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Just spent a couple of hours with Stalin. Joe Davies called on Maiski and made the date last night for noon today. Promptly a few minutes before twelve I looked up from the desk and there stood Stalin in the doorway. I got to my feet and advanced to meet him. He put out his hand and smiled. I did the same we shook I greeted Molotov and the interpreter and we sat down. After the usual polite remarks we got down to business. Told Stalin that I am no diplomat but usually said yes or no to questions after hearing all the argument. It pleased him. Asked him if he had the agenda for the meeting. He said he had and that he had some more questions to present. I told him to fire away. He did and it is dynamite - but I have some dynamite too which I'm not exploding now. He wants to fire Franco to which I wouldn't object and divide up the Italian colonies and other mandates, some no doubt that the British have. Then he got on the Chinese situation told us what agreements had been reached and what was in abeyance. Most of the big points are settled. He'll be in the Jap War on August 15th. Fijin Japs when that comes out. We had lunch talked briefly put on a real show drinking toasts to everyone then had pictures made in the back yard. I can deal with Stalin. He is honest - but smart as hell.