

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Harmony Note of Big Three Meet; Mighty U.S. Aerial Blows Carry War to Heart of Jap Homeland

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(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.)



Freed by daring U. S. Ranger attack on Cabanatuan prison camp, liberated Yanks joyfully make their way back to American lines for transfer to evacuation hospital in Philippines.

EUROPE: Postwar Pattern

Their historic conference at Yalta having ended in agreement, the Big Three departed from the balmy Crimean watering resort determined to maintain equal harmony on the implementation of the new course they struck for trodden Europe, envisaging the return of democratic government and obliteration of Nazism and Fascism.

Thorniest problem in Allied relations before the conference, the Polish question was met by U. S. and British recognition to Russian annexation of part of eastern Poland, and the agreement to include independent democratic leaders into the Red-sponsored provisional government until the people themselves can name their own regime in a free and open election.

In respect to free elections, guaranteeing the people of all the liberated countries the right to pick their own governments, the Big Three pledged their support to assist any nation in measures designed to bring about such polls.

With agreement on the vexatious Polish problem and restoration of democratic government in the new

Declaring that the Big Three's terms for Germany released its people from all moral scruples of warfare, Nazi propagandists said: "Every enemy will be met by fanatical men, women and children, who know what treatment is in store for them, and, therefore, wish to kill, murder and poison all who attempt to oppress them..."

Europe, the Big Three also moved toward maintenance of such an order by further discussion of steps on a postwar international security organization, with the talks at Yalta designed to meet Russian objections to the Dumbarton Oaks plans for prohibiting any nation charged with aggression from voting on measures to bring it in line.

Overwhelming agreement was reached on treatment for a defeated Reich, with Messrs. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin determined to crush German militarism by dissolution of the wehrmacht, break-up of its general staff, elimination of all Nazi and Junker influences in the nation's life.

Further, Germany would be made to pay for war damage, with an Allied commission set up in Moscow determining on the extent of reparations, probably in terms of manpower and goods.

Allies Advance

With their hopes of an Allied division blasted at Yalta, and with the combined weight of the U. S., Britain and Russia drawn up against them, the Germans maneuvered in both the west and east for a last-ditch struggle.

In the east, so-called "alarm units" and the "people's army" were thrown into breaches to hold open avenues of retreat for German forces falling back from Silesia to Saxony as the Russians drove on this all-important Nazi industrial district. As the Reds pushed ahead, one wing of this offensive nosed northwestward toward Berlin, sorely pressed by a frontal assault of Marshal Zhukov's forces.

In the west, the Germans fought hard to thwart the Canadian and British attempt to turn their far northern flank, drive into the industrial Ruhr and trap Nazi forces guarding the Rhineland from the rear.

WAR COSTS

With this war costing the world some \$200 billions a year, or more than \$500 millions a day, in direct military expenditures alone, the annual expenditure is roughly equal to the whole direct cost of the First World War, estimated at \$208 billions by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Staggering though these figures are, they do not include indirect costs of war, such as the value of human life lost, property destruction, etc.

PACIFIC: Mighty Strike

To Tokyo's 8,000,000 terrified residents, it was as if the whole host of demons themselves had swooped from the skies; to American aviators and sailors, it offered the supreme satisfaction of slapping a vicious enemy in his own backyard, and to millions of people at home, it represented the opening of the battle for Japan itself.

Thus shaped Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's mighty strike against Tokyo and the home island of Honshu, with 1,500 Hellcats, Helldivers and Avenger planes taking off from about 15 to 20 carriers of the 27,000-ton class, escorted by a formidable



Leading during liberation of 511 Yanks from Luzon prison camp by Rangers who overpowered Jap guards were (left to right) Captain Prince of Seattle, Wash.; Lt. Col. H. A. Mucci, Bridgeport, Conn.; and Sgt. T. R. Richardson, Dallas, Texas.

screen of fast battleships, cruisers and destroyers. Though meeting strong opposition, the aircraft shot up enemy planes, cratered airbases and pulverized other military installations around the Jap capital.

While the major attack roared on, with the once vaunted, since battered Jap imperial fleet failing to challenge Mitscher's force riding 300 miles off of Honshu shores, other American warships and army planes hammered the Volcano and Bonin islands, 600 miles to the south.

WAR PRODUCTION: Schedules Increase

With emphasis on more bombers and engine parts, the government increased its war contracts in recent weeks, indicating that the rapid pace of the conflict is forcing readjustment of needs.

Besides the boost in the bomber and engine parts program, it was revealed, ground troops were scheduled to get 21.9 per cent more ammunition, heavy artillery and tanks.

Labor Relations

Supplementing its previous policy of plant seizures to back up War Labor Board rulings designed to settle industrial disputes, the U. S. drew a new weapon to force compliance through cancellation of a firm's government contracts.

In following such a course of action against the E. A. Laboratories of Brooklyn, N. Y., Economic Stabilization Director Vinson said that the U. S.'s procedure was legal, insofar as the courts have frequently held that no business has an automatic right to getting a government contract.

Despite the U. S.'s power to influence compliance with WLB orders through plant seizures and withholding of priorities, in addition to contract cancellations, OES Chieftain Vinson said that still more effective action could be obtained through legislation furnishing non-compliance.

G.I.s Long for Civvies

Discharged G.I.s are so anxious to get back into civilian clothes, a survey of the Northwestern National Life Insurance company showed, that they want alterations on their new suits "done in the next ten minutes"; they shun cheap clothing and buy good quality suits—averaging about \$45 in price; they don't shop around, but go to one store and buy as nearly a complete outfit as the store can supply; they usually pay cash, even when they could "charge it," and they seldom shop alone.

CONGRESS: Busy Session

Solons were putting in a busy session on capitol hill, engrossed in semi-political, financial and insurance legislation.

Wallace Curb

Passed by the senate, the bill removing the Reconstruction Finance corporation, with its vast loaning powers, from the U. S. department of commerce and Liberal Henry A. Wallace's reach if appointed secretary of that office, went up before the house.

In addition to stripping Wallace of authority over RFC funds, which conservatives feared he might use for promotion of plans for government spending to provide "full employment," house Republicans sought to remove the secretary of commerce from the board of the 700 million dollar export-import bank, used to finance foreign business.

World Finance

Up prominently for congressional consideration was the administration-backed Bretton Woods postwar world financial agreement, under which the U. S. would contribute about 6 billion dollars for two funds: (1) to provide countries with foreign exchange at par rather than open-market value to stimulate their purchasing powers, and (2) to guarantee private loans made to countries to help build up their economies.

In asking for congressional approval of the Bretton Woods agreement, President Roosevelt said they were the first step in a broad program for international economic cooperation, also including an Allied food and agriculture organization, expansion of the reciprocal trade act of 1934, reduction of trade barriers and orderly marketing of certain world surpluses.

Insurance

Continued state supervision of insurance companies, but with stricter control in harmony with federal anti-trust laws, was promised in congressional approval of legislation postponing antimonopoly prosecution against such businesses for three years and allowing states that time to set up tighter regulations.

Brought to a head by a recent Supreme court decision declaring insurance companies subject to anti-trust laws, the question of federal control over the business drew little support from congress, with legislators contending that the individual states were best qualified to regulate the matter according to their particular requirements.

Farm Credit Standing High

By WALTER A. SHEAD
WNU Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON.—For every dollar farmers borrowed in 1944, they repaid \$3.50 on loans made prior to that year, reducing the farm mortgage debt to the lowest point in 30 years, according to a report of the Federal Land Bank system.

For the year the volume of farm loans outstanding was reduced 17 per cent. The total volume of land bank and commissioner loans made in 1944 amounted to \$105,292,000. During the year a uniform 4 per cent interest rate was established on most outstanding land bank loans.

Farm mortgage loans in good standing reached a new high at the year's end with 93.6 per cent of all Federal land bank and 91.7 per cent of commissioner loans current on all payments of principal and interest.

NEW INSTRUMENT: Aids B-29s

One of the war's most remarkable scientific achievements — an "air position indicator" — has been playing an important role in charting the long skyroads to Tokyo for navigators of America's B-29 super-fortresses, the army revealed.

Developed by engineers of Bendix Aviation corporation in cooperation with the army and navy, the indicator records continuously and automatically the exact "air position" of a huge super-fort in flight on a single dial giving the navigator an instantaneous reading of his longitude and latitude and saving hours of complex calculations.

No larger than a quart milk bottle, the computing device not only shows "air position in degrees of longitude and latitude," but also gives the navigator a continuous record of air miles flown from the take-off point and indicates the correct compass heading of the airplane, engineers explained. From these readings, plus a check of wind drift, the B-29 navigator can continuously plot his ship's "air position" on the map and keep his plane more accurately on the bomber route to Japan and return.

SOIL CONSERVATION

With the year marked by wider understanding and use of the U. S. Soil Conservation service's land classification specifying the best employment of tracts on the basis of slope, soil, degree of erosion, previous use and other factors, more than 65,000,000 acres were producing under the soil conservation system in 1944, SCS Chieftain Dr. H. H. Bennett reported. This compared with the figure of 37,500,000 acres for the year 1941.

Washington Digest

'Bombs' Steel Center In Imaginary Flight

'Briefed' at Army Air Force School for Raid on Yawata; Follows Course Over Huge, Realistic Map.

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

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

How would you like to bomb the Yawata steel works in a flying fortress?

I did it without moving from my classroom seat in Orlando, Fla., in one of the courses I attended at the army air force school of applied tactics. It is part of the "post graduate" instruction of the high officers of the army and it really is a realistic "briefing." When I had finished that demonstration, as it is called, I actually felt as if I had been on that bombing mission which started at an unnamed base in China and flew straight to a target, which is as clearly pictured in my mind as if I had made the trip.

I'll try to retrace it for you. First, imagine a great map stretching across the room in which you are sitting with two black lines on it. The lower line runs, with a few slight deviations, straight to the target in Japan. Then there is a short leg running north and the second line, a little above the other, running back to the base. This is the course we took.

"Now, men," says the officer standing with a pointer in his hand, "you are going to bomb the steel works at Yawata. Daylight precision bombing and naturally you'll meet a little more opposition. But you know the importance of steel. I don't need to talk about that. You have been selected for your record last time. Keep up that record."

"As you know this is the first time for the new stagger formation. You've practiced it. I won't go into that. We have just 45 minutes to check the whole plan. We start at 650 and the first ship goes down the runway at 700."

(Military clocks theoretically run 24 hours. If the number is above 12, subtract 12. For instance 1630 is 4:30 in the afternoon—1630 minus 12 equals 4:30.)

Then came some directions about "assembly" (where this group joins the formation) which I won't go into here since space isn't adequate, but anyhow the assembly point is Chengtu.

Level Off

For Bomb Run

"We must be at Chengtu at 800. Climb at 190 miles an hour to this point here (the pointer taps the map) . . . to 1,500 feet and level off. 200 miles per hour . . . this junction (another tap) 940; then swing on course . . . 91 degrees . . . (the pointer swishes out along the black line) to the coast.

"Here is your second climb . . . 1212 . . . 190 miles per hour . . . 300 feet a minute . . . to bombing altitude, at check point of island at 1245 (the pointer touches a little island off the Jap coast) . . . it will look like an inverted pyramid . . . then level off to the IP." (That is the point of entry which must be definitely established, for the flight from there on is directly to the target and careful synchronization with the other planes must be made.)

"Show a yellow-yellow flare so we'll know you've reached the IP . . . if dark, toggle four-and-a-half over the bomb run, then to the rally point, 14 miles north of target.

"If you are crippled going over the target try to cut short your turn. . . . I'll explain that: you see normally the planes would go north from the target and then turn at a right angle to the assembly point. Then another right angle back toward home, so if a plane had been hit and couldn't last long, it must try to catch up with the others and make known its condition. If the plane lags behind it may be located by the group leader who will make continuous s-turns, looping back, trying to locate any stragglers. Meanwhile (as I forgot to explain) there is a friendly submarine loafing somewhere within radio call for two purposes. First, to try to locate any plane that has been forced down into the water; second, to pick up information concerning any enemy ships which the planes may have spotted so the sub can go over and take a poke at them.

I cannot in this space give you a fraction of the detail of this briefing, which pointed out on the map every hazard, every advantage, every varying condition. Special areas were blown up in large size: as a lake serving as a landmark where the planes start their ocean jump, a peculiarly shaped river where they reach land again. Sketches are furnished by meteorologists, showing just the types of clouds they will encounter, some "full of rocks" (covering mountain peaks) which are to be avoided.

The known location and number of enemy fighter planes is marked, as are the anti-aircraft guns, and the temperature and wind velocity at various levels.

Target's There, Then Gone

As to the target itself, large scale aerial pictures were shown which looked very much as the actual terrain would look to the pilot and bombardier. Also, a map of the whole city. Then a map of the target area, then photos of the target area, taken from an angle, as it will look when the plane approaches it from a distance, and another as it will look when it is directly below—the important moment.

That last statement "directly below" is misleading, as I found out. What you see when you look through the glass walls of the bomber's "nose" and what you see when you look through the bombsight are two quite different pictures. What you see when you look through the bombsight is the area (far ahead of where your plane is) upon which the bomb will hit if released at that precise instant. Naturally, at the speed at which a plane travels, the inertia of the bombs carries them far ahead as they fall.

This is disconcerting to the layman. I looked through the glass of the nose and picked me out a little Florida lake upon which I decided to drop my imaginary bomb. Then I looked into the sight and there was no lake there! Too late! If I had released my bombs then, they would have hit far beyond the distant shore although the plane hadn't even reached the near shore, yet.

But to return to my synthetic flight. I find it impossible to recount it with half the realism with which it was presented to me as my eyes followed that moving pointer from base to assembly point to "bomb line" (where the planes cross into enemy occupied terrain) on to the target itself, with the looping tracks that bounded it and then back, north and west again, over water and land, lake and mountain, on the long trek home.

After the briefing was finished four men in uniform took seats on the platform. They were men with stars on their service ribbons and some purple hearts, too. Men of many missions just such as the one described, or they would not have been chosen as instructors in this post graduate university of the air.

And they acted out with startling conviction the briefing of a returned crew. One, his nerves on razor edge from what he had gone through, another a little dazed, as if he had had a few drinks too many, another solemn, wide-eyed, another jumpy, loquacious, controversial, all true-to-life types, we were told.

Carefully and tactfully the officer checked their conflicting statements until finally all were molded into a reasonable and rational report.

"How many enemy fighters . . . here?"

"Oh, 30, easy," said the jumpy one.

"How many do you say?" (to the fellow in the half-daze).

"Well, a lot of 'em, I didn't count."

"Enough anyhow. And you didn't warn us about the others here," says the slap-happy one as he jumps up and jabs the map.

Finally it settles down to about 50. This estimate will be checked as other crews are checked and an accurate estimate is obtained. The same careful and studied analysis of data on troop concentrations observed, movements along highways, convoys, new landing strips, as well as the damage done to the target.

Mrs. Whitney said the shortage of women in Alaska was accompanied by an "absence of other things—there are no insects, no rodents, no dust, no poison ivy."—Newspaper item.

BARBS . . . by Baukhage

The "work or else" bill bogged down in the senate. Perhaps because the senate is already over-worked.

On January 8, General Yamashita said: "Japanese forces are ready to destroy the enemy with one stroke should he choose to land on Luzon." Some prophets are without honor outside of their own country.



McGOFFEY'S FIRST READER

This is a steer.
Where is the steer?
The steer is on the ranch.
Will the steer leave the ranch?
We hope so.

What are those things on the steer's head?
Horns.

Are they necessary?
Well, you have to use something in hamburgers!

Oh, see the steer's tail!
Yes, it is a long tail.
What is the tail good for?
If the war lasts long much longer you will find out.

The steer looks nervous.
You would look nervous, too, if you were a steer.

What makes the steer nervous?
The Government, Chester Bowles, the Black Market, the Rancher, the Ultimate Consumer, etc.

Why do they make the steer nervous?
The steer knows that he would get better protection under the rules of bullfighting.

The steer looks round-shouldered.
Yes, and so would you if you were in his place.

What makes the steer round-shouldered?
He gets that way standing under the ceiling.
Does the steer have to stand under a ceiling?
Come, come, don't you ever read the papers?

Why does the steer stand under a ceiling?
To get across the street.
What street?
Pennsylvania avenue.

Oh, look!
What's happened?
The ceiling seems to be changing.
Yeah.

It seems to be going up?
It is going up about four dollars.
Why are they giving the steer a new ceiling?
It seems there was agitation.

Who agitated?
The butcher, the OPA and the people who were tired of mutton and pork.
Do people eat ceilings?
No; the beefsteaks only taste that way.

Now that the ceiling is higher will the steer cease to be round-shouldered?
Round or flat you'll be glad to get it. You can depend on one thing.

What is that?
The consumer will become round-shouldered.
Why?
Looking for a meat market where ceilings make any difference.
(End of Lesson)

THE CLOTHING INQUIRY

Washington is getting after the clothing situation. It is out to roll back the prices of shirts, drawers, rompers, suits, dresses and what not.

It's about time. It has been thinking too much about beef and not enough about shorts.

What is important to the average American, more hamburgers or more underwear?

There hasn't been as much of a public howl over the high costs of dressing because the uneven distribution hasn't been so glaring. It is not easy to tell when one man is getting the best shirts. Or whether Mrs. Beemish is able to buy the choicest cuts of undies while Mrs. Mooney hasn't been able to get anything but the roughest lingerie in a year.

Unlike the situation in the meat crisis, you have not been able in a clothes shortage to go down to Joe's place and get all the apparel you wanted.

If down to your last pair of pants, you couldn't go to a smart restaurant and get them in all styles and colors at a price.

We haven't heard of a "black pants market." But it may come soon.

It may take points to get a pair of socks, a pair of pajamas or a vest before long.

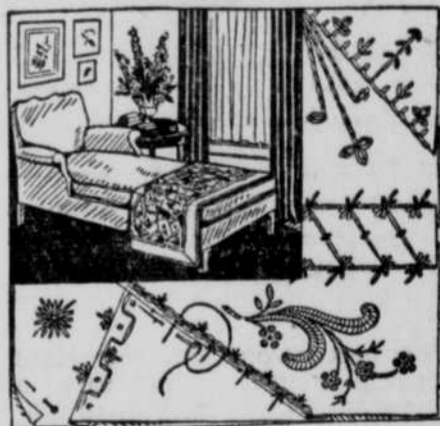
Mrs. Whitney said the shortage of women in Alaska was accompanied by an "absence of other things—there are no insects, no rodents, no dust, no poison ivy."—Newspaper item.

Is that putting it nicely?
General Homma of Japan says, "It is assumed that the Japanese Grand Fleet will now abandon its passiveness." What the general means is "Come Out, Come Out, Come Out Wherever You Are."

Silk Patchwork Quilt Colorful and Quaint

AN OLD-FASHIONED crazy-patch quilt aglow with color and quaint stitchery makes a decorative slumber throw for the sofa in today's living room. It picks up and repeats all the room colors and the hit-and-miss pattern harmonizes with furnishings old and new.

In Victorian days great grandfather's cravats were the source of many a rich piece of silk for



these quilts. Why not look over the old ties that G.I. Joe left behind with an eye to the same purpose? The ends are always good no matter how worn the center part may be. Collecting bits of bright silk, ribbon and embroidery thread will be an exciting hobby and it costs nothing.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE — M-M four-cylinder, high compression gas engine, with clutch and pulley complete, in good condition. Also Port Huron No. 3 hammer mill with drag feeder and dust collector. Will sell together or separate.
FARMERS CO-OPERATIVE CO., Cumberland, Ia.

WEED BURNER

FARMERS—2nd thistle, corn stalk, combine straw drudgery. Patented, self-feeding weed burners. Use no gas or oil.
G. M. SKAETHOL & COMPANY, Souris, North Dakota

Fire Fighter Knew Male Animal Would Assert Self

A young mother was having great difficulty with her three-year-old son, who had locked himself in the bathroom and either could not or would not unlock the door. In desperation, she called the fire department.

After a brief wait, a burly fire captain ran up the steps. She explained her predicament, but instead of going back for a ladder, he asked her the sex of the child. When she told him, he went to the door and said in his most authoritative voice, "You come out, little girl!" Aroused at being called a little girl, the boy unlocked the door and marched out to confront the fireman.

Easy way to UNCORK STUFFY NOSTRILS

Nostrils all clogged up? Quick, use Mentholum. So you can breathe!

MENTHOLATUM



VERONICA LAKE

star of "The Hour Before the Dawn," a Paramount picture, is one of the many famed, groomed, well-informed Hollywood stars who use Calox Tooth Powder.

CALOX TOOTH POWDER

McKesson & Robbins, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A COLD USE 666

Cold Preparations as directed

HOUSEWIVES: ★ ★ ★ Your Waste Kitchen Fats Are Needed for Explosives TURN 'EM IN! ★ ★ ★

WOMEN IN '40's

Do You Hate HOT FLASHES? If you suffer from hot flashes, feel weak, nervous, a bit blue at times—all due to the functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Taken regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such annoying symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is made especially for women—it helps nature and that's the kind of medicine to buy! Follow label directions.