

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Heavy B-29 Raids on Nagoya Pattern for Victory in Pacific; Set Up Army Rule Over Germany

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(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.)



Borrowing into "Little Siegfried Line" on Okinawa, marines advance cautiously toward building set afire to dislodge Jap snipers.

PACIFIC: Victory Pattern

Though the Tarawa, Iwo Jima and Okinawa fighting has proved the Jap no set-up, America's tremendous material resources and Japan's comparative skimpy means promise to bring about the enemy's collapse much in the manner of Germany's.

Flying 500 at a time, B-29 Superforts were setting the pattern for Japan's defeat even as U. S. army and marine forces rooted the enemy from his heavily fortified "Little Siegfried line" on Okinawa, with the big bombers showering thousands of tons of gasoline-jelly incendiaries on the big industrial center of Nagoya.

Extent of the destruction of Nagoya was all the greater because of the establishment of shops in small buildings and homes for the production of different parts for main assembly. With a one-time population of 1,328,063, the city was the site of the famed Mitsubishi aircraft factory and railway, machinery and metal works.

Leveling of Nagoya suggested the same treatment of other great Japanese cities within the same area in the effort to paralyze the enemy's industrial capability and thus bring his formidable land army to its knees.

With her vital industries packed in the Tokyo, Kobe-Osaka and Nagoya districts in a total area less than that of Nebraska, and with 14,000,000 of her 73,000,000 population crowded in those vicinities, Japan's whole war-making potential stands as a particularly vulnerable target for the great fleets of U. S. bombers which will operate with increasing force now that the European war has ended.

Furthermore, U. S. mastery of the sea threatens to virtually isolate the enemy from the Asiatic mainland and Pacific islands upon which he has depended for substantial quantities of food, raw material and supplies.

Against this bright picture, however, stands the record of fanatical Japanese resistance against impossible odds wherever he has fought in the Pacific. Best recent examples are Iwo Jima and Okinawa, where Japanese garrisons have withstood the most grueling preponderance of U. S. material and troop superiority to hold out to the last dying gasp from strongly fortified subterranean positions hewed from rugged terrain.

With Jap engineers showing surprising skill in preparing such defenses, U. S. infantrymen, supported by tanks and flame throwers, have been compelled to move in close to root out the entrenched enemy after heavy air, sea and ground bombardment failed to wholly wipe out various strong-points.

Just 325 miles from Tokyo, Okinawa has been bitterly defended by the enemy seeking to prevent another island air base from falling into the hands of U. S. forces. Victory in the Marianas furnished a site for B-29 stations for the increasing raids on the enemy mainland, and Iwo Jima also yielded strategic air strips. Thus, the Japs have stood bitterly on Okinawa, inflicting over 28,000 casualties on American land, sea and air forces at a cost of over 48,000 dead to themselves.

Secondary though potentially important aspect of the whole Pacific picture is the part China might play

in the enemy's strategy, with the comparatively undeveloped state of the country and the vulnerability of any positions to attack from Russia on the north and the U. S. and Britain on the south, tempering the possibility the enemy might decide to make a major stand on the Asiatic mainland.

EUROPE: Army Rules

Declaring "the Allied government of Germany is going to be military, and the Germans are going to know it is military," Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay undertook deputy rule of the U. S. occupation zone under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

General Clay assumed his task as Allied authorities stated that all German industry, trade and services first would be used to support U. S. and British occupying forces before civilians, and Germans would be allowed to hold office only on the local level.

Having announced former congressman and budget director Lewis W. Douglas as his assistant and diplomat Robert Murphy as head of the political division of the military government, General Clay said that all that is left of Germany's war industry would be destroyed, all traces of Nazism rooted out and war criminals sought and punished.

At the same time, Allied authorities declared that Grand Adm. Karl Doenitz's government was a temporary stopgap presently being used to carry on the disarmament of the German military and naval forces. Despite Doenitz's government's statements that a central German regime was necessary to prevent a breakdown in the country's economic life and the threat of communism, the Allies are proceeding along their own lines.

Meanwhile, the Allies pushed plans for the trial of war criminals even as U. S. congressmen, returning from an inspection of notorious Nazi concentration camps, flatly blamed the Hitler regime for their existence.

CIVILIAN ECONOMY: More Goods

Provision of more cars and more tires for essential civilian use along with loosening of controls on the manufacture of many peacetime items heralded the gradual reconversion of industry following readjustment to a one-front war.

Though the good news of the Pacific war will still rate No. 1, reserve of manpower and material as a result of lessened demands after V-E Day will permit a limited resumption of civilian production, as already reflected in permission to automobile manufacturers to turn out 200,000 passenger cars this year, and the increase in tire ratings for essential motorists by 500,000 for May.

Though another 400,000 cars are scheduled to be produced in the first quarter of 1946 with the rate rising to 2,000,000 annually by 1947, trucks will be given preference in manufacture, with emphasis on light-weight models, officials declared.

Relaxation of controls on production of coat hangers, bathtubs, ice cream freezers, pie plates, mop wringers and hundreds of others of such items paved the way for their substantial output when steel, copper and aluminum become available in increased amounts in mid-summer.

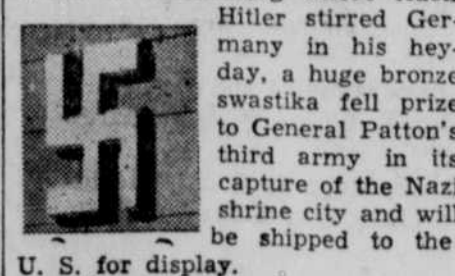
FAIR EMPLOYMENT

Laws designed to prevent discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, or national origin have been passed in New York, New Jersey and Indiana recently.

New Jersey and Utah also enacted more general anti-discriminatory legislation, New Jersey banning racial and religious discrimination in schools, municipal hospitals, hotels and places of entertainment.

PATTON'S PRIZE

Fixed to the rostrum of Luitpold arena in Nuremberg where Adolf Hitler stirred Germany in his heyday, a huge bronze swastika fell prize to General Patton's third army in its capture of the Nazi shrine city and will be shipped to the U. S. for display.



EIRE: Praise for Britain

Although resenting Prime Minister Churchill's criticism of Eire for remaining neutral in the European conflict when her participation would have furnished the Allies with important sea bases, Prime Minister De Valera complimented the British chieftain for not violating the small country's neutrality by force to obtain such advantages.

Declaring that Churchill's restraint "advanced the cause of international morality," De Valera said: "It is indeed fortunate that Britain's necessity did not reach the point when Mr. Churchill would have acted. All credit to him that he successfully resisted the temptation."

But if De Valera had praise for Churchill, he had censure, too. Answering Churchill's declaration that only North Ireland's furnishing of bases prevented British action against Eire itself, De Valera regretted that the Briton had turned to "abusing a people who have done him no wrong, trying to find in a crisis like the present excuse for continuing the injustice of the separation (of the north and south) of our country."

SAVINGS: Over 122 Billion

Standing at over 122 billion dollars, accumulated savings at the end of 1944 showed almost a 150 per cent increase over the year totals before 1938 and indicated financial strength to tide many people over any reconversion stress.

Headed up by an increase of 13 billion dollars in 1944, war bond holdings reached well over 40 billion to represent one-third of the accumulated savings, contrasting with but one-twentieth in 1940.

In rising 23 billion dollars in 1944, substantial accumulations were effected in policy holders' funds behind life insurance, and in accounts in mutual savings and commercial banks, postal savings and savings and loan associations.

Insurance Payments

Approximating 47 per cent of total payments of life insurance companies in 1944, death benefits amounted to \$1,360,972,674 for a new high, the National Underwriter reported.

With total payments reaching \$2,916,720,689, highs were also recorded for matured endowments at \$447,828,401 and annuities at \$198,308,377.

Low since 1929, accidental death benefit claims for the U. S. and Canada in 1944 declined to \$20,356,949.

Rips Hospital Ship



Standing three decks below point where a Jap suicide pilot crash-dived on navy hospital ship "Comfort," Army Nurse Lt. Mary Jensen of San Diego, Calif., views twisted wreckage. Lt. Jensen had stepped from surgery supply room less than minute before it was demolished by explosion.

FARM MACHINERY: Behind Schedule

With production of farm machinery approximately 22 per cent behind schedule farm operators can continue to look forward to tight supplies this year, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago reported.

Because of increased demand for military material last winter and manpower shortages, farm machinery output for 1944-45 dropped 25 per cent behind schedule in the first quarter of July-August-September; 22 per cent behind in the second, and about 20 per cent in the third.

Labor shortages principally have affected production of such necessary parts of equipment as malleable and gray castings, engines, transmissions and forgings, thus reducing over-all output. While some important manufacturers are up to schedule, others are far behind.

Citing the great importance of farm machinery to record-breaking war food production, the reserve bank pointed out that use of mechanized equipment on two and three shifts daily permitted heavy plantings during the last two springs after wet weather delayed normal operations.

RIISING INCOME

Prices received by farmers in the United States for agricultural products rose in April to the highest average for the war period, with the price index based on the 1909-1914 standard of 100, at 203 as compared with the prewar figure of 89 in August, 1939.

The price index in April this year was close to the level reached at the end of the last war while the percentage increase since the present war started was much greater than during the last war.

Washington Digest

Troop Shift to the Pacific Big Job With Human Side

Need to Finish the Fight Against Japanese Prevents Wholesale Release of Vets; Move Will Tax U. S. Shipping.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

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

The American vocabulary has been enriched by a new word which has burdened the notebooks of war department stenographers in Washington for a long time. When I was in San Francisco I saw its meaning graphically illustrated.

The word is "redeployment." No, I didn't make a typographical error. Reemployment we have heard about before. Redeployment is different. And in that word, as in Hauptmann's "tear," can sparkle "all the joy and all the sorrow of the world."

This new word isn't in any dictionary. And in all the echoing acres of the Pentagon I could find no official definition of it but in its current application it simply means shifting a lot of American boys out of the European theater of war where the curtain has gone down. That process is causing many a headache in the Pentagon. It will cause many a heartache at home and abroad. It will cause some happiness, too.

For the boys and the families of the soldiers and sailors who are cast for the second act in the tragedy of World War II (and that is most of them) redeployment means heartaches. For the others it means happiness. But whether they go back to Main street and take up the plowshare or the pen, the hammer or the school book, or whether they go on to fresh battlefields, it is a headache as well as a heartache for the high command.

Heartache, Headache For Officers

Before writing this article I had a long conversation with one of the highest of the high command and I can tell you redeployment is both headache and heartache for him. He and all his officer comrades who have sons and grandsons of their own fighting at the front want their back as much as any rear rank private's mother, dad, sweetheart or wife, wants him.

But few outside those more or less intimately concerned realize the mechanical implications of managing this major migration of history in the moving of more than three million men.

Have you any idea how long the mere physical process of simply loading soldiers, one after another, on ships and sending them back to America would take?

I do not have official figures although they should be released shortly, but I have an estimate on good authority, of the time which would be required to transfer three million men now in Europe across the Atlantic to east coast ports. Assuming that the transport facilities available were devoted exclusively to this mission, perhaps three hundred thousand men a month could be carried home. That would mean that 10 months would be required to transfer them all. And, of course, that is a fantastic supposition, since ships as well as men, are needed in the Pacific and so are ships to carry the endless supplies which the army of the Pacific will require to carry on all-out warfare.

Redeployment, materially and morally, is a tremendous task and, as a result of personal conversations with the top men upon whom its twin burdens rest, I can assure you that the question of morale is, if anything, the greater of the two in their consideration.

There is no question that the suffering and the repercussions of the lengthy separation of young men from their normal life will become greater, now that V-E Day has come and gone. The army high command knows this and that is why so much time has been spent on taking every possible step to minimize the suffering which this slash that cuts across the heartstrings of America's social life, will cause.

I happen to know that busy with the terrific burden of bringing Europe's war to a successful termination and beginning the final portion of chapter two, General Marshall himself for many long months has spent hour after hour of his crowded days and interrupted nights working on this problem.

Another factor is the length of the Pacific "pipe-lines"—the great distances from base to front. The "turn-around" time of the voyage of ships is longer than the voyage to Europe and there must be enough supplies at hand for the troops to cover the period between each delivery.

All this will require continued manufacture by private industry for military use for a long time which means that much longer to wait for final conversion to civilian production.

BARBS . . . by Baukhage

Congress is going to look into the question of sugar being diverted into the manufacture of bootleg whiskey. Meanwhile tipplers say that a lot of sugar is being diverted into alcohol to dilute good whiskey.

The conservative is a man who has something to conserve to which he isn't too sure he has a legal title. A radical is a guy who hopes so.

Everybody Must Play the Game

There are some phases of this shift of our main war effort from one side of the world to the other which many do not realize but for which they must be prepared. In the first place, it will be no easy task for those who have fought the good fight in Europe to be transferred to the Pacific without a chance of furlough in between. Some will have that privilege but not all. And even for the lucky ones the second parting will be hard unless the families play the game.

There is another group who will see America's shore but will not be allowed even to touch American soil. They are the ones who will pass through the Panama canal on a non-stop trip to points in the East. That will be a tough experience to see Old Glory waving from flagstaffs in the Canal Zone and to watch its colors fade in the distance. It simply cannot be helped.

But perhaps, temporarily at least, the hardest test of patience and self-discipline will fall upon those who know that they are to be discharged, but who, because war takes the priority and the fighters must go first, can only sit and wait in Europe.

Aside from the personal anguish which this delay will mean, it is bound to raise a clamor from motives selfish, of those whose economic situation is suffering from the necessary delay in reinforcing our civilian manpower with the soldiers whose services are no longer needed but who cannot be moved back home immediately.

Before General Gregory, in charge of the great housekeeping department of the army, the quartermaster corps, left for France in anticipation of V-E Day, I had a long talk with this gray-haired, fatherly man who is loved by his comrades with a warmth of affection that outgrows the well-earned stars on his shoulder-straps.

When I talked to him about redeployment, although he is responsible for the physical rather than the moral welfare of the soldier, it was of the latter of which he spoke first.

How are the folks at home going to take it? That was the question on his tongue, just as it had been in the minds of the high officers and officials with whom I had talked before.

I learned a lot from General Gregory and his aides about the tremendous industrial effort which it takes to produce what the army wears and eats and with which it is shaved and laved and sheltered. As long as there is a man in uniform he must be fed and clothed and furnished supplies from helmets and raincoats to socks and shorts to say nothing of a thousand odds and ends including writing paper, soap (they have a kind that will serve to wash clothes as well as bodies, and shave with too, and lather in salt water), tobacco, bug-powder, cigarettes, bandages, shoelaces, razor blades, matches . . . ad infinitum.

Thousands of men clad in woollens required by European weather will have to be supplied with cotton for the tropics. Thousands moving from the tropics toward the more northerly latitudes of the Japanese islands and China must have woollens to replace their cottons.

Meanwhile, they will have to continue to wear and to wear out what they now have on.

This is why this new word "redeployment" is not a happy one and why it holds within it so many headaches and so many heartaches which will try the coolest hearts and strain the stoutest hearts.



Hedda Hopper: Looking at HOLLYWOOD

ROBERT CUMMINGS is one man in Hollywood who's not only happy—he's got documents to prove it!

Wherever it is he keeps such things, Cummings has three pieces of paper, all signed and sealed, which would be to any one a reasonable guaranty of happiness.

The first is his newly acquired marriage license, the party of the second part being ex-actress Mary Elliott (ex) because she promised Robert to give up her career when they were married).

That document also is signed by Bob's mother, Mrs. Ruth Cummings, who at 71 is an ordained minister in the Science of Mind church in Los Angeles. Mrs. Cummings performed the wedding service at Mission Inn, Riverside.

The second document is a four-year term contract with the Hal Wallis productions which guarantees Bob the opportunity of reestablishing himself in pictures. The kid's been away from the screen for two years, serving as an air flight instructor with the United States air forces.

He's Got Everything

The third bit of paper is his medical certificate attesting that he passed the air forces' most rigid examination with points to spare—thus Cummings officially is healthy, he's in love, and he's got a good paying job.

"Those papers mean a lot to me," he said, "but they wouldn't guarantee a thing except for my philosophy."

It's a little odd to talk to Bob about philosophy. His words and thoughts just don't seem to fit his face.

At 37 he looks like a college sophomore. He hasn't the sign of a night club bag under his eyes. The make-up man doesn't have to camouflage a network of crow's feet. His voice is pitched in boyish enthusiasm. He even stammers occasionally, when words bottleneck and jam in their eagerness to overflow. He's the type grandmothers describe as "that nice young man!"

On the set of "You Came Along," where Bob is making his screen reappearance for Hal Wallis, Bob's mind took a philosophical turn.

"Tardiness, I think, is the cardinal sin," he said. "People who get a lot of bad breaks usually have only themselves to blame. It's because they're most always a few beats behind the normal rhythm of life, and they get into trouble because they're always hurrying to get caught up."

A simple thing like getting up in the morning a half hour earlier than is necessary, Bob believes, would straighten out most people and change the course of their lives.

It's Worth Trying

"It's this way," Bob explained. "You approach your day unburied. You have the opportunity of planning your course of action. No need to rush and fumble. Each task gets the benefit of your complete mental and physical energy. Your work improves, no matter what it may be. Your projects begin to succeed. The result is that people begin to look at you and say, 'What a lucky guy he is!'"

Bob declares that acting isn't nearly as important to him now as it once was.

"The main reason I'm back in front of the camera now in 'You Came Along' is that the government feels it will aid the war effort, and that's the only kind of pictures I want to appear in for the duration."

Although Bob's contract with Wallis is for four years, he is at liberty to act only by permission of the army air corps, from which he has been granted leave. When the picture is finished he expects to report back for active duty.

It's a far cry from the time when I first saw Bob, then an unknown, working with Deanna Durbin in "Three Smart Girls" at Universal. At that time I saw him in two small scenes, but the kid had something and I wondered where in the world they'd been keeping him all this time. I told Bob that day that he eventually would be making \$4,000 a week. He blushed and laughed it off.

Paraphrasing I might add in a typographical aside, "Bob, I told you so!"

It's Too, Too Bad

Bill Goetz is doing a slow burn over Orson Welles' antics. If Orson doesn't feel like it, he just doesn't show up for work on "Tomorrow Is Forever." His sponsor got fed up. That's why Herbert Marshall is doing "This Is My Best." Three technicians who've been devoted to him walked out on his last show. . . . Charles Koerner seeks the impossible. He's trying to find a young Ronald Colman for "Power of Darkness." Rosalind Russell's next for RKO will be "Sister Kenny."

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

Persons now engaged in essential industry will not apply without statement of availability from their local United States Employment Service.

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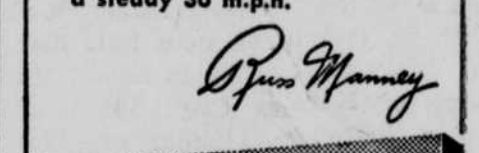
Sweet Potato, Tomato, Cabbage, Kale, Cauliflower, Pepper, Egg Plants, 125 Plants \$1 Postpaid. KEN GELSTEIN, West Point, Nebraska

SNAPPY FACTS about RUBBER

The Flemish word for auto tire is "Snelpaardloosoon-derspoorwespelroostig."

The 1945 government expansion program for increased production of military trucks and bus tires is geared to turn out 21,300 additional tires a day, or 6,000,000 a year. This expansion plus previous expansions should result in the production in 1945 of more than twice as many truck and bus tires as were produced in 1941, and in 1946 about 2 1/2 times the 1941 figure.

A vehicle driven at 50 m.p.h. on average roads wears away 41 per cent more rubber than if it were driven at a steady 30 m.p.h.



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