

# Dublin Chronicle

July 31st 1940

Volume 1, Issue 12

## RUSSIANS ENTER WAR IN EUROPE

**A massive military drive by Soviet infantry and armour into Romania opens new war.**

**Stalin has driven his nation to war as a friend of one nation only to find that they do not want his help.**

Stalin's declaration of war (in full on page 2) was designed as a means to aid the Royalist Romanians in their war with the Fascists and Hungarians.

However, it can be reported here from that sources within the King's regime have repeatedly warned the Russians and British that such a move would not be welcome. Many Romanians having a great distrust of the Russians, this confirmed by the recent attacks upon Latvia and

Estonia. Therefore when the attack into Romania came, the Romanians appear to have acted in defense of their nation as a whole.

The two warring parties of the Romanian civil war quickly produced a peace plan by the afternoon of the 3rd, as Russian forces advanced west into the eastern plains.

The plan saw the King take back the head of state mantle, whilst the Fascist government assumed day to day running of the nation. Of the reunified country.

The sticking point was the fate of the Polish Army. This was however settled and two proposals were put to the Poles:

- 1) Surrender to the Romanians, and be transported to the coast for collection by neutral shipping for forwarding to any port of choice.
- 2) Face immediate attack by the combined Romanian, Hungarian and Bulgarian armies.

As the Poles were not in a position that offered them any defense and the long term needs of freeing the Polish Nation, out-

weighed local desires, the command opted to surrender. The entire force was then escorted to the port of Constanza where French and Turkish shipping has been arranged for their shipment from Romania.

The initial declaration of war by Stalin was upon the nation of Hungary only. In response, Germany, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Romania have all declared war on Russia. In a pointed note the Romanians have informed the British and her allies that the Nation of Romania does not consider itself at war with them, only the Russians, it would appear that the other Axis partners are happy with this odd diplomatic maneuver.

Current reports indicate that the Romanians have occupied much of the central and eastern planes together with some of the key oil refining plans in the centre of the nation, if this is true then the Germans will find it difficult to support their economic needs, which must be already strained with the cut in trade from Russia.

Germany has however swung into action, a notable lack of aggressive push was noted on the west with some units having been pulled out of their lines in what appears to have been a last minute change of direction. Reports of large volumes of German troops moving from the western front to the new eastern front have flooded into this and other newspaper offices around Europe.

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Lead recon' units cross the border on the 1st of the month.

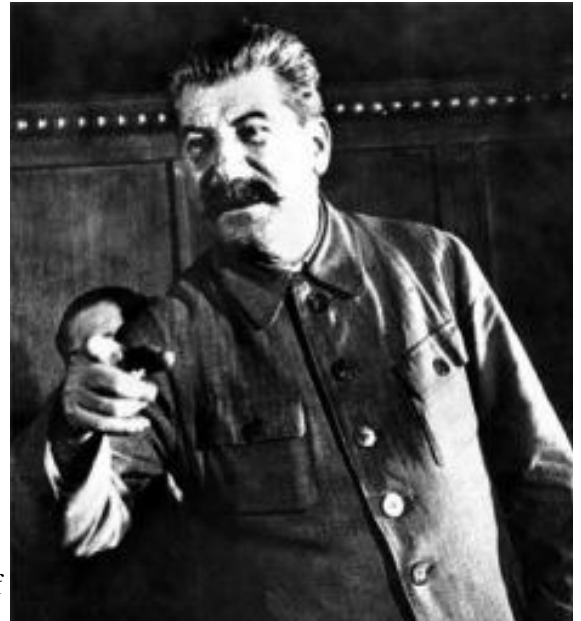
## Stalin's Broadcast

**We present Stalin's address to the Soviet Union in full, as given on the morning of the 3rd of July.**

"Due to the blatant violation of the Soviet Union's March 31st Declaration at the League of Nations a state of War hereby exists between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the nation of Hungary. The Soviet Union hereby recognises the Government of Constanza as the legitimate and legal government of Romania and the victim of an unwarranted invasion by the militarist led nation of Hungary."

"On March 31st the Soviet Union provided a thirty-day ultimatum for the armies and fleets of Britain, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Germany to withdrawal from Romania. The purpose: to stop the Imperialist powers of Europe from turning what was a civil war in Romania into yet another theatre of this centuries second Anglo-Germanic conflict. "The Balkan Heyani" as Romanians have begun to call Hungary, refused to heed Stalin's Declaration on the 31st of March. Continuous diplomatic overtures for peace from the Soviet Union were passed on and ignored by said government. Meanwhile Magyar armies ravished the countryside and the peasantry and workers of a war torn Romania."

"Alternatively, both Britain and Germany successfully complied with the March 31st Declaration. The Royal Navy withdrew its fleet from Constanza and the Black Sea by the end of April 1940. The German Wermacht finished withdrawing its expeditionary corps from Romania in late June 1940. Obviously, with Germany being a close ally and arms supplier of the perpetrator of this hianus crime, trade will be halted with the German Reich until it reigns in its Balkan ally and/or negotiates a peace deal ending the invasion by its minor ally of Romania. All debts, loans, and contracts between the Soviet and German governments will be put on hold until further negotiations. For the record the Soviet Union continues to stand for peace between all the nations of Europe, including Germany, Britain, and the rest of the world."



**Stalin puts his point across to the assembled members of the Committee, whilst broadcasting to the USSR.**

"Today, June 1st 1940, at 12 noon the armies of the Soviet Union, upon receiving their orders to march, passed through the border towns and outposts of Wallacha and into northern Romania. Unimaginable to many who witnessed it the soviet armies were greeted by throngs of Romanian villagers and workers, with their arms outstretched in solidarity. These Slavic brothers and sisters now showered in flowers, march on to do battle against the villainous Magyars. Alone and without a friend in the world the people of Romania have survived against an invasion for months. Things have now been drastically altered, as any starving Romanian villager would testify. Now for the first time, Romanians have hope for the future and see freedom within grasp. For their saviour has come in the shape of a mighty red bear. The Soviet Bear has awoken and it does not take kindly to imperialists at its door step."

"Our forces enter Romania as friends and allies of the Romanian people and the loyalist government of Romania. Soviet forces will not interfere or hinder the self-determination or rule of the Romanian people and its loyalist government or local city magistrates. Once the Imperialist foreign invaders have been driven back across the borders from whence they came, the Red Army shall withdrawal. The Red Army will work together and co-operate with the armies of Loyalist Romania. Comrades and friends, we fight a righteous cause to save the innocent people of Romania against the viscous claws of Hungarian militarism. We fight to stem the tide of Imperialism at our borders! We fight for the Motherland!"

Readers will note that the information passed to the peoples of the Soviet Union does in fact vary from the reality in a few principles. Most notably the welcome that the Romanians have given the Russians.

## Tobruk and Benghazi fall to British

**The Italian hold on eastern Libya now looks difficult, with the fall of both Tobruk and the key city of Benghazi.**

British 6th Armoured and 3rd Corps formed the spearheads of the British advance into the city, where the Italians had earlier witnessed the destruction of their supply convoy by the Royal Navy.

The following dispatch was received by British HQ Middle East at 08:15 on the 19th (local time):  
 "From Major W. Phillips, Acting CO 3rd Wessex Battalion, to GHQ 2nd Army. Please inform the Prime Minister and the King that the fortress of Tobruk has been invited to surrender, I have accepted."

The garrison, comprised of the 1st and 10th Corps provided two months valiant defence but with supplied low and a lack of support or relief they simply could not hold.

British Infantry and Armour of the 6th Armoured advance into Tobruk. Whilst light forces break towards the docks from the east.



Meanwhile along the coast, British 5th Corps resumed its attack on Benghazi, giving the Italians no time to regroup or gain support from their western forces.

The defenders, recently reinforced towards the end of last month were unable to produce the defensive form of last month, the troops taking heavy losses as they withdrew to the south, providing just enough time for the Italian airforce to evacuate the majority of their formations to other locations within the theatre.

These operations now come as the first true success of the British army.

With their troops in full retreat in Europe and hemmed in behind their defences in Asia the British must now look to the 2nd Army as their only form of offensive formation in the field.

Yet this British fighting force operates on a knife edge, its supplies and support having to pass through the Med are at sure risk from the Italian Navy and airforce.

## Communists on the Rope

**Japanese gains in Central China appear to have forced the Communist Chinese into Route.**

As Japanese forces continue to press home their advantage against the weaker CCP southern army group, it would appear that in doing so they may have destroyed much of the Communist leadership.

Although word has been difficult to get out of Central China, fear is growing that Mao and his close commanders were killed in the recent assault by Japanese infantry, designed to enlarge their bridgehead over the Huangho. If this is the case then the situation in northern China is even more unstable than had originally been imagined.

Even with this setback, Communist forces around Peking continued to press home their attacks with a close siege of the city now anticipated.

## Greece warns Turkey

**The Greek government appears to be on the verge of war with Turkey, a situation that has been constantly in flux for the last 2 years.**

Greece has gone as far as to inform the Turks that should they use the Russian invasion of Romania as an excuse to expand their own territory then a state of war will exist between Greece and Turkey.

In response the Turks have informed Athens that Turkey will continue to act in her own national interests and not allow herself to be bullied by a 4th rate power.

The Balkans appear to step from one catastrophe to another on a daily basis, with the situation to the north of Greece and Turkey deteriorating, neither can truly afford this level of hostility, yet both seem determined to move towards war.

## ROYAL NAVY DEFEATED

**The British Royal Navy is now known to have suffered a major tactical defeat, although it may have won a great strategic victory in the process.**

A major German Naval task force, supported by submarines and land based airgroups appears to have attempted to launch an attack upon the British evacuation force, as it crossed the English Channel.

The British Home Fleet was ordered to intercept the force and managed to delay its movement with a quick carrier strike, this being followed up by a strike on the British fleet by elements of the German Airforce. The action then turned to a clash of battleships

The Bismark engaged 5 British Capital ships, and took heavy damage, sinking later in the action, although her own guns and the torpedoes of the Submarine force accounted for some 5 Major warships of the Royal Navy, including the Resolution and the Revenge.

The day seemed lost for the Royal Navy as they took mounting losses, eventually the tide was turned with support from the RAF and Fleet Air Arm, but it is believed that the Home Fleet is all but destroyed, as is the main component of the Kriegsmarine.

The key benefit to the British has been the complete withdrawal of the BEF from France. General Gort is reported as stating: "Today the Royal Navy gave its heart so that the Sole of the Army could survive, we will not forget the sacrifices of the Senior Service, the Army owes them a great dept of gratitude, for our deliverance was by their hands".

KMS Bismark engages the British Home Fleet, whilst taking fire from the Battleship Rodney.



## Roosevelt faces heat

**The US Army is ordered to draft its reserves to the colours.**

In a move that was met with dread and shock throughout America the President ordered the call-up of all 8 reserve divisions. Whilst no reason was given for such a call-up it is believed that the very hawkish President is looking both east and west at the dangers that seem to be coming closer.

Congress has again warned the President that having now called up the reserves he has only 36 days in which to declare a state of national emergency or stand down these troops, permitting them to return to their normal civilian jobs.

## Japanese finally halted.

**Reports have reached Europe that a major attack by the Japanese, south of the city of Wuhan has been halted.**

The Japanese Kwantung Army Group has operated a very successful series of operations in the past few months against the KMT 2nd Army. The Chinese constantly on the retreat.

Although it has not been confirmed there are reports that a force of 3 KMT corps may have prevented a superior Japanese force from breaking the KMT lines to the south of Wuhan. Such a breakthrough would have most probably encircled the entire 2nd Army Group and no doubt have meant the downfall of the Nationalist Regime.

## British Borneo falls.

**The British colonial outpost of Borneo has fallen to a Japanese amphibious assault..**

The small British colony, rich in rubber and oil was taken in a 48 hour campaign waged by Japanese Marines. The local British defenders, police and militia, put if little resistance and surrendered having taken less than a dozen casualties.

## Macau Taken by Japan.

**The Portuguese colony has passed ownership again, this time to Japan.**

Japanese marines seized the city in the face of light KMT opposition early in the month and secured a stable bridgehead, future operations look inevitable.

The Portuguese government has requested that the colony be returned.