

ALLIES IN COUNCIL WELCOME RUSSIA.

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Issue No. 1104..29.9.1941  
Title: North West Mounted.  
Track: Do.

Lines: Stagg.  
Voice: Mellor.

St. James's Palace was the meeting-place of the inter-allied council - the first attended by Ambassador Maisky, who found himself much photographed. Others who posed included the Greek delegation. Representing Czechoslovakia was the tall Jan Masaryk. Monsieurs Cassin and Dejean were for Free France.

Mr. Eden presided. Delegates of the ten European countries attacked by the Nazis sat down to plan for the future.

"This is the first opportunity we've had to welcome to an inter-Allied meeting, a representative of the Soviet Union, and I am sure I shall be expressing the general wish in extending a warm welcome to the Soviet Ambassador who is representing his Government at our meeting to-day. (Applause). Mr. Maisky has, I understand, an important statement to make on behalf of his Government, and I think it will be convenient if I ask him to make this statement at an early stage in our procedure."

Mr. Maisky stressed the first necessity - beating the Germans.

"The first task of all nations and all stations compelled to wage war against Hitlerite Germany and her allies is to bring about the speediest and most decisive defeat of the aggressor.

"The Soviet Government believes that the most imperative and most pressing task of to-day is the correct allocation of all the economic resources and war supplies with a view to an early liberation of all the European peoples now oppressed by Hitlerite slavery."

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