

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Nazis Reel Under Combined Pressure Of Heavy Air Attacks and Sea Losses; New Air Blows Strike Japs in Pacific; Fifth Army Steps Up Assaults in Italy

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.



New Britain—Map shows points of U. S. landings on New Britain island at Arawe on south and Cape Gloucester on north. (See: Southwest Pacific.)

INVASION: Eisenhower Commands

Hitler's high command shuttled troops in western Europe as America's four-star Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower assumed command of Allied forces and the stage was set for the big second front.

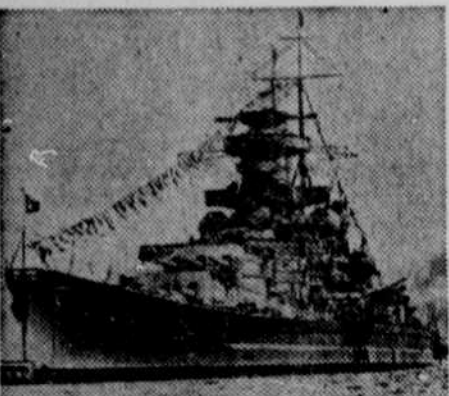
Britain's Air Chief Marshal Arthur Tedder stood at General Eisenhower's side as deputy commander, with Britain's Adm. Bertram Ramsay as the leader of naval forces, and Britain's Air Marshal Trafford Leigh-Mallory in charge of all air forces.

As the Allies' supreme command buried itself in the mass of invasion detail, the tensed Germans reported heavy aerial bombardment of their channel fortifications and Commando attacks along the French coast to test their defense. As the Germans awaited the grand assault, said Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel: Our defenses are technically correct.

FORTRESS EUROPE: Step Up Action

Bringing heavy artillery into play, Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth Army blasted the Nazis from strong points blocking the 75-mile road to Rome, while farther to the east, the British clambered past the enemy's Adriatic bastion of Ortona, won after more than a week of vicious street-to-street fighting.

As U. S. and British troops punched their way through the Nazis' stiff mountain defenses in



Germany's Scharnhorst.

southern Italy, aerial and naval warfare in Europe stepped up. Fleets of Allied bombers winged their way over the English channel to pound Nazi fortifications along the French coast, and the RAF rained another 2,234 tons of explosives on battered, hapless Berlin.

Following the British home fleet's sinking of the 26,000-ton Nazi battleship Scharnhorst off North Cape, Norway, light Allied and German naval units tangled in the Atlantic off the French coast, with airplanes being called into play to help sink three enemy destroyers and a speedy blockade runner.

RUSSIA: Reds Advance

Delivering trip-hammer blows all along the 800-mile Russian front, Red armies surged forward again in the south as Germany's harassed high command shifted forces to check the big push.

The Reds' heavy blows in the south fell as German resistance stiffened in the north around Vitebsk. Quickly shifting the gravity of their attack, the Russ struck on a 110-mile front in the south, first punching hard at Zhitomir, then punching still harder above that railway hub at Koresent.

This winter's Russian offensive was a real slugging match, with each side in the south primarily concerned with exhausting the other.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

**INSURANCE:** British maritime insurance companies have reduced the war risk rates on cargoes to and from the United Kingdom to about half the former rate, reflecting the greater security of the seas.

**RESTAURANTS:** The nation's restaurants, hard pressed by food restrictions and difficulties in keeping employees, are serving 25 million persons daily.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC: Bombings Jar Japs

Japan's great air base of Rabaul on New Britain came within closer range of U. S. bombing planes with the marines' capture of two air strips on Cape Gloucester on the western end of the island.

Following up heavy bombing which helped crumple the enemy's strong line of pillboxes, the marines stormed remaining Jap positions with flame throwers. As the marines advanced at Cape Gloucester, elements of Lieut. Gen. Walter Krueger's Sixth Army encountered heavy resistance at Arawe to the south.

The Allies made increasing use of air power to jar the Japs loose on the wide Pacific front, dropping gasoline tanks on enemy strong points on Bougainville and sending fleets of bombers to pound installations on the Marshall islands.

AGRICULTURE: Meat Production

Farmers received an all-time high of four billion dollars for livestock slaughtered under federal inspection in 1943 as meat production also reached an all-time high of more than 24 billion pounds.

Fifty per cent more meat was produced during the 10-year prewar average, but after allocations to the government, civilian consumption was held to the prewar rate of 132 pounds per person. Because of rationing, however, supplies were more evenly distributed than formerly.

Meat output for 1944 was estimated at 25 billion, 600 million pounds, of which 8 billion, 500 million pounds will be required for military and lend-lease purposes.

CCC Program

To help stimulate production and fulfill commitments to support crop and livestock prices, the Commodity Credit Corporation spent 3½ billion dollars during the 1943 fiscal year.

As of December 18, CCC possessed 32,898,338 bushels of wheat under 1942 loan, while 96,101,516 bushels were redeemed. CCC wheat stocks at that date totaled 86,928,000 bushels.

Principal objective of the CCC's 1943 program was to increase the production of vegetable oils, dairy and poultry products and meats, and at the same time to underwrite OPA price ceilings.

U. S. NAVY: 42 Carriers

The U. S. finds itself well equipped as naval operations throughout the world quicken, with Uncle Sam's navy boasting of 42 aircraft carriers, including sleek destroyer-escorts for protecting convoys. The U. S. started the war with seven.

Corsair and Hellcat fighter planes taking off from the carriers' decks have increased their striking power, and a deadly new dive bomber has been put in service. During 1943, the navy trained twice as many pilots as in 1942, and three times as many combat planes were sent to the front.

During 1943, arming of merchant ships was speeded, 4,000 now being outfitted with weapons.

FOOD: Chickens, Points

As the War Food Administration requisitioned 170 million pounds of dressed chicken and fowl for the government, OPA slashed point values on canned vegetables and ordered frozen vegetables point-free. WFA's action was prompted by the government's inability to obtain more than 20 per cent of the fowl they required in recent months, and the army was said to be particularly anxious to get the poultry for Sunday dinners at camp and hospital diets. Civilians may be little affected by WFA's order, however, since it does not apply to stock stored after December 30, 1943.

Because of comfortable stocks of canned green and wax beans, zero point values were established for them. A 10 per cent reduction in consumer demands for canned peas and tomatoes during the last two months led OPA to chop their point values for No. 2 and 2½ cans to 15. In an attempt to move frozen vegetables from storage to make room for record pork stocks, all point values were removed.

RAILROADS: Strike Off

Seeking to avert a threatened strike after the switchmen, conductors and firemen and engineers had refused his offer to arbitrate their wage demands against the carriers, President Roosevelt quickly seized the nation's railroads for the government.

Representing about 150,000 men, the three unions had balked at presidential intervention even after the trainmen and engineers accepted FDR's proposal, as a result of which they received an overall pay increase of 9 cents an hour.

Also accepting FDR's offer at the last minute were the 13 non-operating railroad unions representing 1,150,000 employees, who suddenly agreed to a former government proposal of pay increases ranging from 10 cents an hour for the lowest paid to 4 cents an hour for the highest paid, but also insisted on overtime compensation past 40 hours.

Biggest Year

Nineteen hundred and forty-three was the greatest year in the history of American railroads.

(1) 725 billion ton-miles of freight were handled, a ton-mile equaling one ton hauled one mile.

(2) Passenger traffic totaled 85 billion passenger miles.

(3) Gross earnings exceeded 9 billion dollars, although net operating income amounted to 1 billion, 385 million dollars.

LEND-LEASE: Aid to Russia

With many of its great industrial cities razed and natural resources overrun, 3½ billion dollars of lend-lease assistance bolstered Soviet Russia in its critical hours.

To the Russ, the U. S. has sent nearly 7,000 planes, 3,500 tanks, 130,000 sub-machine guns, 150,000 trucks, 25,000 jeeps, 225,000 field telephones, and 750,000 miles of field telephone wire.

In addition, the U. S. has sent 1,000,000 tons of steel, 350,000 tons of non-ferrous metal, 400,000 tons of chemicals, 600,000 tons of petroleum products, and more than 18,000 metal cutting tools.

Besides sending wheat, flour, meats, fats and oils, the U. S. also has supplied 10,000 tons of seeds to Russ farmers.

Traffic Toll Drops

On the basis of reports for 11 months, the National Safety Council estimated that America's traffic death toll for 1943 would reach 23,000, 13,000 below the prewar year 1941.

The north central region of the U. S. showed the sharpest decrease for the 11 month period, with 29 per cent less fatalities than in the similar period last year.



This was a fatal accident.

The mountain region recorded a drop of 28 per cent, the south central 24 per cent, the north Atlantic 22 per cent, and the Pacific 6 per cent.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., was the largest city in the country without a fatality in the first 11 months of 1943, while among cities of 250,000 population or more, St. Louis reported the biggest decline of 52 per cent and Philadelphia the smallest with 1 per cent.

OPA UPHELD

Officials of the Office of Price Administration in replying to a house committee charge that the OPA was guilty of "usurpation and abuse of its powers" pointed out that the courts have upheld the OPA orders in nearly all tests.

Out of 4,991 cases to the end of September, the courts have rendered decisions favorable to the OPA in all but 291 actions, officials said. They also denied that OPA regulations have caused "widespread business failures."

Washington Digest

Germany's 'Second Army' Is Nazi Way of Total War

Storm Troopers, Elite Guard Are Backbone Of Hitler's Special Military Forces; Every Third German in Uniform.

By BAUKHAGE  
News Analyst and Commentator.

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

As I walk down Pennsylvania avenue these brisk winter days with all the sharp reminders of history about me—General Jackson there on his horse, tip-tilted in the air with his charger pawing the heavens, in the center of Lafayette park; the theater on the spot where Seward was attacked as part of the plot that laid Lincoln low; and across the road, the White House with its kaleidoscope of history—I wonder about the year ahead of us.

Are we going to face a casualty list of 400,000 Americans in the next 2½ months?

I have watched the President closely at the last press and radio conferences since he returned from Cairo and Teheran. I have noted a seriousness in his mien that I have not seen before. He said, when he was asked what Stalin was like: he is a realist, like me.

And in the last few days, as I have talked with officials, I find this same note creeping into their conversations. Is America standing at Gethsemane, with the supreme sacrifice to come?

The great boast of Americans is that we are realists, that we are not to be led astray by starry-eyed dreamers. And yet the last thing that America is willing to look at is the bare facts.

Here are some of them: the Allies have one army apiece—the armed forces. The Reich has two—the armed troops and the uniformed "second army" (as early as 1939, an association of German tailors admitted that every third German was in uniform).

The Storm Troopers

First there is the "SA"—"Sturm Abteilung"—storm troopers.

They started from a nucleus of "bouncers" who kept order when the Nazis had their early meetings before they came into power. By 1932, this group had grown to three million men—Roehm's "brown shirt" army. Roehm, you recall, was purged. This great organization was then theoretically liquidated but the forces which made its organization possible remained. In 1936, there was still a great organization (disarmed, except for a dagger inscribed "all for Germany") which had a well-organized administration with 637 regiments—perhaps less than 700,000—still a goodly "second army" in itself. In 1939, this group, with nothing really official to do, was given specific duties, among them "responsibility" for the military training of all German youth, as well as "responsibility" in catastrophes and any national or local emergency.

But that is only the foundation of the Nazis' "second army."

The "SS" is the elite. "SS" stands for "Schutzstaffeln"—usually referred to as the "elite guard." These are the men whom Hitler has tried to forge into a new aristocracy. I can best tell of their training in the words of a former prisoner in an Austrian concentration camp, whom I know personally. He is not a Jew, but a full-blooded Teuton. He told me that from personal observation, when he had been forced to work in an "SS" training camp, the training of the "SS" men was just as brutal as the discipline of the prisoners except, of course, the bodies of the "SS" cadets were not injured to the point of rendering them useless. Strong anti-Nazi prisoners were hung up by their wrists with their hands behind their backs until their chest and shoulder muscles were torn apart. This, of course, would not be done to an "SS" man since it would render him unfit to serve the Fuehrer. But the "SS" cadets were beaten in the face with riding whips and pounded as mercilessly with whips and staves.

Backbone Groups

A part of the "SS" is part of the fighting army too. With complete divisions, infantry, armor, all the rest.

There is bitter rivalry between the "SS" and the army high command. It is "touch and go" as to who will be there to surrender Germany to the Allies in the end.

These are the backbone organizations of Hitler's "second army" but

there are many ramifications which are strictly under the party control—the Nazi transportation corps—three separate air groups, the famous "Toti" organization ("toti" means death in German but in this case it is a man's name). This is a great construction (and now, after the bombing, reconstruction) organization, the boys who parade with shovels instead of guns.

There are several others—the Labor Service, trained in camps (something like the old CCC camps in this country); then come the various welfare, women's and youth organizations.

This deep regimentation (remember, one out of three in uniform) is the Nazi way of creating a total war that is total. When the German armies are beaten, these organizations will still remain. They can work on after defeat unless they are uprooted.

A fuller realization of this problem may make it easier for Americans to understand why, after his latest trip to Europe, the President is in sober mien, why the high army officials and the civilians who know this problem intimately, hope that civilian America will not wax overconfident on the eve of military victory.

Status of Fascism In Spain

One of the things that was not discussed by the "Big Three" or the "Big Four" in the recent meetings at Cairo and Teheran, as far as the world knows, was Spain.

The President, in answer to a direct question when he returned, said he did not see Franco. He admitted, however, that something delayed his return. He never said what.

There have been signs that someone has been whispering into Generalissimo Franco's ear just the same.

He has disbanded the Falangists. They are the uniformed party members, a real military and hard-fisted bunch of uniformed fascists, the active party members of the Spanish fascism.

I saw a few in Spain. They were polite to me as a foreigner but they were not pleasant people. The ones I met in the ranks were raw, untutored youths, anxious for tips; glad, I would imagine, in that wrecked nation, to get food and a suit of clothes from the government.

There is nothing more hardboiled, of course, than a hardboiled youth. Take away from him the decent outlets for his animal spirits—on the ball field, in the school yard, anywhere where he can whoop and holler and be himself—and what happens? A terrific, pent-up force, all the primitive emotions seeking an outlet. The Nazis and the fascists knew this and their strength is still in the strength of the youth they perverted: the primal instincts of the caveman, which lurk within all of us, turned to the base uses of the party.

Well, Spain, a nation of individualists, has at last been able to shake itself loose from part of this bondage. The iron hand of Hitler, and the now withered hand of Mussolini, have been withdrawn. Spanish fascism is almost an empty shell.

It is an axiom that fascism can only live on blood, the blood of its enemies and when they are not within reach, its own people. It has no other sustenance—it represents that group which, in the lower animals, produces the outlawed, the looted, the mad. We have these phenomena among the wolves, among elephants, even among horses—the "bad elephant," the tiger which kills for pleasure and not for food.

Starved to Death

So Spanish fascism has been starved to death and the essential, decent instincts of civilized man are again coming to the surface.

In this great struggle of the ideologies, it has taken force to beat down force. It has taken a realization that human beings, banded together in an honest cause, have a chance against the beast, only if they can outwit him at his own game. Once the active element of evil is conquered, the natural decencies of the civilized man rise again and dominate.

TO YOUR Good Health

by DR. JAMES W. BARTON  
Released by Western Newspaper Union.  
LOW BACK PAIN

Whenever I see a man with a stiff or "poker" back and a drawn expression on his face walking "carefully" along the street, I want to stop and ask him about what caused it. I feel this way because I had an attack of low back pain due to injury and others due to infected teeth and tonsils. As I have had no trouble for many years I am naturally anxious to help others get rid of their trouble. Being a physician, I cannot, of course, discuss the matter with these patients.



Dr. Barton

One of the causes of low back pain and sciatica (pain in hip running down back of leg) which was unknown until recently is rupture or crushing of the cushion or disk between two of the bones in the spinal column in the lower back.

In the Canadian Medical Association Journal, Drs. Donald McEachern and William V. Cone point out other symptoms besides the low back pain and sciatica. The full picture includes (a) onset of back pain and sciatica, or both, following strain or injury; (b) the symptoms come and go; (c) symptoms grow worse by bending backwards and sideways and by coughing and sneezing and straining; (d) tenderness on stretching or pressure on the buttock and down back of thigh and leg; (e) tenderness on deep pressure on the back to the side of the disk or cushion that is crushed or ruptured; (f) increased pain, decreased pain, or complete lack of pain in the part of the skin over the nerve root supplying the part; ankle jerk is less than normal or absent altogether.

Drs. McEachern and Cone point out that low back pain due to a ruptured disk may be severe but the patient is unable to describe it clearly and that disease of kidney, bladder, or abdominal organs may be suspected and even operations performed. Where the skin over the back and the affected side is unusually painful or sensitive to the prick or stroke of a pin, and the sensation is described as "vibrating," "spreading" or painful, it is considered due to a ruptured disk and not to any kidney or abdominal disease.

Improvements on Farms

Of the 6,100,000 farms in the United States today, 5,000,000 do not have running water, 5,400,000 do not have an inside toilet, and 5,500,000 do not have a bathtub.

YOUR looks better groomed with

HAIR  
Moroline Hair Tonic. Keeps hair curly hair in place. Gives lustre. Big bottle, ALWAYS only 25c. Sold everywhere.

30-Pound Headdress

The headdress of a nomad woman of Turkestan, adorned with more than 30 pounds of coins, is the equivalent of a new autumn hat.

Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Help Tots Grow Up Husky!

Give good-tasting tonic many doctors recommend

Valuable Scott's Emulsion helps children promote proper growth, strong bones, sound teeth! Contains natural A and B Vitamins—elements all children need. So Mother—give Scott's daily the year 'round. Buy at all druggists!

QUESTION BOX

Q.—Is there a cure for mucous colitis?

A.—Cure of mucous colitis rests with the patient. He or she must try to keep relaxed in mind and body.

Q.—Will you please tell me what causes an overabundance of electricity in the body?

A.—Everybody seems to have some electricity; you appear to have more than the average. Nothing needs to be done about it.

Canned orange and grapefruit juice is supplied to bombing crews and submarine crews.

A total of 195,000 tons of lime, enough to make 3,900 heavy carloads, is used every year in the United States in connection with agricultural insecticides and fungicides.

On December 7, 1941, building of a 4-engined bomber required the work of 70 men for 1 year; today, only 17 workers do the same job.



WHEN you have made one rag rug you will find yourself a member of an enthusiastic clan; counting the days until you fall heir to a dress of a particular color that fits into the design that is developing under your fingers. These enthusiasts also bleach ma-

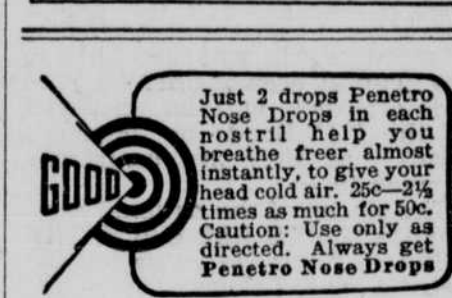


terials to tone them down; they brighten others with dye; they antique some with tea and they have a wonderful time.

The sketch gives all the directions you will need to copy this fascinating braided rag rug with a flower medallion in the center. Or you may make two of the medallions, sew them together and add a braided handle for a knitting bag. Braid the fabric strips tightly and keep the work flat while you sew the circles for the roses and the loops for leaves; then sew them together. Use carpet thread double for this and for sewing the braided rows around the edge of the rug.

NOTE—This rug design is from BOOK 8 which contains 31 other things to make from scraps of fabric and other odds and ends. Price of book is 15 cents. Address:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS  
Bedford Hills Drawer 10 New York  
Enclose 15 cents for Book No. 8.  
Name .....  
Address .....



Good Counsel

A man may think, if he will, that two eyes see no more than one; or that a gamester seeth always more than a looker-on . . . but when all is done, the help of good counsel is that which setteth business strait.—Lord Bacon.

NOSE MUST DRAIN

To Relieve Head Cold Miseries  
When head colds strike, help nose drain, clear the way for free breathing, contact with KIDNEY'S NASAL JELLY. At druggists.