The Japanese Alliance

By now the strategy behind the signing of the German-Italian-Japanese pact is obvious. The world has witnessed Germany's diplomatic moves before, and the purpose of the Pact of Berlin becomes clear in the light of past actions.

In the first place, the Pact is aimed slap-dab at the United States, although Great Britain, China, and Russia are automatically put on the spot according to the usual Nazi squeeze-play pattern. Just as the German-Soviet pact was designed to keep England from fighting by jumping the odds against her, so is this new alliance designed to prevent the United States from entering the conflict by threatening a two-front war on two fronts if we keep extending our help to Great Britain.

The new agreement's similarity of purpose to the Nazi-Soviet pact of last year and the nearness of the now ally must strike uncomfortably home to Stalin. Throughout all previous European political manuevers and for the most part in this new pact for aggression, Russia, rewarded for a laissez-faire attitude by a "cut out" of the profits, must be assumed to be a silent partner to the new corporation, at least as long as the latter pays its dividends. Before last week, only the idealistic refugees from the nature of the link between the two revolutions, could believe that Stalin will change sides while Hitler's star keeps rising.

But Russia's position is now more jeopardized and much less uncompromising. The Berlin-Rome-Tokyo agreement is precisely what Stalin thought he had avoided when he signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact with Germany last year. Anglo-American "cooperation" in Europe and Asia is being noticed more and more in Moscow's controlled press. Yet Russia's policy of rushing supplies to China, now in her fourth year of war with Japan, is now not so straightforward as it once was. What Moscow dreads unluckily is an open clash with Germany and last week's pact doubly poses the necessity for the Soviet to operate with kid gloves.

Apart from Russia's position, Great Britain faces a dual result of the signing of the Tokyo pact. The first involves the acquisition of the Axis powers of a new goal—further inescapable source of military support, and the coincident loss to Britain of a good deal of prestige. The second brings up the question of the Burma Road, chief source of supplies to China from the outside world.

When they closed the Burma Road this summer, the British undoubtedly appreciated the importance of Chinese resistance to Japan's Far East expansion. That they anticipated a German-Japanese pact of aggression, which certainly multiplies this importance, is less likely. At any rate, their position with regard to the Burma Road is self-imposed. The Road was closed because Britain feared she couldn't depend on help from the United States should Japan, as the diplomats regard Britain as a "propaganda." It should be perfectly plain to the British by this time that Japan never needs a "propaganda" — only an excuse, which is always easy to dream up, and that, having kept British possessions in the Far East from attack by Japan is a lack of power, in turn dependent upon the extent to which Japan is kept occupied by China.

Although her domestic concerns are less intense than those of Russia, as a result of the new pact, Great Britain can find less cause for contentment.

One reason for Russia to retain faith in the status quo is that the new tripartite agreement connotes more of a philosophy than it does of an immediate objective. The shift of emphasis from Great Britain to the United States gives an insight into Germany's aims. Hitler is no longer fighting for Lebensraum, for the protection of Germanic peoples, or even for the domination of Europe. His target is now not the defeat of England. But all these objectives, all the reasons he offered for waging war, are now united, expanded, and forcefully directed at one higher goal. The new corporation's purpose is simply to re-divide the world. The Battle for Britain is now only the curtain-raiser for the big show of the re-appropriation of the World.

After the Smoker

Last night at the All-Tech Smoker the Class of '44 was officially launched on its Institute career. It heard advice from all sides, some of which was birth, most of it sincere.

More important was the fact that the Smoker was the incoming men's first meeting as a class. They are no longer a hodgepodge of secondary school graduates, but an organization with one characteristic common to each member—a student in the Class of '44.

With Field Day only a month away the continuity of this unity must be emphasized. It is easy for new men to slip away from Field Day activities in the rush for academic excellence at the start of the year. Racetrack and Field Day teams need unselfish backing by the class for which they function.

So This Is '44

The Tech's Annual Freshman Smoker to be Held Oct. 8

Organization and Work Undergraduate Papers To Be Discussed

The annual Freshman Smoker marks the beginning of the Class of 1944, most of whom aim the introduction of the "tripartite" agreement, will be duly initiated into the Tech chapter of Brownhanger, Inc. in Room 1030 on October 1 at 4:00 P.M.

To Be Taught Today

The new book of the Mathematics department, will be distributed for the second time in as many years by the Institute Chapter of the American Student Union.

Textbooks For Freshmen Wanted By T.C.A. Office

Any and all freshman textbooks are wanted in the T.C.A. office for possible acquisition to a report received last night from the Book Exchange department. All unmatted books are urged to turn in their books for sale if they have no further use for them.

Slipstick" Manipulation To be Taught Today

The members of the Class of 1944, most of whom aim the introduction of the "tripartite" agreement, will be duly initiated into the Tech chapter of Brownhanger, Inc. in Room 1030 on October 1 at 4:00 P.M.

Professor Prescott D. Crout, of the Mathematics department, will demonstrate at this time the manipulations of a slide rule. The lecture is being sponsored for the second time in as many years by the Institute Chapter of the American Student Union.

Opportunities Listed

The school newspaper offers opportunities to the creative, ambitious advertising, news, photo, and photo-engraving divisons, with all candidates for positions welcome to try.

The Tech's Freshman Smoker marks the start of a series of social activities for the new student. A housing party for the members of its staff is soon to follow.

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