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EUROPE.

GERMANY.

"ROOSEVELT now has the war he wanted," said Dr. Schmidt of the Wilhelmstrasse on the 8th December, and went on to describe him as "the Shylock of the White House," but the Berlin Foreign Office has refused to comment on how Germany is affected under the terms of the Three-Power Pact by the outbreak of hostilities in the Far East, though it has stated that Germany has always been an ally of Japan and that close contact has always existed between Berlin and Tokyo. The exact state of German-Japanese relations during the past few weeks can only be surmised, but it is known that the Germans have at times been very apprehensive lest Japan and the United States might, after all, patch up a temporary truce in the Far East, whereas what Germany most wanted from Japan was a large-scale diversion in the Pacific that would draw off a substantial part of the strength of the British Fleet and involve the Americans at least to the extent of seriously reducing the scale of their aid to Britain and Russia. The German failure to take Moscow may have caused some fresh hesitation on the part of the Japanese, but the success of the Russian counter-attack in the south, which has removed the immediate threat to the Caucasus, and once more nipped off the developing northern claw of a German pincer movement around the whole Middle East, and the serious position in which General Rommel and his Italian colleagues in Libya find themselves—despite the stubbornness and resourcefulness of his response to the British offensive—will only have served to redouble Germany's efforts to embroil Japan in the war. Japan is likely to have been promised almost anything that she may have asked as the price of her active participation. Though there is still evidence that Germany's leaders would still prefer to avoid as long as possible being formally