

Double-Barrel Action:

Russia's Declaration of War And Atomic Bomb Combine To Stagger Collapsing Japs

Coming on top of the American introduction of the earth-shaking atomic-bomb, Russia's declaration of war on Japan raised high hopes for an early finish to the Pacific conflict, raging in bloody island-to-island fighting since recovery of U. S. strength following Pearl Harbor.

Having previously disclosed the dropping of the mighty new explosive on Japan, President Harry S. Truman also was the first to reveal Russia's entrance into the Pacific war to the U. S., putting him in the position of having made two historic announcements within a few days.

In declaring war on Japan, Russian Foreign Commissar Molotov stated that the Reds had decided on hostilities as a means for restoring peace quickly in the Far East after the Nipponese had turned down the U. S., British and Chinese demand for unconditional surrender at Potsdam, thus ending Moscow's role as an intermediary in the conflict.

With the Russians possessing large forces along the Siberian border, and excellent locations for air bases for short-range bombardment of the Japanese homeland, the Reds' decision to cross swords with the Nipponese was expected to prove of invaluable assistance in shortening the war. Of the 4,000,000 men constituting the Japanese army, 1,250,000 have been reported massed in Manchuria opposite Russian territory, with another 900,000 stationed throughout China.

Having first come to grips over 40 years ago in the Orient, Far Eastern relations between the two powers have always remained touchy, with border clashes between Russian and Japanese troops in 1939 threatening to explode in major conflict. At that time, Marshal Gregory Zhukov, who was later to lead the Russian smash into Berlin, commanded Red soldiers in Siberia.

All through the German-Russian war, a Japanese attack on Russia's rear in Siberia was feared, with the Nipponese reportedly prepared to take the jump in 1942 before the Nazi setback at Stalingrad inspired caution. On the face, Japanese-Russian relations were guided by the neutrality pact of 1941 which the Reds signed with the Germans threatening their European front; but with the Nazis licked, Moscow



Leader of Russia in peace and war, Premier Stalin heads nation's drive on Japan.

then found itself free to take a stiffer stand in the Far East.

With Russia's entrance into the war, the Allied world speculated on the price Premier Stalin would exact for Red participation in the drive to overthrow the Nipponese and end the conflict quickly. A shrewd bargainer, interested in material advantages rather than idealistic attainments, the mustached chieftain of the Kremlin reportedly had an eye not only on Inner Mongolia, but on Manchuria and Korea as well.

Historians were quick to point out that Russia has always had a rough time in the Far East.

Pushed out of her once-important place in Asia after the Russo-Japanese conflict of 1904-05 because of the loss of the Manchurian railway empire—and the southern half of the island of Sakhalin with its rich timber and oil resources, Russia has been smarting ever since.

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Japan continued to rule Manchuria and parts of China with ever-increasing violence until the outbreak of the war with China. Grabs of power and land finally led to war with Britain and the United States, the great powers of the west.

ATOMIC BOMB: Earth Shaking

Best kept secret of the war, the sensational atomic bomb electrified the Allied world with its possibilities for bringing the Japanese soon to their knees and revolutionizing postwar life, while staggering the enemy with its terrible destructive potentialities.

Armed with the new weapon, which promises to outmode all existing forms of armament on land and sea and air, the U. S. was in a position to deliver another unconditional surrender ultimatum to the Japanese, this time threatening to wreak even greater ruin than that being wrought by the swarms of Flying Forts now bombarding the empire.

In a war already noted for the remotely-controlled buzz bomb and rocket developed by the Germans, the atomic bomb remains the outstanding scientific product, embodying, as it does, the magic substance,



In overall charge of atomic bomb production, Major General Graves studies map with Japanese targets.

uranium, known as U-235 — the 235 representing its weight in atoms, the smallest particles of matter. First isolated in 1789, uranium is a metallic element found along with radium in pitchblende and carnotite ore, and possessing great powers of energy through its explosive atomic contents.

With Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves in overall charge of production of the atomic bomb, and with Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer of the University of California responsible for the technical development of it, special pains were taken to preserve the secrecy of the explosive, packing a force greater than 20,000 tons of TNT.

At Richland, Wash., the huge plant, sprawling over 400,000 acres, was divided into three parts, one for the production of the material; another for its refinement, and the third for storing raw materials.

Some idea of the terrific explosive effect of the new atomic bomb on the harassed Japanese cities can be gleaned from the results of the test of the charge in the desert lands of New Mexico.

With U-235 giving off heat, light and power, the explosion lit the countryside for miles around with a brightness even greater than day, with the flash seen 520 miles away at Needles, Calif., and a blind girl near Albuquerque, N. M., noting the presence of a flash shortly before the detonation.

The explosion itself set off a heavy pressure wave, which knocked down two men at a control center 10,000 yards away, and completely vaporized the steel tower upon which the atomic bomb rested. A huge multi-colored cloud surged upward to over 40,000 feet, commanding the sky.

In dropping a single 400-pound charge on the rail and industrial center of Hiroshima, one B-29 wiped out 60 per cent of the once thriving Honshu municipality, army air force reconnaissance reported. Fires swept extensively over the stricken area and only a few concrete structures remained standing in the heart of the city, with the interior of these even scorched.

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MANPOWER: Charge Army Hoarding

In the face of severe congressional criticism over maintenance of 7,000,000 men in uniform for a one-front war following Germany's defeat, the army revealed that it would not revise its point system for discharge as previously planned for July.

With about 1½ million troops scheduled for release by next June, the war department stated that consultations with General MacArthur and his commanders resulted in the decision that the present discharge rate is the maximum that can be afforded to permit efficient operations in the Pacific and prevent unnecessary losses of men through inexperienced combat leadership.

Despite the army's stand, Senator Johnson (Dem., Colo.) repeated his demand that the nation's military forces be further pared, asserting that shipping facilities will permit utilization of only 3,000,000 men in the Pacific before January, 1947, and the hoarding of manpower will cause unnecessary unemployment in the postwar period.

In the midst of the argument, the army revealed that replaceable Pacific vets with 85 or more points are being discharged as rapidly as shipping permits. Specialists with 85 or more points, who cannot be immediately replaced, however, are being retained.

PACIFIC: Realign Commands

In line with the joint chiefs of staff assignments of April 5, putting him in charge of all army forces and resources in the Pacific theater, Gen. Douglas MacArthur revealed extension of his command to the Ryukyu islands, stepping-stones to his announced goal of Tokyo.

At the same time, it was disclosed, Adm. Chester Nimitz, who had been given the leadership of all naval forces and resources in the Pacific theater by the chiefs of staff April 5, retained his control over the fleet in the Ryukyu area. Gen. Carl Spaatz' army strategic air forces also will remain independent of the MacArthur command.

With the announcement of the realignments, it was revealed that a mighty invasion force was being forged under General MacArthur, with the Ryukyu and Philippine islands serving as a semi-circular base.

POULTRY: U. S. Procurement

Moving to ease the burden of supply on eight eastern, southern and midwestern states, and obtain sufficient stocks for military canning, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson announced that the government would extend poultry purchases to 12 other principal producing states.

At the same time, it was revealed, the government has been purchasing all turkeys marketed in 23 producing states for storage for popular, morale building Thanksgiving and Christmas day service dinners. Despite the heavy U. S. procurement, the bumper 1945 turkey crop of from 575,000,000 to 600,000,000 pounds will assure each civilian of 3.55 pounds.

Under the government's new poultry purchase programs, the U. S. and civilians will share equally in output of processing plants with over 20,000 pound capacity weekly in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Oklahoma and Texas. The government is now taking 70 per cent of broiler production in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Missouri.

REPARATIONS: Russ Share

As a result of the Potsdam agreements, Russia will receive the lion's share of surplus movable German industry as reparations payments, studies revealed.

Russia's advantage partly stems from the fact that about 45 per cent of German industry was located in the eastern part of the country now under Red occupation, and the U. S. and Britain with great productive plants of their own have little use for enemy facilities.

Under the Potsdam agreements, the Allied powers are to take surplus movable German industry as reparations for Nazi war damage after the economy of the defeated nation has been readjusted to permit only manufacture essential to an agricultural state. In addition to having a free hand in the eastern zone, where 45 per cent of German industry was situated, the Russians also will obtain 10 per cent of the equipment in the U. S. and British zones, plus another 15 per cent paid for with food and coal.

WAR SHIPPING:

In the five years and eight months of the European war, 75,000 merchant ships were escorted across the Atlantic by the British, Dominion and European navies, the British admiralty revealed.

Despite the large number of ships escorted — involving some 2,200 convoys, the largest made up of 167 ships — only 574 ships were lost in all, or the equivalent of 1 in every 131 which sailed, the admiralty further disclosed.

Washington Digest

Plans Reorganization Of Labor Department

New Secretary Undertakes Task to Knit Activities of Over 20 Agencies; Seeks To Avert Vet-Union Row.

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

It took Hercules just one day to clean the stables where one wealthy but not too sanitary man had kept 10,000 oxen. At least that is the way I heard it at my father's knee. Since my father pioneered in Washington state in the early '90s, I wish he were here now to witness another Washingtonian doing a Herculean job which he hopes to finish by September 1.

I refer to Secretary Schwollenbach, whose assignment is to put the department of labor in order. He isn't going to have to do much cleaning out, but he has been tidying up so that he can bring back under his aegis most of a score of prodigal agencies, all having to do with labor, which are scattered all over the District of Columbia and points north and west.

Most of the labors of Hercules were decidedly thankless ones and were given him for spite because his stepmother, Juno, didn't like her husband's extra-curricular children. Schwollenbach's job is thankless enough, but it wasn't given to



Secretary Schwollenbach

him for spite. It was given to him by his old friend, Harry Truman, because the President believed that, like Hercules, Schwollenbach could deliver. He was a popular, hard-working senator. He was a popular, hard-working judge. The requests of goddesses and presidents are commands, so the judge laid aside his robe, rolled up his sleeves and started in.

The first thing he found out when he reached the palatial "stables" on Constitution avenue was that taking care of administrative matters would keep any labor secretary as busy as Aeneas should have been with his 3,000 oxen. No wonder nobody quite dared to try to corral the 20-some agencies, rightly under the authority of the department. To administer them would under the present set-up be an impossible job. And so they grew up with their own public relations departments, their own statistical services and legal advisors, separate entities all going their own sweet, if sometimes conflicting, way.

So the first thing that Schwollenbach did was to get together a small group who knew the department, who knew organization and who knew Washington, to find out if something couldn't be done to knit the functions of the department more closely together so the head man wouldn't have to sign all the travel orders and decide whether there was enough ice in the iced tea in the cafeteria; and attend to other trivia which might better be delegated.

This was the first step in preparing the old home to absorb its prodigal children. When the new secretary arrived in his paneled office, he called the staff of the department together and said he knew that everyone agreed that there had to be a reorganization and that each division head also probably agreed that his own group didn't need to be tampered with. Then he went ahead.

As this is written it is hoped that the report of the crew of investigators and a similar study of the extra-mural activities will be completed soon so that a comprehensive report will be laid on President Truman's desk by the first of September.

Reorganization Touchy Problem

The next step would logically be an executive order from the President embodying the Schwollenbach report to make the suggested changes. With his war powers, the President wouldn't have to ask the pleasure of congress. But President Truman doesn't want the changes he makes to be temporary affairs. Like every other president since Grover Cleveland, he has requested powers to reorganize the government and never has congress offered a carte-blanche go-ahead. Such a bill is pending in congress now. However, if the suggestions made by Secretary Schwollenbach were considered reasonable, they might be put into a bill and passed. In any case they will probably be presented before the other measure authorizing wider presidential authority is considered.

In the meantime, labor itself is tending to cloud the atmosphere insofar as acceptance of any efforts to restore full, free, collective bargaining, which the no-strike pledge and various wartime restrictions have virtually suspended. The public is getting very irritated with violations of the no-strike pledge and what many feel to be union demands which, whether or not they appear fair as between labor and management, do not take the consumer into consideration.

Much of the antagonism is due to the feeling of the men who resented strikes while they were in the service. Schwollenbach managed to smooth out one of the toughest veterans versus unions troubles the country ever witnessed back in his home state of Washington after the last war. He admits there is no doubt that such antagonism exists now. "We may as well face it," he says. But he thinks he can handle it.

One habit which Schwollenbach wants to break up, and it is assumed the President wants him to break up, is having labor disputes leap-frog right into the lap of the White House. Some of the old-line labor department officials used to write every time a long, hot telegram went out such as some of those addressed to John Lewis while the coal strike was going on, were signed by President Roosevelt, but dictated by the War Labor board, which labor and management had snubbed. These old-timers felt that many of the questions could have been settled with the machinery which already existed within the department.

Of course, the War Labor board, which has had all the tasks complicated by the war to perform, will die with V-J Day.

Vows Impartial Labor Department

Other separate agencies dealing with labor will continue. The United States Employment service and the apprenticeship and training program are now part of the War Manpower commission. Social security is run by the social security board. If the movement to create a new department of welfare succeeds, this new set-up might conceivably absorb social security and also the children's bureau, now under the labor department.

The National Labor Relations board, which administers its quasi-judicial functions under the Wagner act, now independent, would have its "housekeeping" done by the department—that is, its financing, personnel and such matters would be under the secretary of labor.

Since Schwollenbach has been in office he has talked to a whole string of labor men and a whole string of management men, too.

"I am not a labor official," he says, "I am a public official."

That pretty well sets up his position and, as I said, it makes his job, so far as the labors of labor and management go, about as thankless as the labors of Hercules. Congress feels that the labor department is supposed to look after labor interests and what Judge Schwollenbach is shooting at is to have it operate with the impartiality of a court. But his chief concern now is to consolidate under one head all government activities pertaining to labor.



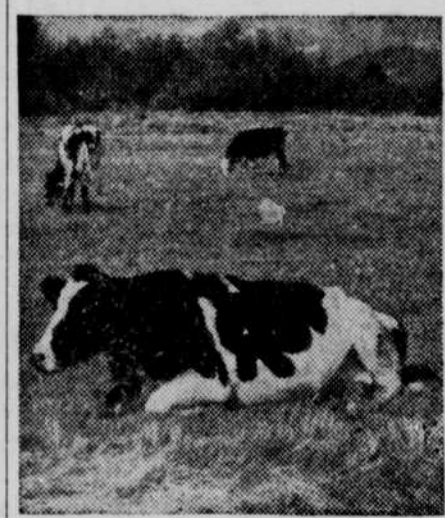
Pastures Require Renewal Regularly

Depletion Is Rapid If Fertilizer Missing

Farmers who used to let their pastures "shift for themselves" while they concentrated their time and attention on increasing the yield and quality of field crops, have learned that pasture improvement is now a "must," according to Paul M. Burson of the University of Minnesota.

"Nature did not provide the soil with an inexhaustible supply of plant foods which could be drawn upon indefinitely by pasture crops," Mr. Burson pointed out. "Year after year, nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and lime have been removed from the soil by the animals grazing the pastures and marketed in the form of livestock and livestock products. As a result, many pastures which were once productive have become so depleted in plant food that they are no longer able to support a vigorous growth of pasture crops."

"An average herd of dairy cows producing around 4,000 pounds of milk annually, will remove the equivalent of 26½ tons of 20 per cent ammonium sulphate, 9½ tons of 20



A renewed pasture lot.

per cent superphosphate, 4½ tons of 50 per cent muriate of potash and 3 tons of lime from the soil over a period of 30 years.

"This reduction in fertility represents plant foods sold away from the farm in the milk produced by the dairy cows. It does not include the amount used in building up the body of the animal which is also eventually sold, nor that lost from the manure and the soil in leaching and possible soil erosion. This depletion of plant nutrients results in less vigorous growth of forage, lower carrying capacity, lower feeding value and a shortened grazing season.

"Pastures, whether they are permanent or rotation, should receive the same soil fertility practices as land used for regular production of field crops. The success of such a program depends on proper planning for the pasture fertilizing program. This may include the use of barnyard manure or commercial fertilizer containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potash."

Grain Bag Holder

Four pieces 1 by 2 by 36 inches and eight pieces 1 by 2 by 18 inches are required. Nail the short pieces to the long pieces as shown. Use hooks or nails driven into the top short pieces to hold the bag in the holder.

Can't Judge Milk Cow

By Size of Its Veins

The old notion that a high-producing cow can be judged by the number and size of veins showing on the surface of her udder, and those running along her belly, has been tossed out the window by dairy specialists. They have checked on that notion and found there is no significant relation between the size and number of veins and the cow's milk-producing ability.

By keeping financial and production records, having a sound breeding program, practicing disease control, feeding high quality roughage and by practicing modern management methods, higher milk production can be secured. Ability to produce milk is inherited and the volume can be raised considerably by proper herd improvement methods.

Damp litter is not dirty litter if it is 6 to 8 inches deep. Worry more about your ventilation than about the litter—but both are important.

Sulphur Fed Chicks

Tests conducted at Texas state experiment station showed that chicks fed sulphur for the control of coccidiosis, away from the sunlight require four times as much vitamin D carrier as chicks fed no sulphur.

On the other hand, chicks fed sulphur did well if allowed two hours of direct noon-day sunlight distributed over a week's time. The feeding of sulphur to chicks running in the sunlight did not make it necessary to add vitamins to feed.

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SNAPPY FACTS about RUBBER

Tire conservation is important on the fighting fronts, too. Winning slogan in a contest conducted by Stars and Stripes, Army newspaper, was "Bring victory, end the fight, conserve tires day and night."

A new highly maneuverable combat vehicle called the "Staghound" uses tires four feet high. Rubber required for one such tire is equivalent to five passenger tires.

B. F. Goodrich is building a new \$1,500,000 research laboratory located at Brecksville, a century-old village between Akron and Cleveland, Ohio.

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