

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

U. S. Navy Blasts Japan's Fleet But Enemy Refuses Showdown; Allies Push Forward in Europe

Released by Western Newspaper Union. 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.



Pacific—Circle indicates scene of big naval battle in which U. S. fleet clashed with strong Jap forces.

EUROPE: Last Stand

As U. S. Doughboys closed on the big French port of Cherbourg...

Fleets of Allied bombers roared over the battle area, hitting at Nazi strong points...

Other Fronts

On other European fronts, the Russians reportedly launched a large-scale offensive...

Using strong tank and infantry forces, the Reds reportedly struck at German forces...

In Italy, Allied forces moved ahead after eliminating pockets of stubborn German rear guards...

BILL OF RIGHTS: For GIs

Estimated to cost from 3 to 6 billion dollars, congress passed and the President signed the so-called "bill of rights" for vets of World War II...

Under the "bill of rights," vets will be entitled to an unemployment compensation of \$20 a week for 52 weeks during the first two years after the war...

For vets seeking to buy or repair farms or homes or establish small businesses, the government will guarantee 50 per cent of the loan up to a maximum of \$2,000...

PACIFIC: Japs Run Out

Venturing forth from its home waters, Japan's boasted imperial fleet sailed within proximity of the U. S.'s mighty Fifth naval force...

Adm. Spruance Plowing boldly into the foe's home waters to support U. S. marine and ground troops in their assault on Saipan island...

Meanwhile, U. S. ground forces met bitter opposition on Saipan, about 1,500 miles from the Japanese homeland...

OPA: Vote Extension

By agreeing to allow revisions in ceilings of major textile items to reflect parity prices on cotton, senate and house conferences paved the way for extension of OPA to June, 1945...

Whittling down a maze of amendments to the act, the conferees did provide for some changes in OPA, including:

- 1. Filing of protests against OPA regulations; 2. Adjustment of rent ceilings where they are higher or lower than the prevailing standards...

FOOD: Postwar Stocks

In order to avoid the glut of 1919, the government's surplus stocks of foods will be released through normal trade channels after the war...

Although original vendors would be given the opportunity to repurchase food stocks, WFA will only accept fair bids and sell in areas where particular types of commodities are scarce...

With the termination of the war in Europe and the shipments of food overseas, there will be no need for the stockpiling of commodities, Marshall said. Coupled with military reserves, present food stocks should provide a large part of the needs of liberated people...

CONGRESS: Spends Less

For the first time since the war broke out, congressional appropriations will fall below the 100 billion dollar mark for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Because of the completion of capital outlays and the large stockpile of war materials, Chairman Cannon (Mo.) of the house appropriations committee estimated provision of 66 billion dollars for the impending 12 months...

Following Pearl Harbor, congress appropriated 147 billion dollars, and then supplied 114 billion dollars for the next year. Declaring congressional appropriations "definitely have passed the hump," Chairman Cannon said they would continue on the down-grade, regardless of war developments.

AGRICULTURE: Release Trucks

To help in the harvest of this year's big wheat crop, surplus used army trucks will be made available to farmers and haulers through the medium of county AAA offices.

Because of the limited supply of trucks, however, only a small percentage in proportion to actual demand will be available, and the vehicles will be allotted only on the basis of the most critical need.

After certification of an application by the AAA, dealers will then purchase the trucks from the U. S. treasury's regional procurement office at an appraised price, and sell to the farmer or hauler at or below OPA ceilings.

SURPLUS GOODS: Overseas Disposal

Treated as a valuable national asset, U. S. surplus goods overseas should be disposed of in foreign countries with the aim of realizing the highest possible profit...

Although keeping one eye cocked on postwar trade, the committee advocated the disposal of surplus industrial equipment, observing that the sooner the devastated countries can be restored to production...

In cases of low bids for surplus materials, sales might be made on the condition that the foreign purchasers will buy other new equipment from this country...

RECONVERSION: Conflicting Plans

The question of whether policy on the reconversion of industry from a war to a peacetime basis should allow certain manufacturers to resume civilian output while competitors are still engaged in war work...

Donald Nelson Charles Wilson favoring the procedure and W P B Vice - Chairman Charles Wilson opposing it. In recently relaxing restrictions on use of materials for civilian production in areas with labor surpluses...

On the other hand, Wilson reportedly contends that manufacturers allowed to resume civilian production before others would enjoy a jump in the market on war contractors...

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Patents "Distinct patent rights should not be granted for the sole purpose of handicapping future inventors whose discoveries would not otherwise inhibit the complete patent," ruled the U. S. Court of Appeals...

Employment: A decline of 100,000 workers per month in war plants has been the trend since the beginning of the year...

P.O.W. STRIKE: German war prisoners have refused to work in beet fields near Scotts Bluff, Neb., because their pay basis has been changed.

Jersey Heifers 100 very high grade Jersey heifers born and tested to go anywhere.

Short Horn Bulls Choice SHORTHORN BULLS six to sixteen months old. Few cows and heifers. Brown and red and black breeding.

Washington Digest

Allied Show of Power Affects Enemy Morale



Robot Plane Attacks Used to Bolster Home-Front Spirits Following First Invasion Landings.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

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

In the last days of June when the papers were full of stories of Germany's "secret weapon," the robot plane, a scene which I witnessed some three decades ago returned to haunt me.

It did look rather startling. The impresario moved his wand to the right and the miniature dirigible started off around the top of the tent, its tiny propellers whirring.

Naturally, when I first read the news of the robots, the picture of the little zeppelin floated into my mind. Experts admit that the German pilotless planes are nothing but rockets and they can be sent in only the general direction of their targets.

I mention the rocket attacks not so much to emphasize the last hysterical gesture of the writhing Teuton, but because they mark an important milestone in the psychological battle whose frenzy has mounted in these weeks since the invasion.

No Complaints, Please You can judge what the government is thinking about the attitude which Berliners are taking by an article printed in the Lokal Anzeiger.

"For the sake of your lives be careful!" it says and then begs that no complaint about their work or revelation of what they are doing be made which might reveal something to the enemy.

A Remarkable Map The many members of the National Geographic society have received the remarkable new map of Japan and adjacent regions put out recently by that organization.

How Did the Enemy Feel? Temperatures rose and fell for many days thereafter but the peaks and valleys of emotion in this country could have been nothing compared with those of our enemies.

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Soil Conservation Steps Up Yield 21%

Big Advance Was Made in Last Decade

Looming large among factors contributing to the American farmers' record production job on food and fiber for war is the notable increase shown in acre yields of vital crops.

Per acre yields of major crops during the years 1934-43 were 11.8 per cent greater than yields in the pre-conservation practices decade of 1923-32, according to government figures.

Comparison of acreage and total production figures shows that while total acreage in 1937-43 was about 8 per cent smaller than the 1923-32 average, total agricultural output increased 14.5 per cent.

The 1944 AAA conservation program, emphasizing practices that will immediately increase yields, seeks expansion of the use of lime, phosphate and other fertilizers, promotion of legume, hay and grass seed harvest, continuance of erosion control and water conservation measures and expansion of range and pasture practices.

With increased needs for food and fiber expected in 1945, when most of this year's crop will be consumed, U. S. farmers are looking to the Agricultural Conservation program to maintain the land's productivity for the current crop while protecting its fertility for future plantings.



"It also keeps reminding me to meet my production goals."

Fertilizing Tomatoes Nearly Doubles Crop

Two research men of the soils department at the University of Wisconsin, found that tomatoes need a lot of fertilizer and pay a big profit on it, even on land that already is quite fertile.

They report that compared with unfertilized tomatoes the best treatment increased yields enough to net \$24 extra to the acre above fertilizer cost. This was on the basis of the 1943 canner price; actually these tomatoes were sold on the Milwaukee market at a higher price and greater return for the fertilizer.

Most profitable of the fertilizer programs tested was a broadcast application of 500 pounds 6-6-20 to the acre 500 pounds 3-12-12 at the side of the row. At a fertilizer cost of \$20.80 to the acre, this treatment increased yields by 69 per cent.

Row applications alone were not able to bring out top yields and were less profitable on the acre basis.

The 6-6-20 fertilizer which was broadcast gave just as good results as more expensive formulas containing larger amounts of either nitrogen or phosphorus.

These results were secured on a Miami silt loam soil which contains medium to high amounts of phosphorus, a fair amount of potassium, plenty of boron and has a reaction ranging from just below neutral to slightly alkaline.

The variety of tomatoes grown was a rather late one named J. T. D. Berger and Trug think it is possible that an earlier variety would have paid off even better on fertilizer, since about one-third of this crop was caught by frost before it ripened.

Rural Briefs

When the average U. S. civilian gets into the army he consumes three times as much cotton per year in terms of cotton goods as he did as a civilian—75 pounds. In combat he uses several times this 75 pounds.

Soybean acreage has increased 44 per cent since 1941, according to War Food administration statistics. About 78 per cent of the national soybean crop is grown in the North Central states.

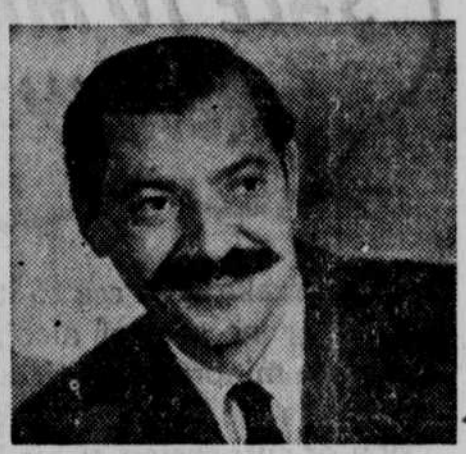


Star Dust

By VIRGINIA VALE Released by Western Newspaper Union.

TIME was when Franchot Tone was a prominent member of Hollywood's stay-up-late set. But no more. He's now a leader of the proud parents association. On the set of Benedict Bogeaus' "Dark Waters," Papa Tone exhibits snapshots of Pascal Franchot, age nine months, to Merle Oberon, Thomas Mitchell and Fay Bainter till they cry for help.

Jerry Colonna, of the black walrus mustache, will accompany Bob Hope on a tour of Pacific fighting fronts when he finishes work in Re-



JERRY COLONNA

public's "Atlantic City." He's a man of many faces in this one—even appears as an oversized infant with blond curls!

Handsome Bill Johnson, Metro's new white-haired boy, was taken to the coast to act as master of ceremonies for their "Screen Test," on the Mutual network. He won the assignment on the strength of his singing ability, but in Hollywood he was promptly given a major role in Wallace Beery's "Airship Squadron 4." The radio show will serve as a build-up for Bill.

Elizabeth Taylor, the 12-year-old actress who made her screen debut in "Lassie Come Home" and has the lead opposite Mickey Rooney in "National Velvet," will be starred by Metro in "Hold High the Torch." It's the story of a child and a war dog, the third of the Lassie pictures. The role was originally meant for Margaret O'Brien, but Elizabeth has proved talented enough to inherit it.

Following more than 40 tests for the part—some by well-known film stars—Jack L. Warner chose Joan Lorring for the coveted role of "Bessie" in "The Corn Is Green." She's 18, was born in Hongkong, and has been in this country only five years. She's acted on numerous radio programs.

Yank soldiers in Italy are becoming patrons of opera, according to reports received by Dr. Frank Black, NBC's general music director. "It started after the first Italian campaigns were successful," he said. "Many cafes were out of bounds, Italian films had no English titles, and the USO entertainers hadn't arrived yet. The boys were desperate for entertainment—so they went to opera, and liked it."

Within 24 hours of the production of his radio theater, "Action in the North Atlantic," Cecil B. DeMille's plea for recruits for the merchant marine brought about an enlistment of 86 men from the listening

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100 very high grade Jersey heifers born and tested to go anywhere. STEPHEN A. CARG, COLLINS, IOWA.

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Choice SHORTHORN BULLS six to sixteen months old. Few cows and heifers. Brown and red and black breeding. Colors, conformation and pedigree to please. ED. DONALDSON, ALBION, NEBRASKA

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

P.O.W. STRIKE: German war prisoners have refused to work in beet fields near Scotts Bluff, Neb., because their pay basis has been changed. Formerly they received 80 cents a day flat rate. This has been changed to a piece work rate of 80 cents for each quarter acre thinned. Lieut. Col. Clyde Dempster said disciplinary action would be taken if the men continued on strike.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

Julius Caesar would have had more water to cross today in invading Britain—the cliffs of Dover have receded that much. Nazi slave-labor recruitment among women in occupied northern Italy now applies only to unmarried women between the ages of 18 and 30, resulting in a desperate matrimonial rush. Pillow feathers are so scarce in Hungary and the Balkan countries that Nazis are offering a bribe of one gallon of gas for a quantity of feathers worth about 15 cents. A "seat changing" signal is given at regular intervals in the crowded trains in Japan, and people who have been sitting stand up to change places with the others.