

U. S. ACTS FIRMLY TO STOP STRIKES.

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Title: Devil & The Deep.
Lines: Stagg.
Voice: Do.

The strike-wave that swept American war-factories reached its crest at the North American Aviation plant. Fourteen thousand downed tools to demand what they considered a living wage. One of the strike-leaders was a former Communist Party member, Elmer Feitag. To obey the Roosevelt return -to-work order the men were urged by their C.I.O. union leader, Richard Frankenstein. He warned them that hands-to-shoulder, chain picketing was illegal. The men ignored him and the police fell back on the time honoured device of tear-gas bombs.

When the tear-gas brought a temporary lull a man who wanted to work dashed through the thinned-out strike cordon, made it, and was followed by others.

At the White House Mr. Roosevelt's secretary, Stephen Early, told the Press that the President had taken ^{drastic action by} /ordering the war department to take over the Aviation plant.

Back at the factory the army marched in - a regiment of regulars who had seen rough service at the China Station. This was a turn of events for which the strikers were not prepared. There was no question of rioting now, for though the troops were quiet and unprovocative it was clear they meant business.

Unresigned to the inevitable a few hotheads still incited the men to stay out. They were arrested.

In every free country workers resent soldiers breaking a strike. The situation was tense for a time ^{yet} /while the agitators were waiting in lorries to be taken away but the presence of machine guns and anti-tank weapons won the day. The strikers went back. Since these pictures were taken Russia has been attacked and the Communists now ^{On the first morning of resumed work} back war-production to the hilt. /Four planes were completed and tested in flight. The Labour War is apparently over. The tools for the war against Hitler are in full production again.

June 11, 1941

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#83

OFF-STAGE VOICE----PARAMOUNT NEWS EXTRA!
STRIKE SHOWDOWN!

1. TITLE.
2. Drastic action ends the six-day strike at the vital North American Aviation Company plant. Action by the army, without precedent in peacetime, brings workers back---starts more planes for America and Britain.
5. (SUBTITLE
6. Strike! In Washington State, 12,000 lumbermen and woodworkers are on strike--- a strike denounced by Philip Murray, national C.I.O. president. A strike where the government's peace formula has been refused. Lumber vital to many national defense needs lies untouched.
13. Aluminum strike! In Cleveland, 7,000 workers stopped on nearly \$60,000,000 worth of castings and parts for defense warplane engines. After 24 hours of the strike, Washington reports a peace formula worked out for five plants.
19. Shipyard strike! Partial settlement, as some workers go back on the job in eleven shipyards that have half a billion dollars in defense contracts. Local machinists unions denounced a West Coast master agreement to call this strike.
- 22,23. Across the nation our new army hears of strike after strike out in civilian life. Proud of khaki work clothes, with entrance pay of \$21 a month, these rookies hear they may soon have some strikers as comrades. The War Department orders reclassification of defense strikers who had been deferred, and Acting Draft Director General Hershey says....

PART TWO

1. SUBTITLE
2. Inglwood, California---the North American Aviation plant---is the scene of labor drama that brought the deferment ruling---that brings Congressional action against strikes that slow up this nation's arming. Pickets surround the idle plant. Orders are halted for \$196,000,000 worth of planes for ourselves and for Britain. The strike, which C.I.O. national leaders denounce as showing "underhand maneuvering of the Communist party" is led, in part, by Elmer ~~Griggs~~ Feitag, whose 1938 Communist registration is now under probe. The strikers refuse however to listen to C.I.O. executive Richard Frankenstein who urges that they obey the President's call back to work.
15. The strikers refusal is one too many for the White House. Presidential secretary Steve Early announces: "The President has acted!" An executive order commands the war department to take over the North American plant. Violation, by strikers, of an agreement not to strike pending mediation brings the President's order of seizure. And the news is hot!
23. With the Army on the way the strike scene is hectic. From 5 in the morning, pickets in lockstep seek to prevent non-strikers from entering the plant. The Mayor of Los Angeles appeals for order, warns that chain picketing is illegal. Police try to form lines to let workers into the plant. Hundreds want to get in---then comes trouble, and police tear gas.
(See next page #2)

OFFSTAGE VOICE---STRIKE SHOWDOWN

- 34. When the fury dies down some workers try to run the gauntlet of pickets---a few get in the plant. Then the word flashes out---the Army's coming!
- 35. And the troops roll in. Regulars most of these, from the famous "Can Do" regiment who made their mark while serving on the China station. Efficiently, quietly, they take up the ticklish job of clearing the streets, opening the way to the airplane plant. The strikers are sullen--the soldiers are silent. Action is their job.
- 42. Picket lines are gradually pushed farther and further back. With fixed bayonets, the Army men give the crowd plenty of time.
- 45. Here and there are troublemakers. In all sixteen from the picket lines are arrested and taken to nearby Fort McArthur for trial. From San Francisco, C.I.O.-man Harry Bridges wires the strikers, saying "the strike should not be called a defeat but a strategic retreat".
- 51. In fifteen minutes the roads are clear. Picket lines, now greatly subdued and rapidly thinning out are kept nearly a mile from the plant. Then the call goes out---The Army will guarantee the safety of all who come back to work....the gates are open!
- 54. And in they go! 5,000 of the normal dayshift of 7,000 report---and the wheels start turning, the assembly line rolling. The factory is running, planes are being made. In the first morning, four are finished, actually flown. This plant CAN turn out hundreds a month---hundreds that are needed---NOW!