

### Armour Ideas Make the Most of Meat



### Lamb Curry! A Big Meal for 6

Even with rationing you can serve a big, hearty meat dinner that's so filling, so substantial... it fills the bill as well as any pre-war meal you ever had! For a delicious casserole of Lamb Curry takes only 1 1/2 points if you use lamb breast, only 6 points if you use lamb shoulder!

Either way, you'll have enough for 5 or 6 man-sized meat servings. If you use Armour's Star Lamb, you'll be sure of rich flavor and high nutrition, regardless of the cut you choose!

Have 1 1/2 lbs. of Star Lamb (breast or shoulder) cut into 1-inch cubes and

ARMOUR AND COMPANY

## Moscow Dateline

by HENRY C. CASSIDY

### CHAPTER 23

Moscow was a buyers' market in the autumn of 1942. The Soviets were selling the second front 1942, preferred. So when Wendell Willkie came as personal representative of President Roosevelt seeking precisely second-front stock, locked doors flew open, frozen faces melted into smiles, and the Kremlin gave him the warmest welcome it had extended to a foreigner in many a moon.

In contrast to Prime Minister Churchill's visit, Willkie's was one of back-slapping goodfellowship and closed in complete accord. But Churchill was the one who directed the destinies of one of Russia's great allies, while Willkie was only a leader of the opposition in the other.

Willkie's visit to Russia, in September, could have no immediate, specific effect on the conduct of the war, since he was not in a position to make any official decisions, but it formed a remarkable chapter in the history of that period. It showed the Soviet desire for understanding and friendship, and it opened a new period of public pressure on the Allies to create a second front.

On his second day in Moscow I was invited to dinner with Willkie. I obtained a clear impression that Willkie was in Moscow to get ammunition for a political battle, in case there should be any isolationist or fifth-columnist movement in America for peace before both Germany and Japan were completely defeated. He wanted the United States to stay in the war until the victory was won. He also wanted to promote support for a western European offensive, by killing any suspicion that Russia would lie down and leave us alone, once we were engaged with the Germans.

Stalin and Willkie got along famously. For one reason, they were of the same mind on the most important subject of the day—the second front. For another, although they spoke different languages, Russian and English, they talked them in the same way, frankly. Stalin liked Willkie personally, and Willkie admired Stalin.

They were together for two hours and fifteen minutes, a long time for a Kremlin talk. Molotov and an interpreter were present. Willkie handed a written message from President Roosevelt to Stalin, and received a verbal reply. They talked of Soviet and American industrial production, of Russian desire for more active Allied aid, of victory and a peace where each nation would live according to its likes. Willkie went away, sold on the need for a second front.

He went immediately to the "first front." Stopping at the guesthouse only long enough for a hasty supper, he drove west that same night, under a pale Russian moon, to the Red army zone near Rzhev. This trip was the routine one which the Soviets had long since organized. It gave Willkie a chance, however, to talk to some soldiers and peasants. It also gave him a second sleepless night, for after dusk he started the drive back to Moscow.

On his last day in Moscow, he came to a cocktail party, given by the correspondents in the Associated Press room at the Hotel Metropole, and handed out a statement, summing up his visit.

"I am now convinced we can best help Russia by establishing a real second front in Europe with Great Britain at the earliest possible moment. Our military leaders will approve," he said, "and perhaps some of them need some public prodding. Next summer might be too late."

That rather ominous statement reflected the Kremlin view. But before Willkie left, on his last night in Moscow, the most revealing light on the Soviet attitude was cast during his dinner at the Kremlin.

That dinner was the most intimate of any offered to an important visitor. Twenty-eight persons attended. At 8 p.m., they walked through the Supreme Soviet council chamber of the Great Palace, their steps echoing through the

vast, empty hall, and entered the St. Alexander room.

Stalin placed Willkie on his right and Admiral Standley on his left, with an interpreter beside each of them. It started out as a merry meal. It became merrier in the course of 27 toasts. Stalin roared a toast to his guest of honor, Willkie. Willkie replied with a toast to Stalin and Churchill. Molotov toasted Roosevelt. That took care of formalities. Then the fun began.

Stalin chided the interpreters for translating in dull, flat voices, without emotion. Willkie promptly toasted the interpreters, "the only ones who are working here tonight." Stalin drank to their health and remarked that, when they were in Moscow, Gardner Cowles, Jr., who was also with Willkie's party, brought them to their feet with a roar to drink to the average Russian soldier. Then matters took a serious turn.

Commander Paul Phil, Willkie's naval aide, suggested a toast to air pilots, which were duly drunk. Stalin turned the conversation immediately to Red air force pilots who he said were fighting well, although they knew the Tomahawks they were flying were not so good as Airacobras, and the Hurricanes they were flying were not so good as Spitfires. His tone was severe. He carried it even farther, by asserting 152 Airacobras, which were to be delivered to Russia, had been intercepted en route and diverted to the British.

Willkie tried to liven the tone by remarking that Stalin certainly kept his "eye on the ball." That took some explanation, through the interpreters, about golf and baseball, before Stalin got the point.

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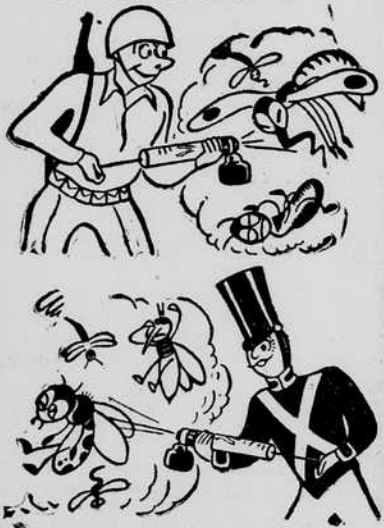
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Then he agreed, he did keep his eye on the ball.

But a serious charge had been made, even though presented casually. Clark Kerr, the only British guest, had to reply. He said he had long studied Stalin's character, even before coming to Russia from China, and he had admired him, especially for his bluntness. That quality, he said, called for bluntness in reply. The Soviet Union, Great Britain, and the United States were united in a common cause, he pointed out, and if any planes were diverted from Russia, it would only be to further the cause of all three. If such a thing had happened, he concluded, he was sure Stalin knew about it in advance and knew it was

for the best. That was the final speech.

"Nothing the British ambassador has said will be taken amiss," Stalin said, and the guests adjourned to the throne room of St. Andrew where the fun was resumed.

Wearily, but happily, the guests wended their ways home in the early morning hours. Just before noon of September 27, Willkie flew off for Kuibyshev and Chungking. There was a serious aftermath to the Willkie visit. He had come as President Roosevelt's representative, to study the Russian people and Red army, and to promote friendship between the Rus-

(Continue on Page Twelve)

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