

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Strongly Intrenched Nazi Divisions Lock Allies in Hand-to-Hand Combat As Cost of Italian Invasion Mounts; Germans Continue Retreat in Russia

(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.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.



Field pieces like this 105 mm. gun were instrumental in battering the Japanese defenses at fallen Salamaua, New Guinea. Manning the gun are Private George Basmajian (left background) of Fresno, Calif.; Private Glenn Hood, (center) Marrilton, Ark.; and Private Henry Garcia, (right) Eaton, Colo.

ITALY:

Bloody Fighting

Twenty miles of beach below Salerno, where American troops first set foot on the European mainland, was a raging inferno, with battle-hardened German troops fighting to throw the Allies back into the sea.

Streaming ashore from their barges with supplies speedily unloaded, Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth Army of American, British and Canadian troops ran into a stout German defense that made good use of the unfavorable terrain.

High in the hills above the beaches, the Germans 88-mm. artillery poured fire all along the landing strip; nestled behind orange and apple trees, and hidden in the tall sweet corn, their machine gunners worked, and summing up all of their experience, their panzer divisions stabbed into our lines, exposing the backs of the infantry turning to meet the attack to their rifle fire.

But in bloody fighting, the Allied units struggled bitterly to hold their ground, throwing their own tank divisions against the Germans, and locking in hand-to-hand combat with the enemy when he drove to the beaches. One-hundred miles to the south, the British Eighth army beat forward in an effort to join with the sorely pressed Fifth army.

Restore Il Duce

Whisked from a mountainous plateau east of Rome by German paratroopers, according to a romantic dispatch from Hitler's headquarters, stubby, grizzled Benito Mussolini, architect of Fascism, was reinstated in northern Italy to try to rebuild the broken ruins of his edifice.

As Mussolini assumed the task of heading a national government which the Germans set up in his name, the Duce's tough old Fascist militia reappeared in their black shirts on the streets of Italy's northern cities, and re-established themselves in control.

Once the most popular man in Italy, Mussolini's first acts were reported to be abrogation of Marshal Badoglio's unconditional surrender to the Allies as it might affect that part of the country under his dominance, and dissolution of the monarchy, with which he faithfully cooperated until it broke his power.

PORK:

Production High

With a hog population of over 100 million for the year, pork production is expected to approximate 12 billion pounds for the 12 months ending next June 30.

Of the 12 billion pounds, between 7 and 8 billion are to be allotted to civilians. The army will receive 1 billion and the remainder is marked for our Allies, notably Great Britain and Russia.

Some effect on total pork production is expected as a result of the government's support of prime light weights in an effort to conserve scarce feed supplies, and the \$14.75 ceiling, Chicago basis, recently established.

Willed \$72,000,000

On September 28, Marshall Field III, grandson of Chicago's pioneer merchant prince, will be 50 years old. On that day, he will receive the residue of his illustrious grandfather's estate, amounting to approximately \$72,000,000.



Added to about \$93,000,000 previously obtained under the terms of the will, the September 28 bequest will make Field one of the richest men in the United States. He is the father of five children.

Through investments made by trustees of the estate, Field will have an interest in such outstanding Chicago realty enterprises as the 44-story Field skyscraper; the 38-story Pittsfield building, and the 22-story Conway structure. Through Field's own initiative, the trustees also erected the 600-family Garden Apartments on Chicago's near North side, in one of the first slum-clearance projects in the country.

DADS' DRAFT: Seek Others First

While congress sought to untangle the complicated manpower situation state draft boards were ordered to make an extensive inventory of all available single and childless married men to assure their induction before fathers.

Under the order, all of a state's available single and childless married men will be pooled as a whole and will be drafted before fathers. Quotas of individual boards will be suspended, so that those with more men available will be able to go over their allotments, while those with less, will be allowed to fall under.

Congressional demands for the postponement of the fathers' draft inspired efforts for a general investigation of the whole manpower situation, to determine approximate military and industrial needs.

Employment Drops

In the face of the demand for congressional action on the manpower situation, the department of labor reported total non-farm employment in August at 38,295,000, a drop of 88,000 from July.

For the first time since the wartime shipbuilding program was inaugurated, employment dropped in the shipyards. Heavier declines were recorded in the construction and service industries.

In war industry as a whole, employment increased 29,000. Approximately 9,000 less workers were reported in non-manufacturing fields.

According to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, men workers during the next few months will no more than replace those entering the armed services and auxiliaries. However, she said, many can be switched to war production from less essential industry.

BANKS:

Double U. S. Holdings

Federal Reserve member banks held 44 1/2 billion dollars of government obligations, June 30, almost double the amount of a year ago.

At the same time, it was announced that interest rates on short term commercial paper rose to an average of 3 per cent, compared with 2 7/8 in March.

On June 30, total loans and investments of the banks amounted to more than 67 billion dollars, approximately 20 billion dollars more than a year ago.

WORLD COURT: Proposed by Hull

Submission of all international problems for arbitration and the use of force to check aggression were proposed by Secretary of State Cordell Hull for maintenance of world peace.



Cordell Hull

For problems of a political character, Hull advocated the establishment of agencies which would mediate the various differences. For problems of a legal nature, he suggested creation of a World Court, operating on principles of law.

"But to assure peace," Hull declared, "there must be means for restraining aggressors. The peacefully inclined nations must be willing to accept responsibility for this task in accordance with their respective capacities."

Although each nation has its own peculiar interests, it still has enough in common with other countries to fight for maintenance of peace, Hull said.

BOOTLEGGING:

With bonded liquor scarce and subject to high federal, state and local taxes, the bootlegger is coming back, asserts M. L. Curtis, president of the National Alcoholic Beverage Control association, and a member of the Iowa state liquor commission.

The situation threatens to create a "bootleggers' paradise," said Mr. Curtis. The old-time bootlegger is already offering "hooch" at bargain prices, he said.

Washington Digest

Tripartite Picture Clearer Since Meeting in Quebec

U. S., England, Russia Agreed on Fundamental Policies; Observers Optimistic Concerning War, Post-War Cooperation.



By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

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

The ink is now dry on the secret footnotes which appear in the memoranda officially recorded after the long and quiet conversations which took place in the presidential study in the White House when the Allied strategists worked out the end of another chapter in the history of World War II.

My own modest notations, scribbled on the backs of envelopes, and on scratch pads, and written in taxicabs, leaning against a White House elm after a press and radio conference, taken down while the President or other officials were speaking, make a clearer pattern.

Words and phrases take on new meanings, rough sketches are filled out in revealing detail.

The speculation, the criticism, the attacks and the apologies which swirled about the Allied policy toward Russia, for instance, it is plain now was built mostly on half knowledge.

While press and public were crying for a tripartite meeting of the representatives of Russia, Britain and the United States, the arrangements for a whole series of meetings were already being made. It was not until almost the end of the Roosevelt-Churchill visit that we learned, first, that the tripartite meetings "on the foreign minister level" had been definitely agreed upon and, second, (which no one then guessed) that a commission was to be formed of representatives of all three powers to discuss the situation arising out of the Allied victories in the Mediterranean in which Russia is so deeply concerned but which, militarily speaking, she has been forced to view from a distance.

When we received that news, we were unable to indicate its source.

The Darlan Question

Another source of bitter controversy which has been allowed to fester was cleared up at the same time. Certain groups in England and America from the very beginning violently objected to the choice of Darlan as the man with whom the Allies dealt in North Africa. There have been two revelations on that score which, had they come earlier, might have cleared the air.

One concerns the Russian attitude—and the Russians certainly ought to lean as far to the left as anyone. It now seems that the Soviet leaders, frankly opposed to Darlan and all he stood for, actually accepted the British and American policy on the basis of an old Russian saying that in matters of military strategy—or comparable situations—it is sometimes necessary to deal with the devil and his grandmother.

A word from the chief of staff revealed in his annual report to the secretary of war is interesting in this connection. He says of the diplomatic preparation before the invasion of Africa: "Should an approach be made to a single Frenchman who proved unsympathetic to our purpose, we risked the slaughter of our soldiers on the beaches of North Africa as well as decisive losses to our shipping... unexpectedly, Admiral Jean Darlan, Petain's designated successor, and commander-in-chief of all French forces, was found to be in Algiers visiting his sick son when our forces landed. He was taken into protective custody and when it was found that French leaders stood loyal to the Vichy government, a series of conferences immediately followed with the purpose of calling a halt to the French resistance against General Patton's task force in the vicinity of Casablanca."

Then, on the morning of November 11, the Germans invaded France and Darlan obligingly rejected the pseudo-independent Vichy government and assumed authority in North Africa in the name of Marshal Petain and ordered the French to cease all hostilities.

Just what pressure or argument was used in getting Darlan to yield to Allied wishes has never been revealed or what his motives may have been—they may indeed have been prompted by the devil or his grandmother—but those who knew the inside military expediency, did

not quarrel with his action. Death took Darlan from the picture. It did not end the arguments, but since we know now that the head of the Communist state of Russia was able to swallow Darlan, the squeamishness of some of the critics seems a little far fetched.

In the days that followed the recall of the Soviet ambassadors to London and Washington, the outcry over the absence of Stalin at Quebec increased. Roosevelt, Churchill and Secretary Hull were blamed—there was the blow-up over the charges by a columnist who said Hull was anti-Russian.

I talked with Secretary Hull about that time. Whatever his feelings may be regarding communism, he indicated from his remarks to me that Russia was looking sympathetically on the attempts at a joint conference, and a few days later, a high British source stated flatly there was no great divergence of views between the Soviets and the Allies.

Both were thoroughly agreed on the necessity of the destruction of Nazi tyranny and Prussian militarism, and it was revealed that Marshal Stalin was rising in prestige with the army and that the Soviet army was rising in prestige with the Russian people until it was already on a level with the communist party itself. This seemed to indicate, as Captain Rickenbacker said when he returned from Russia, that the ideologies of the policies and the capitalist nations were growing nearer.

Today, as Washington looks back on this last visit of Prime Minister Churchill, there is a feeling that not only are Britain and the United States closer in both their war and their post-war aims, but that the possibility of bringing the Soviets into the circle is greater. One reason for this is that certain problems on which there has been disagreement have been met and thrashed out successfully between Roosevelt and Churchill and the way is open to a much more extended discussion with Stalin's representatives.

Meanwhile, the position of Secretary Hull, within the administration, has been greatly strengthened as one after another, he has taken over the functions of all agencies which have any dealings whatsoever with foreign countries. He has placed the question frankly before the President who had to choose between his secretary of state and those who opposed him inside and outside of the state department.

Hull's Position Secretary Hull's position is this: the policies which I have sponsored and insisted upon have justified themselves. Either my department must have full authority in the field of foreign relations or I will hand in my portfolio.

The President faces, first, a congress which has had time to think over its position, has heard the complaints and received the advice of its constituents. It returns determined to imprint its will on national policy, foreign and domestic. Its texture is and has been for some time strongly away from the so-called new-deal policies, strongly toward the conservative side. Secretary Hull probably stands higher, has more friends, and can exert more influence with congress than any member of the cabinet. The President needs a congress which will stand behind him if he is to carry out the plans for further conduct of the war and the winning of the peace according to methods he believes it is necessary to employ.

And, of course, there is the fourth term ahead, for continuance in office is essential, the President's friends believe, if he is to mold the post-war world.

Secretary Hull is his anchor to windward. This is due to his political influence and also because he and what he symbolizes both at home and abroad, have become inextricably bound up in world negotiations.

And for the President, there is but one objective now—that is, to be the peacemaker as he was the war leader. All else—choice of counsellors, domestic policies, must dovetail into that purpose.



1944 Production Goal 5% Above This Year's

Farmers Must Plant 380 Million Acres

Record acreages of soybeans, dry beans and peanuts harvested in 1943 will be topped in 1944 if national requirements for these crops are met, according to War Food administration reports. Special emphasis will be placed on these foods, as well as on cereals, dry peas, potatoes, canning crops, and flax and feed crops in planning new seedings.

Farmers are expected to plant a total of 380 million acres, or 5 per cent more than in 1943, with largest increases on peanuts, dry peas and wheat. A national planting of 68 million acres has already been asked on wheat, 26 per cent more than in 1943.

Peanuts and dry peas will probably be up as much as 30 per cent, and increases for dry beans and soybeans may be 14 to 18 per cent.



A Connecticut farmer and his committeeman discuss production problems. These committeemen are farmers themselves, elected by their neighbors in each county. Their job is to work with the Agricultural Adjustment agency and other government agencies in giving advice and assistance to the nation's food producers. Committeemen can be helpful in obtaining priority ratings on machinery and building materials, in getting loans, or in hiring farmhands.

or more, above the current harvested acreage, it is announced. Both types of potatoes, regular and sweet, will be stepped up with corn showing a small increase.

Hemp and flax, it is pointed out, although not food crops are of first importance to the war. Hemp for rope and flax for oilseed are in the front line of every battle.

Feed crops will receive emphasis because of increased needs for more livestock, and the importance of maintaining production of eggs and milk at the level of 1943, or raising output on both commodities. Considerably more beef and veal will be sought in 1944, but pork production is not expected to exceed 1943 by more than a few per cent. The development of the 1944 livestock program will depend in large measure on the feed yields from 1943 crops. Extension of pasture will be urged to relieve this feed shortage.

All idle land should be planted to some cover crop such as alfalfa, clover, or some cereal grain. Rye and some varieties of wheat serve well as over-the-winter coverage. This policy also returns needed minerals to the soil.

Planted acreage should be expanded without plowing up land which should be kept in grass. Using idle crop land, out of production in recent years, and speeding up the cycle of crop rotation on farms where it is feasible are the answer, according to Marvin Jones, WFA administrator. He also pointed out that sound farming methods must be employed to insure high yields over a period of years, since food demands will continue to be heavy for a long period to come.

The War Food administration will continue its program of support prices to establish desirable price relationships, it is announced, making it easier to obtain adequate increases in most needed crops and generally to balance total production.

In determining crop emphasis, farmers even in the principal wheat states of the Great Plains have been asked to give priority to dry beans, potatoes, flax and grain sorghums in some areas. First call in the Pacific Northwest is also for dry peas, dry beans, canning crops and potatoes. Soybeans, corn, dry beans, potatoes, flax and canning crops will be emphasized in the Corn Belt and Lake states. Larger wheat acreages than this year will be needed in the Southern and Eastern states to supply local food and feed needs.

Boron—Deficient Soil Revealed by Turnips

Boron, like nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, must be present in soil if plants are to grow satisfactorily, says Eldrow Reeve, graduate fellow in soils and plant physiology at Rutgers university. Often a few cents worth of boron will make a field several times more productive.

A good way to detect boron deficiency is through turnips and rutabagas. If they show dark brown splotches the soil is boron-deficient.

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Has 42 Degrees Dr. Frank P. Graves, former commissioner of education for New York state, holds 42 college degrees, the last received from the Albany Law school when he was graduated in 1942.

Olivia de HAVILLAND star of the Warner Bros. picture, "Strawberry Blonde," recommends CALOX Tooth Powder for teeth that shine. TOOTH POWDER

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HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

EXCHANGED: According to a roundabout statement from Tokyo, the exchange ship Teia Maru has sailed from Yokohama with 1,250 American civilians, bound for Mormugao, Portuguese India. The Gripsholm left New York on September 2, carrying 1,330 Japanese to the same port, where an exchange will be effected, it has been reported.

SHEEP: The largest run of sheep since 1921 passed through the Omaha livestock market recently, when 48,000 animals were sold. Dealers attribute the large influx principally to fear of ranchers in the West that they cannot find sufficient herders to tend the sheep over the winter, condition of range pastures also were said to be about 83%.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

It is estimated that enough waste fats are salvaged in army camps within the continental U. S. to make 1,500,000 pounds of dynamite each month, and still leave a residue of rendered grease for soap stock.

Christmas gifts to naval and marine personnel overseas should be sent between September 15 and November 1.

Japanese occupation authorities who still haven't succeeded in pacifying the Philippines have decided to send out roving teams of public speakers in an attempt to explain Japan's "true mission" to misguided Filipinos, Manila radio disclosed.

Bus lines in Washington, D. C., and Los Angeles, Calif., are running their "help wanted" ads on buses.