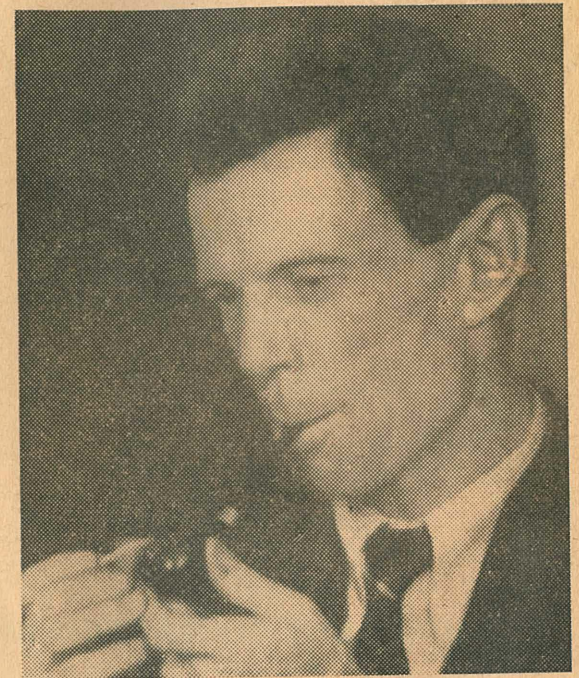


COMMUNIST LEADER



Broadcast address
by J. B. MILES at
Sydney Town Hall
on the anniversary
of the Soviet entry
into war, 22nd
June, 1942.

SPEAKS

Full Report of Speech by

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General Secretary of the
Communist Party of Australia

Delivered at and Broadcast from a

Mighty Demonstration at

Sydney Town Hall on June 22, 1942

to celebrate the

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET
UNION'S FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY**

We Salute the Soviets!



THIS great meeting is one of thousands in this and other lands, meetings held on or near this date—the first anniversary of the unprovoked and treacherous aggression by Hitlerite Germany upon the Soviet Union.

Why are these meetings held? Why are we on the air? Why are we here?

We meet in a spirit of profound admiration for the achievements of the Soviet peoples, their fighting forces, including the guerrillas, and the wise political and military leadership of the Soviet Government and its morale, at the head of whom stands Stalin.

We meet in a spirit of deep gratitude for what the Soviet Union has done on our behalf and in the interests of all progressive mankind.

We meet in a spirit of determination to increase our own fighting strength so that, along with our American allies, we will create our own new front against Japan and for victory over the Axis hordes.

And, side by side with our increased national effort, in the spirit of the growing unity of purpose and action of the United Nations, we will continue to work to overcome weaknesses in the anti-Fascist front and, above all, for the opening of new fronts on land in Europe. That is the way to shorten the war, to ensure Victory in 1942.

● NAZIS LICK WOUNDS.

Permit me to review some of the main features of the past year: Hitler had been allowed, even assisted, to acquire the man-power and industries of Austria, Czechoslovakia and Spain; then he over-ran almost all Europe outside Soviet Russia, securing vast additional supplies, industries and man-power.

On June 22, 1941, the morale of the Hitlerite army was high; it burst forth upon Soviet territory with the feeling that it had licked the world. Soon this army was licking

wounds such as a German army had not suffered since the first World War.

Why could the Soviet forces inflict such wounds and demonstrate that the Nazi army is not invincible? Why could the Red Army hit back hard, even while retreating, then hold this powerful force and, in the depth of winter, begin to drive it back toward the gangster dens of Munich and Berlin?

● UNITED, PREPARED.

The Soviet peoples were united and prepared. They were prepared politically; the widest democracy, the Marxist-Leninist leadership of Stalin had ensured that they understood the world situation. They knew that Fascism is war. They tried, without success, to prepare in unity with the other anti-Fascist peoples; they increased their own preparations to meet an enemy; and, by dividing their enemies, they prepared for the unity which began with Mr. Churchill's statement a few hours after the Nazis struck.

The Soviet peoples, expanding industry in the interest of general well-being, devoted special attention to war industries and potential war industries. They organized and trained the fighting forces, they studied and understood modern warfare better than any other nation.

What is the basis of the unity of the Soviet peoples, a unity which is wider and deeper than that yet attained by any other nation?

The starting-point is the ending of oppression and tribute on the labor of workers and peasants by landlords and capitalists. The Soviet Union faced the raping, thieving, murdering Nazi hordes as a society in which the exploitation of man by man had come to an end, in which classes had been abolished, a society in which the whole people democratically decide national problems and enjoy the fruits of their labor, that is, as a Socialist country.

In the Soviet Union no private interest, no profit motive, no fear for lost investments due to turning over to war work, creates disunity or cuts across the national effort.

Let us understand this, but not draw wrong conclusions for ourselves. It took ten years to restore the devastation caused in Russia by the first World War, the wars of intervention and the famine; it took about ten more years, two Five-Year Plans, to establish the final and irrevocable victory of Socialism. We must curb the evils in our own system, encourage the good, and unite to do the best possible with what we have. The enemy is at the door; he will allow no time for basic social changes.

● EQUALITY OF RACES.

Another source of unity and strength in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is the solution of the national question. In this Stalin, no less than Lenin, played a major part. In that vast territory of many nations there is no dominant nation, no exploited, subject nation.

All are equal, and the small, the backward and weak nations have been assisted to develop their national culture on the basis of a socialist modern industry.

From this aspect of Soviet unity we can draw valuable conclusions for strengthening the cause of the United Nations. Its importance has been demonstrated by the opposite experience in Malaya and Burma. It is late, but not too late, to apply the lessons to India, to win the whole people of India by extending to them that measure of self-government and guarantees for the future that would bring full co-operation between Britain and India. It is our right and duty, in our own interest and in the interest of the common cause, to demand that agreement be reached with all anti-Fascist Indian leaders.

It will be recalled how propagandists sought to discredit Soviet industry, collective farming, and the Red

Army. Without capitalists and technicians trained by capitalist industry, workers and collective-farmers, they argued, could not organise modern industry, could not produce ample food, organise efficient transport, equip and train an army, navy and air force.

● THEY KNEW BETTER.

Most of these propagandists did know better; their aim was to deceive the people, to weaken the influence of the Soviet Union, to prevent international anti-Fascist solidarity. To-day, deceived millions know better; life is stronger than rivers of the most subtle propaganda.

Communists, and other people with no reactionary interests to serve, told the truth in the face of torrents of abuse, intimidation and terror from the Fascists, their Fifth Columnists, and the appeaser reactionaries.

That explains the decline of those responsible for building up Hitler, and the growing influence of Communists among freedom-loving peoples.

But the reaction is not yet routed in the countries allied with the Soviet Union; we must be vigilant in the struggle for national and international unity to destroy Hitlerism.

You will recall the speculations about the Red Army during the first weeks of war on the Russian front, and the continuation of this anti-Soviet propaganda until the winter. Would the Red Army hold out a few weeks? This, backed with hypocritical phrases such as: "Till we get stronger," "Will the Red Army hold out till the winter?"

This, with a facade of friendliness about what the questioners would do in the spring. Then began the speculation about the Nazi spring offensive and whether the Red Army would hold it.

Through all this time these false friends, these enemies of our freedom as well as the Soviet Union, were hinting that Russia might make a separate peace. Anything to limit the flow of supplies to the Red Army from Britain and

the United States, anything to offset the growing demand for a second land front in Europe, anything to restore the power of those who prefer Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo and defeat to unity with the Soviet Union.

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Nazis Bleeding to Death

THE glorious Red Army and its generals, Timonshenko, Voroshilov, Budenny and others, have answered the purveyors of lies and distortions, and they have answered the timid and fearful fair-weather friends of the Soviet Union. Around Leningrad, before Moscow, in the direction of Kharkov, in the epic defence of Sebastopol, and on other sectors of a vast front, Hitler's army is being bled to death.

To appreciate the mighty feats of the Red Army is not to belittle the heroism of British, Australian and Allied forces on other fronts, or the defence of Britain, or the battle of the Atlantic. Nor is it to overlook British and United States aid to the Red Army, or the British and Australian airmen on the Russian Front, or the heavy bombing of Germany and occupied territory by the R.A.F.

The Red Army has shown that the Nazi forces are not invincible, and that with offensive action at other vulnerable fronts, especially in Europe, the Hitler hordes will bleed to death this year. The remainder of the Axis will not long survive that blow on top of those they have suffered and will yet suffer.

It will be recalled that before the world knew Timonshenko and other Red Army leaders you were told that the Red Army had been purged of its best generals and would not be able to give a good account of itself in the field. It should now be clear to all that the best professional general is a menace if he is not loyal to the cause of his country and, particularly, if he is an enemy agent. And we see that the toiling people can produce the best generals as well as great statesmen, technicians, and organisers of industry.

● FIFTH COLUMN CRUSHED.

Those people who wept crocodile tears for Tukachevsky and Company, seeking to undermine confidence in the Soviet Union, were aided by persons who defended the Trotskyite and Bukharinite Fifth Columnists. The far-seeing wisdom of Stalin and his colleagues was shown in his struggles against the Trotskyite-Bukharinite traitors for the alliance with the peasants, for the collective farms and for the Soviet heavy industry, and in rooting out all Fifth Columnists, alleged Bolsheviks and others, before the war started.

Other governments refused to deal with Fascist agents, foreign and national, and peoples have paid the price in death and subjection; others have been learning slowly. They raised a smoke-screen to protect the Fifth Column by slandering Communist and other anti-Fascist fighters.

These people are not yet all rendered harmless in our country; they lurk in the Labor Movement, in some so-called places of learning, in some managerial positions, and in the Tory wing of the political parties of the capitalist class. Their success would be our defeat; their defeat is our victory.

Unity behind the Federal Government, including Mr. Ward, and increasing recognition of the role and influence of the genuine Left, will ensure victory.

In other ways the Soviet peoples have answered the slanderers and the cowards who deserted from their side—by the heroism of the men and women guerrillas, by the new high levels of production, by civilian co-operation with the army in defence of besieged cities, and by the sublime realism of the scorched earth tactic.

We are learning; let us resolve to learn to be yet more worthy of our Soviet Allies.

● HITLER'S BLUNDER.

Before June 22, 1941, we often read or heard that Hitler had blundered, had made his greatest blunder, had launched a desperate gamble. From the commencement of his aggression, his first desperate gamble, his first big blunder, was his attack on the Soviet Union. Not only did the military situation change—the political situation changed.

Hitler launched his dehumanised beasts and dupes at the peaceful land of Socialist industry and culture; he hoped to revive the power of his discredited appeaser friends with his so-called anti-Bolshevik crusade; he hoped to be left free from attack while ravaging the Soviet Union, and that Britain and the United States would aid his designs for world conquest.

But Chamberlainism had been removed from power in Britain; it was not dead, but it had no decisive influence among the people. Isolationists and anti-Soviet elements in the United States, though still influential, had been forced to retreat before the pressure of freedom-loving people and the realism of President Roosevelt and his supporters.

In our own country, the followers of Chamberlain and appeasers of Japan were forced to retreat and abandon office.

Instead of an anti-Bolshevik crusade from Britain, the Dominions, United States, and other Allies, Hitler faces an anti-Fascist alliance which means the doom of his Germany and of Fascism everywhere.

Mr. Churchill's declaration of friendship and recognition of a common purpose on June 22 last, was followed by the Moscow talks, the Anglo-Soviet Alliance, and by agreement with the United States.

The Red Army has been reinforced by British and American supplies, and British bombs have continued to rain on Hitler's war industries and transport; the British and Red Armies have co-operated in Iran.

Alliance of Free Men



As a fitting prelude to this anniversary came the announcement of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Alliance for victory, a treaty for post-war security of peace and long-range economic co-operation. And at the same time the announcement of the United States-Soviet Agreement on "mutual assistance to win the war and co-operation in practical ways to create a better world thereafter."

Now we can say: "All freedom-loving peoples are rallied round the mighty coalition of the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Great Britain."

The new treaty is no balance of power arrangement by competing imperialist groups. Its clauses clearly reflect the political change, the progressive trend and the influence of the people in the anti-Axis countries, brought about by the growing unity of action against the common enemy—Hitlerite Germany and its satellites.

The renewal of pledges for mutual assistance in the war, supported by the united peoples, is a guarantee of victory.

There will be no separate peace with Hitler or any similar German Government, or with any State associated with Hitler aggression. This is a resounding blow to Hitler and those who would connive with him against the forces of progress.

The non-imperialist character of the Treaty is shown in the declaration not to seek territorial gains; its democratic character in the decision not to interfere in the internal affairs of other States.

● ERA OF PEACE.

The provision in the Treaty for other like-minded States to unite with Britain and the Soviet Union to preserve peace and resist aggression in the post-war period requires only the support of the working people to guaran-

tee that victory will be followed by an era of peace between nations.

The Treaty points the way to a long-term period of collective security after the crushing of Hitlerite Germany, and co-operation in the economic sphere for the prosperity which is the desire of the masses in all countries.

There will be people who will say: "But will not some who accept the Treaty now try to break it after the victory?" They will concentrate on that question and become blind to the forces of progress.

Such doubters must decide. Against the Alliance because someone in it is disliked or regarded with suspicion, and so with Hitler? Or, with the Alliance and the masses whose hopes it embodies, to help realise all its aims?

The Treaty is not only a blow to Hitler and to anti-Soviet hopes in this and other countries; it is an inspiration to the peoples of the United Nations; it is an inspiration to the peoples of the enslaved countries and to those who work for democracy in the Fascist countries.

How did the Soviet people greet the Anglo-Soviet Treaty and the Agreement with the United States? With unbounded enthusiasm and gratitude. At thousands of meetings of Red Army men, and in factories, villages and collective farms. In millions of newspapers controlled by workers, collective farms and Red Army men. There is the widest, real democracy in practice.

Let us put an end to the slanders of Soviet Democracy and, in the course of silencing those who utter the slanders, improve our own democratic liberties.

● JAPANESE FORCES TIED UP.

The Treaty has not ended anti-Soviet propaganda, or other propaganda to weaken the unity against Hitlerism. Some speak about disappointment that the Treaty makes no reference to Japan.

There may be some ignorant but honest people who are disappointed. They will get over that.

There are others who refuse to admit the huge burden carried by the Soviet Union. They refuse to recognise that the Soviet Union holds vast Japanese forces in Siberia. They would like to provoke the Soviet Union into creating a second front against herself. They hope Japan will attack.

Some of them may not desire a Hitler victory—they do desire the exhaustion of the Soviet Union and the breaking of the unity of progressive peoples. Expose them, isolate them, make certain they will not succeed.

It is the task of those nations at war with Japan to learn from the Soviet Union and their own mistakes, and to do better than they have yet done.

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Two Fronts for Hitler

THE declaration that the United States, the Soviet Union and Great Britain are in agreement about "the urgent task of creating a second front" against Hitler, and are increasing supplies to the Red Army, has inspired hopes and opposition propaganda.

The hopes are justified because agreement about an urgent task is no mere ambiguous phrase, open to opposite interpretations. The visit of Mr. Churchill to Washington is not without significance in that connection.

The opposition to a second front takes the form of sowing doubt because the declaration is not a detailed plan. How useful that would be to friend Hitler!

It takes also the form of discussion of the difficulties involved in an invasion, not with the object of overcoming them, but to postpone a second front in the hope that Hitler will yet make it too late.

It is not to express doubt about the intentions of Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt, but finally to defeat the opponents of a second front in Europe that we must con-

tinue the agitation until Hitler has to fight, in a big way, on two land fronts. Such agitation is support for the Treaty, support for its authors, and for the declaration of agreement on an urgent task.

● SOVIET-AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS.

What about Australian relations with the Soviet Union? We learn that Dr. Evatt met Molotov and discussed this problem. That is good.

Whatever the hindrance, it is not our Government, or the Soviet Government. Why should we lag behind Canada and South Africa? Excepting Dr. Evatt, our war-time London representation has a record of policies not in keeping with that which has given us the Anglo-Soviet Treaty.

Let us work to have greater numbers of people make it clear to Mr. Curtin that he has their support for an immediate exchange of diplomatic representatives with Soviet Russia.

Such relations between Australia and Soviet Russia would help towards better understanding on Pacific problems. And, in that connection, our Government would also help Australia and the common cause by exerting an influence in London for an agreement on co-operation with the Indian nation.

● AID TO CHINA.

Another point about the Pacific.

Our Chinese Allies are battling against tremendous odds owing to their lack of equipment and the closing of routes along which they received some supplies. The China front is our front. While strengthening ourselves to launch a Pacific front, asking for and accepting the aid we can obtain, let us call for more aid to China.

There are those who call for air bases in Siberia. If there are planes available to hit at Japan from Siberia, some of them could be sent to China and others used to supply China with more of the bombs she cannot make.

I have expressed to you the thoughts of a Communist on this important anniversary. The object of doing so is to encourage yet better work to strengthen Australia, to unite our people around the Curtin Government, for our liberty and the cause of the United Nations, for victory and the whole content of the Treaty of Alliance.

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Legalise the Communist Party!

WITH other people, I could work more successfully had we the right legally to organise a Party, a Party of the consistent champions of democratic rights, of the unrelenting enemies of Hitlerism and appeasers; a Party of the unfailing friends of China, of the unwavering friends of the Soviet Union; a Party of those who have advocated precisely that united action, that system of collective security and economic collaboration embodied in the Treaty.

You need such a Party. You can help to get it by telling the Government you want it.

That legal Party is needed, not in the interests of Communists as such, but in the interests of our common cause, in the interests of the nation.

I am not without appreciation of the change which has come over the democratic scene in Australia since the friends of Hitler and Japan were forced into a back seat.

That is good, but not yet, I suggest, good enough for you, for the working people, for the nation.

Communists are in the battlefields and training camps; they are in the forefront for the production of more machines of war, and in the struggle for industrial discipline and conditions conducive to the best results.

They are champions of national and international unity against the Axis.

Organised and at liberty to speak, to write and publish in the name of their Party, they could make a still greater contribution to the national cause.

Help us to gain that freedom!

Treaty between the U.S.S.R. and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of Alliance in the War against Hitlerite Germany and Her Associates in Europe and of Collaboration and Mutual Assistance Thereafter.

Desiring to confirm the stipulations of the agreement between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of the U.S.S.R. for joint action in the war against Germany, signed at Moscow on 12th July, 1941, and to replace them by a formal Treaty; desiring to contribute after the war to the maintenance of peace and to the prevention of further aggression by Germany or the States desiring, moreover, to give expression to their intention to collaborate closely with one another as well as with the other United States at the Peace Settlement and during the ensuing period of reconstruction on the basis of the principles enunciated in the declaration made on the 14th August, 1941, by the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to which the Government of the U.S.S.R. has adhered; desiring finally to provide for mutual assistance in the event of an attack upon either high contracting party by Germany or any of the States associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

PART I.

ARTICLE I.

In virtue of the Alliance established between the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the high contracting parties mutually undertake to afford one another military and other assistance and support of all kinds in the war against Germany and all those States which are associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

ARTICLE II.

The high contracting parties undertake not to enter into any negotiations with the Hitlerite Government or

any other Government in Germany that does not clearly renounce all aggressive intentions, and not to negotiate or conclude except by mutual consent any armistice or peace treaty with Germany or any other State associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

PART II.

ARTICLE III.

(1) The high contracting parties declare their desire to unite with other like-minded States in adopting proposals for common action to preserve peace and resist aggression in the post-war period.

ARTICLE IV.

Should one of the high contracting parties during the post-war period become involved in hostilities with Germany or any of the States mentioned in Article III (2) in consequence of an attack by that State against that party, the other high contracting party will at once give to the contracting party so involved in hostilities all the military and other support and assistance in his power. This Article shall remain in force until the high contracting parties, by mutual agreement, shall recognise that it is superseded by the adoption of the proposals contemplated in Article III (1).

In default of the adoption of such proposals, it shall remain in force for a period of twenty years, and thereafter until terminated by either high contracting party, as provided in Article VIII.

ARTICLE V.

The high contracting parties, having regard to the interests of the security of each of them, agree to work together in close and friendly collaboration after the re-establishment of peace for the organisation of security and economic prosperity in Europe. They will take into account

the interest of the United Nations in these subjects, and they will act in accordance with the two principles of not seeking territorial aggrandisement for themselves and of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States.

ARTICLE VI.

The high contracting parties agree to render one another all possible economic assistance after the war.

ARTICLE VII.

Each high contracting party undertakes not to conclude any alliance and not to take part in any coalition directed against the other high contracting party.

ARTICLE VIII

The present Treaty is subject to ratification in the shortest possible time and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible.

It comes into force immediately on the exchange of the instruments of ratification and shall thereupon replace the agreement between the Government of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, signed at Moscow on 12th July, 1941.

Part I of the present Treaty shall remain in force until the re-establishment of peace between the high contracting parties and Germany and the powers associated with her acts of aggression in Europe.

Part II of the present Treaty shall remain in force for a period of 20 years. Thereafter, unless twelve months' notice has been given by either party to terminate the Treaty at the end of the said period of 20 years, it shall continue in force until twelve months after either high contracting party shall have given notice to the other in writing of his intention to terminate it.

