

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Allies Hammer at Gustav Line; Japs Continue Advance in China; Delay Induction of Men Over 30

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



China—Allies fight to open back door to China in southwestern part of country as depicted by 1 and 2. Japs seized control of Peiping-Hankow railroad in drives shown by 3 and 4.

ASIA: Chinese Set Back

Gallant China's defenders took one more step back in the eastern belt of their country as 80,000 Japanese supported by strong reinforcements drove beyond the Peiping-Hankow railroad, upon which they tightened their hold.

As the Chinese fell back, Lieut. Gen. Joseph Stilwell's mixed U. S. and Chinese troops hacked their way forward in north Burma, far to the southwest of the main Chinese battleground.

By grasping the Peiping-Hankow railroad, the Japs consolidated their positions in eastern China, which extend inland from the sea coast. It is in this rich region that the enemy has established heavy industry to utilize the country's abundant manpower and natural resources.

Near Inner Lines As U. S. army and navy forces drew closer to the Philippines and Indies within the Japs' inner defensive ring, Yankee airmen continued to hammer at the enemy's tottering outer fortifications guarding these prized conquests.

To the west of Hollandia, army fliers pounded at Jap installations near the tip of New Guinea, forming one side of the gate to the Indies, and drew stiff fire from some of the planes the enemy has supposedly concentrated in the region.

To the north, both army and navy fliers collaborated in blasting at Jap installations in the Caroline islands, the front door to the Philippines, with the big base of Truk being an especial target.

OIL: Big Strike Mississippi's little village of Heidelberg in the southeast corner of the state, became the mecca for the nation's sharpest oil men with the development of two high producing wells in the region and giddy anticipations that it might blossom into another East Texas field, which has given up almost two billion barrels in 16 years.

As oil men rushed to be in on the kill, the region's poor, struggling farmers who have eked the barest living from the stingy soil, suddenly visioned manna from heaven. Besides receiving fancy sums for leasing their land, they would get a royalty of one-eighth on production. Already, a Negro reportedly obtained \$17,500 in royalties alone.

First probed by the Gulf Refining company in 1940, the Heidelberg field has two heavy producing wells, both reportedly capable of producing 15,000 barrels daily.

Diamond in the Rough Twelve years ago a boy named William Jones was playing horse-shoes with his father on a farm near Peterstown, W. Va. One pitch dug into the earth and uncovered a large bright stone. "Gee, I found a diamond!" exclaimed the youth.

EUROPE: First Blow

Taking the first crack at Hitler's Fortress Europe in the expected three-headed offensive from the west, south and east, the U. S. and British armies in Italy launched a powerful drive against German Gustav line below Anzio.

In the west, Allied bombers poured thousands of tons of explosives on the Nazis' rail network in France, Belgium and Germany, over which anti-invasion Comdr. Erwin Rommel must shuttle troops and supplies to meet the assault against his coastal defense. In Russia, the Reds reportedly moved troops up in line for a big offensive to coincide with western operations.

Under command of Britain's Gen. Harold Alexander, the Allied push in Italy up the broad valleys leading to Rome got underway after a thunderous artillery bombardment, while the Nazis tried to neutralize other Allied forces massed on the Anzio beachhead in their rear to the northwest.

U. S. VS. WARD'S: Nothing Settled Although government troops marched in and out of Montgomery Ward & Company's Chicago plant arousing the nation to a pitch over the dramatic course of events, nothing, it seemed, had been settled.

An election had been held to determine the CIO United Mail Order, Warehouse and Retail Employees' union right to bargain collectively for the company workers, but Ward's had never objected to such an election and stood ready, as previously, to negotiate with the union.

Left unsettled, however, was Ward's objection to extension of the maintenance of membership contract with the union, which provides that its members must remain in good standing for the life of the agreement.

DRAFT: 30-37 Spared Confident of meeting the services' demands for manpower out of the pool of younger men unless unexpectedly high battle casualties are suffered, draft officials gave a new lease on civilian life to men from 30 to 37 years of age by indefinitely deferring them if engaged in essential occupations.

At the same time, it was ruled that men in the 26 to 29 year age group were to be eligible for six-month deferments if found to be necessary and regularly employed in an essential occupation. Deferments in the 18 to 25 year age group will continue to be confined to strictly key-men.

In indefinitely deferring men in the 30 to 37 group in essential work, local boards were advised not only to go by the War Manpower commission's list of necessary jobs, but to make determinations of their own.

'EYE BANK': Store Corneas For use of attempted restoration of sight in persons blinded by explosions, burns and ulcers, an "eye bank" has been established at the New York hospital for storing corneas, the transparent part of the coat of the eyeball.

Corneas will be collected either from living persons or from those arranging for their removal after death, in which case they have to be obtained within four hours of the individual's expiration.

WHEAT: Big Crop

With frequent spring rains over much of the country resulting in good plant development and improvement in yield outlook, the U. S. department of agriculture predicted a 1944 winter wheat crop of 662,275,000 bushels as compared with an earlier estimate of 602,000,000 and a 1943 harvest of 529,600,000.

On the basis of 40,943,000 acres grown, yields are expected to average 16.2 bushels per acre, compared with 15.6 last year and the 1933-'42 average of 15.

Since January 1, the USDA reported, rainfall has replenished soil moisture supply, offsetting deficiencies at seeding time last fall in much of the Great Plains area. Failure of plants to germinate or survive because of dryness has been marked in the western portion of the Plains states, USDA said, and floods have damaged stands in the Mississippi and Missouri river basins.

High in a Tree-top



There was much ado before election officials recognized Coffing M. Arstalian's quaint little bungalow atop a 50-foot tree in Montclair, N. J., as a legal residence, entitling him to vote.

The rug merchant, who has barred visitors from his roost, has lived in the tree-tops since 1936.

SCIENCE: Spoiled Cantaloupe

The U. S. department of agriculture's research laboratory at Peoria, Ill., continues as one of the centers of penicillin development, with the latest discovery that spoiled cantaloupe produces a mold efficient in making the wonder drug.

Although it is little known, British Doctors Heatley and Florey made the Peoria lab their workshop in developing methods of increasing penicillin production after they had been bombed out of London in 1941.

The discovery of the spoiled cantaloupe mold came only after the laboratory's scientists had studied growths on cheese, fruits and other foods as part of a search for a mold from which much of the penicillin would not be lost during separation of the drug from the liquid in which it develops.

New Feed A new process of extracting oil from tung nuts may result in the use of the residue as a protein feed for livestock as well as a material for plastics, Chemist R. S. McKinney of the U. S. department of agriculture declared.

Under the old system of extraction through pressing, only about 85 per cent of the oil from the nut was obtained, McKinney said. By removing the oil with solvents, however, almost 99.9 per cent of the oil has been extracted, with probable use found for the residue or meal.

Used for all sorts of paints and varnishes and in brake-linings, tung oil has many other applications, McKinney said. The services have found it invaluable as an insulator for electric wiring and as a "dope" for waterproofing the wings of naval planes.

CIVILIAN GOODS: More Coming

To take advantage of the increasing supply of surplus materials and relieve local employment problems, the War Production board ordered the resumption of manufacture of civilian goods wherever it would not interfere with the arms program.

One result of the order was expected to be a relaxation of restraints on production of simple farm machinery, like hay loaders and barn equipment, although WPB declared that there would be no increase in quotas for binders, tractors and mowers, etc.

Regions outside of the centers of heavy war output primarily will benefit from the WPB's new order, while companies inside these centers will only go into civilian work with the permission of the local urgency production boards.

Sign of the Times

The roof of a huge industrial building being planned for New York city will be designed as a landing field for helicopter airplanes. Commuters will be able to fly in from country estates in near-by New Jersey and Connecticut as well as Long Island and upstate New York, landing within a few blocks from the center of business.

Washington Digest

U. S. 'Scouts and Raiders' Make Warfare History

Specialists in Guerilla Tactics Practice Bloodless Raids in Preparation for Big Battle to Come.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

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

"Halt—who's there?" This sentence, barked out in one startled exhalation, stopped the stealthy form which had suddenly materialized out of the shadow of a plane. His dark wet suit stuck to his lithe form. His hands went up as the sentry's bayonet stopped just short of his midriff. There was no moon. The two figures, hardly visible to each other in the black, froze for a second as the sentry's nervous trigger-finger grew a little more steady. He called the guard.

There was the crescendo scuff-scuff-scuff of hurrying feet and a moment later, the sentry was patrolling the air-drome again very much on the alert. "For the fifth time, I ask you where you came from," the angry colonel demanded. For the fifth time came the same answer from the prisoner in the wet jungle suit. "Private, first class, James O'Fallon, Serial No. 3030496."

"Take him away," said the colonel finally, "he can stay in the guardhouse for the duration." The guards hustled No. 3030496 off to the hoosegow where he stumbled over an assortment of "AWOLs" and other bleary-eyed offenders. He saw three other men lying peacefully on the floor arrayed like him. But no sign of recognition on their blackened faces.

Bloodless Raid Private first class O'Fallon and his four comrades (although the colonel didn't know it at the time) were the only men captured out of a raiding party of 40. The rest had slipped catlike over the whole air-base, chalked their initials on planes, sketched the location of the radio room, noted the position of the aircraft carrier, estimated the size of the garrison, checked each rock and sandbar in the shallows through which they had crawled before they reached the beach.

Of course, this was only a practice raid like dozens of others, the preparation for which I have witnessed. But real bullets had twice that night whistled over shadows and set the big grey snauzers yipping and the flashlight stabbing into the black sky above the base.

The unwritten story of these specialists will all come out some day. The Japs did this kind of thing at the beginning of the war and we thought it incredible. The British did it later, with their brilliant "commandos."

The old name for it is guerilla warfare . . . fighting behind the lines, or in the more official language of an article by Douglas Smith in that trenchant military publication, the Cavalry Journal, "a phase in trained armed warfare that concentrates on destruction (the raiders destroy, the scouts merely get information) of enemy personnel and equipment in the enemy's own territory."

Back in the French and Indian wars, the ancestors of Douglas Smith began learning these tricks: Captain Smith, an American citizen and later of the French foreign legion, has put on paper some of the principles he has adduced from his own experiences in World War II.

Excellent Results

"The usual method of attacking an air-drome," says Captain Smith in recounting one of his experiences with the guerillas composed of British and French in Libya, "was for the men to leave their cars (the rubber boat of the desert) and go on foot up to the air-drome at night. When possible, they passed the sentries without detection and put their bombs on the airplanes (chalk marks when you just rehearse) then left the air-drome and got sufficiently far away before the bombs went off.

"Of course," says Captain Smith laconically, as the descendant of a good Indian fighter would, "this was not always possible and many times, sentries had to be killed in hand-to-hand fighting by a sudden attack with a knife. . . . Although the Germans made every effort to protect their planes against such attacks, approximately 300 enemy planes were destroyed by this guerilla unit in a single 12-month span.

Captain Smith, writing in the early days of the war, says, "in case



Farm Topics

Farm Income Up 23% Last Year Over 1942

Livestock, Oil Crops Made Largest Gains

Another good year for farm income from marketings appears to be in prospect for American farmers. Returns in 1943 were 23 per cent greater than in 1942, according to reports from the U. S. department of agriculture, and a continued peak demand for crops and livestock may be anticipated.

Livestock was responsible for last year's marked upswing, figures show, returning \$11,189,000,000 out of the total income of \$19,092,000,000 from farm marketings. Crop brought in \$7,815,000,000. The livestock break-down shows a total of \$5,953,000,000 received by farmers for meat animals, \$2,705,000,000 for dairy products, and \$2,322,000,000 for poultry and eggs.

Gain of 40 Per Cent in South. Income from livestock as a whole showed a 20 per cent increase in the Western region, and a 40 per cent rise in the South Atlantic region. In Georgia poultry and egg returns were nearly twice the 1942 figure, and in Delaware they went up 87 per cent. The South Atlantic region reported a 70 per cent increase in income from poultry and eggs. Receipts from hogs were high in all sections, with the West North Central region reporting an increase of 41 per cent and the state of Iowa an increase of 39 per cent.

Income from feed grains and hay went up 36 per cent over 1942, with receipts for 1943 totalling \$1,114,000,000 compared with \$815,000,000 in 1942.

Striking gains were reported for the oil crops, with an income of more than three times the 1942 figure reported in the North Atlantic and South Central regions. The income from oil-bearing crops for the United States as a whole was \$611,233,000, compared with \$468,000,000 in 1942. Peanut income in Texas was some six times the 1942 return, and soybeans brought in 12 times as much.

Income from vegetables and truck crops increased in all regions with the largest percentage shown in the South Atlantic region where an increase of 52 per cent was reported.

Don't Skimp on Milk in Feeding Young Calves Calves raised in a market milk area often receive a limited amount of whole milk. This is all right, according to Dr. Olin L. Lepard, assistant professor of dairy husbandry at Rutgers university, provided you don't skimp to the point where it will be harmful to the young animals. And that is apt to happen in times of a scarcity of fluid milk.

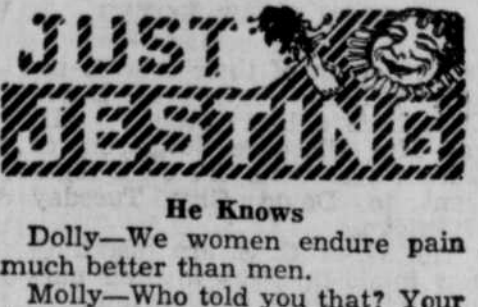
"We must remember that even though a calf has four stomachs, the one which is able to change coarse food, such as roughage and grain, into easily digested material does not function early in life," Dr. Lepard reminds dairymen. "The calf really is working on three cylinders, so to speak. Benefits which a calf receives from whole milk during the first four weeks before its rumen is able to function fully include an extra supply of vitamins, especially A, a very digestible type of protein, an ideal source of energy and a real allotment of minerals.

"The amount of milk needed varies considerably, but it is safe to say that most calves should receive at least 300 to 400 pounds of whole milk during the first two months. After this time, they can very safely and more economically be fed on dry feed and a good quality roughage."

Cows Are Kept on Three Out of Four U. S. Farms

Of the six million farms in the United States, 4,500,000 have cows and 3,000,000 churn butter. These farms used 22 billion pounds of milk in 1943, more than 11 billion pounds being consumed on the farms where produced, 7 1/2 billion going into production of farm butter and over 3 billion pounds being fed to calves.

Fluid milk and cream consumption in the U. S. is highest in history, according to the WFA.



He Knows

Dolly—We women endure pain much better than men. Molly—Who told you that? Your doctor? Dolly—No; the shoe salesman.

Old Habit Joan (watching rookies on review)—Why do they put all the big men in front of the little men? Jasper—It's the sergeant's fault. He used to run a fruit store!

His Figuring Jasper (just home from school)—I lost the quarter teacher gave for the best boy in the class. Pa Horner (surprised but pleased)—Never mind. Here's another quarter. But how did you come to lose it? Jasper—Because I wasn't the best boy!

Tillie calls her ring a war souvenir. She won it in her first engagement.

In Fond Memory Mrs. A.—I suppose you carry a memento of some sort in that pocket of yours? Mrs. B.—Yes, it is a lock of my husband's hair. Mrs. A.—But your husband is still alive. Mrs. B.—Yes, but his hair is gone.

JERSEY BULLS Two registered production bred Jersey bulls, ready for service. Also bull calves. Outstanding type and quality. Sires' blood lines famous for heavy production. Dams real producers. Specially priced. KEARNEY & SONS, MORRILL, NEBRASKA.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

HOUSES FOR SALE YOU CAN BUILD YOUR OWN HOME without experience or your own capital, if necessary. Save 1/2 to 1/3. Write today! Be ready! Information free. No obligation. Address: WILLIAM H. JACKSON, A. B., 1113 Howard Street, Port Huron, Michigan.

Pistol Packin' Nurses

Navy nurses are now "pistol packin' mamas." Their pistols, measuring 3 inches in diameter and 10 1/2 inches long, are air-cooled, electrically operated and they shoot ultraviolet rays. These are used in treatment of slow-healing wounds, abscesses, ulcers, skin diseases, in much the same manner as the conventional ultraviolet lamp.

MOROLINE

SOOTHES CHAFED SKIN WHITE PETROLEUM JELLY 5c and 10c

HEARTBURN

Relieved in 5 minutes or double money back. When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for symptomatic relief—medicines like those of Bell-sana Tablets. No laxative. Bell-sana brings comfort in a fifty or double your money back on return of bottle to us. 25c at all drug stores.

KILLS Many Insects

Black Leaf 40 on Vegetables Flowers & Shrubs

HELP for Your Victory Garden Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corp. Louisville, Kentucky

INOCULATE ALFALFA—SOYBEANS ALL LEGUMES WITH

NITRAGIN INOCULATION

It costs about 12¢ an acre and takes only a few minutes to inoculate seed with NITRAGIN. Yet it frequently boosts yields of alfalfa, clover, soybeans, other legumes up to 50% and more. It increases feeding value of legume hay and pasture, helps build fertility. Tests prove it pays to inoculate every seedling of legumes regardless of nodules on roots of previous crops. NITRAGIN provides selected, tested strains of nitrogen-fixing bacteria. NITRAGIN is the oldest, most widely used inoculant—in the yellow can, at your seedsmans.

Twin plots of alfalfa, growing side-by-side produced these vastly different yields. Inoculation made the difference. Test by Experiment Station.

FREE BOOKLETS Properly inoculated legumes can add 50 to 150 lbs. of nitrogen per acre. Free booklets tell how to grow better legumes. Write to—

THE NITRAGIN CO., Inc., 1910 N. 24th St., Milwaukee 12, Wis.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

The war department says that \$465.06 is the present annual cost of clothing, food and individual equipment for a soldier, compared with a total of \$501.06 a year ago.

Incorrect and insufficient addresses appear on 15 per cent of the more than 25 million pieces of mail sent each week to servicemen overseas.

Because of deficiencies in the Japanese wartime diet, one in every four young Japanese is affected by tuberculosis.

The demand for rare postage stamps as a form of investment in Germany has sent the prices up to such a fantastic level that the Nazi authorities are considering imposition of ceiling prices.

PERSONALITY

New secretary of the navy is 52-year-old James Forrestal, New York investment banker, who served as undersecretary to the late department chief, Frank Knox. He is a veteran of World War I.

