

# The Hitler-Stalin Drama

## As Revealed By Secret Documents

By John Desmond and Allan Taylor

(Continued from last week)

The conferences began early in the evening of Aug. 23 and lasted far into the night. This was the gist of Ribbentrop's report to Hitler:

Many subjects were covered — Japan, Italy, Turkey, England, France and the Anti-Comintern Pact. There was general agreement on most points. For example, Stalin agreed with him that "England was weak and wanted to let others fight for its presumptuous claim to world domination." They laughed over the fright the Anti-Comintern Pact had given "the City of London and the small British merchants." He (Ribbentrop) told a Berlin joke to the effect that "Stalin will yet join the Anti-Comintern Pact." Stalin laughed long. There were many toasts: "To Hitler, to Stalin, to the continued friendship of Germany and Soviet Russia."

The next day the world was stunned when a joint communique announced a ten-year non-aggression pact. The way had been cleared for Hitler's attack on Poland.

Secret Protocol

What was not announced but was equally significant was a secret protocol—the Protocol of Aug. 23. This was a document which divided Eastern Europe into Russian and German spheres.

The division between the spheres was a line running from the Baltic to the Black Sea and splitting Poland in halves. Everything east of this line was to be in the Russian sphere. In the north Russia was given a free hand in the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Finland. In the south Russia was to get

Bessarabia, which had been annexed after World War I.

Everything west of that line was in the German sphere—though there was no clear definition of the Balkan hegemony, which was later to be a sore point.

war on Germany. The greatest war of history was on.

### THE PARTITION

The sweep of the German armies across Poland was swift; swifter than the Germans themselves thought possible. The world saw the first

home this message: "Molotov (said) that Soviet Government was taken completely by surprise by the unexpected rapid German military successes."

Then Molotov turned to political aspects of the pending military action against Poland. He told Schulenburg that the Soviet Union would have to make some excuse "to make the intervention of the Soviet Union plausible to the masses and at the same time avoid giving the Soviet Union the appearance of an aggressor." The Russian then said, Schulenburg reported, "The Soviet Government . . . intended . . . to declare that Poland was falling apart and that it was necessary for the Soviet Union . . . to come to the aid of the Ukrainians and White Russians 'threatened' by Germany."

Now the time for action by Russia was at hand. At 2 A. M., Sept. 17, Stalin summoned Schulenburg to the Kremlin and told him that "the Red Army would cross the Soviet border at 6 A. M. this morning." Russia took over the eastern half of Poland.

The Russians seemed eager to settle the Polish business as rapidly as possible. On Sept. 27 Ribbentrop arrived in Moscow. The conferences continued through the morning of Sept. 29.

In the agreements the Russians seemed to have the best of the bargain. The secret protocol of Aug. 23 was put into effect, with exceptions provided for in a new "Secret Protocol of Sept. 28." Under the new protocol Lithuania was transferred from the German to the Russian sphere. (Continued on page 24)



The Protocol said: "The question of whether the interests of both parties make desirable the maintenance of an independent Polish state and how such a state should be bounded can only be definitely determined in the course of future political developments." Until the final decision was made, Russia was to occupy Eastern Poland, Germany Western Poland.

In the pre-dawn of Sept. 1, Hitler personally issued the orders sending his troops into Poland. Two days later Britain and France declared

demonstration of Blitzkrieg. On Sept. 3 Ribbentrop wired Schulenburg: "We definitely expect to have Poland beaten in a few weeks . . . Please discuss this at once with Molotov and see if the Soviet Union does not consider it desirable for Russian forces to move at the proper time against Polish forces."

A week later German vanguards entered Warsaw and Russian incredulity gave way to belief and to apprehension. On Sept. 10 Molotov saw Schulenburg again, and the German Ambassador sent

## THE HITLER-STALIN . . .

(Continued from page 12)

sphere, and in compensation there was an adjustment of the new Russians-German frontier in Poland in Germany's favor.

Moreover, the Russians, in a formal declaration, gave Germany moral support for her coming "peace offensive." The declaration said: "In case of continuation of the war, the Governments . . . shall engage in mutual consultations with regard to necessary measures."

Ribbentrop returned to Berlin not entirely satisfied with the Moscow settlements. But this dissatisfaction was tempered by the hope that — with the vaguely hinted prospect of a Russian German alliance — the "peace offensive" might be successful. There would be time later to deal with Russia.

For Russia, the Moscow talks had paid off handsomely. The Russians had added thousands of square miles to their territory. They had a free hand — which they were soon to take advantage of — in the Baltic. They had restored much of the Polish territory they had lost in World War I. Finally, in case Germany turned on them, they were in a better position for defense than they had been before.

### THE COOLING-OFF

The first phase of Russian-German cooperation was over. As the second phase began there were signs of suspicions on both sides. Germany went ahead with her plans to talk and propagandize the Rost into submission. Russia began the systematic effort to make the most of her Baltic sphere, and Germany viewed her moves with distrust.

On Oct. 3, 1939, when Molotov proposed a gesture toward Lithuania, under the Secret Protocol of Sept. 26, Schulenburg wired: "Molotov's suggestion seems to me harmful, as in the eyes of the world it would make us appear as 'robbers' of Lithuanian territory, while the So-

viet Union figures as the donor."

Russia made demands on Finland for bases and territory. Finland rejected them. Russia invaded Finland on Nov. 30. Germany was silent. In France and England some saw a chance to aid the Finns and thus start an offensive that eventually might be turned against Germany. Volunteers were recruited, funds were raised. There was talk of an Anglo-French expedition to help Finland. Germany was not displeased, because these developments seemed likely to curb the Russians, at least temporarily.

### Campaign in Finland

Over the winter the Russians made little headway against the Finns. The Russian losses were heavy, the Finns' relatively light. There were contemptuous reports that Germany was growing lukewarm toward her partner. On March 12, 1940, Finland surrendered.

On April 9 Schulenburg told Molotov of the invasion, that morning, of Scandinavia. Schulenburg's report of the conversation said: "Mr. Molotov said literally: 'We wish the Germans complete success.'"

By the end of April the Scandinavian conquest was virtually over. Hitler was ready for his next move. On the morning of May 10 Schulenburg again called on Molotov and informed him of the invasion that morning of the Lowlands, "because of the impending Anglo-French push on the Ruhr region by way of Belgium and Holland."

The Nazi Blitzkrieg against the West amazed the world. In early June the British made their heroic evacuation



Hitler is shown in the above cut surrounded by his satellites and storm troopers.

of Dunkerque. On June 10 Italy entered the war — "the stab in the back," Roosevelt called it. The Russians were plainly scared. They had counted on a long campaign in the West. Now Hitler seemed on the verge of complete victory and Russia might be his next target.

On June 14 Weissaecker at the Foreign Office wired Schulenburg at Moscow this confidential message:  
Secret Report

"From a strictly secret source with which you are acquainted it has come to our knowledge that the Soviet Minister in Stockholm, Frau Kollontay, recently stated to the Belgian Minister there that it was to the common in-

terest of the European powers to place themselves in opposition to German imperialism."

During the German drive the Russians had collected final dividends on the Protocol of Aug. 23, 1939. Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were fully incorporated into the Soviet Union. Bessarabia was detached from Rumania and added to Russia.

Now, in the summer and early autumn of 1940, came the "Battle of Britain" when Hitler tried to bomb England out of the war.

The Kremlin watched intently. Would Hitler try to invade England? If not, where else were the destructive energies of his fighting machine to be employed? Russia speeded up her industries, strengthened the Red Army and consolidated her gains against the day of need.

By mid-September, 1940, it was clear that the air blitz against Britain had failed. Hitler turned his eyes back again to the East. On Nov. 12, an event of great significance took place.

On that day Molotov and

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Hitler had a fateful meeting in Berlin. Germany had long pressed for the Molotov visit, partly because it was considered a required diplomatic courtesy in return for Ribbentrop's two trips to Moscow the year before. It was Molotov's first journey outside of Russia. It was his first and last meeting with Hitler. Apparently there had been little preparation for the conference. Hitler wanted Molotov to sign a four-power treaty—Germany, Russia, Italy and Japan—to divide up the world. Molotov balked. He was afraid of a double-cross by any or all of the other three.

The conference was a failure. Molotov and Hitler did not get along either diplomatically or personally.

#### THE BREAK

As 1940 drew to its end Hitler stood victorious in the west, but he had not eliminated Britain. What if Russia then turned against him? He was still haunted by the spectre of a two-front war.

In his massive Berlin Chancellery and his cyrc at Berchtesgaden he pondered

the alternatives, reached a decision. He would smash Russia while his hands were still free in the west.

On Dec. 18, 1940, he issued a top secret "Fuehrer's Directive" for Operation Barbarossa, one of history's most grandiose military plans. It was a project aimed at the destruction, with some help from Finland and Rumania, of the Red Army along a 2,000 mile front, and the occupation of all Russia west of the Volga. The time was not set. Great secrecy was enjoined. "It is to be considered of decisive importance," warned the directive, "that the intention to attack is not discovered."

Before the blow could be launched it would be necessary for Hitler to guard his southern flank by strengthening Germany's position in the Balkans. In Moscow there was growing suspicion over Hitler's plans.

On Jan. 17, 1941, Schulenburg sent this report of a statement by Molotov: "According to all reports available here, German troops in great numbers were concentrated in Rumania and ready

to march into Bulgaria, Greece and the Straits. There was doubt that England would try to forestall the operations... The Soviet Government regarded it as its duty to call attention to the fact that it would consider the appearance of any armed forces on the territory of Bulgaria and the Straits as a violation of the Security interests of the U.S.S.R."

Ribbentrop replied through the Foreign Office: "It is the unalterable intention of the Reich Government not under any circumstances to permit English military forces to establish themselves on Greek territory."

Events in the Balkans were drawing rapidly to a crisis. Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria were already in the German camp, and the Nazis were fast slipping their knot around Yugoslavia. But on March 27 the Yugoslav revolution swept from power the subservient government of Prince Paul. The Yugoslavs were ready to fight for independence.

#### HITLER AND THE WORLD

At this time Hitler, with

his long-range plans of smashing Russia and going on to world power, began negotiations with Japan. On March 27 he began a series of conversations in Berlin with dapper Japanese Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka. Hitler urged the Japanese to take aggressive action and promised to fight Russia and the United States if either became involved in war with Japan. A memorandum of the conversations revealed the line he took:

"Germany was watching the Soviet Union closely, and—this Matsuoka should realize clearly—she was prepared for any eventuality. Germany would not provoke Russia; but if the policy of Stalin was not in harmony with what the Fuehrer considered to be right, he would crush Russia."

On April 4 Moscow sprang a surprise. Molotov summoned Schulenburg and informed him of a Russo-Yugoslav friendship and non-aggressive pact to be signed immediately. He quoted Molotov to this effect: "In its decision... the Soviet Government had been actuated solely by the desire to preserve peace. It knew that in this desire it was in harmony with the Reich Government, which was likewise opposed to an extension of the war."

"I replied to Molotov," wrote the German Ambassador, "that in my estimation the moment chosen by the Soviet Union for the negotiation of such a treaty had been very unfortunate... The policy of the Yugoslav Government was entirely unclear, and its attitude... toward Germany was challenging."

Two days later the German war machine struck at both Greece and Yugoslavia. Schulenburg was directed to inform Molotov of the strokes, giving the usual excuse of the danger of British invasion of the Balkans. He reported to Berlin the effect of the news:

"After I had made to Molotov the communications prescribed, he repeated several times that it was extremely deplorable..."



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## FROM QUERUBIN FULGENCIO

I'm sending you a picture of the Business Manager and the Industrial Coordinator of the State Penitentiary at San Quintin, California, with me, during my visit there in the interest of our jute (saluyut) fibers which can be used in the manufacture of bags in this institution where they have a mill for burlap sacks.

At present, they get burlap from India and Pakistan but if our jute fiber can compare with it favorably, which they think it would, they may buy all our jute fiber supply for their mill needs.

At this writing they are undertaking tests with the bales sent by our Bureau of Plant Industry and after about a month or so they can more or less determine just what they think of our fibers.

I brought with me speci-

## THE NURSE . . .

(Continued from page 11)

saw her inside the hospital room. There was iciness and peculiarity in her manners.

"Anything?", Amping said as if talking to a stranger.

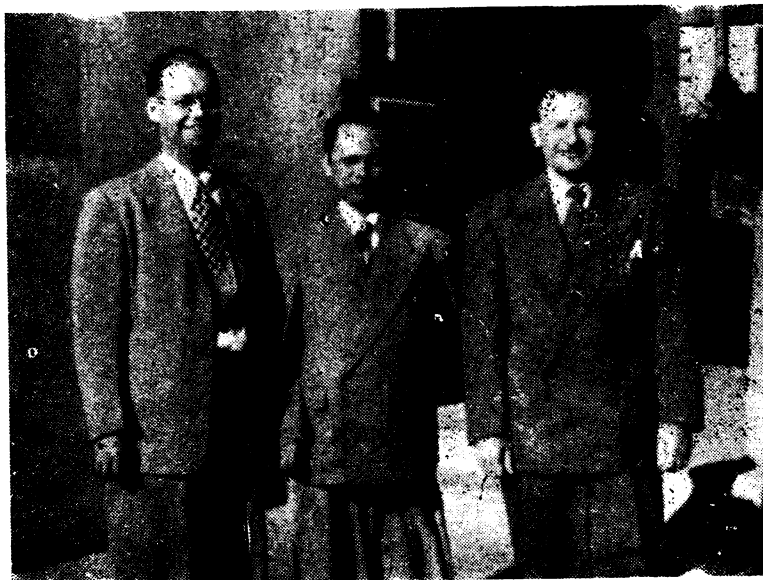
Angelo was about to speak when another gasping nurse coming from the same door breathlessly announced, "Amping, your patient just arrived from the operating room. Blood transfusion. Quick!"

"Oh, excuse me, mister," she said frantically and hurriedly walked away.

Angelo suddenly became conscious of his self. He peeped inside the room into which Amping had entered. Every nurse was busy doing something. They looked like a confused crowd with a definite thing to do. Slowly he walked down the stairway. His dream was dead! Rosa's words bobbed up again.

Someday, you will find me in another one's life the same way as I found you in Tony's.

"Someday . . ." he murmured audibly, as he passed out of the hospital gate. Aimlessly he dragged his feet across the hard pavement of a long and seemingly endless road.



Dr. Fulgencio, center, at San Quintin

cations and details of the sacks we make experimentally in Manila at the request of Mrs. Irene E. Murphy and they will use those information in the making of sacks under our standard and pattern.

In the same occasion, I met the President of a Bag Manufacturing Company in Houston, Texas and he gave me the names of three companies which are interested in buying the portion of the jute fiber near the roots which cannot be used in the

manufacture of jute sacks.

During my present observance in the Social Security Administration of the Federal Security Agency under the sponsorship of the United Nations, I believe I may be able to get in touch with those companies, which if successful, would redound to something good for the Philippines in about two years.

You may use this photo and pertinent portions of this letter for publication.

Thank you very much and I'll try to be in touch with

you as regularly as I can for the duration of my fellowship here and Europe.

Very sincerely yours,  
Querubin Fulgencio, M. D.

United Nations Fellow  
from the Philippines

## BUSINESSMEN . . .

(Continued from page 9)

performance, Mr. Carrion further explained, the trend now is definitely towards electric typewriters. He believes that in the near future the manual typewriters will be out of the market and the greater demand will be for the electrically-operated ones. The reason for this radical prediction is that this IBM product has undergone the acid test of clerical efficiency, proficiency, speed, and economy with flying colors, and the requirements of modern business is to lean heavily on a mechanized system of office work. This is persuasive and convincing salesmanship, wherein Mr. Carrion feels at home. His pet sales promotion plan is to secure the patronage of all colleges and universities, and government offices in the use of the IBM electric typewriters.

We rate Mr. Carrion as a businessman of achievement for this week not only for his vast experience in mercantile operations but also for his having been the recipient of 3 gold medals from the world headquarters of IBM in New York. Reason for the series of awards was his having successfully and successively covered the 100% quota allocated to the divisions wherein he is the sales manager. For this exceptional accomplishment he qualified for membership in the IBM 100% Club of New York for the third time. So far only three Filipinos have been afforded this honor, including Mr. Ramon del Rosario, general manager of the local branch of the International Business Machines Corporation and Mr. Jose L. Arguelles, IBM salesman of electric bookkeeping and accounting machines.

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