

H18-'16. TO ALL PAPERS RECEIVING THE PAUL MALLON COLUMN.

A T T E N T I O N   E D I T O R S :

WHEN PAUL MALLON'S COLUMN FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 23RD, WAS RECEIVED BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, THE SYNDICATE'S EDITORS SUBMITTED IT TO THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP BECAUSE OF THE SUBJECT WITH WHICH IT DEALT, THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP HAVING PREVIOUSLY ISSUED A BULLETIN CONCERNING THIS SUBJECT.

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP REQUESTED THAT THE MALLON COLUMN BE KILLED. THIS REQUEST WAS CONVEYED TO THE PAPERS RECEIVING THE COLUMN AND TO MR. MALLON. MR. MALLON THEN ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WHICH, AS EDITOR OF KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, I AM SENDING YOU AT MR. MALLON'S REQUEST.

WARD GREENE

EDITOR, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

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WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 22--IF THE CENSORSHIP OF MY COLUMN OF YESTERDAY STANDS AND PREVENTS ITS PUBLICATION TOMORROW, THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE MATTER IS RELEASABLE:

I HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR A STATEMENT ON CENSORSHIP'S KILL OF MY COLUMN FOR PUBLICATION MAY 23. I DESIRE TO SAY THIS:

NO NOTICE OF NEW MAY 11 CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS HAS YET BEEN SENT TO ME.

CENSORSHIP ALLOWED THE A. P. TO ANNOUNCE THE END OF THE WAR TWICE, ONCE IN COMPLETE FALSEHOOD, AND THE SECOND TIME IN VIOLATION OF SPECIFIC MILITARY CONFIDENCE. NO PUNITIVE ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FIRST OCCASION, AND NEITHER STORY WAS CENSORED. WHEN MY COLUMN WAS CENSORED I TELEPHONED BYRON PRICE, CHIEF OF CENSORSHIP AND MADE THESE POINTS:

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H19-'16. SHEET TWO MALLON STATEMENT XXX THESE POINTS:

1. MY STORY WAS BENEFICIAL TO THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS WAR CASE, BEING DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO SCOTCH CURRENT FOOLISH RUMORS, SPREAD ALL THROUGH WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK, THAT WE WOULD BE AT WAR WITH RUSSIA "IN A FEW DAYS."

2. MY STORY DID NOT INVOLVE ANY NEW MILITARY INFORMATION BUT WAS AN EXPLANATION OF WHY STETTINIUS OVER-RULED CROWLEY ON STOPPING LEND-LEASE TO RUSSIA.

3. THE MILITARY ASPECT OF THE STORY WAS PUBLISHED BY ME FEBRUARY 16, GIVING RESULTS OF THE YALTA CONFERENCE AND CENSORSHIP THEN MADE NO EFFORT TO KILL THE SAME STORY, BUT ALLOWED IT TO BE PUBLISHED. INDEED, IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PICKED UP BY ALL THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AROUND THE WORLD.

4. MY STORY WAS TRUE, AND FURTHER, BENEFICIAL TO THE GOVERNMENT BECAUSE IT WOULD CLEAR THE AIR OF CHARGES THAT PRESIDENT TRUMAN WAS APPEASING RUSSIA, MADE ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE.

I ASK WHAT KIND OF CENSORSHIP IS IT WHICH ALLOWS FREE PUBLICATION OF A FALSE WAR END AND DOES NOT CENSOR A DIRECT VIOLATION OF MILITARY CONFIDENCE, YET CENSORS ACCURATE FACTS OF BENEFIT BOTH TO THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH INVOLVED NO VIOLATION OF ANYONE'S CONFIDENCE.

I ALSO ASK WHY IS IT THAT EVERY TIME A NEWSMAN DEALS WITH THE SUBJECT OF RUSSIA, FUNNY THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN. YOU CAN WRITE ANYTHING ABOUT ENGLAND. YOU CAN KICK OUR OWN GOVERNMENT AROUND. YOU CAN SPREAD LIES ABOUT IT AND EVERYONE IN IT, AND GET THEM PUBLISHED. YOU CAN LIE ABOUT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND GET IT PRINTED. BUT WHEN YOU MENTION RUSSIA, YOU CANNOT EVEN TELL THE PEOPLE CLARIFYING SIMPLE FACTS IN THE APPARENT INTEREST OF YOUR OWN COUNTRY AND YOUR OWN PRESIDENT? WHY IS THAT?

PAUL MALLON

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