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FRENCH SURRENDER

**The French Government has fallen,
but many of her soldiers fight on.**

The French 3rd Republic is no more. On the 18th of the month a new French Republic, the 4th Republic was declared, Mr Reynaud assuming the mantle of President and Prime Minister in one office.

However, in London, Daladier declared the continuation of the 3rd Republic through a new means:

"A new government, cowed by the German breakthrough has toppled the old. Despite the losses our brave soldiers inflicted on the Boche in the last

many months of fighting, their superior numbers took their toll. This government, alleging our armies to be undone, agreed with the enemy to stop fighting. "But has the last word been said? Must hope disappear? Is defeat final?

No!

"Believe me, I speak to you with full knowledge of the facts and tell you that nothing is lost for France. The same means that overcame us can bring us to a day of victory. For France is not alone! She is not alone! She is not alone! She has a vast Empire behind her. She has a tested and proud fleet which even now stands poised at the neck of the would-be Romans. She is *as one* with the British Empire that holds the sea and continues the fight.

resistance must not be extinguished and will not be extinguished. Tomorrow, as today, I will speak on Radio London."

It would appear that it is not through Daladier that the fight will continue, it would seem that Admiral Darlan may be the man to lead the French, or possibly Gamelin, at present the situation remains unclear.

In response to the French declarations for peace with France and prior to the creation of a new fighting French Army (the so called 'Free French') Mr Churchill had ordered the immediate withdrawal of the Canadian and British Army from Northern France.

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She can, like England, use without limit the immense industry of United States.

"This war is not limited to the unfortunate territory of our country. This war is not finished by the battle of France. The forces of Democracy array ever stronger and will avenge the rape of France just as we French avenged the rape of Poland. In the end, free men must be triumphant.

"The destiny of the world is here. I, Edouard Daladier, currently in London, invite the officers and the French soldiers who are located in Africa or British territory or who would come there, with their weapons or without their weapons, I invite the engineers and the special workers of armament industries who are located in British territory or who would come there, to put themselves in contact with me.

"Whatever happens, the flame of the French



Troops of the British 33rd (Strathclyde) Division arrive on naval transports at Southampton on the morning of the 26th, their spirits remain high.

Darlan's Challenge to France

Admiral Darlan appears to have been one of the main movers of a continued French struggle against the Germans, his speech to the French people, is given to you in full.

"The German Army has invaded our homeland and demanded our surrender and conditions in return for the security of France. There is no security in France. There is no peace in France.

There shall be none as long as this. German and Italian alliance casts their dark shadow upon this world. The newspapers have proclaimed the 'Fall of France' when there has been no such thing. Still do your brothers sail the open sea to contest oppression. Still do your brothers fight in the hills, forests, and deserts to ensure freedom. Still do your mothers, sisters, and lovers drop to their knees in prayer for your safety. Would you return home? Would you return home to the arms of your lovers and the kitchens of your mothers? Would you return home to look your father in the eye and tell him that you surrendered? Would you return home knowing that while you are out during the day and while you are asleep at night your brothers are fighting for your freedom.

If you surrender you will not be free. You may live under the illusion of freedom, but you will always be at the behest of the Nazi. The Germans have given us conditions of surrender. Some cowards have even said that these conditions are reasonable.

By definition there are no reasonable conditions that could be dictated to France by an opposing power. There are no conditions. We will not surrender. Adolf Hitler and his pet-monkey Mussolini will not be allowed to dictate their will upon the brave people of France. We will all return to our homes, but not now. When we return to our homes we will return after we have removed the forces of the Fuhrer and "Duce" from this earth. We will do this so that our mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, wives and lovers, may all live in a world of freedom.

When we return to France with our allies we will go with force and liberty. We will crush the enemy. We will crush the armies of the self-appointed Fuhrer we will crush the armies of the dog Mussolini. We have destroyed their navies, we have destroyed their empires, soon we will destroy them. We fight a war against enslavement; the enslavement of all of the free peoples of the world. We fight to make our country free, to make ourselves free. We fight to make a world upon honest men may live and prosper. If Liberty lies in the hearts of men then France is still free and will continue to be so only while she has the belief and love of her sons and daughters. The battle is not to the strong; it is to the vigilant, the active and the brave. Is your life so sacred that you will buy it for the price of slavery chained about your neck? Will you also place those chains around the neck of your mother . . . your sister . . . your wife or your lover? Will you condemn them to slavery or allow them their freedom?

This war is not over and will not be over until we have freed ourselves. A people who will make the final sacrifice for life, liberty, and freedom will never be beaten."

(Broadcast on the night of June 12th 1940)

RAF Fight hard

Although the Britihs appear to have given up the fight in France the RAF has scored numerous victories this month and may in fact have stopped the German advance in it's tracks!

Spitfires and Hurricanes of the RAF Fighter Command, plus a small number of French fighters have held the might of the German airforce at bay for the past 5 weeks.



6th Fighter Group (seen taking a rest in the above photograph) saw heavy action as it redeployed north from the Maginot defences and may have prevented, what the RAF believe, was an attempt by the Germans to launch an airborne attack upon the French and British rear.

Elsewhere along the lines the British Army was forced into retreat by the German war machine, but the withdraw was able to occur in good order as the RAF continued to control the skies, through Fighter Command and inflict heavy damage on the German advance units, through Bomber Command.

As the Allies continue to withdraw in the face of the Germans, it is their air forces that hold the front line.

With reports that over 500 German fighters were eliminated to the loss off less than 300 British and French aircraft, the RAF can claim that June was a victory for the British and the Spitfire MkI.

Chinese Communists strike towards Peking

Chinese Communist forces, long believed to have been almost silenced have launched a devastating attack upon the Japanese northern lines.

The Imperial Japanese Army was in the process of launching it's own operations to cross into central China, as General Mao launched the largest Chinese offensive of the war yet.

With over 30 divisions the CCP has clawed an opening in the Japanese lines, it is also believed that they may have cut off a number of northern divisions.

The Red 1st, 3rd, 7th and 8th Corps were the first to engage, coming out of the mountain to the west of Peking, forcing the Japanese 2nd and 5th Corps to swing to their flanks in order to prevent themselves being outflanked by a rapidly moving front line.

Troops of the Red 6th, 9th and 10th Corps moved quickly to attack the northern most Japanese Divisions, forcing the 32nd, 33rd and 52nd Divisions to give ground in the face of odds of 10 to 1.

Although the Chinese appeared to have gained the upper hand initially, the Japanese traded land for enemy losses, giving up ground as they withdrew in the face of massed Communist attack, which may well have secured the territory they attacked, but in return inflicted very severe losses on the divisions involved.

Top the south the Japanese had already placed the 29th Division across the Huangho, whilst the 30th was following up. The Japanese attack appears to have been well



Troops of the 30th Division move across the Huangho river, against only light opposition.

timed, as it has shown that in order to launch the strike in the north towards Peking the CCP may well have stripped its southern defences to the bone.

As the month comes to a close it is obvious that the CCP has committed to a great attack upon the city of Peking, yet it is unclear as to whether or not they will have success. Although the city is in a state of uprising (as are a great many other cities in China) the Japanese continue to hold large formations between the CCP field army and the great northern city.

With action quiet in the south and the KMT exhausted from recent actions the Japanese must now consider shifting their forces north, or risking the loss of large tracts of land in northern China.

But will such a move allow the KMT to once again become resurgent and strike in the south, Japan remains caught by two fronts.

British Bog down in North Africa

The British military have long looked at Italy as a second rate military power, but oh how the Italians have bloodied the British bulldog.

British forces have now held their attack around Tobruk, unable to secure the city they have used the Royal Navy to shell the city into submission, all to no avail, so to the ancient art of siege has the British Army been reduced.

The British did deploy the 5th Corps to move rapidly to the north west of Tobruk, cutting any remaining lines of communication with the Italian Army command. This force then rushed for Benghazi, where



Italian Troops await the next British assault upon Tobruk,

an attack was thrown in against the garrison troops that had just arrived from Tripoli.

Although the local defences were light, the Italians did manage to hold off the British, although it may have been more to British exhaustion than Italian defensive abilities.

In the air the RAF resorted to a light bomber attack upon Tripoli, with little success and continued air protection by the fighters of Desert Air Command.

Italian aircraft did report successes, with hits on the British armoured formations and the advancing 5th Corps.

In all the British seem to have overstretched their resources in North Africa, the Italians able to call upon ever growing reserves, now that the war with France has ended the British will have to face a much enlarged Italian field army.

Bucharest Assaulted

Polish and Royalist Romanian forces launched an attack upon the Romanian capital mid month that came nowhere near success.

The Polish army appears to have performed outstandingly over recent months in their drive through southern Germany and Hungary, however, their joint attack with the Royalists upon Bucharest made no headway of note.

Romanian forces did advance in the east, taking the strategic port of Varna from the Bulgarians, using heavy air support and the local naval support.

The Bulgarian and Fascist lines are now stretched in the centre and south, whilst in the north a German and Romanian force has failed to provide any support.

British stand steady

The new British Prime Minister, in office for less than a month, Mr Winston Churchill, has sworn to continue the fight.

In a rousing speech, The Prime Minister called for the peoples of the Empire to rally to the cause. It is reported that Australians, New Zealanders, Africans and Indians have been lining up at recruitment centres throughout the Empire.

Even here in Dublin the British Embassy has been dealing with a long line of volunteers who wish to fight the Fascist Aggressors.

The only thing holding the British Empire back is their lack of arms, they may well have the manpower, but they lack the weapons to place in their hands. Time will however remedy this British flaw.

Taranto hit bit Royal Navy

The key Italian naval base at Taranto was attacked by British Carrier borne aircraft.

The Royal Navy is reported to have used light bombers or torpedo aircraft to attack the Italian Naval Base.

Claims on both sides would indicate that the damage caused to the facility was light.

More of concern to the Italians was the loss of their trade with Albania, cut by the British Med Fleet, with over 300,000 tons of shipping lost the Italians must look to remove the British threat or find an alternative way to obtain their Albanian resources.

Meanwhile the British Fleet sits unmolested of the Southern Italian coast.

Churchill Takes the Control of Empire

"The news from France is very bad, and I grieve for the gallant Frenchpeople who have fallen into this terrible misfortune. The men of the British Expeditionary Force and of the RAF have once again shown to the whole world the valour and efficiency of our armed forces. The French army is collapsing; several regiments around Nancy surrendered without a fight this month, although many French formations continue to resist with vigor. The French 22nd Mechanised Corps fought well alongside our men at Verdun and the 2nd French Mechanised Corps has also proved a good fighting unit. Our forces continue to resist the German advance shoulder to shoulder with those formations of the French army that continue to value liberty and democracy.

For some time many in the press and in the House have questioned the wisdom of this government's strong and steadfast support for the French Republic. While I still believe in the very core of my being that our actions were correct for any nation that values

freedom and democracy, I must accept complete responsibility for everything that has been done. Therefore, I have forwarded my resignation to His Majesty the King. I remain confident that in time, we shall prevail over the twin scourges of fascism and militarism and see them wiped clean from the face of the earth. God Save the King!"

Later that evening, the Hon. Winston S. Churchill was overwhelmingly elected Prime Minister by all parties within the House of Commons. He then gave a brief but spirited address to the House of Commons and to the nation: " I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat. You ask what is our aim? I can answer in one word: victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory there is no survival. We shall defend our island, and, with the British Empire around us, we shall fight on unconquerable until the curse of Hitler is lifted from the brows of men."

(Broadcast to the Empire on May 31st.)

Germans face uprisings in Poland

German troops have been hard pressed to prevent a number of uprisings in central and southern Poland.

It is as yet unclear if the uprisings have been generated by one central plan or if they are simply occurring at the same time by coincidence, but what can be proven is the devastation they are causing for the German defenders.

The largest uprisings have occurred in the south, where local German defences are weaker, here the city of Kattowitz has risen in arms against the Germans. Local defenders using artillery and hand weapons left over from the Polish Army.

German garrisons have acted with varied effectiveness. The Kattowitz rising has not been dealt with at all, with the Germans appearing awed by the presence of artillery and mortars. In contrast the attempted rising in Warsaw was crushed within hours the two resident German Corps destroying any hope of a successful uprising.

What will happen to the Polish resistance remains unclear, what is certain is that the Polish Nation has not been destroyed, for the Poles are determined to keep on fighting, either at home or abroad.

Japanese move on Singapore by land

The Japanese military build-up has continued in the Malayan peninsular.

Although actions at sea may not have gone so well for the Japanese, the build-up of troops on the approach to Singapore has been going on at a tremendous pace.

Japanese troops are seen here looking towards the outskirts of the last British outpost of significance on the road to India. It can only be days now before they commit themselves to the attack that will end British rule.



Italians Claim Victory in Europe

Mussolini, late to support the German advance into France has taken the spoils of war.

It has been reported that Mussolini was almost forced by Herr Hitler to accept peace terms with the French, the Italians wanting to continue the war in the south, but the Germans refusing to support them.



Benito Mussolini

It is believed that Hitler and Mussolini exchanged heated words when the Germans announced that they would sign a peace treaty with the French effective of the 15th of June. The Italians however made greater demands on the French who refused to cave into their demands and informed the Germans and Italians that war would continue unless the Italians removed some of their demands. Which they did not.

As Germany announced that the terms were acceptable to them Italy announced that the war would continue. There then followed a few days of bickering between the Axis leaders before Mussolini backed down totally and accepted the original peace terms presented to them by France.

The treaty has resulted in Nice and the French Alps passing to Italy, whilst much of Northern France will become occupied by Germany, although this part of France's long term future remains undecided.

Herr Hitler, seen here at the deployment of new forces on route to Poland, stated his delight that the war in the west was concluded so quickly, praising General von Bock and his staff for their efforts to secure the defeat of France.

Hitler will no doubt have much to say to his Generals should they fail to secure northern France from the British and Free French forces that continue to oppose the Reich.

