Weekly News Analysis

Kennedy-Bullitt War Forecast Justified by World Situation

By Joseph W. La Bine

EDITOR'S NOTE—*When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst, and not necessarily of the newspaper.*

International

When U. S. foreign envoys make their rare appearances in congress, it is usually to advise house and senate committees on foreign affairs. But two days before President Roosevelt gave congress his unprecedented defense proposals *(see below)*, two top-ranking U. S. ambassadors walked into secret session not with the foreign affairs committees, but with a committee on military affairs. The ambassadors: Jos-

MESSRS. KENNEDY, BULLITT
It looked like cold-blooded truth.

eph P. Kennedy, home from London, and William C. Bullitt, home from Paris.

Though committee room walls supposedly have no ears, it was learned that Messrs. Kennedy and Bullitt thoroughly frightened their congressional audience with the following opinion on European affairs:

Great Britain has favored "appeasement" of Italy and Germany because neither she nor France have adequate arms. So intense is British appeasement sentiment that London would permit Germany to build an airbase in Canada rather than revert to war. But since Czechoslovakia's "sellout" at Munich last September proved that one appeasement leads to another, France has determined to stop this policy. Therefore France will not concede to Italian territorial demands, knowing that in war Great Britain must come to her aid and that Russia, in turn, must aid the democracies.

Crux of the Kennedy-Bullitt opinion: That further appeasement, as advocated by Prime Minister Chamberlain, will only delay the eventual showdown and make war even more critical when it comes, which will probably be within the next few months. The U. S. will not be drawn into this conflict immediately.

If this was propaganda for President Roosevelt's long-range national defense program, committeemen swallowed it hook, line and sinker. And well they might, because the forecast appeared to be cold-blooded truth when measured in the light of that day's news from abroad. It all looked like war:

THE BIG FOUR

As Prime Minister Chamberlain left London's Victoria station for his appeasement visit with Italy's Premier Mussolini, unemployed demonstrators booed him and shouted: "Appease the unemployed, not Mussolini!" Between London and Dover, where he crossed the channel, Mr. Chamberlain might have reflected on the advisability of such a course. Hitler was clamoring for submarine parity with Britain; Italy was fighting the Spanish civil war and yelling for concessions from France; both Germany and Italy were propagandizing about British "atrocities" in Palestine.

En route to Rome, the Chamberlain entourage stopped in Paris to (1) show Germany and Italy that France and Britain stand together, and (2) assure France that Mussolini could not induce Chamberlain to bring pressure for French concessions to Italy. After two hours of tea drinking, a spokesman announced Chamberlain would tell Mussolini that France agreed to consider concessions on "secondary" questions. These are (1) the status of 100,000 Italians in Tunisia; (2) control over the Djibouti-Addis Ababa railroad; (3) administration of the French-controlled Suez canal. As for himself, Chamberlain expected to tell Mussolini he refused to mediate between France and Italy, or grant belligerent rights to Spain's General Franco so long as Italian troops are fighting the war.

But Chamberlain also knew he must speak softly, for only a week before the Anglo-French alliance had suffered a severe blow. At Berchtesgaden, Polish Foreign Minister Joseph Beck had deserted his French alliance to find greater security with Germany. Moreover, this meant that Poland would be ready to block any Russian effort to aid France and Britain. Temporarily free from danger in the east, the Rome-Berlin axis was ready to apply pressure on democracies.

The best prediction: That Chamberlain-Mussolini conversations will lead to another "Munich" peace conference, but certainly not to general European peace.

HUNGARY

Last November's Italian-German commission settled a boundary for Czechoslovakia and Hungary, but neither nation liked it. Since January 8 a series of border incidents has kept both nations aflame, each holding the other responsible. Czechoslovakia has offered terms for truce, but Budapest refuses until Prague pays for damages, acknowledges responsibility for attacks and punishes individuals responsible. The outcome of this squabble is unpredictable, but Germany may well step in to help the Czechs since the Reich wants the border city of Munkacs to be retained in Czechoslovakia's Carpatho-Ukraine. The town is important in Berlin's program of fortifying Carpatho-Ukraine in preparation for a German drive into Russian Ukraine. Meanwhile there is war on the Czech-Hungarian frontier.

JAPAN

"Britain and the United States are believed to be aware that should they resort to serious economic pressure against Japan, Japan would have sufficient determination and preparation to resort to retaliatory measures against their mainlands and dependencies."

This war talk came from Japan's Foreign Minister Hachiro Arita in answer to measures Great Britain and the U. S. had already taken to combat growing Japanese domination over the Orient. Because Tokyo has closed China's "open door" in violation of the nine-power treaty, both London and Washington have given China financial support. Mean-

JAPAN'S HACHIRO ARITA
He threatened a U. S. invasion.

while the U. S. has completely stopped the sale of war materials to Japan.

Minister Arita's statement, appearing in Tokyo's Fascist newspaper, Nichi Nichi, is the most warlike gesture yet made against the U. S. What equalized the threat, however, was a similar gesture made against Russia by Lieut. Gen. Rensuke Isogai, Japanese chief of staff in Manchuria. Said he: "We do not want war . . . But the Soviet authorities have shown no sign of cooperation. Instead they are strengthening their military works and reinforcing their armies in Russia and the Far East."

AT HOME

Checking the above news with Bullitt-Kennedy statements, congress was in fine shape to discuss U. S. defense measures. Tennessee's Rep. Andrew J. May of the house military affairs committee popped up to urge military training for 300,000 CCC boys. He also asked four-lane superhighways down Atlantic and Pacific coasts and across the gulf states.

Next day the President sent congress his defense message, well pared down from the multi-billion figures originally bandied about Washington. The total extra, emergency appropriation request: $552,000,000, half of which should be spent before the next fiscal year is over. Presidential arguments, few of which were needed, pointed out that the U. S. is relatively no better prepared today than in 1917, when it took a year from the war declaration date for American troops to reach a major engagement.

Items in the proposed outlay: $300,000,000 to increase army air corps up to 3,000 fighting planes; $110,000,000 for "critical" items of war equipment; $32,000,000,000 for industrial mobilization; $8,000,000 for improved seacoast defenses; $44,000,000 for stronger Atlantic and Pacific naval bases; $21,000,000 for more naval planes; $10,000,000 for civilian pilot training; $27,000,000 for adequate Panama canal defenses.

Politicana

Because Massachusetts statehouse custom decrees the governor shall have private, nonstop elevator rides, the operator whizzed new **Gov. Leverett Saltonstall** past a group of employees on their way to lunch. Said the governor: "Pick them up in the future. I like to ride with people."

Agriculture

Under Secretary Henry A. Wallace, the U. S. agriculture department's "original objective" has been increased consumption through one method or another. Last summer came announcement of a new method, a "two price" plan for boosting domestic consumption of farm products. Under this arrangement the U. S. would subsidize manufacturers, whose products would be sold at a below-normal price to low income families.

First objections came from manufacturers and retailers, many of whom thought the plan would curtail free enterprise. Then congressmen turned a cold shoulder, suggesting difficulties in getting the special purchase privilege in the hands of people deserving them. As congress got underway it became certain that Mr. Wallace had dropped the plan entirely, though still clinging to the "original objective."

Announcement was made that conferences are being held with cotton manufacturers to encourage the lowest possible prices for mattresses to be sold to low income families. Grapefruit will be similarly "merchandised." Said Mr. Wallace: "We want increased consumption . . . We will use any method to obtain it. We hope we can get the trade (processors and distributors) to do specific things to shave costs to the limit."

● Via London, U. S. farmers have learned that the agriculture department proposes to reduce American wheat land from 81,000,000 acres to 55,000,000 acres, resulting in total wheat plantings of 65,000,000 acres even if some growers do not cooperate. This news came from the international wheat advisory committee's conference, where 21 nations had sent envoys to study schemes for export and import limitations. As the sessions got underway, a discouraging note appeared in the International Institute of Agriculture's report. Wheat available for export in the year ending next July 31, the report said, was 1,140,000,000 bushels, against a world import demand of 540,000 bushels.

People

At San Pedro's Terminal island correctional prison, where he was transferred from Alcatraz, **Al Capone** was said by a guard to be "screwy as a bedbug."

● In Vienna, Jewish, persecuted Dr. Salomon Frankfurter, 80, rejoiced that the U. S. had elevated his nephew, Harvard's **Felix Frankfurter**, to the Supreme court.

Races

Less evil than that of any other high Nazi is the reputation of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, president of Germany's Reichsbank. In appearance more a business man than a politician, Dr. Schacht is the Reich's No. 1 contact with foreign commercial interests. When it came time to peddle Germany's 600,000 Jews abroad, Chancellor Hitler turned naturally to Dr. Schacht, knowing he was the only high Nazi whose utterances on the Jewish problem would get a hearing abroad.

A cold business man as well as a diplomat, Dr. Schacht could be depended on to evolve a Jewish plan which would work to the Reich's financial benefit. Early in January, at London, he announced the plan:

Part One. Within the next three years, 400,000 of the Reich's 600,000 Jews would be shipped abroad, the remaining 200,000 to be retained as common laborers. The 400,000 emigres would leave by installments, heads of families going first. For aged and infirm, Germany would guarantee satisfactory provision.

Part Two. World Jewry would raise a $2,500,000,000 loan, "secured" by Jewish property in Ger-

FINANCIER SCHACHT
He mixed diplomacy and business.

many, funds to be used for sending poor German Jews abroad. The loan would be serviced by increased German exports, to be paid for in free foreign exchange. World Jewry (which Nazi Germany regards as all-powerful in democracies) would decree greater use of German export items.

Still master of the situation, the Reich can apparently force Jew-respecting nations to choose between accepting the plan or tolerate further persecution. For Germany, the Schacht idea provides for disposition of 400,000 "undesirable" citizens whose property will be confiscated. Most important, it offers a way to break the world boycott on German goods. But where Jewry can raise $2,500,000,000 is another problem.

Leather Cure Is Certain Aid For Dining Room Ills

By BETTY WELLES

My mother got a leather couch and two enormous leather chairs when she married—button tufted they were and finished around the bottom with knotted leather fringe. Bet the old-timers can guess my age to a T! We grew up with those friendly old pieces, though they spent their declining years in slip covers—not because they wore out but just because they went "out."

But styles have come around to leather again. This time though it's a much more interesting and versatile material than it used to be. It is available in the most delicious colors, ranging from white and pastels to the deep subtle tones. But best of all it has also acquired a

Remember the days of the leather couch!

practical finish that makes it almost stain-proof and easily kept clean. It's being used for dining table tops and buffets as well as for dressers and vanities. It is stunning as wall panelling, too—and of course for upholstery both colors and textures in leather are exciting.

If you can't manage real leather, don't snub some of the excellent imitations that are now on the market. They too are easily cleaned and available in an interesting range of colors. There's quite a vogue for reptile and ostrich leathers in upholstery too, but for practicality their markings are usually stamped on the sturdier leathers such as cowhide.

Try the leather cure in the down-at-the-heels dining room. What wouldn't jade leather seats for the chairs do for the ivory-to-brown room? Or canary yellow seats in a white and maple room?

Or add one or a pair of leather covered chairs in the living room to break the monotony of fabric textures. French blue leather, for instance, to pull together a room that's predominantly brown, rust and gold. Or pale beige leather for the green and rust room. Or turquoise leather to go with a wine and gray ensemble. Or bright red leather in the room with pale-to-deep gray-blues.

One of the most attractive bedrooms I've seen about was in gray and coral and yellow with blond furniture.

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MILK RACKETEER

Almost as contented as a cat in a creamery, this kitten has learned to meet the London milkman at the garden gate in this amusing fashion and get a lift back to its home.

History of Inn Found Within Walls of 1760

WEST BROOKFIELD, MASS.—While tearing away the interior of Ye Olde Tavern, swept by fire, workmen found a history of the inn written nearly a half-century ago by the late George E. Messenger, former landlord.

The history dated back to the founding of the inn in 1760 by its first landlord, David Hitchcock.

QUEEN OF BEAUTY

Truly a queen is lovely Myrtelina Besosa, who has been selected to reign over the annual Ponce de Leon carnival which is to be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in February. This will be the 101st celebration of the festival named after the famed seeker for the fountain of youth and first governor of Puerto Rico.

Jungle Health Utopia Found In Northern Section of Brazil

Doctor Reports on Native Community With No Worries, Nerves or Divorces.

NEW YORK. — A place where there is no worry, perhaps the last of its kind on earth, today gave civilization a startling medical message.

The place: The jungle home of the Wai Wai Indians in northern Brazil.

The message: These Indians have no heart disease, no high blood pressure, no cerebral hemorrhage.

The messenger: Dr. William Hall Holden, chief surgeon of the American Museum of Natural History, who early this year made the first medical study of this possibly last of completely primitive peoples.

Their immunity is not due to a different physical makeup. In a test which violated a sacred taboo, Dr. Holden discovered that they possess the same capacity for high blood pressure as other humans.

Stone Age People.

The Wai Wai, he says, have a few steel knives, obtained from Indians nearer civilization. Otherwise they are still entirely a stone age people. Their home is the Sierra Akari mountains. He described four months' travel to reach them in Natural History, the museum's publication.

"They live," he said, "in one of the densest jungles on earth, undisturbed by man. It is a country of peace and quiet, a literal lost world, a tropical fairyland."

When Dr. Holden and a single white companion, William G. Hassler, photographer, reached the Wai Wai, both medical tests and photography were welcomed. The villages were about a day's travel apart. This distance the Indians call a "short walk." Time has no meaning to them.

Strong on the Dogs.

They live in large, communal houses, with conical roofs. Each holds 25 to 30 persons and 40 to 50 dogs. These "fairyland" dogs are reasonably quiet.

Dr. Holden took the blood pressures of the older people. Their ages he said, were uncertain, because they reckon years from one rainy season to the next, but they live to a ripe old age.

Analyzing the reasons, Dr. Holden declared:

"The Wai Wais never have to worry how they will pay their grocer's bill. There are no telephones to drive them to distraction. A husband never worries about how he can buy his wife a new hat or dress. Their personal adornments are procured from the brilliantly plumaged birds that fly overhead; and as for clothes—they wear none.

"There is no stock market to send one's blood pressure skyrocketing. These fortunate people are not forever dodging automobiles or watching red lights in their hurry to keep this appointment or that. There are no such things as being late for work or punching the time clock.

DEER CAMP CHEF

Tennessee's governor, Gordon Browning, failed to bag a deer during the annual hunt in the Pisgah, N. C., forest, but he did help the camp cook. He claims his coffee is unbeatable.

Bedtime Story

by Thornton W. Burgess

THE BEST SECRET OF ALL

Did you ever, ever, ever feel
So happy that you fain would steal
Away off by yourself alone
Because such joy was all your own?

IT IS that way sometimes. Happiness can be so great that it almost hurts and makes one feel like getting away where one can do foolish things, like rolling in the grass and shouting and singing, without anybody to see and say that it is foolish and undignified. It was that way with Danny Meadow Mouse. He felt that he just had to get away

As he drew near his home he began to hurry.

by himself, where he could be just as foolish as ever he pleased.

"If I don't I shall certainly blow up and burst," said he to himself, "I never was so happy before in all my life, and I don't believe anybody else was ever so happy either. I've simply got to get away by myself, because if anybody should see me they would think me crazy or else they would guess my secret, and that would be worse still."

So just as soon as he could, without letting Nanny Meadow Mouse know where he was going, for he knew that she would laugh at him if he told her, he stole away from the pile of old cornstalks where their new home was and off to a secret little place he never had shown anyone, not even Nanny. He made sure that no one was about to see him, not even the Merry Little Breezes of Old Mother West Wind, and then he acted as if he certainly had gone crazy. Yes, sir, Danny Meadow Mouse acted for all the world as if he had quite lost his senses. He jumped. He squealed. He tried to sing. He chased that funny little stubby tail of his round and round until he was so dizzy that he could hardly stand. He turned somersaults and rolled over and over. He even tried to stand on his head, which is a perfectly absurd thing for a Meadow Mouse to try to do. By and by he had to stop to get his breath, and when at last he did get his breath, why, he started in to do it all over again.

When he was quite tired out he lay down to rest, and then as he thought of his great happiness he grew very sober. "I must be very careful," thought he. "I must be very careful, indeed. I mustn't let anyone guess this new secret; not a single, single soul, because—why, because it's the best secret that ever was; the most wonderful secret that ever was—and I wouldn't have a minute's peace if I thought that anybody had guessed it. No, sir, I wouldn't. I wouldn't be able to eat or sleep if I thought that anybody had guessed my secret. So I am going to be twice as smart as ever I have been and twice as careful."

With that Danny carefully brushed himself off, for he had got very dirty rolling on the ground, washed his face and hands, and then started back for his home in the pile of cornstalks. At first he walked in a very dignified manner, but as he drew near his home he began to hurry, and presently he was running as fast as ever he could.

Have you guessed why he was running and what his secret was? Well, in that splendid little house which he and Nanny had built were four teeny, weeny babies. Yes, sir, four teeny weeny babies were waiting for him there with their mother, who, of course, was Nanny Meadow Mouse. Do you wonder that Danny was happy and that he thought this the very best secret of all the many secrets he had had?

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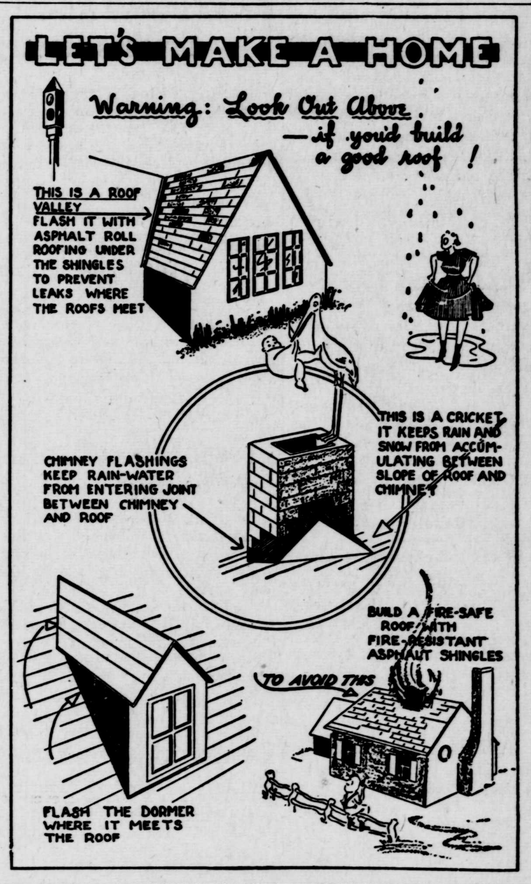
Man Goes by Parcel Post

THE HAGUE.—Packed neatly in a large and correctly labeled case, an Englishman arrived safely in Amsterdam from London by parcel post on board a machine of the International Air Freight, Ltd.



PARTIAL SUN AND MOON ECLIPSES PREDICTED FOR 1939

EVANSTON, ILL.—Partial eclipses of the sun and moon and two particularly bright meteoric showers will be visible in the United States during the year 1939, according to Dr. Oliver Lee, head of the department of astronomy at Northwestern university.

"There will be two eclipses of the sun and two of the moon during the year," Doctor Lee said. "An annualar eclipse of the sun on April 19, beginning around 8:30 in the morning, will be partial in the United States. An annualar eclipse is one occurring while the moon is so far away from the earth that a rim of the sun is visible even at the moment of maximum eclipse."

About midnight between October 27 and 28 there will be a partial eclipse of the moon, Doctor Lee said, which will be visible throughout the Americas. A total eclipse of the moon on May 3 will be visible in the eastern hemisphere, and a total eclipse of the sun will occur on October 12, and will be seen as a partial eclipse from western Australia and South Amrica's southern trip.

"The principal meteoric showers of the year," Doctor Lee said, "will be the Perseids on August 12, early in the morning in the northeastern sky, and the Leonids, which will be seen following midnight on November 14 in the eastern sky."

Meteoric showers, he explained, take their names from constellations in that part of the sky from which the showers seem to come. Other displays during the year will be the Lyrids, early in the evening in the northwest on April 20; the Orionids, late in the evening in the east on October 20, and the Andromids, high in the eastern sky all night on November 24.

New Type Wire Can Feed Faster Spark to Motors

Research work with complex mathematical equations at the National Bureau of Standards has resulted in the development of a new "easy flow" type wire cable for use in ignition equipment.

Using steel wire in place of the traditional copper wire, the Washington Institute of Technology produced a wire cable with minimum resistance and "low capacitance."

The technologists based their experiments with the new wire on a series of mathematical studies completed by Dr. Melville A. Peters, bureau of standards physicist.

The new ignition wire gives a hotter, faster spark which lasts longer, thus cutting down on the amount of current necessary to start a gasoline engine. The navy used the new wire for two years in naval aircraft, and found it so satisfactory the wire until recently was kept on the navy's secret list.

Japan's Blacksmiths Unite

Because much of their business has been lost through the war material control law in Japan 970 blacksmiths in Tokyo have united and will go into the munitions business. They have organized the Tokyo Heavy Machine Manufacturing Industry guild with a capitalization of over $12,000,000. The guild will build a plant in a Tokyo suburb and machinery will be supplied by the army. It will borrow part of its capital from the government.

Teletype System Warns Hotels of 'Deadbeats'

CLEVELAND, OHIO.—The hotel business has enlisted the aid of science in an effort to combat "skippers," "kiters," "paperhangers," and other types of unwelcome and dishonest guests.

Members of the Cleveland Hotel association have installed an inter-hotel teletype system to foil the chiselers.

When a suspicious guest with a smooth manner checks in at a hotel, the visitor's description, approach and suspected racket is sent over the teletype system to the allied hotels, which then check their records.

"Cleveland hotels have been losing from $30,000 to $50,000 a year because of these crooks," said Eugene J. Kelly, president of the association. "We have had to do something. The hookup is in conjunction with the telephone company and may be linked with the police station later."

Texas U. Acquires New World's Oldest Volume

AUSTIN.—A copy of "Doctrina Breve," oldest book printed in America, now rests in the University of Texas library.

The volume, which Librarian Donald Coney says is one of three in the United States, is a catechism printed in Mexico in 1543 and 1544 by Bishop Juan de Zumarraga, whose printing press was the first brought to the New world. Zumarraga had printed books in America three years earlier, but none of those are known to exist now.

The Spanish volume bound in heavy Spanish leather decorated with gold tooling, is in an excellent condition according to Dr. Carlos E. Castaneda, Latin-American librarian at the university.

"Doctrina Breve" is included in a collection of 160 volumes and 50,000 pages of manuscripts obtained by purchase from heirs of Joaquin Garcia Icazbalceta, noted Mexican historian and collector.