

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

U. S. and British Teamwork in Tunisia Forces Definite Shift of Nazi Strategy; Moscow-Bryansk Drive Ended; Russia; Fortresses Smash Jap Base at Rabaul

(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.)
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Tokyo's warning to the Japanese people to expect heavy air raids seems well substantiated. Here (left to right) Col. Herbert Morgan, Brig. Gen. Claire L. Chennault, Col. Robert L. Scott Jr. and Col. William E. Basye check a well-thumbed map before their bombers take off from Chinese soil to raid Jap bases in Burma. General Chennault is in command of the American China air task force.

TUNISIA: Big Punch

Working as a team, Allied armies have thrown their big punch at the Axis in Tunisia.

With Allied planes flying over the southern front in waves bombing and strafing the enemy, the British 8th army opened a powerful assault against the Mareth line. Units of this army smashed through the left side of the Axis positions and raced to within 20 miles of Gabes, a vital communications center for the enemy.

At the same time, Lieut. Gen. George Patton led his armored American forces into Maknassy, which stands 20 miles from the Gabes coastal area. Patton's men held their positions despite the fierce counterforce of German dive bombers.

In the welter of fighting, it appeared as though the British were succeeding in herding the Germans back up the coast, while the Americans were driving eastward to cut off the retreat from the rear. Enjoying air superiority, the Allies claim to have bagged 24 Axis planes in the early stages of the fighting to a loss of seven of their own.

KISKA:

Jap Air Base

The silence shrouding Japanese activities on Kiska island in the Aleutians was broken with word of America's stepped-up air offensive designed primarily to prevent the enemy from accomplishing the task of building an air field on the mountainous island base.

Almost three times as many raids were made in March as in February. The Japs are working 24 hours a day to construct a flight strip from which they can operate land planes. Previously such an installation had been considered impossible, due to the rough nature of the land. Construction of the field would permit the Japs to do a much better job of defending Kiska. From there, too, they might try to raid the American base in the Andreanoff islands.

SILENT TREATMENT:

For Argentina

When Vice President Wallace went no further into South America than to Chile, natives of Argentina began to really wake up to the fact that Washington was handing them a good dose of the "silent treatment." Comment on Wallace's trip became general throughout the country and the government went so far as to issue an official explanation—that it had been learned in Washington that Wallace was visiting only the West coast of South America on this trip.

Argentina, major food producing nation, received no mention in plans for the United Nations' forthcoming agricultural conference and this, too, caused wide discussion of America's policy toward the republic.

Citizens of Argentina realize that their government is being handled this way because of its policy of failing to cast in completely with the United Nations in political and military action against the Axis.

DOWN UNDER:

Subs Big Menace

With submarines operating in packs in the North Atlantic, signs pointed early to the opening of the Nazis spring offensive against Allied shipping to the European war fronts.

That the Nazis were concentrating on such an offensive seemed to be borne out by the appointment of Karl Doenitz as commander of the German fleet. Doenitz is a submarine specialist, who has organized the latest technique of operating U-boats in packs.

Thirty-two ships totaling over 200,000 tons were sunk in a recent convoy, the Nazis said. The Allies did not confirm the claim, but survivors from a late North Atlantic convoy said their losses were heavy, although partly compensated by damage to the attacking undersea horde.

The Nazis are said to have 500 subs, with at least a third in action at one time. The practice of operating the submarines in packs under one experienced commander, relieves the necessity for training individual commanders. In the new technique, U-boats attack their prey from both sides of the convoy.

Construction of a fast destroyer escort by the U. S. is expected to assist in running down subs. Volume production of these escorts will allow the navy to use them as the Nazis use their U-boats, that is, in packs. Building also has been speeded on small auxiliary aircraft carriers to permit planes to take off at sea and maintain close patrol over convoys at all times.

RATIONING:

Juggling Act

Almost all the items that go into the American market basket are now regulated under the rationing system and the job of juggling points to insure a proper diet is as an important job for the housewife as is juggling the dollars in the family's grocery budget.

When meat, butter, cheese, shortening, lard and margarine joined the foods brought under the point system the full force of war hit the nation's dinner table. OPA indicated that with the 16 points allotted

RATION DATES

April 12—Expiration date for Period 4 fuel-oil coupons.
April 25—Last valid date for stamp No. 26, good for one pound of coffee.
May 21—Last day on which Coupon 5 in "A" gas ration book is valid.
May 31—Last day for use of stamp No. 12, good for five pounds of sugar.
June 15—Last valid date for stamp No. 17, good for one pair of shoes.
Sept. 30—Expiration date for Period 5 fuel-oil coupons.

each week during the first weeks for these items would provide approximately these amounts:

1. Meat—Slightly under two pounds.
2. Butter—About 1/4 pound.
3. Cheese—About 1.7 ounces.
4. Shortening—About 3 ounces.
5. Lard—About 1/4 pound.
6. Margarine—About 1.2 ounces.

Officials reported that in general the attitude to this almost complete rationing of foodstuffs was good. Most Americans realize, it was pointed out, that rationing is the safest way to insure adequate supplies for the armed forces and our allies as well as insure equitable distribution of what is left for the home front.

VIEWPOINTS:

Death, Dust, Ashes

A quiet confidence ran through Prime Minister Winston Churchill's recent speech when he warned the British that it may take two more years to crush Hitler "and his evil powers of evil into death, dust and ashes."

That was Churchill's warning to those people who believe that the war already is won. "I am not able to share those sanguine hopes and my earnest advice to you is . . . not to take your eye off the ball even for a moment."

In a speech both grave and optimistic, Churchill asserted that after Germany is beaten the Allies would turn immediately to "punish the greedy, cruel empire of Japan." The prime minister proposed post-war councils of the Allied nations to insure peace, and drew a hopeful picture of social and economic post-war planning.

Meanwhile, another voice was heard—this one from Berlin. It was the voice of Adolf Hitler, rumored to be dead, ill or insane. Emerging from months of seclusion, Hitler admitted that German soil has become a war zone, but boasted that the eastern front crisis has been overcome and that the German nation was moving toward "success until final victory."

WARNING:

Broadcasts from Tokyo are warning the Japanese people to expect air raids over Japan and increasing submarine attacks upon shipping. A war review broadcast said "the enemy is still continuing air raids on our forces. The American planes in China will be further strengthened and therefore the enemy hopes to carry out raids over Japan . . . The enemy is using her submarines in the hope of destroying our supply lines . . . We must build more ships to replace our lost ships."

LIVE AND LET LIVE: "Live and let live" must be the world's motto for the future, Mme. Chiang Kai-shek told 23,000 people in Chicago's stadium. Although the League of Nations failed, she said, concerted action will be necessary for the reconstruction and preservation of peace in the post-war period. Mme. Kai-shek called war the "acme of human folly."

Washington Digest

Results Justify Expenses Of Overseas Propaganda

Axis Has Employed Elaborate Means to Get Its Views Across to Neutral Nations; U. S. Must Use Press and Radio.

By BAUKHAGE

News Analyst and Commentator.

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

The other day, Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, held a press conference. He opened it with the remark that we were witnessing an Uncle Tom's Cabin without the Simon Legree. I didn't get the significance of the remark until Davis explained that Representative Tabor, who charged Mr. Davis with using the Office of War Information to distribute propaganda for a fourth term, had been invited to share the conference but had other duties.

Obviously, the purpose of the meeting was to show how the money for the publication of propaganda was being spent and a good deal of time was taken up on comparative costs of British, American and Axis propaganda efforts. If the OWI carries out present plans, it will be spending at the rate of 45 millions of dollars by the end of the year.

Britain, with its separate ministry of information, is spending much more than we are—Germany probably four or five times as much. That's a rough estimate. But the figures didn't interest me so much and I'll tell you why. I had come to the meeting a little early and had been studying the array of literature—arranged on two tables—the American and the Axis propaganda material. There were handsome publications like the German magazines "Signal," "Berlin-Rome-Tokyo," and Japan's "Nippon." "Signal" costs 75 cents a copy to produce—the art work in all of them must make "Esquire" and "Fortune" envious. There were tiny pamphlets—these were American—they could slip into your hat band. The OWI's masterpiece is "Victory" which was the target of congressional attack—it isn't so bad in comparison with the expensive Axis magazines but it costs only 35 cents to produce.

Three things struck me as a result of the conference: first, if there is an even chance of obtaining the results expected, the investment is not worth quibbling about; second, since Davis admits that material got into the Roosevelt sketch which should not have and won't again, we either ought to take Davis' judgment or else fire him. Thirdly, the public hasn't had a chance to know what the propaganda is all about and the criticism of one phase of it utterly distorts the general picture of the function, purpose and value of the OWI effort.

In the first place, these publications under consideration are not for our troops abroad or our people at home—though I believe they ought to be given some circulation here simply so that their function is understood, at least when it is compatible with the confidential nature of some of the means of distribution in enemy countries. It is accepted as the duty and function for one political party to do all it can to discredit the leaders of the other party—according to the rules of the game of politics—but, as Davis quoted the Baltimore Sun, you have to exploit your personalities. People mean a lot more than mere ideas when you are trying to make an impression. Roosevelt can be played up as a powerful symbol to people abroad without affecting the political situation at home. That was done effectively in the case of Woodrow Wilson in the last war, his picture was worshiped all over Europe, as the symbol of the leader of a nation coming to liberate them. But when he came home, he couldn't sell his program to the American people.

Self Allied Cause
I tried to find out what the objective of the OWI was, whether it could show any results.

Purpose one is counter-attack. We know what German propaganda has done, first in softening countries about to be invaded; second, to keep neutrals leaning Nazi-ward. OWI wants to fight fire with fire.

The second purpose is the same as the first and more of it—not merely to nullify enemy effort but to sell the prospect the idea that America can win and is winning the war and that American victory will be a greater selfish advantage to the prospect than a Nazi victory would be.

How about results? That is pretty hard to reduce to statistics or even concrete statements. We know some Japs have surrendered with our propaganda leaflets in their hands. We know that leaflets dropped over occupied countries or pamphlets smuggled in have started people talking. OWI has reports to this effect. They say that this means that the idea has been spread that America is in touch with the people within the occupied territory.

We know that some of these pamphlets have been photostated or copied in others and given further distribution. It was stated that these copies or excerpts from them have even been circulated in prison camps.

We know that from four to six clandestine newspapers are made up chiefly from Allied propaganda material.

Of course, by no means all of the OWI propaganda is spread through publications. In fact, the radio broadcasts represent the greater part of the expenditure.

OWI is confident that this radio propaganda is not wasted as has been charged although it is admitted that the listening audience is being cut down as short-wave sets are seized or wear out and the depreciation is heavy. On the other hand, it is known that the radio broadcasts are repeated—by word of mouth and in clandestine pamphlets and newspapers.

The chief evidence that propaganda is reaching into Germany comes from two sources: first, the speeches of Goebbels and other German leaders who warn against black listening—warning not to believe the foreign propaganda—and, second, the records of trials of persons arrested for this black listening.

Effective in Turkey

It is stated that American propaganda has been effective in Turkey because Turks believe it whereas they have caught the Axis in too many lies. Since publications printed in Turkish are still forbidden to be sent into Turkey, the printing sent in is in French or English.

In Spain, it is said that in spite of strong handicaps—that is, the power of the Falangist party which is openly pro-Axis—American propaganda has curtailed this power, has swung many people from a pro-Axis to a pro-Ally attitude. The persecution of the Catholic church in Germany has been used effectively in Spain.

Of course, this isn't the whole story of propaganda. All is fair in love and war and some pretty precarious tight-rope walking is sometimes done—witness democracy's tete-a-tete with Darlan which history will probably disclose was less a desertion of democratic political methods than waiving of the Queensberry rules of gallant combat. We can't expect the Allies to show their hands to the enemy and there is no use disturbing the squeamish by revealing the possible although not entirely immaculate condition which might arise from grappling with an especially noisome enemy.

What Davis did not go into at this meeting was the question of enemy propaganda directed toward us. That is a very delicate matter and sometimes governments are willing to give the enemy credit for the circulation of certain sentiments expressed by people who are just mad at their own public servants and are exercising the inherent right of grousing.

As I said before, I am much more interested in whether the propaganda job we are doing is effective. As to getting in puffs for the party in power, that is up to the party out of power to stop but one of the inescapable advantages of being an "in" in wartime is that you can squelch some opposition on the ground of patriotism. On the other hand, there was never an administration yet that wasn't thrown out after a war so there is some compensation—furthermore, the party of the opposition doesn't share the blame for the mistakes.

Now that Governor Bricker has announced that he expects the Ohio delegation will support him as a favorite son candidate for the presidency, politics will be raising its lovely head in every headline.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

China has received \$157,000,000 of assistance from America.

Seventy thousand letters dumped into the Tagus river when the Yankee Clipper crashed recently at Lisbon finally reached London, a sodden mass, but were salvaged. Most were addressed to American soldiers. Officials estimated that 95 per cent reached their destination.

It costs the treasury an average of about \$2.50 each to "process" an income tax return. The department expects that the new taxes will bring in 8,500,000 new returns.

The four-masted steel bark, Foz De Dour, will carry a cargo of more than 200,000 American Red Cross food parcels for U. S. prisoners of war in enemy countries.



Farm Topics

Horse in Need of Conditioning Now

Important Factors In Care of Horses

Since the horse has returned to stay—for the duration at least—farmers should start now if they want to put their animals into top condition before spring work begins.

According to the department of animal pathology and hygiene at the University of Illinois college of agriculture, good feeding is essential, but consideration should also be given to methods of ridding horses of internal parasites. Bots live in the stomach, while roundworms, strongyles and other parasites live in the small and large intestine and, during certain stages of development, in the other body tissues.

The best time to treat horses for parasites is during the winter months. Carbon disulphide is effective in ridding horses of bots and



Randolph Shell pours seed peanuts into a planter on his father's farm near Littleton, N. C.

roundworms. Phenothiazine, the drug now so widely used for the control of internal parasites of sheep, is particularly effective in removing strongyles from the digestive tract.

There is, however, an element of danger in the treatment of horses for parasites. Such matters as correct dosage and methods of administration, as well as care given before and after treatment, require the skill and judgment of a veterinarian. A few farmers have used parasite control measures upon advice of a veterinarian for many years.

Two other things, trimming the feet and removing sharp corners from the teeth, should be taken care of before horses are harnessed for field work. These jobs can be done at the same time the horses are given treatment for parasites.

Agriculture in Industry

By FLORENCE C. WEED

Hardwoods

At the U. S. Forest Products laboratory at Madison, Wis., new wood uses have been uncovered which have been adopted by industry. Among these are wood plastics, made by heating millwaste with acids which convert it into a molding powder for floor tiles and switchboard panels.

Corrugated board for shipping containers is made from chestnut chips discarded after tannin is extracted. Black jack oak and red gum may be substituted as chestnut wood disappears through disease.

Over 200 recent buildings have utilized glued and laminated structural beams and arches which are made from cheap, low-grade small-sized boards put together under pressure. Prefabricated houses are being marketed with panels for walls, floors and roofs made from plywood glued to light frame.

Strong papers are being made for wrapping from maple, birch and aspen. Cellophane is made from pulped wood, treated chemically to convert it into jelly. This is filtered through narrow slits to become transparent sheets.

At a California lumber mill, red wood sawdust, chips and shavings are compacted under pressure into small logs sold for fireplaces, dining cars and ship galleys. Shredded redwood bark, known as Palco wool, is being marketed for insulation. When finished, it is a fluffy material resembling a mass of red hair.

More Farm Machinery

Success in meeting farm production goals for 1943 will be dependent to a great extent upon getting the last possible ounce of help from machinery. Every piece of power farm equipment should be given a general overhauling to make certain it will be ready to operate when needed. Efforts also should be made to make community work schedules for tools which will not be used full-time on the farms of their owners. All this will help our war effort.

U. S. Steel Reports 1942 Production 28 Per Cent Greater Than World War I Peak

United States Steel Corporation's Annual Report for 1942, reporting attainment of a steel ingot tonnage production 28 per cent greater than in the peak year of World War I, has just been released as "a production story—and a financial story—of a great war effort." Production by U. S. Steel in 1942 of more than 30,000,000 net tons of ingots as well as the manufacture of a steady flow of products entering into thousands of items used in prosecuting the war were described by Irving S. Olds, Chairman of the Board of Directors, in his review of the year contained in the Corporation's forty-first annual report.

The victory parade of steel ingots was listed as only one of several principal contributions U. S. Steel made to the war effort. These contributions were enumerated as follows: "First, a record volume of steel and other materials needed not only for the fabrication of essential war products but also for the creation of new facilities to make such war products has been produced. Second, the technical ability representing many decades of accumulated research and experience has been made available for the requirements of the government. Third, the construction and operation of vast new facilities for the government in connection with the war effort have been undertaken. Fourth, millions of dollars of U. S. Steel's funds have been expended for various facilities contributory to the war effort."

A one-page condensation of the financial record of the Corporation for the year describes in simple language what disposition was made of the \$1,865,551,692 received by the Corporation from sales of its products and services during 1942. Employment costs of \$783 million in 1942 were 25% greater than for the previous year. 1942 taxes of \$204 million were 21% more than in the preceding year; while dividends to stockholders remained unchanged. The amount carried forward for future needs of the Corporation was 78% less than in 1941.

Among achievements cited is the development of the airplane landing mat. The serious problem of handling plane landings on hastily built air fields was solved with the war-time invention by Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation, a U. S. Steel subsidiary, of a landing mat, consisting of portable interlocking steel sections. It was pronounced the outstanding development of the year in the field of aviation by the Chief of the Army Air Force. As mass production methods were evolved, other companies were licensed to use the process, and thirty smaller manufacturers are now producing these landing mat sections in quantity.

The report reveals that in 1942 one subsidiary, Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, completed more destroyers for the Navy Department in shorter building time than any other shipyard in the country. A new shipyard built by this subsidiary for the Navy Department began operations five months after ground was broken. A fully equipped shipyard for the production of the latest type of tank landing craft was constructed and is being operated for the Navy Department by American Bridge Company, another subsidiary.

An interesting comparison of the use of U. S. Steel's own resources and of Government funds for the expansion of emergency facilities undertaken by U. S. Steel from June, 1940, to the end of 1942, shows that the ratio of U. S. Steel's investment to the use of Government funds was 65c of its own money to every dollar of Government funds used. This compares with a ratio for all industry of 27c of private funds to one dollar of Government funds. In this expansion program, U. S. Steel's private investment was \$322,000,000, as compared with \$438,000,000 of Government funds expended, making a total of \$718,000,000 expended in the program.—Adv.

Pidgin English
"Pidgin English" is a mixture of English and Chinese, but also refers to any similar jargon.

Nautical Mile
Your automobile runs 35 miles an hour (under war-time speed limits)—if you have gas and tires. That kind of a mile is a statute mile, or land mile, equal to 5,280 feet. A ship's speed is expressed in knots. A knot is not a unit of distance; it is a unit of speed, equivalent loosely to one nautical mile per hour. A nautical mile is equal to 6,880 feet, nearly one-sixth more than a statute mile. When a ship's speed is 30 knots (a very high speed at sea) it means the ship is traveling 30 nautical miles per hour—or, roughly 34½ land miles per hour.

Disposition Helps Allergy
"The exact mode of inheritance of allergy has been in dispute for years," the Journal of the American Medical Association says in answer to an inquiry. "All investigators, however, agree that no single allergic disease is transmitted as such. That which is transmitted is the predisposition to allergic conditions—the tendency to become hypersensitive. The actual appearance of hypersensitivity depends mainly on environmental factors."

Vitamin B Gives Lift
Men, women and children who need a lift which is not to be followed by a headache had better check up on their consumption of vitamin B. Laziness, predisposition to hysterics, grouchy and other mental disorders are accentuated by lack of vitamin B. Most foods contain some of this vitamin but only a few of them are really good sources. Doctors and nutrition experts agree that it is better to get the needed supply of vitamins from food than from pills, and it is also cheaper. Foods which are rich in vitamin B include lean pork, liver and other meat organs, whole grains, dried beans and peas, soybeans, and nuts, particularly peanuts.

Devise Alcohol Plant
Using broken-down railroad tank cars for cookers, scouring junk yards and salvage heaps for odds and ends of usable equipment, turning scraps into piping, controls and all the multitude of mechanical contrivances that make up an alcohol plant, are all part of the latest war production story to come to light. There was no new plant equipment available and the plant had to be up and running in the shortest possible time. Only \$2,400 of original equipment was used in building this plant.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

FISHERY TREATY: Russia and Japan are still haggling over renewal of the 1942 fishing treaty, giving the Japs free movement in the waters off Siberia. The treaty is of military ally her to operate a weather station on the Kamchatka peninsula, which allows an accurate gauge of atmospheric conditions in the Bering sea.