

THE RED STAR

Moscow
31 March 1941

Comrade Stalin was buried this month with full honours befitting to the leader who has brought the Soviet Union fully into the twentieth century. His funeral was attended by the Supreme Soviet and representatives from the other Soviets. Thousands of mourners lined the streets of Moscow to express their grief at the passing of a man who many thought of as their second father.

In the four days that Comrade Stalin's body lay in state in the Kremlin, over a million people queued to pay their last respects.

He will be remembered by History as the successor to the dream started by Marx and put into such dramatic effect by Comrade Lenin. Under Comrade Stalin the Soviet Union has become a worker's haven where the proletariat of the world can take refuge from the oppression of Empire and Colonialist Expansionism.

Comrade Secretary Beria paid tribute to the great man and swore to continue the work of the last twenty four years.



Pall bearers leaving the Kremlin

Dvina Estuary



German and Lithuanian prisoners are led away from the fighting.

Veterans of Fifth Army Front have renamed the Dvina the 'Red River' following the first bloody struggle of the year. In what was thought to be an attempt at surprise, German and Lithuanian infantry and armour with heavy air support stormed the Dvina line north of Riga. Over 1,000 enemy bombers and fighters launched strikes against the front line and rear echelons while elite formations from five divisions tried to force a foothold on the north bank of the river. The weather stayed fair and gave the Fascist invaders every chance to show their mettle.

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Enemy units that managed to cross the river were met with savage hand to hand fighting against a backdrop of dogfights in the skies above. After two weeks of exhaustive efforts the aggressors left the field with 15,000 dead and wounded. A further 15,000 surrendered. In the air the aggressors also acknowledged defeat with the loss of over 200 aircraft.

Red Army casualties amounted to 700 dead and 1,500 wounded. Losses in tanks and aircraft were a fraction of those inflicted upon the enemy.

Marshall Zhukov, upon whose shoulders rested the responsibility for the defense, praised the efforts of the defenders. "No man flinched from his duty. No man turned his back upon his comrades. Love of the Motherland gave our brave soldiers the strength and determination to repel this most determined of assaults." Further attacks may be expected but the bloody nose given today will give Comrade Hitler pause for thought.



The attack: "For the Motherland! For Stalin!"

SPAIN FOR THE SPANISH!



Comrade Beria announced today that a letter has been sent to the League of Nations on behalf of the Spanish people. The Soviet Union calls for the cessation of hostilities against France and the restoration of territory recently occupied by Hitler's lackey, Franco. The present situation is not to be tolerated. The Imperialist usurpers of the Spanish workers' rights are to be resisted. The Soviet Union has issued an ultimatum to the Spanish government. Either withdraw within the next 48 hours or a state of war will exist between the two countries. Comrade Beria expressed the wish of the Politburo that no Soviet worker should ever come into conflict with his Spanish cousin. It is hoped that the Spanish people will overthrow their bonds and rid themselves of the dictator Franco (pictured left) and his lickspittle government. He pledged the full support of the Soviet Union in any such endeavour.