

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

**Eire Is Faced With Further Isolation; Allied Bombers Smash Axis Targets, Ready Knockout Blows at Luftwaffe; Local Boards Cut Draft Deferments**

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



Burma—With Jap shells popping overhead, Lt.-Gen. Joseph Stilwell (center, right) and Chinese-American troops take cover in deep ravine in north Burma. (See: Far East.)

**IRELAND: Faces Isolation**

Because Ireland lies so hard by Britain, the latter has always looked upon it as sort of a necessary adjunct of Britain's defense, and long and bitter have been the controversies between the two countries over the question of its sovereignty.



De Valera

Last ruffled through Britain's economic blockade of Ireland from 1932-'38, relations between the two countries have become troubled again, with the U. S. joining Britain this time in demanding that Ireland cut the German and Japanese representatives, charged with carrying out espionage activity against Allied forces massed in the British Isles for the invasion of Europe.

Following Premier Eamon de Valera's refusal on the ground that the Axis diplomats were being watched, Britain banned travel to Ireland, and promised to further isolate Ireland from all outside connections.

**FAR EAST: Racing Weather**

As Lieut.-Gen. Joseph Stilwell's Chinese and American troops fought through Burma's rugged northwest clearing a route to embattled China, the U. S. announced it has stocked up more than \$160,000,000 of guns, munitions and tanks in India for eventual shipment to Chiang Kai-shek.

In Burma, General Stilwell and British-Indian troops to the south sought to strengthen their foothold along the mountainous western border as a springboard for future attack before the merciless windyrainy monsoon season sets in, to continue until fall.

In announcing that the U. S. has piled up \$40,391,000 of guns, \$77,871,000 of munitions and \$42,197,000 of tanks in India for shipment to China upon the opening of routes, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley said that of total lend-lease aid given thus far to Chiang Kai-shek, about \$164,000,000 was for aircraft, machinery, medicines, services, etc.

**EUROPE: Luftwaffe Target**

With Allied forces massing in the British Isles and Axis chieftains predicting the early invasion of western Europe, U. S. and British aircraft kept up their heavy raids over the continent, aimed at knocking out the German Luftwaffe.

By beating down Nazi fighters and blowing up their aircraft factories, the Allies hoped to decrease opposition to landing operations and resistance to bombardment of other Axis industries.

In Italy, the Allied air force was equally busy, smashing at the Nazis' defense installations in southern France, and at railroads and highways up and down the length of the peninsula, used to supply embattled enemy troops at Anzio and Cassino, where bottomless mud slowed ground operations.

**PACIFIC: No Rest**

Ringed on all sides, Jap troops in the South Pacific were given no rest by U. S. forces slowly pulverizing their defensive outposts to the Philippines and Asiatic mainland.

Desperate enemy attempts to unloose the doughboys' hold on Bougainville were repulsed after a day of savage fighting, and U. S. troops landing behind Jap lines in New Britain, wiped out remnants of the force driven back when the Yanks took Willaumez peninsula, to the southwest of the battered Nip base of Rabaul.

Even in mid-Pacific the Jap found no rest, U. S. naval and marine bombers plastering their holdings in the eastern Marshalls and Carolines, from which they can pester Allied shipping.

**GAS RATIONS: West Cut**

Because of expanded farm and highway needs, gas rations for all "A" card holders west of the Alleghany mountains were cut from three to two gallons per coupon, the reduction being accomplished by extending the validity of the coupons from 7 to 10 days.

Effect of the OPA action was to take away one of the three gallons on the "A" coupon allotted for essential driving, and bring westerners' "A" rations to the same level as in the 17 eastern states.

Cut in the "A" coupons does not affect holders of "B" and "C" coupons, who will be able to obtain additional ration allotments for occupational driving to offset the reduction in the "A" card values.

**GREAT BRITAIN: Coal Strike**

With the British government assenting to most of their demands, Wales' 100,000 coal miners went slowly back to work, as the threat to war production diminished.

Piece-workers' demands that their rates be raised to allow them to earn over the \$20 minimum wage recently granted to all British miners, was one of the conditions met by the government. Also met were claims to special allowances for work in excessive dust and water.

The strikers also rebelled at the government's order that all miners buying coal cheaply in the fields would have to pay .30 weekly for the privilege.

**WOMEN SERVE: Enlistments Up**

Since the navy lifted its ban against sailors' wives entering the WAVES, recruitments have risen to over 1,000 weekly, compared with 850 weekly last fall, and the service now looks confidently toward attainment of its goal of 92,400 by the end of 1944.

With soldiers' wives always permitted to enlist, the WAC has been



WAVES look to sea.

recruiting about 800 women weekly, and present strength is estimated at 70,000, with a total force of 200,000 authorized.

With wives of enlisted personnel eligible, the coast guard's SPARS have about 7,100 on active duty along seaboard and inland waterway installations, and expect to boost the total to 8,800 by June 30.

With 5,000 men pilots now available for ferrying duties, congress debated continuing the Wasps, women's airforce service.

**WAR PRISONERS: In Timberlands**

To help relieve the acute labor shortage in the northern timberlands of Michigan, the army has allowed use of German war prisoners to fell trees and cut them to size for pulp mills.

Under the 1929 Geneva convention for treatment of war prisoners, the Germans are paid 80 cents a day by the government, but the contractor employing them must give the U. S. treasury the ordinary going wage for each one.

Once members of Gen. Erwin Rommel's vaunted Afrika Korps, the prisoners are well versed in their rights under the Geneva convention, and still confident of Adolf Hitler, some having decorated their barracks with pictures and drawings of der Fuehrer.

**OIL RESERVES**

Vast reserves of petroleum still exist in the United States and the resources of Alaska have scarcely been tapped, according to geologist Wallace Pratt of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. He said that in Texas alone from which nearly half the nation's petroleum comes, the "proved" area constitutes less than 1 per cent of the total area of the state in which it might be reasonable to expect oil deposits. The nation, he continued, is far from the end of its resources.

**Washington Digest**

**Anti-Fascists in Italy Lack Uniform Program**

Immediate Circumstances Necessitate Allied Cooperation With King and Badoglio As Leaders of Only Unified Group.



By BAUKHAGE  
News Analyst and Commentator.

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

How can the Allied governments, the Allied armies, sworn to defend the cause of democracy, continue to deal with Italy's Fascist king and Marshal Badoglio and refuse to recognize the anti-Fascist conference of political parties recently organized at a meeting held in Bari, Italy?

The so-called "Junta of the Committees of Liberation" named following the Bari conference, telegraphed to members of the British house of commons a message which contained this passage:

"Here Fascism, at first confused and fearful, has taken courage. It has assumed a mask and has rallied around the crown. Affecting a friendship which is too recent to be sincere, it has attempted to distort the judgment of your political and military officials. Once more oppressing our people as it has always done, it is putting all manner of legal and illegal obstacles in the way of any genuine popular initiative which tries to render more efficient and serious the contribution of liberated Italy to the war against the Germans."

Addressing the Bari conference, Italian Sen. Benedetto Croce had said:

"It is a fact that the waning prestige of the king and the lack of confidence in him prevent the king himself from rallying an Italian army; he himself, fearing the opposition against his person, has prohibited the formation of an army of volunteers. Many young men who came to me from German-occupied territory full of enthusiasm were forced to disband, disappointment in their hearts, because they did not find anyone to rally them and give them the opportunity to fight."

Those statements seem forthright and fair. After reading them, I was not surprised when a fairly important but not "fairly" informed person said to me:

"The Allies are lined up with the Fascists in Italy. Is that what we are fighting for?"

That seems to me a typical attitude, and one that the average man reflects when he considers the so-called "deals" the American government has made, the arrangement with Darlan in North Africa, for instance. Think of the abuse heaped upon the state department in that case—the deluge of fiery "liberal" criticism at home and in England, the wrath of De Gaulle and the rest of the French anti-Vichyites.

**Bitter Reaction**

And then, when on the tenth of last month it was announced that our famed AMG, the carefully trained, objective military government provided by the Allies, who had taken over the civilian administration of liberated Italy, had turned over the government in these provinces from which the Germans had been driven, to the Badoglio government, what a deluge of bitter and cynical comment was hurled at the Allied leaders.

Is there any explanation? Can there be any excuse for the United States government, loudly anti-Fascist and violently against all forms of totalitarian government, playing ball with the little king and his satellites who danced to the tune of Mussolini?

Well, there is another side but because of the delicacy of the situation, it cannot be set forth officially.

I am permitted to state it without attribution, quoting no source, but assuring you, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, it represents the reasons behind the policy of the Allied leaders.

First let me quote from the guarded remarks of Winston Churchill before the house of commons in February:

"The sanest and safest course for us to follow is to judge all parties and factions dispassionately by the test of their readiness and ability to fight the Germans and thus lighten the burden of Allied troops. This is not a time for ideological preferences for one side or the other, and certainly, we, His Majesty's government, have not indulged ourselves in this way at all."

And he might have added, the American government, the American army, is equally uninterested in ideologies.

Another point Churchill made should be noted for later comment: "Should we succeed in the present battle and enter Rome—as I trust and believe we shall—we shall be free to review the whole Italian political position and we shall do so with many advantages which we do not possess at the present time."

One more Churchill quote before I try to present the American viewpoint:

"I should be sorry, however, to see an unsettling change made at a time when the battle is at its climax, swaying to and fro. When you have to hold a hot coffee pot, it is better not to break off the handle until you are sure that you can get another equally convenient and serviceable, or at least that you will find a dishcloth handy."

So much for the shadowy outlines of the defense.

Let me give you now, from my notebook, in the order in which I took it down, the story as told to me by one "who ought to know."

"At the Bari conference, there were a number of parties which seemed to agree, but they failed to offer a concrete program or one that there was any firm guarantee would receive unified support. In war, we cannot guess, we must know. There is no definitely established leadership among the anti-Fascists."

"We know there is no future for any leadership under the king and Badoglio. But we must operate in the present, not the future. At present, there is but one unified group, small or large, loved or hated as it may be, and that is the government which surrendered to the Allies, under King Victor Emmanuel."

**Must Be Realists**

"We have to be realists now, and what is more, military realists. As Churchill said, what the Allies need are Italians ready and able to fight Germans. Such a group exists. Italians are fighting side by side with Americans and British. Although the Italian fleet has not been called to action, it surrendered without resistance. The Italian officers on duty are still loyal to the symbol (the king) to which they made their oath. We are perfectly willing, we are anxious, that they choose a new democratic symbol. But until they do get a new symbol to which the majority of Italians can adhere, we are not going to throw away the old."

(Churchill's coffee pot.) So much for what seems to be the Allies' viewpoint with my added unofficial, but none-the-less I believe, authentic, interpretation. But there is something more that no official would dare whisper. It is the problem which the Allies know they are going to face in every re-occupied country. Italy is a sample. It is something unpleasant but something we must face.

I understand that the Italian people in the liberated regions have not been inimical to the Americans. But they are resentful. They are hungry. They cannot understand why these strong young soldiers, who have freed them, do not feed them. The trucks go by loaded with munitions and supplies. Some food has been distributed. Not enough. To feed all the people would mean halting military operations while the Germans made hay in the sunshine of our charity.

The present Italian government has still some discipline over the people; it is brutal, perhaps, but effective. A new government which really expressed the people's will today would have to demand food, would increase the pressure on the Allies for supplies that they cannot spare while they are fighting for their lives. That is another realistic, military reason for the policy of the Allies.

And, unfortunately, that is something that the Allies can expect to face as more and more European territory is liberated. The liberated people cannot be blamed if resentments that they do not receive more, wipes out the gratitude for the modicum that military men can spare. Armies cannot be idealistic.

And armies or governments at war which support them, cannot worry about ideologies. It is too bad. But it is likewise only too true.

**BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage**

Civilians will get more coffee, chocolate and cocoa in 1944 than in 1943, according to the War Food administration.

Because more batteries are needed for walkie-talkies, bazookas, signal lights and other war equipment, there is little chance for an increased supply for civilians this year, according to the WPB.

Ten thousand new passenger automobiles and 7,500 new bicycles will be available under rationing to civilians in March—the same quotas as those for February.

Nearly 40 per cent of all vegetables grown for fresh consumption in the United States last year came from victory gardens, the War Food administration has reported.



**Women Assume New Responsibilities**

Take Over Men's Jobs To Meet Food Goals

The big push will come in 1944—for farm women as well as the boys in uniform.

The farm woman's 1944 job will be new in many ways, too. To reach food production objectives, the War Food administration points out, farm families must continually change their farming operations in line with shifting developments on the home front and on the battle fronts.

Take the higher goals for egg production, for instance. That's a special concern of farm women, since about 90 per cent of the eggs come from farm flocks and since the womenfolk usually tend the poultry. The old way of increasing egg production would be merely to build additional hen houses, increase the size of the flocks of laying hens and lay in an extra supply of feed. But the 1944 way to increase egg production is to give the hens tip-top care and to build up the quality of the flocks by culling out the poor layers and buying better chicks. Such a program is calculated to result in more eggs from fewer hens, at the same time helping to economize on feed supplies.

**Larger Herds Urged.** Good milk cows—well cared for—are one of the most efficient converters of feed into high quality protein foodstuffs. That is why Uncle Sam is urging farmers to increase their dairy herds by 2 per cent and to step up total milk production by a like amount.

Women will help more with this job, too—keeping records, feeding the livestock, milking and caring for the milk.

Gardening is one of the chores that usually falls to the farm homemaker. This year, as last, the aim will be a garden on every one of the nation's farms. Furthermore, families usually planting small gardens are asked to increase their vegetable plots so as to supply most of the family needs for fresh and home-canned vegetables.

**HOUSEHOLD HINTS**

To prevent small rugs from slipping, tack a jar rubber ring on the under side of the rug at each end.

If cottons scorch while ironing, plunge into cold water immediately and allow to stand for 24 hours—the marks will disappear.

To keep china plates from scratching each other, slip paper doilies between the plates when you put them away.

Your used fats are urgently needed by the government to make gunpowder and medicine. Please turn them in promptly to your meat dealer.

When adding flour and liquids alternately to cake batters, always begin and end with flour.

**SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER**

Authorities expect that Latin-American countries will contribute 35 to 40 thousand tons of crude rubber during 1944. In 1941 the U. S. and Canada used 800,000 tons of rubber, and current requirements are larger.

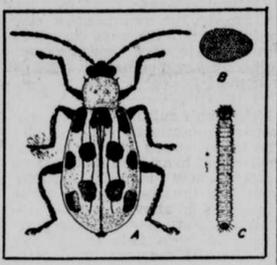
The Quartermaster Corps has developed a rubber and canvas Army boot for tropical wear. The sole contains both crude and reclaimed rubber, and is not affected by jungle moisture and soil chemicals.

Over seven billion passengers were transported by motor bus in 1942, compared with about four and a half billion in 1940, reflecting the curtailment of passenger car use by rubber conservation.

*Jersey Shaw*

*In war or peace*

**B.F. Goodrich**  
FIRST IN RUBBER



The western spotted cucumber beetle. A, adult; B, eggs; C, larva. The cucumber beetle attacks almost all vegetation. It is a serious pest in Pacific coast orchards.

**Stick With Your Plow, Advises Soil Expert**

Farmers should think twice before they place too much reliance in widely published reports that the mold-board plow is bad for the soil and should be discarded, M. A. Thorsfinnson, soil conservation specialist at the U. of Minnesota, pointed out. He says that tests of the plow vs. subsurface tillage have been conducted in Minnesota and so far the score gives the old-fashioned plow an advantage of eight bushels of corn to the acre. Thorsfinnson reports that in field tests conducted on farms in erosion areas of the state, the mold-board plow had a distinct advantage over other tillage methods. In heavier soils where drifting is not a major problem, this advantage would be even greater.

For the lighter soils the one-way disc plow proved to be effective and gave the added protection of leaving part of the stubble above ground to hinder soil drifting. The "sweep" which stirs up the subsurface without turning under the stubble appeared to be definitely inferior to the plow in the tests.

**Black Mold in Onions**

Black mold, a disease of onions, caused by the fungus *Aspergillus niger*, frequently develops in spots and streaks between the outer bulb scales, usually on onions in storage. Appearance and keeping quality may be seriously injured. Affected bulbs should not be placed in storage. Sound bulbs if stored should be thoroughly dried. Black mold should not be confused with smut.

**Agricultural Notes**

During the first seven months of last year, 264,000,000 pounds of edible fats and oils were sent into Russia from the United States.

Norelac is the name of a new film-coating resin, derived from soybean oil, which is expected to become valuable in making containers for anything requiring moisture-proof packaging.



*It's New!*



*It's Fast!*



*It's Better*

*than any other dry yeast we ever used, say 8 out of 10 women recently surveyed*

**FLEISCHMANN'S DRY YEAST**

*No Ice-box Needed!*



**HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news**

**SHIP-BUILDING:** New warships will be added to the U. S. fleet at the rate of a dozen a day during the remainder of the year, Secretary of the Navy Knox stated. This figure is for seagoing vessels only, and does not include small auxiliary ships and landing craft. By the end of the year the navy will consist of more than 3,000,000 men, he added.

**AXIS WEAPONS:** Japanese and German artillery and small arms are inferior as compared with American equipment, tests of captured weapons reveal. About 600,000 pieces of ordnance have been tried in firing and other tests at the seven U. S. army arsenals. It was found that the Japanese rifle is inaccurate at ranges over 350 yards, in contrast to the American Garand.