

PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1941

'He's Bigger,' Hitler Whines

Fuehrer and Goebbels Beg For Clothes for Soldiers in Russia

Adolf Hitler appealed to the German people today to give all their warm clothing to suffering soldiers in Russia who face "an enemy who is superior in numbers and material." His message was read by Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels in a radio broadcast. Goebbels blamed the condition of the German army on the weather, declaring that "winter came too early."

Hitler's message said that the army leaders had provided insufficient warm clothing and that "each soldier deserves much more." He again promised a "victory such as the world has never yet seen," but did not fix the month or year.

In Hitler's brief message and in Goebbels harangue, emphasis was placed on the difference between the relative comforts of the home folks and the dreadful hardships the army is undergoing.

"At home everybody has a roof over his head and a bed to sleep in," said Goebbels. "The nutrition is admittedly limited, but compared with that of all other European nations still sufficient. At home one is still in a position to get such relaxation as newspapers, movies and radio. . . . This does not hold good for our soldiers on the eastern front. That cannot be changed. But in one thing the hinterland can help. It can give to its sons and fathers protection against the wrath of the wintry climate.

"As long as a single object of winter clothing remains in the Fatherland, it must go to the front. I know that the individual at home can spare equipment only with great difficulty.

"He is not in a position to replace it. But a thousand times more urgently do our soldiers need such equipment. The soldier wants shoes and if possible warm underwear, pullovers and woolstuffs; furs and caps, boots, small and large, fur gloves—everything of fur is urgently wanted on the front.

"The front wants everything the Fatherland can give for protection against this winter which set in so early, earlier than usual."

Goebbels said that a collection would be made from house to house and added that "everybody must take part."

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