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Peace Reigns in Spain As Madrid's Surrender Ends Bloody Civil War

Million Half-Starved Madrilenos In Joyful Frenzy as Franco Occupies Capital City.

Madrid, March 28. — Nearly 1,000,000 half-starved survivors of the most terrible siege of modern times danced and embraced victorious Nationalist troops in Madrid's streets tonight in celebration of the city's surrender and the end of the long Spanish civil war.

Nearly three years of Spain's "Little World War," which had threatened to engulf all Europe, was at its end. All that remained for Generalissimo Francisco Franco's Nationalists was to mop up a wedge-shaped area extending east and south to the Mediterranean coast.

Valencia, Alicante, Jaen, Almeria, and other republican cities had yet to surrender formally and unconditionally, but resistance there, as in Madrid, was shattered and the war-weary people wanted peace, whatever the price.

Their leaders were fleeing, seeking haven abroad. Their soldiers were surrendering by the thousands.

Miaja Flees. General Jose Miaja, who stalled Franco's African Moors at the gates of Madrid on a cold November day in 1936 and who proclaimed that the capital would be "the tomb of Fascism," had fled to the coast when the Nationalists marched in triumphant.

Miaja was reported from Valencia to have ordered all republican soldiers to "surrender and avoid useless bloodshed." The order applied to the 20th army defending the Mediterranean coastal sector.

Franco, who was at a field headquarters near Guadarrama about 20 miles north of Madrid, prepared to serve a new ultimatum on the remainder of the republican zone.

It was reported that Miaja might be rescued from Valencia by a British warship.

The first of 200,000 Nationalist troops marched into Madrid's shell-rattled streets at 11 a. m., with Italian Blackshirts well in their van, to find the destitute city blanketed with white flags. Streets resounded to shout of "Viva Franco; Arriba Espana!"

Sawing hands were stretched out in the unfamiliar Fascist salute. Then they clutched at the arms of Franco's soldiers with pitiful cries of "pan!" (bread).

Not a single shot was fired in the unconditional surrender which ended Madrid's 872 days of merciless siege.

Severe Fighting Raging in China

Both Sides Reported Heavy Losses as Japanese Seek to Capture Wuning.

Shanghai, March 28. — Japanese and Chinese troops were reported today to be in a heavy battle for Wuning, central China town 65 miles northwest of Nanchang, which Japanese reported occupying yesterday.

Japanese dispatches said Chinese entrenched at Wuning were resisting stiffly a mechanized onslaught by the invaders. Both sides told of suffering heavy casualties.

Occupation of Nanchang, Japanese said, was "complete." However, Chinese military headquarters did not admit loss of the city which for months had been a major central China air base.

Besides the engagement at Wuning, Japanese said their troops were driving from Nanchang in an attempt to open a way to Changsha, Hunan Province capital 220 miles to the southwest.

On the central front, it was stated, "several divisions" of Chinese were trapped northwest of Nanchang, and 30,000 were encircled directly to the North on the railway to Kiujiang.

They added that the present Japanese drive from the Yangtze River into the interior meant limited Japanese strength was being spread over a wider area, lengthening lines against which Chinese and guerrillas might cooperate.

Foreign observers, however, said Japanese occupation of Nanchang would require re-outing of Chinese guerrilla supply lines and trade routes since Nanchang had been a local point for distribution of supplies.

Open House Held At Local School

Last Thursday, March 23, all the parents and friends of the pupils in the local schools were invited to visit the classrooms while the school was holding its regular session. At 3 o'clock the same day the Parent-Teachers Association held its regular meeting. The meeting was called to order by its president, Mrs. D. R. Morgan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and stood approved as read. The devotion was led by the Rev. D. A. Clarke, who read a poem and said a prayer. It was then announced that Miss Ward's room had had the best attendance for the past month with an average of 98.3 per cent. Miss Lewis's room had the largest number of parents present.

The program had a double feature. The first part of the program was presented by Miss Paschall's pupils, the sixth grade. They first sang a few health songs and then presented a play illustrating the things that were necessary for good health.

Morgan then presented the main speaker of the afternoon, Mrs. J. M. Hobgood. Mrs. Hobgood opened her talk by saying that the five chief institutions of the modern world were the family, school, church, industrial order, and state. She then went on to discuss the family in greater detail, mentioning the various members and the part each one should play.

Soviets Omitted From New Group

Britain Said To Be Seeking Military Pact with France, Poland and Rumania.

London, March 29. — Two London newspapers asserted this morning that Great Britain is planning a military anti-aggressor alliance to "stop Hitler" and that the proposed bloc would not include Russia.

The assertions followed by a few hours Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's revelation in Parliament that British proposals seeking to curb Nazi expansion contained concrete measures and went much further than consultations.

The Daily Mail's diplomatic correspondent said Britain and France are planning a military alliance to include Rumania and Poland. The alliance also would act if Holland or Switzerland were attacked.

The Daily Mirror's political correspondent said that Chamberlain is planning an anti-aggression alliance of Britain, France, Holland, Belgium and Poland and Rumania also.

"Russia is not included," the Mirror stated. "London and Paris at present are pressing Poland and Rumania to guarantee each other's frontiers and, if they agree, well-informed persons say that British assistance will take the form of (1) a fast output of arms and munitions, (2) a powerful navy capable of completely blockading Germany by sea, (3) a formidable air force to operate wherever it is required and (4) a small mobile mechanized expeditionary force.

"When the new policy becomes known, all parties will be staggered to discover that Russia is not included in the alliance. Already the government is facing mutiny."

In his statements in Parliament, Chamberlain did not say that a military alliance was contemplated and refused to give details of the negotiations in progress.

Previously it had been understood that Britain planned a declaration by the four powers that they would consult an action to be taken in the event of future aggression, but Poland balked at joining in such a declaration without strong military guarantees of British, French and Russian support if Germany should attack her.

Lettuce Improves

The lettuce crop of southeastern Carolina, hard hit by cold and rain, has improved greatly in recent weeks, reports J. P. Herring, veteran farm agent in that territory. Mr. Herring says the growers re-seed as far as plants were available but that these late plants will have a hard time maturing quality heads. The crop of garden peas was almost wiped out, he said.

WHO KNOWS?

1. How many college students are in the U. S.?
2. What is the average monthly pension for blind persons?
3. Do many people collect postage stamps?
4. Can a rainbow be seen in the western sky in the afternoon?
5. How many Catholics are there in the world?
6. Where did chess originate?
7. Can Texas divide itself into four States?
8. What is the oldest Parliament on the world?
9. How long does it take electricity to travel around the world?
10. What kind of time does Mexico use?



LARGER AND MODERN ARMY IS PLANNED TO GUARD NATION IN UNCERTAIN FUTURE.

Thursday of next week, April 6th, has been designated by the President as Army Day. In accordance with a concurrent resolution, passed by the Seventy-Fifth Congress, the Chief Executive has invited the Governors of all States to issue similar proclamations and has ordered military units everywhere to assist civic bodies in observance of the day.

Army Day, 1939, comes with the nation devoting more attention and larger funds to the improvement of its Army than ever before in time of peace. While the Navy has always been relied upon to protect this country in an emergency and to defend it against invasion until military forces could be adequately prepared to meet any emergency, recent events in the world have convinced military and political leaders in this country that the United States requires a larger, more modern and better trained army.

Accordingly, plans are underway to give this country one of the best equipped armies in the world and to have behind it an organized industry, geared to shift quickly into war-time production, supplemented by plans to have as many as one million soldiers under arms within about three months of "M-day," which is "mobilization day."

National defense measures are receiving prompt consideration by the present Congress, which is providing huge sums for the Army. The appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1940 will be the largest since the war and is expected to run around \$520,000,000. More than \$350,000,000 will be provided for expansion of the Air Corps and some \$116,000,000 is expected to be available for the purchase of modern equipment.

In addition, there will be sums for improvement of the defenses in the Panama Canal Zone, for the defense of Hawaii and the Coasts, probably for the construction of a third set of locks at Panama and about \$34,000,000 for educational orders to industrial plants in order to train them for mass scale production in event of war.

The Regular Army will be stepped up to 220,000 officers and men, as compared to 180,000 today. This, with the National Guard of about 210,000 men, will comprise the immediately available military force of the nation. Behind it will be a "protective mobilization force" of 750,000, including the 430,000 already mentioned and some 270,000 replacements. With the money provided for equipment, there will be purchased anti-tank guns, tanks, gas masks, semi-automatic rifles and other modern equipment to provide these soldiers with the best-existing weapons. Particular attention will be paid to critical or "hard-to-manufacture" items for anti-aircraft regiments.

The Air Defense bill will provide for expansion of the Army Air Corps to 6,000 planes, by July 1941, as contrasted with the approximately 1,700 planes on hand today. These will be given the necessary equipment, bombs bases and barracks. Some 43 new squadrons will be organized by the Air Corps. This will be built up to 4,663 regular and reserve officers and 44,537 enlisted men. Production capacity of the aviation industry will be increased to approximately 12,000 planes a year. Roughly, the Air Corps will be almost quadrupled.

The third set of locks for the Panama Canal is intended to be far larger than the present locks and will be largely limited to naval use. The locks will be situated some distance from the present ones in order to avoid hazards from air attacks and sabotage. While this project has not yet been approved by Congress, it is expected that it will win out over the proposed Nicaraguan or Mexican canal.

Briefly, the nation is modernizing its Army and practically putting the Air Corps on a war footing in time of peace. Industry is being prepared for instant full-scale production in an emergency. Plainly, these steps reveal the opinion of military experts that any war in which this country will be engaged will be a "totalitarian war." That is to say, they expect it to require the enlistment of the full strength of the nation, both in manpower and in industry.

This is the military picture in the United States today. All of the items mentioned above have not yet been accomplished by legislation and some proposals now being discussed will be included, such as the provision for large-scale purchase and storage of certain strategic raw materials not produced in sufficient quantities in this country.

A Warning From Germany to Poland

May Be Prelude to Demands Upon Warsaw; Nazi Envoy Visits Col. Beck.

Berlin, March 28. — The German foreign office tonight semi-officially served a blunt warning upon Poland that unless the "vital rights" of the German minority there are respected, developments may be "harmful to the Polish nation itself."

The warning, giving formal status to Nazi pressure against Poland in what some quarters regarded as a prelude to possible demands regarding Danzig and the Polish Corridor, was made by the foreign office organ "Diplomatische Politikal Korrespondenz."

"It followed Nazi accusations of the 'deplorable mistreatment' of German men and women in the Bromberg section of the Polish Corridor and an announcement in Warsaw that 'baby bonds' would be floated among the people to raise \$228,000,000 for air force and anti-aircraft expansion.

The foreign office organ, using phrases that were familiar in the Nazi campaigns preceding Germany's absorption of Austria, the Sudetenland and Czechoslovakia, said that "anti-German acts" in Poland must be regarded as deplorable despite the Reich's desire to live in peace with the Poles.

If they continue, Poland was told, they might bring consequences "as deplorable for the future harmonious development of the European era as they would indeed be harmful to the Polish nation itself."

"Unfortunately, Germany's expectations have not been fulfilled up to today." It was explained that Germany had felt that a strong Poland, with whom she could live in peace, was an important factor in the peaceful development of Europe.

The post-war treaty of Versailles sliced a strip from Germany and gave it to Poland as a corridor to the Baltic, thus isolating German East Prussia from the Reich. It also established Danzig as a free city.

MID-DAY MEETINGS ANNOUNCED

The Minister's Union of Farmville, announce a series of mid-day Prayer services to be held Tuesday through Friday of the week immediately preceding Easter. Beginning April 4th this four day series of meetings will be held in the local theatre at 11 o'clock each morning.

The services will be brief and enriched by musical numbers, by members of the various cooperating churches. A different clergyman will be in charge each day.

It is hoped that a large number of our business men and their employees, and, of course, as many others who can, will attend these conveniently located sessions. Together let us seek to prepare ourselves for the spiritual enrichment of the Easter season!

Free Limestone

H. B. Ditmore of Madison County recently purchased a carload of limestone which cost him \$1.62 a ton and said the Triple-A would pay him \$1.50 a ton as a soil improving practice. The limestone will be used to renovate an old pasture.

Roosevelt Gives Order For Start Upon Huge Ships

Wide Area Swept By Forest Blaze

2,000 Acres of Woodland Near Wilson Burned; Loss Estimated Up In Thousands.

Wilson, March 27. — Whipped by a high wind, flames ripped through some 2,000 acres of woodland in Gardner's township yesterday afternoon and did untold damage to timber in one of the largest forest fires this section has had in a long time.

The fire is believed to have been started by a match tossed into the parched underbrush by someone at a Negro church meeting.

Although no official estimate could be had of the damage to the forest land by the fire today some thought that it would probably run up as high as \$5,000 or \$7,500. Fodder on some farms also was destroyed.

Deputy Sheriff J. A. Driver, on whose land a patch of 100 acres of woods was destroyed, said that his loss alone was about \$1,000.

Woodland on over 20 farms in the section was damaged by the fire.

Today County Fire Warden L. W. Morris said that the fire was almost out, though logs were still smoldering in a number of places.

Hundreds of firefighters worked with Morris and his brigade yesterday in putting out the fire. The firefighters were hindered by the high wind and the large number of curious automobiles who came to see the blaze.

Plan To Attend Closing Session Cooking School

Women of this community are taking the opportunity offered them by the Farmville Furniture Co., to add to their knowledge of electric cookery in the Cooking School being conducted by Mrs. Marian Little, General Electric's own home economist.

Mrs. Little gave her pupils new recipes, new ideas for entertaining and short cuts in home cooking yesterday afternoon, Thursday, and they are eagerly awaiting the hour of 3:00 today for her closing instructions.

Refreshments and free gifts are special features of the Cooking School, and gifts for those attending the School today are listed as follows:

Says Uncle Sam to Build Two 45,000 Ton Battleships as Answer to Japan.

Washington, March 28. — President Roosevelt disclosed today that his recommendation for construction of two 45,000 ton battleships in a bid for world naval leadership is a partial reply to Japan's refusal to reveal whether she is building war vessels larger than treaty limits.

His remark was made at a press conference a few hours after it was learned that he had approved plans for the building of the super-dreadnaughts as part of the vast naval expansion program authorized last year. Funds for starting construction of the two vessels will be contained in the regular Navy Department budget being drafted by a House sub-committee.

In response to a question, the President said that the Japanese government's refusal to verify or deny reports that two or three Japanese warships are being built in violation of the 35,000-ton limit of the defunct Washington treaty was one of several reasons for his action.

He declined, however, to state the reasons for supporting construction of the two vessels, which would be the largest warships ever set afloat.

Certainty of the super-dreadnaught construction immediately revived reports that the ships may be mounted with 18-inch guns, probably the deadliest sea weapons ever devised. It was admitted privately that the matter is being given favorable consideration by naval experts.

The Japanese warships reportedly under construction are said to be in the vicinity of 40,000 tons and equipped with the giant guns. Great Britain already has laid the keels of two 40,000 tonners and is believed also to be considering use of super guns.

Disclosure of Mr. Roosevelt's support of giant ships highlight national defense and foreign affairs developments. Of considerable importance, however, was his meeting with Fernando de Los Rios, ambassador of Loyalist Spain, who has been rendered virtually a man without a country because of Madrid's fall.

The president met with De Los Rios at the latter's request, ostensibly for a discussion of the Spanish refugee question. The envoy made the appointment yesterday, prior to Madrid's capitulation. Emerging from the meeting he said he would remain as ambassador here for the present.

Choral Group Pleases Audience

Music lovers of the community turning out for the A Capella Choir, Fri. evening, had nothing but praise and favorable comment for the splendid concert presented by a choral group, composed of students of Georgia State College for Women and Georgia Military College, Milledgeville, Ga., under the direction of Max Noah, head of the music department at the Georgia State.

The good ensemble form of the sixty voices and the artistic interpretation of the well balanced program under the capable direction of Mr. Noah, made it a concert that would be eagerly anticipated by this community as an annual event.

The college boys and girls were graciously entertained in private homes here and in addition enjoyed open house at the Major May Chapter House after the concert, and a Brunswick stew luncheon in the Rotary dining room before leaving the next day.

It was mainly through the efforts of Mrs. John D. Holmes, president of the sponsoring organization, the Woman's Club, and a former resident of Milledgeville, that her home town college students received such a cordial welcome, but the folks here were captivated by the boys and girls themselves before their departure and the warm hospitality extended was genuine.

Miss Nellie Butler, attractive sister of Mrs. Holmes, who was a member of the school faculty last year, and who has visited in Farmville from time to time, is a member of the choral group.

Substitute

Scientists of the U. S. Bureau of Dairy Industry have perfected a process for making a transparent rubber-like substance from lactic acid of whey that has many promising uses in various industrial operations.

Cotton

A \$75,000,000 export subsidy program to move the government's surplus cotton stores has come under consideration of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.