

► *The Nazis needs a phony peace
to prepare a third World War*

HITLER'S COMING PEACE BLITZ

BY HANS HABE

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THE fundamental difference between German and democratic views on peace is this: that Hitler is prepared to come to terms with the democracies, whereas the democracies know that it is impossible to make peace as long as the Nazis rule Europe. Hitler can make peace—or what will pass as peace for a time—when he has achieved some large phase of his plan of conquest. The democracies can conclude peace only when Hitler and all he represents have been wiped out. A captured captain of Rommel's army is reported to have said to his British interrogator: "We Germans have been taught to regard war as a sport. There are not two but three possible outcomes: win, lose or draw." The leaders of the United Nations, however, do not concede the variant of a "draw."

Once before Hitler invited the representatives of the democracies to a conference. It sufficed to insure his own victory and their defeat. *Hitler plans to end this war, which began with a Munich, by another*

Munich! Because we know this, we can work out a counter-strategy to thwart his latest "pacifist" strategy.

Here are some of the reasons why Nazi Germany will seek peace at this time:

1. *Hitler's chances of victory are decreasing, while those of the United Nations are increasing.* Overwhelming and undisturbed American production; the war on two fronts which will be forced on Hitler in 1943; the increasing helplessness of the Luftwaffe against the bombardment of key German cities; hunger and smoldering rebellion in the occupied countries: it would be absurd to think that Hitler is not aware of these obvious facts.

2. *Hitler is intent upon exploiting and organizing his conquests.* The assumption that the Germans are endowed with miraculous organizing talents is only another instance of our propensity to overestimate them. Not a single loaf of bread made of Ukrainian wheat has as yet appeared on a German table. Exploitation of conquered countries

in peacetime is one thing; exploitation under constant Allied bombardment, in the face of continual internal resistance, is quite another.

3. *The United Nations have not a single great victory to their score.* Hitler so far is the only one who has piled up all the chips. England and America have nothing to show but losses. Russia — if we discount her huge territorial losses — may be said to have fought to a draw. This is a good time for the winner to call off the game.

4. *Inside Germany unrest is growing from day to day,* while in the United Nations, the horizons are constantly brightening. The graph of war morale in the United States and England is going upward, while in Germany it is going downward. Goering has recently told the Germans that they would be fed this winter even if the rest of Europe had to starve. He would certainly not have spoken as he did if the Germans' worry over their future had not reached a critical point. Moreover, Germany's hopes rest not only on her soldiers, but also on her fifth column. The German soldier will perhaps follow Hitler to the death; but his English or American fifth columnists will follow him only if he is victorious. This consideration is an impor-

tant factor in Hitler's desire for peace.

5. *Hitler still has a chance to save his ideology.* Ideologically, the Nazis are fighting on two fronts — a fact generally overlooked. They oppose Bolshevism in the east, capitalism in the west. This contradiction involves dangers. After two years of war, the German crusader begins to wonder who is the infidel and his overlords cannot answer his questions. Hitler's generals, it should be remembered, are either anti-communist or anti-capitalist, not both. The solution for the dilemma is peace with one or both of the parties.

Connected with the ideological question, but even more important, is the racial contradiction which imperils the Nazi war aims. The man-in-the-street in Berlin or Dresden dislikes having the Japanese as allies, where the man-in-the-street in New York or Seattle likes having them as enemies. The *Kölnische Volkszeitung* on June 15, 1942, made this remarkable comment on a report that the Japanese had manhandled a few Germans, mistaking them for Americans:

There was a time when all the nations of Europe entrusted their troops to the command of General Waldersee in order to enforce the respect of the yellow rabble. If the civilized white nations do not soon cease their suicidal struggle,

and restore white man's solidarity, we shall all perish, sooner or later.

Hitler is not the successor of Caesar, Alexander or Napoleon — he is only Kaiser Wilhelm's corporal who has not forgotten his emperor's fear of the "yellow peril." His peace appeal to the United States may very well begin with the words, "At Pearl Harbor the yellow race attacked not the United States but the whole white race. . . ." Hitler may hope to save some remnants of his ideology by seeking peace.

Any of the above considerations would be enough to justify the

Nazis' urgent striving for peace. But this inferential evidence is backed up by recent facts known to diplomatic circles:

On June 24, 1942, Hitler summoned the military attachés of the various countries still represented in Berlin to his Russian headquarters. The astonished diplomats, who expected some boasting about the victory in Tobruk, received instead the Führer's declaration that he is ready to make peace at any time that "the drunkard at the head of the English government disappears" and "Roosevelt ends his rule on a mountain of corpses."



GOERING: *Fading is the tapered waist,
Shapeless grows the shapely limb,
And although severely laced,
Spreading is the figure trim!*

*Stouter than I used to be,
Still more corpulent grow I —
There will be too much of me
In the coming by and by.*

On the following July 12th, Hitler summoned a conference of various officials from the occupied European nations and informed them, among other things, that "the existing status of the occupied nations will be maintained even if it will be possible to bring the democracies to their senses in time (*rechtzeitig*)."

Early in August, the German press published a brief announcement that Hitler had summoned a number of "specialists" in order to instruct them to work out the details of a peace plan "as soon as possible," so that Germany might

not be caught "unprepared" by a sudden cessation of hostilities. Experts were designated for various spheres such as Europe, the Western Hemisphere, the colonies.

On September 2, 1942, the *Institut für Nachkriegsforschung* (Institute for Post-War Research) announced that certain officers had been freed from service at the front in order to take part in the formulation of a peace plan.

During the entire summer and autumn, German diplomats in neutral capitals were under orders to seek contacts with the representatives of the democracies. The



STARVING EUROPE: *Silvered is the raven hair,
Spreading is the parting straight,
Mottled the complexion fair,
Halting is the youthful gait.*

(From *Patience*, by Gilbert and Sullivan)

*Hollow is the laughter free.
Spectacled the limpid eye —
Little will be left of me
In the coming by and by.*

American Ambassador in Ankara, Laurence Steinhardt, was repeatedly obliged to turn down private invitations because he discovered in due time that Axis diplomats had also been invited. The British Ambassador withdrew from a luncheon in a private house in Madrid to avoid the embarrassment of a meeting with the Italian Ambassador. Mussolini's Ambassador in Lisbon, in the course of last summer, held two conversations with Chief of State Olivera Salazar in which the Italian was reported to have canvassed the possibilities of Portuguese intervention for peace. Italian diplomacy is known to have put out many feelers in recent months. A highly-placed Italian assured the Vatican that Italy has only one wish, namely, peace.

All these things add up to a prelude to the great peace blitz in the making.

II

Hitler, of course, would scarcely express a desire for peace without weighing his chances of success. The Nazis consider the following possibilities:

1. *The peace offensive will be successful and the United States and England will enter into negotiations*

with Hitler. This is so unlikely that Hitler has probably eliminated it from his calculations.

2. *The peace offer will be rejected by the Churchill and Roosevelt governments, but accepted by the American and English peoples.* In that event, a powerful pacifist wave might sweep Roosevelt and Churchill out of office. Though Hitler believes that the chances for such a development are slight, he probably does not regard it as entirely impossible.

3. *Hitler's offer will be rejected and war will continue.* Unquestionably, Hitler knows that the chances are that this is what will happen. Why then does he open his peace offensive? General von Schlieffen, his favorite strategist, writes: "Offensives are not always directed against the objective at which they seem to aim." Hitler knows that wars can be won or lost on the internal front. Dissension in the democratic countries is more valuable to him than the destruction of ten enemy divisions. Hitler's peace offensive will be designed to give all those who wage this war against their will the opportunity to come out for peace and, if peace is not achieved, to insist that the continuation of the war is unnecessary. What Hitler may be saying to Goebbels is this "In 1918, Germany

was crushed because the Socialist leaders Scheidemann and Noske hoisted the flag of pacifism in the midst of the war. Find an American Scheidemann and an English Noske — then our peace offensive will be victorious even if it fails.”

It is easy to foresee the methods Hitler will use to launch his peace blitz. He will appeal to intermediaries whose intervention will be of permanent value to Germany even if it fails. Actual Nazi projects in this respect are as follows:

1. *Mediation by the Vatican.* After Myron C. Taylor's visit to the Vatican, such a mediation attempt can be considered frustrated in advance. Its aim, however, would be to influence the twenty million American Catholics.

2. *Intercession by a neutral state.* Theoretically, Hitler could use any state maintaining diplomatic relations with both Germany and the United States. But Sweden and Switzerland are too unimportant; moreover, they know that any Hitler peace would erase them from the map. Turkey refuses to undertake any unpopular task. Vichy France and Finland are discredited. Ireland is unacceptable from the British point of view. Hitler has no hold on Argentina and Chile because of their geographical position. For those reasons, Hitler has se-

lected Spain, and agreed to — even insisted on — the replacement of Seraño Suñer by a “possible” Foreign Minister. If Hitler has not long ago marched through Spain to attack Gibraltar from the rear, it is probably because he refused to devour the hen expected to lay his egg of peace. Hitler thinks that Spanish intervention would at least cause disharmony between South and North America.

3. *The use of individuals as go-betweens.* René de Chambrun, Laval's son-in-law, and Gaston Bergery, Vichy Ambassador in Turkey, are the two persons most favored in Berlin for this task, though there are numerous other candidates. The names seriously considered are always those of people who accept the Nazi viewpoint, yet are believed to enjoy good reputations in America. The Nobel prize-winner for literature, Knut Hamsun, who has betrayed his Norwegian fatherland to Germany, and various aristocrats now residing abroad, have been mentioned as possibilities. It has even been suggested that the former Foreign Minister of Poland, Beck, be allowed to “escape” à la Rudolf Hess to do the job.

Summing up, Hitler evidently calculates that his peace offensive at best will achieve peace and, at worst, dissension. In the best case,

he will reach the peoples of the United Nations; in the worst, the twenty million American Catholics, the nations of Latin America and certain salons in London and Washington.

III

Finally, we must consider what Hitler, through mediators and propaganda, is planning to offer, what his arguments for peace will be, how he will attempt to undermine the will to fight to a finish in the democracies.

On these matters we do not need to speculate. A number of Nazi organizations — the Economic Political Institute in Berlin, the Geopolitical Institute in Munich, the Adolf Hitler Institute in Kiel and the Institute for Post-War Research in Berlin — have worked out their plans in great detail and some of these have been given publicity in neutral countries. But the German propaganda chiefs realize that the new peace offers must be wrapped in silver paper before presentation to the people of the United Nations. Cheap slogans like, "Why die for England?" no longer find many buyers. The Goebbels counters are therefore being stacked with refurbished arguments. Here are some of them, and

under each an exposure of the lie that it conceals.

1. *Both wars originated in Europe. Just leave Europe to the Germans, who will create order and prevent further wars.*

Hitler's domination of Europe will not insure peace. It will be an "order" resting on brute force and continuous oppression. Both wars originated in injustice; peace can be assured by eliminating and not by making permanent the injustice. It is a lie that the war was caused by the smallness of nations. Switzerland had the highest living standard in the world, Esthonia the lowest cost of living. According to the Adolf Hitler Institute, the Nazis would force twelve states into one Greater Germany: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Monaco, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland, Russia as far as the Volga, Lithuania, Esthonia, Latvia. Obviously it would be a Europe built on high explosives.

2. *America is saturated.* America has everything it needs, and has never exported more than 15 per cent of her production. Needing neither exports nor imports, it has no reason to fear German economic leadership.

The fact is that American prosperity and economic balance depends in large measure on foreign trade. After a Hitler peace, the United States would be unable to compete with Germany. Already Hitler disposes of the unpaid slave labor of three million Poles, three hundred and fifty thousand Frenchmen, three hundred thousand Belgians, two hundred thousand Czechs, one hundred and seventy thousand Dutch,

one hundred and twenty thousand Rumanians — in all, about seven million people. Prisoners are not included in this statement. Only by acquiring an equivalent number of slaves, or depressing general conditions to a slave level, could the United States hope to compete with Germany on equal terms.

3. *The British Empire is in a state of decay.* A warring England is incapable of maintaining order. Only a quick peace and co-operation with Germany can enable Britain to retain its colonies.

Germany does not propose to let England retain the empire. What is in question here is not the liberation of colonial peoples but the displacement of British, Dutch and French imperialism by more brutal, less enlightened Nazi colonization and exploitation. According to Karl Schmitt's "peace plan," England is to lose all influence in Europe. "The English," the plan explains, "may be as Nordic as we are, but geographically they are outsiders in Europe. Since when has a man standing on the running board been able to drive a car?" Anglo-German world competition has been a reality for generations and the Goebbels talk of co-operation is a lie and a trick.

4. *The United States has been attacked by Japan, not Germany.* Peace with Hitler will insure American supremacy in the Pacific. Germany is quite ready to sacrifice her ally.

The Japanese assault on America would have been impossible without Germany. While either of these brigand nations may betray the other, German imperialism in Europe requires a coun-

terbalancing Japanese imperialism in the Pacific. The typical Hitlerian "pinchers" of wartime would become an ideological and economic "pinchers" on America, from the Atlantic and the Pacific, in peacetime. After all, a defeat of Japan might enable the United States, together with China, Russia and British India, to create a power bloc which Hitler could not tolerate. Should Hitler pretend to "sacrifice" Japan in the name of peace, it will be only as a stratagem. Despite the racial embarrassment, Japan bulks large in the Nazi geopolitical schemes.

5. *This war will never end.* Germany cannot be a danger to America. She could not even cross the Channel. Why continue a hopeless and endless struggle involving vast sacrifices?

Invasions are possible, though not necessarily invasions of the old type. America, indeed, could conceivably be beaten without the traditional land invasion. The Western Hemisphere is readily accessible from the "bulge" of Africa. But the primary Nazi objective in the United States is not invasion so much as *destruction*. The new weapon of air power makes this possible. The Germans failed in the use of that weapon against England; first, because the British defense in the skies proved superior, and second, because America stood behind England, ready to make good the economic losses. But nobody stands behind America! Quite possibly a three to five year period of "peaceful reconstruction" is exactly what Germany needs to perfect instruments of destruction geared specifically to destroy the United States.

6. *The Bolsheviks are enemies of England and the United States.* If the

United Nations fight to the point of victory, the Russians will not stop in Berlin. Europe will be Bolshevized.

Although waging admirable defensive warfare, the Russians have so far been incapable of launching an offensive. There is no need to underestimate Russian losses in men and weapons. They will emerge from the war greatly weakened. The reoccupation and reorganization of their own immense lost territories will take at least a decade. In fact, the Russians are likely to be in large measure dependent on economic help from outside.

But there is another aspect of this German lie. Many Americans, Britishers, and especially Russians, declare that the democratic states will face a "social revolution," perhaps of a bloodless variety, after the war. The revolution, they declare, is already under way, and indeed it is clear that no one of the belligerents will resume existence where it was left off at the outbreak of the conflict. There is no reason for assuming that Russia will be the one exception to this process. Precisely as Russia reckons on the possibility of sitting at the peace table with governments different from the present American and British governments, the democracies have reason to reckon that their Russian partner will not necessarily be identical with the present Russian rulers.

7. *After a victorious war, America would be obliged to send abroad a million young Americans as a permanent police force to preserve order. The German Gestapo can do the job better and without American help.*

According to all competent observers, a force of one hundred thousand, only a

small portion of which need be American, would be sufficient to police and control a disarmed and defeated Germany. On the other hand, an armed and powerful Germany would compel America to keep a standing army of at least two million men in war readiness, not to mention huge aerial and naval forces. The airplane makes it possible today to police large areas with small forces.

8. *Germany does not want victory but peace. Hence she does not demand reparations.*

Hitler's expressed readiness to be content with "only" workers, markets and materials is sufficiently unmasked in the following passage from a memorandum prepared by his Geopolitical Institute:

"What Germany needs is workers, markets and commodities. The countries whose air fleets have destroyed our cities will have to be so kind as to deliver as many laborers and materials as will be necessary for the work of reconstruction. We shall also be compensated by mass deliveries of all those objects which made life so pleasant in the 'have' countries before the war. These countries will provide us with cars, trucks, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, radios, yachts, motor boats, typewriters and similar articles until every German family is supplied. Moreover, the defeated countries will have to pledge themselves to buy considerable quantities of German products."

In short, Hitler's reparations will go beyond money. They will amount to eternal subjection to a Nazi economic dictatorship on a world scale.

IV

But all these Nazi lies — weapons of the coming peace blitz — are

part of one over-all lie. It is neither possible nor useful to indicate where one argument ends and the other begins. Every one of the United Nations, every group within each nation, will be assaulted with the slogans best calculated to wear down resistance, to create internal divisions, to inflame existing prejudices. Aware that victory is out of the question, the Nazis will play hard for a draw. Because only a draw will enable them to digest their robberies and prepare for the next stage in their plan for world dominion.

The great Austrian neurologist, Professor Wagner-Jauregg, Nobel prize winner, declared in one of his lectures: "Sometimes we fall in the error of calling innocuous what we regard as having no prospect of success. When a madman declares that he intends to exterminate mankind, he doubtless has no prospects of success. It would be false to conclude that he is not a menace."

This view applies perfectly to Hitler's coming peace offensive. Probably it lacks any real prospect of success. Yet it is extraordinarily dangerous. Though he may fail to impose his own kind of negotiated peace, he may succeed in winning a victory in the field of propaganda and the war of nerves. We must be prepared for the shock of the psy-

chological onslaught just as we would for a physical attack.

Kaiser Wilhelm said, "I did not want this." Hitler will say the same thing. And he will not be completely hypocritical in this. What he wanted was not war but a series of Munichs. He did not want war with England. He wanted to order a terror-stricken British Schuschnigg to Berchtesgaden. He did not want war with the United States. All he wanted was a hundred million slaves to put him in a position to dictate conditions of life to America. The secret of this great conqueror is that he is not a conqueror at all but a blackmailer.

The peace offensive intended by Germany is based on the truth that no civilized nation wants war as such. But Germany mixes four fundamental errors with this truth. Hitler thinks that America is afraid of sacrifices, that America is soft, that America is selfish, that America is disunited. Hitler's peace drive, the greatest propaganda campaign so far invented by the master of propaganda, must collapse because it does not contain the word freedom, on which an American peace will be based. Because this war is a war of liberation, it is not a matter of "win, lose or draw." There is not even a choice between "win or lose." *Freedom must win.*

LADY WRESTLERS

BY EDYTHE FARRELL

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NO LOVER of good, clean American sport who has watched marathon dancing, miniature golf and roller-skate polo will be surprised to learn that feminine wrestling has fastened a hammer-lock on the sporting scene and is on the way to becoming the nation's latest screwy industry. Students of the athletics business know that there is a large segment of the population which dotes on bizarre amusement, and is particularly fascinated if the amusement consists of legitimized mayhem. But even students are somewhat taken aback by the spectacle of mother, dad and the kids packing themselves in a smoky arena around the hard lights of a wrestling ring to witness a pair of females, complete with lipstick, rouge, false eyelashes and skimpy bathing suits, grappling on the floor in a five-minute act billed as "Girl Wrestlers."

The impresarios swear that their capacity houses are composed largely of the "family trade." Probably 40 per cent of the average audience is

female, 10 per cent children of grammar school age, mostly boys, and the rest men. Most come primarily to see the girl grunt-and-groaners, and stay on to cheer and boo the male artists. Last year, an estimated three million howling spectators paid an average of seventy-five cents per head for this privilege.

The authorities have made a feeble effort in some quarters to protect the sensitive public from these exhibitions. New York was first to ban the sport, but thousands of Gothamites made weekly pilgrimages across the river to Trenton and Hoboken until New Jersey, too, clamped down. The hard-pressed Easterners then migrated to Pennsylvania and enjoyed themselves for a time before the moral forces stepped in again. Today, the hot spot of Eastern activity is Washington, D. C., where the crowds are nearly as large and enthusiastic as in the middle west, where female wrestling has its stronghold in such lusty cities as Chicago and Mil-