DAY BY DAY

The Thirties

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General Editor
### World Affairs

#### May 28

The Empire Conference in London reaches agreements on defense, but finds roadblocks in discussions on trade with America.

With very little pomp, Neville Chamberlain becomes Britain's Prime Minister. Insurgent planes drop 50 bombs on Valencia, causing 200 deaths. Seven are killed at the Paraguayan consulate, and the Red Cross shelter is hit. Loyalist planes shell Italian and British ships, killing seven crew members. Loyalists also attack an insurgent air base, destroying dozens of planes. French diplomats arrange an exchange of two captured German and Swiss pilots, held by Basques, for four prisoners in insurgent hands. Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels speaks before a crowd of 20,000 for two hours, assuring churches, worldwide and in Germany for their immorality and interference.

#### May 29

The League of Nations resolves its discussion of Italian and other foreign soldiers in the Spanish civil war by endorsing London's Non-Intervention Committee's right to work on it.

The German battleship Deutschland is bombed by Spanish loyalist and Russian planes near the island of Ibiza, killing 23 civilians and injuring 83. Spain claims the planes were fired upon first. Seven insurgent planes drop bombs on Barcelona and its suburbs before 4 a.m., and many are killed in their apartments, collapse and bury them.

#### May 30

The Empire Conference debates control of gold, but decides that as results depend on Russia's cooperation, gold should be discussed in other venues.

The National Conferential Synod in Germany instructs pastors to protest attacks against churches, pointing out that the Nazis have subsumed the role of church in peoples' lives. After a late Cabinet meeting, Germany warns it will take action over the bombing of the Deutschland, and demands to know what the Non-Intervention Committee will do. A Spanish passenger liner sinks after being hit by a bomb; 60 drown and 100 survivors are rescued by fishing boats and others.

#### May 31

The Catalan government blames a torpedo from an Italian submarine for sinking the Spanish passenger ship. German battleships pound the loyalist-held city of Almeria with 200 shells for one hour. Italy and Germany withdraw from participation in the Non-Intervention Committee until ships' safety from bombs can be assured. Chancellor Adolf Hitler grants the Reich's highest honor to a foreigner to Premier of Italy Benito Mussolini and Minister Galeazzo Ciano. Marshal Ian Gamamik, Assistant Commissioner of War in the Soviet Union, commits suicide.

#### Jun. 1

Loyalists resolve factional fighting and renew unity in the wake of the German bombardment of Almeria. Italian warships speed to Spain to take up patrol positions vacated by German. Although both have withdrawn from the Non-Intervention patrols, Italy fears that Russian war material is being shipped. Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain withdraws his business profits tax plan.

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### Africa & The Middle East

The "sit-down" occupation of the Nogales Cathedral spreads to other parts of Sonora, Mexico. The Bishop of Sonora appoints a priest to the cathedral, and workmen repair the long-ridden building. Secret sessions of Cuba's House and Senate are held to resolve difficulties with President Laredo Bru.

Companies declare that the 34 demands of oil workers in Mexico are impossible, but the Labor Board finds the strike began legally. After 12 hours of secret debate, Cuba's House passes a bill granting amnesty for all crimes—law gangs, terrorism—and amends the 1937 law.

The House and Senate of Cuba meets in hurried, secret sessions to produce a motion denouncing any attempt to dissolve Congress and establish a corporate system of government. President Lázaro Cárdenas of Mexico refuses to meet with foreign oil companies over the strike. Catholics in Nogales are told that the government will return the cathedral to them, and so they end their occupation. For the second time, President Allende Lopez of Colombia gives his resignation to the Senate and they refuse it with a vote of confidence in him.

Sixteen parishes in Sonora take possession of their churches and hear Mass for the first time in three years. President Laredo Bru of Cuba announces that new taxes, an exports, and on each person, will be necessary to cover next year's budget. Elections in British Columbia endorse the liberal policies of Premier Patullo.

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### The Americas

Japan's two largest political parties ask the Cabinet to resign, citing that the body hurts national and international policy.

After 118 days in office, Prime Minister Fujishho gives his resignation to the Cabinet in Emperor Hirohito of Japan.

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### Asia & The Pacific

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### Notes

- Includes developments that affect more than one world region, international organizations, and important meetings of world leaders.
- Includes all domestic and regional developments in Europe, including the Soviet Union.
- Includes all domestic and regional developments in Africa and the Middle East.
- Includes all domestic and regional developments in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada.
- Includes all domestic and regional developments in Asia and nations and colonies.
U.S. Politics & Social Issues

President Franklin Roosevelt asks for an investigation into tax evasion by the wealthy.

U.S. Foreign Policy & Defense

Thirty police block a column of 1,000 demonstrators outside a Republic Steel facility in Chicago. Twenty-six are injured in the resulting melee... The AFL and CIO pickets interfere with shipping in New York, demanding that ships use their members to man radios, rather than the AFL men already aboard.

Economics & Great Depression

Pickets in Youngstown, Ohio, arm themselves with clubs and block delivery trucks at both Youngstown and Republic Steel... The AFL and CIO clash on ships again. An AFL group of 25 storm onto the mail ship Orient in New York Harbor and seizes its radio room. The ship cancels its trip, the AFL claims this as a victory.

Science, Technology & Nature

Another march of 1,000 strikers on Republic Steel in Chicago turns violent. Police stop their demonstration with tear gas and claim that scene of the strikers fired on them before they fired back. Strikers contend that police opened fire from behind the crowd, ten men die or are mortally wounded; 90 are hospitalized, 28 suffer gunshot wounds. Among the hospitalized are 26 police. Orlando Lippert of Paramount Newsreel captures parts of the riot on film... Three AFL radio men holding the ship Orient are forced by hunger to surrender to authorities; the AFL claims victory.

Culture, Leisure & Lifestyle

While steel workers cry for murder charges to be filed against police, Illinois Governor Henry Horner meets with a Republic Steel manager, officials from the union, the State and Federal Departments of Labor and the U.S. Attorney General. Paramount Newsreel decides to suppress Lippert's film. To avoid pickets, airplanes drop bundled food into Republic's plants in Niles, Ohio, where 300 employees continue to work.

May 28

May 29

May 30

May 31

Jun. 1

Expressing grave concern, Secretary of State Cordell Hull appeals to Spain and Germany to peacefully settle their problems.

In a message to Congress, President Franklin Roosevelt asks that tax loopholes be plugged and lists specific tricks that the wealthy use to evade paying taxes... Working late into the night, the House passes a $1.5 billion 1938 relief bill drafted for by the President... The motion picture strike ends with the absorption of the Painters Union into another group, with a 10 percent wage increase.

With navigator Fred Noonan, Amelia Earhart flies from Miami to Puerto Rico in 7.5 hours, on the first leg of her west-to-east world trip.