

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Yanks Advance on Two Fronts As German Resistance Stiffens; B-29s Blast Steel Mills in Japan

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Top American military leaders are pictured during their visit to the Normandy beachhead. Left to right: facing camera, Adm. Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the United States fleet; Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the army; Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander, and Rear Adm. Alan G. Kirk.

THE INVASION: Steady Progress

Supported by the greatest air fleets in battle history, Allied forces continued to expand their beachhead area in Normandy in the face of stiffening resistance on many fronts.

U. S. forces to the northeast of Cherbourg surged past Montebourg, which was still being contested, and captured Quineville on the east coast of the Cherbourg peninsula. Hammering to the west across the peninsula on a 10-mile front, the Yanks met stiff resistance from crack grenadiers of the fifth German tank division thrown into the Normandy fighting.

A communique from General Eisenhower's headquarters said that steady progress had been made west of Carentan across the base of the Cherbourg peninsula and between the Elbe and Vire rivers toward St. Lo, key junction 15 miles southeast of Carentan.

Battle Westward

All along a 10-mile front, units of the American Fourth division and the 29th Air-Borne division were battling westward against strong resistance in a drive to pinch off the peninsula, and with it the prize port of Cherbourg.

Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel had thrown approximately 700 tanks into the fighting on the eastern sector and appeared to be using far more infantry than the German command intended to use for the defense of one comparatively small section of the invasion coast.

Despite early successes on the invasion front, a word of warning came from Secretary of War Stimson who said that Allied troops in Normandy soon must face fiercer counter-blow "than any we have ever met." At the same time he predicted they would smash ahead until France is liberated and Germany crushed.

While the troops on the Normandy coast were fighting off the German counter-attacks on land, residents of England itself were dealt a serious "anti-invasion blow" when a fantastic stream of pilotless Nazi bombers rained fire and explosives across the island. This was Hitler's long-awaited "secret weapon" and no attempt was made by the British authorities to minimize the effectiveness of these robot, radio-controlled bombing plane attacks.

CONVENTIONS: In Chicago

As the advance guard of the Republican party convention delegates began arriving in Chicago, political dopesters had all but awarded the Presidential nomination to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, but friends of Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio would not let their candidate be counted out without a battle. They said that the contest for the nomination would go to the convention floor.

Bricker sources could not see a first-ballot victory for Dewey. However, the New York governor entered the convention with more delegates actually pledged to him than any other candidate, including Governor Bricker.

Officials in charge of arrangements for the Chicago meeting revealed that the candidate selected would probably make his acceptance speech from the convention floor on the day after his nomination.

Meanwhile the Democrats announced that Gov. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma would keynote their convention scheduled for July 19, also in Chicago.

PRICE CONTROL: Parity for Farmers

Under terms of the bill extending the price control machinery of OPA as passed by the House, processors who fail to pay a parity price for any farm commodity would be allowed to charge only 90 per cent of the OPA ceiling for the finished article.

(Parity is a price calculated to make farm purchasing power equal to that prevailing from 1909 to 1914.)

Farm leaders had the support of the administration in putting through the measure in this form after the controversial cotton ceiling adjustment provision had been knocked out of the bill as passed by the senate.

This cotton provision and the parity issue were the main problems between the house and senate conferences.

Once in the President's hands the bill still faced the threat of a veto because of amendment to it which would throw all OPA regulations open for legal tests in the regular federal district courts.

WOUNDED YANKS: Death Rate Cut

Of every 100 American soldiers wounded in battle, 97 are saved, according to Maj. Gen. Norman Kirk, surgeon-general of the U. S. army. The navy has an equally impressive record. In World War I the death rate of the wounded was 8 per cent. Now it is less than 3 per cent.

Abdominal injuries are among those most often fatal, resulting in death in 25 per cent of the cases. This, however, is a great improvement over 25 years ago, when 50 per cent died. Penetrating chest wounds are now fatal in less than 25 per cent of cases, while in the first World War more than half the men so wounded succumbed. A still greater advance has been made in treatment of head wounds. Now only 4 per cent die, as compared with 14 per cent in the last war.

Umberto of Italy



Closeup of Crown Prince Umberto of Italy taken after an Italian aviator had been killed in his father, King Victor Emmanuel, who abdicated after the Allies had taken Rome.

PROGRESS: In Bond Drive

Treasury officials announced that in the first two days of the Fifth War Loan drive, individual buyers purchased almost a half-billion dollars worth of bonds. Goal for individual buying in this drive is six billion dollars.

At the same time the treasury translated bond purchases into equipment various sums would purchase for the army and navy. Bonds bought now will pay for more and better equipment than a year ago.

For example: A heavy bomber, listed at \$500,000 last year, is now available for \$250,000.

A fighter plane costs \$50,000 as compared to \$150,000 a year ago.

SECOND SCANDAL: At Pearl Harbor

A second Pearl Harbor scandal, revealing neglect and delay in the army's defense preparations prior to the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941, has been reported to congress by a house subcommittee on military affairs.

Responsibility was pinned directly upon Col. Theodore Wyman Jr., district army engineer at Honolulu. Hans Wilhelm Rohl, California contractor, who sought naturalization in 1941, 28 years after coming to the U. S. from Germany, was named as Colonel Wyman's collaborator.

The report stated that Wyman constantly discriminated in awarding \$125,000 in contracts to Rohl's firm. Rohl was to have built a permanent aircraft warning system. The contract was let on December 7, 1940. Rohl was to complete the job in six months. One year later the job was only partially completed. The subcommittee reported that the approach of Japanese planes would have been detected if the system had been operating.

Colonel Wyman and Rohl were frequently companions on wild drinking parties, the report stated.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS:

More than 12,000,000 families would like to buy alarm clocks, a survey conducted by the census bureau for the War Production board during April indicates. The study was made among 4,500 representative families to guide the WPB.

The survey covered demand for 56 household articles. It showed that the percentage of "satisfied buyer demand" ranged from 98 per cent for sewing thread down to 5 per cent for wash boilers and lawn mowers.

Washington Digest

U. S. First to Experiment With Use of Air Troops

Demonstration Arranged by General 'Billy' Mitchell at Kelly Field in 1928; Officers 'Not Impressed.'

By BAUKHAGE  
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When the story of the present war is written, the outstanding logistical novelty—the feature which differs most from the methods employed in the movement of fighting units in previous wars—will be the use of airborne troops.

Already the airborne units have been revealed as vital factors in the invasion landings, where they have been used on a scale which dwarfs anything heretofore from the first widely publicized Russian experiments in 1930 to the German air invasion of Crete or the remarkable achievements of smaller units in Burma.

Since it is taken for granted that the United States is going to carry the major burden in the later phases of the invasion, it is a matter of satisfaction to know that the idea of transporting troops by plane was first developed by the United States army.

No one will be surprised that it was that stormy petrel of aviation, Gen. "Billy" Mitchell, whose wings beat so futilely against the hide-bound brasshats of his day, who is credited with arranging the first demonstration of troop transportation by air.

The report of his first fruitless demonstration is buried so deep in the war department files that I can only quote from lay sources concerning it. But it seems that in 1928 ten soldiers parachuted from a Martin bomber onto Kelly field in Texas.

With them went machine gun equipment. All landed safely and in three minutes after they hit the ground the machine gun was assembled.

Officers who observed the "stunt" (which is what it was then considered) were not impressed. That is, the American officers. Some Russians were present. They made notes, and some two years later their paratroopers were descending to earth to the "ohs" and "ahs" of American movie audiences.

Germany observed but went to work in silence, with the results with which we were made painfully familiar from the days of the invasion of Poland on. But "Billy" Mitchell's idea slumbered in the files and he did not live to see its renaissance here four years ago.

Nazi Refinements

These facts have been forgotten by most people who probably think that the Russian experiments were the first. The Germans picked up and improved the Russians' technique, working out their paratroop plans as a part of the developments of their then peerless Luftwaffe, whose threatening shadow moulded European diplomacy before the outbreak of the war.

The German paratroopers demonstrated their real value in the blitz against the low countries.

It was not until April of 1940 that the United States troop carrier command, which carries troops in transports and gliders, was organized. Now it is larger than the whole of our air force of three years ago.

The airborne force, created a few weeks earlier, is now numbered in entire divisions, and includes tens of thousands of fighting men and technical personnel.

The British paratroopers were used effectively as far back as 1942 and they made the first contact with German troops in North Africa in November of the same year.

The U. S. airborne forces are made up of both paratroop and glider forces. They are separate from the troop carrier command which transports them, just as the foot soldier is distinct from the seaman who carries him from shore to shore.

The paratroopers (a part of the airborne forces) alone serve frequently as aerial commandos, seizing enemy airports of suitable terrain where the troop transports or glider planes cannot yet land.

The Paratroopers

When operations require large numbers of men and more complicated equipment, such as those performed back of the shore defenses and even much farther inland in France, paratroopers are supplemented by the troops landed from transports and gliders. This frequently means that the paratrooper

must capture or prepare air strips for this purpose.

Allied airborne troops were used effectively at the landing in Sicily, where General Montgomery said they shortened the campaign by at least a week. They also proved of great value in New Guinea.

The full extent of their performance in the invasion of Europe has yet to be revealed but we have General Eisenhower's own word as to their value and his praise has been unstinted.

The chief function of the soldier of the air until recently has been the destruction of enemy communications and installations such as ammunition and supply dumps, dynamiting bridges and wrecking railway junctions behind the lines. Now they are prepared to engage the enemy in large-scale operations which reached major proportions for the first time in France. Preceding the Normandy landings, one of their jobs was to prevent destruction of certain points like bridges and other installations which the troops advancing from the beachhead wanted to make use of later. In this case, they had to take the bridges from the enemy defenders and then hold them against counter attacks of the local reserves, armed with tanks and field artillery, until their own advancing ground troops or air reinforcements arrived.

Such action is possible because jeeps, one-ton trailers, howitzers, heavy and light calibre machine guns, mortars, mines, and other equipment including food, medical supplies, water, and of course ammunition, can be transported by the troop carrier command. The troops have food and ammunition sufficient for about three days sustenance without replenishment.

The pilots of the troop carriers are trained under most difficult conditions and must have an extra share of courage and intelligence. They fly slowly and about their only escape from the speedy fighters is to skim the hillsides, dodge the haystacks, keep as low as possible in valleys or between obstacles like trees and buildings which serve as protection.

Glider Pilot's Job

Although the glider pilot has no engine to worry about, he must know meteorology, navigation, aerial reconnaissance, photography, maintenance and radio communication. He must learn to land quickly and near trees or other obstacles where the troops can take cover; one means of making a quick landing is purposely to snag a wing on a tree trunk or the bottom of the plane on rocks. The men inside are protected by a steel framework.

And then when the pilot lands, all he has to do is fight his way back to his own lines with the rest of his one-time passengers. Like them, he has to know all the commando knows.

Some of the tales which have already gone into the growing saga of the airborne forces are marvelous. One is told of an adventure which took place early in the invasion of France.

A glider, its towline cut, was suddenly left in the dark of the moon. Some light is necessary for a landing, of course. In the period when the moon was clouded, there was nothing for the pilot to do but to keep on descending. He did and landed unexpectedly but on very smooth terrain. The troopers quickly debouched and sought cover as they are trained to do. But there was no cover. They found they were on the wide, flat roof of a building. They found an entrance through the roof and cautiously crept down the stairs. To their surprise, they discovered they were in a building full of German soldiers and which housed the German headquarters for that area. But the Americans were armed, and needless to say the Germans were somewhat surprised. They surrendered without much trouble.

However, it is not always as easy as that and since it is an axiom of military history that for every new arm of offense, an arm of defense is developed, we may expect fresh obstacles to be created which these youngest sons of Mars will have to meet as they grow older.

Hedda Hopper: Looking at HOLLYWOOD

I NEVER thought Rita Hayworth could act until I saw her in "Cover Girl." Neither, I might add, did a million other folks. The little lady did all right. Before that she put verve into her lovemaking and sparkle into her dancing, and that was that.

Now something new has been added. She acts too.

It's somewhat confusing that this should come about in a musical, of all things. No much is expected of leading ladies in musicals. But it happens there were several acting scenes written into "Cover Girl," and Rita stood right up to them when they came along.

And from what Rita has told me no one was more surprised than little Marguerita Carmen Cansino herself. Despite the Shakespearean forebears on her mother's side of this half Latin from Manhattan, of her ancestor, Joseph Haworth, who trooped with Edwin Booth, Rita had never made serious pretensions to being a dramatic actress.

Showing Her Metal

Rita's new picture, "Tonight and Every Night," with its setting a London theater that never misses a show throughout the great blitz of 1941, is a vehicle highly surcharged with drama, along with the traditional gaiety of show folks and the romantic speedup that is a phase of the war. And that, my friends, will call for real trouping.

Rita's marriage with Orson Welles did something for her, even if it was only being cut in halves by him during his magic show. Orson is like a whirling dervish—never still and always thinking about some new angle either of politics or show business.

But I really believe it was more Gene Kelly's influence than Orson's when it came to her acting in "Cover Girl." It was Gene's big chance, and he worked like a galley slave morning, noon and night. Not only with his own part but with every other part in the picture. Such unselfishness and diligence is bound to have its reward.

Family Background

Mamma Cansino (nee Haworth) wanted Rita to be an actress, of course. Papa Cansino wanted her to grow up to be a dancer.

So now both parents are happy. Rita was born in New York, October 17, 1918. Her father was born in Seville, Spain; her mother in Washington, D. C. Rita's two brothers, Eduardo Jr. and Vernon, are both in the army.

She started dancing with her father at the age of four, made her professional debut with him at six.

She was quickly retired, however, because the Cansino act was so agile and robust they were afraid little Marguerita might get in the way and get hurt.

On Her Way

At 14 Rita really joined the Dancing Cansinos. Two years later she was dancing with her father in Hollywood movie road shows. This led to a two years' engagement at Agua Caliente Casino, outside Tia Juana.

During that time she commuted to Hollywood to do a dancing turn in "Dante's Inferno." The picture failed, but not Rita.

Her real chance was with Warner Baxter in "Under the Pampas Moon," and her first good part was with the late Warner Oland in "Charlie Chan in Egypt."

Not long after that she moved to Columbia and adopted her mother's family name, plus a "y" to simplify its pronunciation.

'Cover Girl' Did It

Her fan following dates from a small role with Cary Grant and Jean Arthur in "Only Angels Have Wings." Soon after that Ann Sheridan refused to do "Strawberry Blonde" with James Cagney and Olivia De Havilland. Rita stepped in, and her stock flew up. After that it was the Spanish charmer in "Blood and Sand." Then a co-starring role with Fred Astaire in "You'll Never Get Rich." Following that, "My Gal Sal" and a repeat with Astaire in "You Were Never Lovelier."

But it remained for "Cover Girl," with its sincere tale of a hooper from Brooklyn, to really put her on top. And now it's time out until another "Cover Girl" or a little "Man from Mars" makes its appearance, and maybe later on—history.

A Delayed Reward

Harold S. Bucquet, who'll direct "Without Love," didn't need the backing of Katharine Hepburn to get him the job. He's been turning out fine pictures for years. . . . Barbara Stanwyck broke all the Hays rules, including the ban on sweaters, in "Double Indemnity." It's a knockout picture. She chooses her parts for variety. In that, she murdered her husband. In her next, she played a sympathetic mother, and now she's doing comedy.

All-Purpose Bulletin Board for Kitchen



HERE is a bulletin board and blackboard that is easy to make and is so decorative that you will enjoy having it in the kitchen, the upstairs or the downstairs hall; the rumpus room; the children's room or that private corner called one's own. Teen age girls and boys also love having a bulletin board in their rooms.

Dad will find a thousand uses for one of these gayly decorated boards in his study, or den, or over his workbench in the basement. Mom will find one handy in the sewing room where she can pin up fashion ideas and pattern instruction sheets for reference.

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Try this grand wake-up drink 10 mornings. See if it doesn't help you! Use California Sunkist Lemons.

Kidneys Must Work Well

For You To Feel Well  
24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.

DOAN'S PILLS

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

**PAIN DETECTOR:** An electrical device, said to be able to detect diseased organs of which the patient is unconscious, was demonstrated at the convention of the Gastro-entological association meeting in Chicago. Dr. Lester Morrison of Philadelphia read a paper on the machine, and explained that it operated by the "viserogalvanic reaction" of the patient.

**FACTORY WAGES:** In April earnings of factory workers on an hourly basis reached a new high at \$1.057 per hour, the National Industrial conference reports. Because of a shorter work week however, total earnings were somewhat lower, being \$48.08 on the national average, down .7 per cent from March. Average work week was 45.2 hours in April.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

More than 2,000,000 dozen essential items of infants' and children's wearing apparel will be produced during June, July and August, according to the WPB.

Release of an additional 12,000,000 pounds of dried prunes from the 1943 production to civilians has been authorized by WFA.

Rumanian authorities are having so much difficulty equipping their army that all men called into service are instructed to bring along two changes of underwear.

The number of persons working on farms in the United States on April 1 was about 3 per cent lower than in the same period last year.