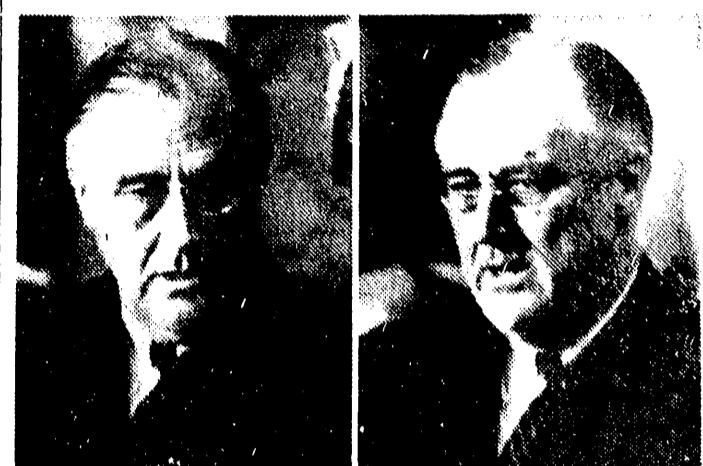
### German Bomber Is Shot Down By Swiss Fighting Plane

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND. (AP)—Emphasizing with machine-gun fire the Swiss determination to keep their territory inviolate, a Swiss fighting plane yesterday afternoon shot down a German bomber which strayed across the line. One member of the German crew was wounded.

The incident highlighted steadily growing tension which yesterday caused Swiss and Germans to close their frontier along the Rhine.

The Swiss plane machine-gunned the bomber and forced it to land in a field northwest of

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A Stern President Addresses Congress Mr. Roosevelt Delivering His Defense Message

### Italian Reply To Roosevelt Still Awaited

#### Americans Are Warned To Leave British Isles

WASHINGTON. (AP)—Officials waited in vain last night for a hopeful sign from Italy that President Roosevelt's moves to prevent extension of the war to the Mediterranean were succeeding.

No assurances came from Rome in answer to the President's suggestion against the extension of the conflict to more areas and other nations.

Ambassador William Phillips in Rome presented the President's message to the Italian foreign office, to be handed to Mussolini. It is understood here the message was, in effect, a reiteration of the hopes the President expressed to Italy two weeks ago. At that time, it was learned, Mussolini gave Ambassador Phillips assurances merely that Italy did not contemplate any "immediate" entry into the war.

It was believed here last night that Mussolini's decision on war or peace would depend on whether France was to withdraw troops from the Italian border to meet the German invasion in the north.

**Exodus From Italy Begun**  
Dispatches from Rome yesterday indicated that the exodus of Americans from Italy had begun. American and Italian ships leaving Genoa and Naples were reported crowded with fleeing Americans, warned by the embassy and consulates to leave while transportation facilities were still available.

The State Department announced that the Americans in England had been advised to proceed to Ireland. The department said this government would consider the possibility of sending a vessel to the west coast of Ireland for the use of Americans desiring to return to the United States. There were 7,000 Americans in the United Kingdom on January 1, the latest date for which

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### Defense Needs Will Be Met, Industry Says

#### Space, Employees Must Be Tripled

NEW YORK. (AP)—Production of 50,000 military airplanes a year by American aircraft plants, suggested in President Roosevelt's message to Congress yesterday, can be achieved with slightly more than a three-fold increase in their employees, a statement by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce said last night.

The statement, over the signature of John H. Jouett, president of the chamber, the trade association of the aircraft manufacturing industry, said 50,000 planes a year also would involve tripling the floor space of the airplane plants and doubling the floor space of the engine plants.

"From preliminary studies," said Jouett, "the program outlined in the President's message today would seem to involve slightly more than a three-fold increase in the number of employees with the plants working on a full-shift basis, at the same time tripling the floor space of the airplane manufacturing plants and doubling the floor space of the engine plants."

**Industry Expanded**  
The aircraft industry, under the impetus of Allied orders in the last few months has been expanded from about 40,000 to 100,000 employees in the plane, engine and accessories plants. An intensive program has been instituted in several engine and aircraft factories.

President Roosevelt estimated the aircraft industry's annual production capacity at present at 12,000 planes.

By December of this year it has been estimated 25,000 engines each of 1,000 horse power or better will be rolling off assembly lines on an annual basis.

**Douglas Pledges Aid**  
SANTA MONICA, CAL. (AP)—Donald W. Douglas, president of the Douglas Aircraft Company and head of the largest airplane plant in the United States, yesterday pledged the resources of his organization to the enlarged plan for national defense.

"We can do it," he said in a statement on President Roosevelt's plea for production of 50,000 planes a year.

**No Task Too Great**  
"No task is too great and no accomplishment impossible for a free people united in loyalty and love of its country."

"I am confident the airplane industry of the United States can and will keep pace with the needs and desires of the Government."

"Every facility of our plants and every resource of our own organization are at the service and

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### Record Sum Is Sought For Defense

#### Speech Cites Fate Of Unprepared

(See Text on Page 2.)

WASHINGTON. (AP)—President Roosevelt solemnly warned a joint session of Congress yesterday that unprepared nations "find themselves overrun by the enemy," and proposed a \$1,182,000,000 program to make "our defenses invulnerable, our security absolute."

At the center of his defense appeal was a call for planes, and more planes—for the expansion of America's capacity to produce aircraft until 50,000 can be turned out annually, and until an actual armada of 50,000 fighting planes is ready to "meet any lightning offensive against our American interest."

The sum he proposed will push next fiscal year's defense spending and contract authorizations to \$3,276,000,000—by far the largest in peace-time history.

A Congress tense with realization of the sweep of events abroad heard the President, cheered him as he has seldom been cheered at the Capitol, and prepared to carry out his recommendations with the utmost speed.

**May Introduces Bill**  
Almost immediately, Chairman May (D., Ky.) of the House Military Committee introduced a \$726,000,000 Army expansion bill, to authorize the acquisition of anti-aircraft equipment and ammunition, expedite the manufacture of munitions, modernize combat planes, train 15,000 new troops, and improve the defenses of the Panama Canal.

The Senate, seeking to speed action on the President's program, adopted unanimously a resolution calling for the return from a joint conference committee of the \$693,797,000 Navy appropriation bill in order that the additional Navy funds might be written into that measure. Such procedure would make it unnecessary to introduce new appropriations legislation.

"Surely," said the President, measuring his words and delivering them with marked deliberation, "the developments of the past few weeks have made it clear to all of our citizens that the possibility of attack on vital American zones ought to make it essential that we have the physical, the ready ability to meet those attacks and to prevent them from reaching their objective."

"This means military implements—not on paper—which are ready and available to meet any lightning offensive against our American interest. It means also that facilities for production must be ready to turn out munitions and equipment at top speed."

He asked \$896,000,000 Now

"We have had the lesson before us over and over again—nations that were not ready and were unable to get ready found themselves overrun by the enemy. So-called impregnable fortifications were taken. So-called invulnerable defenses were broken. So-called inviolable zones allowed an enemy to consolidate his approach without hindrance will lose. A defense which makes no effective effort to destroy the lines of supplies and communications of the enemy will lose."

"An effective defense by its very nature requires the equipment to attack an aggressor on his route before he can establish strong bases within the territory of American vital interests."

For the rest, Mr. Roosevelt proposed:

An immediate appropriation of \$896,000,000 for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, including \$100,000,000 to be appropriated to

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### RENTING ROOMS AND APARTMENTS

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