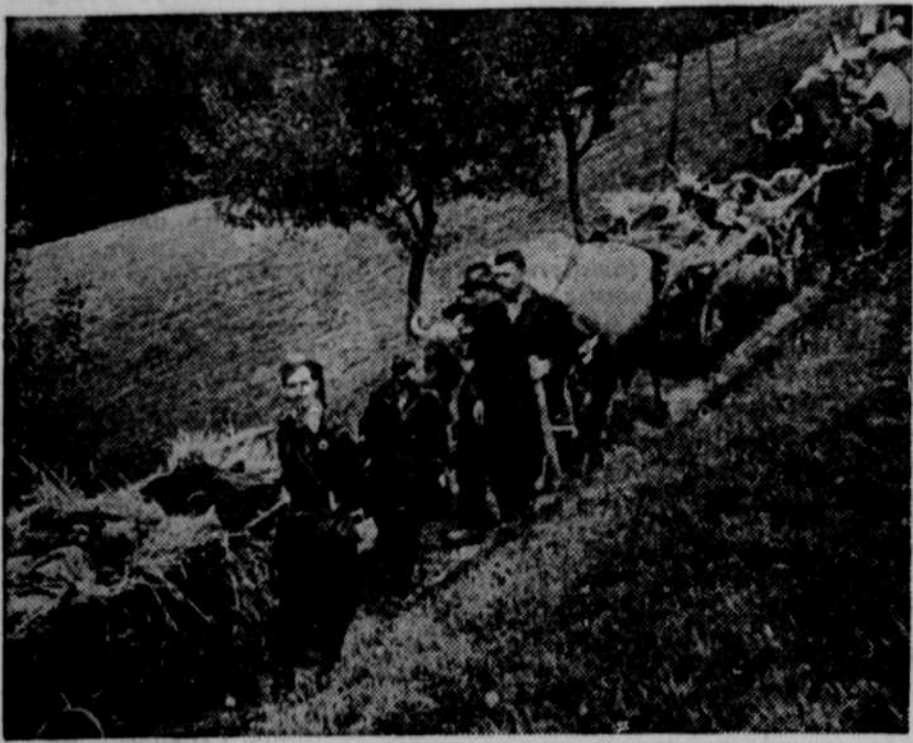


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

**Reds Peril Gateway to Austria; Japs Bolster Battered Forces; Check Decline in Hog Prices**

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

(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.)



Yugoslav Partisans carry wounded back to secret stronghold.

EUROPE:

**Budapest Imperilled**

Once, like Paris, a center of European gaiety with colorful sidewalk cafes enlivened by gypsy music, Budapest became a fevered and somber city as Russian armies hammered toward the Hungarian capital.

Having broken across the Tisza river, some 50 miles to the east, the Reds bore down on Budapest as German and Hungarian armies were hard pressed to hold broad lines across the country's rolling plains, gateway to Austria.

Even as the Russians rolled forward, thousands of Budapest's civilians were put to work in the erection of entrenchments and fortifications, and the Germans vowed that they would make this city, once one of Europe's prettiest, into another Warsaw, a battleground.

**'Sacred Soil'**

As the Germans and Hungarians dug in for a stand about Budapest, the Nazis fought fiercely on the East Prussian front to slow up the Russians' advance across the "sacred soil" of this historic home of the Junkers.

As the Germans braced in East Prussia along prepared lines some 20 miles inside the border, the Russians, following their traditional military policy, shifted the weight

To prevent enemy agents from obtaining vital military information through contact with U. S. troops, the army is rigidly enforcing stiff regulations against doughboys mixing with German citizens.

Troops may not make any social calls at German homes. They may not contact German girls. Because of service by German bartenders, they may not even buy beer outside of mess bars.

Talking with German people is an "unnecessary contact," the army has ruled, bringing fines of from \$25 to \$65.

of their attacks northward toward a narrow belt of Baltic seacoast at Latvia, where some 100,000 Nazis were reported cut off from the remainder of the enemy line in the east.

Slicing into German positions in this sector with overwhelming numbers of troops, the Russians threatened to chew the entrapped Nazi armies to shreds before they could be successfully evacuated by sea.

**Gain Port**

Formerly forced to truck supplies overland 400 miles from Cherbourg, or from temporary beach harbors along the channel coast, the Allies materially improved their communication lines by gaining full control of the great Belgian port of Antwerp.

Control was gained when Canadian and British troops cleared the Germans from both sides of the Schelde river leading inland to the port. As the Allied attack developed, the Nazis pulled out the major bulk of their 40,000 troops to prevent being encircled from the rear.

As the Allies moved to improve communications, the U. S. First Army resumed its offensive about Aachen, driving through the once picturesque, now splintered, fir, pine and silver birch Hürtgen forest on the road to the vital industrial Rhineland.

**Shoes Will Be Brighter Next Spring**

Although civilian shoe production will not return to normal till after the war, retailers will feature brighter lines next spring, surveys of the national shoe fair in Chicago revealed.

There will be an airier style, too, with women's shoes open at the toes and heels, and "casuals," for comfort wear, coming into greater prominence in line with prewar trends.

PACIFIC:

**Enemy Girds**

Still determined to hold on to the Philippines despite the concentration of U. S. strength behind the forces of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the Japanese poured in air reinforcements for the showdown battle that will develop when the Americans move onto the larger islands.

Even as the Japs sought to bolster their defenses, first severely shaken by the U. S. navy's major triumph in the second sea battle of the Philippines, General MacArthur's ground forces on Leyte



Gen. MacArthur (left) and Lt.-Gen. Krueger confer on Leyte.

pushed the enemy back to the mountainous western portion of the island.

Because of the terrain, difficulty was encountered in the speedy erection of air fields on Leyte, but, as construction progressed, increasing numbers of fighter planes took off from the new bases to join carrier-borne aircraft in attacking shipping seeking to reinforce the entrapped enemy troops on the island.

With her back being pressed closer and closer to the wall, Japan's Premier Koiso called for greater war production, declaring that many troops had died for lack of munitions. Almost as Koiso spoke, the enemy reported B-29s reconnoitering over Tokyo.

CATTLE:

**Record Marketing**

With more than 40 per cent of federally inspected beef, veal, pork and lamb going to the government, supplies of better grades of meat remained in scarcity last month despite record-breaking marketing of cattle.

Shipments of cattle were 37 per cent greater than for the 10-year average for October, and receipts of calves were 71 per cent greater. Although showing substantial increases over September, marketings of hogs and sheep were lower than in October of 1943.

Due to the heavy slaughter of cattle and calves, production of beef, veal, lamb and pork amounted to about 1 1/2 billion pounds for October, 29 per cent greater than the 10-year average for October.

**Hog Prices**

After an unsettled market had lopped 75 million dollars off of the value of the nation's hog crop, higher bids by packers stemmed the downward spiral of prices.

The packers' action followed War Food administration hints that the government would cut subsidy payments, amounting to \$1.30 per hundredweight, if average prices for good and choice hogs and barrows were allowed to drop below a \$13.50 per hundredweight average. Lower grade hogs, however, would not be included.

As marketings increased during the first week of November, packers became more choosy in the purchase of hogs, declaring that during the periods of lower receipts they were compelled to pay ceiling prices for many shipments just to keep their plants busy.

POSTWAR AIR:

**World Traffic**

As representatives from Allied and neutral nations met in Chicago for the international civil aviation conference, principal question arising was in what way could countries best cooperate in the development of extensive postwar traffic.

At the opening session, three methods were proposed. The U. S. suggestion advocated a free development between friendly and progressive states, with an international body which would merely consult and advise on allocation of air routes, rate fixing and regulation of competition.

On the other hand, the British called for the regulation of postwar air traffic through a strong international authority, which, like the U. S. civil aeronautics authority, would assign routes and have a voice in rate making.

Australia and New Zealand presented the extremist view of pooling all aerial resources into an international operating company.

WAR PRODUCTION:

**V-E Cutbacks**

One-third of all war contracts will be terminated within three months after the defeat of Germany, a War Production board official announced, with speedy settlements with manufacturers assuring smoother reconversion.

To date, the government has let \$25 billion dollars in war contracts, it was revealed, with completions totalling 240 billion dollars. After cancellations, about 65 billion dollars of contracts are now outstanding, one-third, or about 20 billion dollars worth, of which would be terminated on V-E day.

Of 37,000 contracts valued at \$9 billion dollars cancelled thus far, 28,000 have been settled for 340 million dollars, WPB said.

**V-E Shipping**

Germany's defeat will not lessen the demand on the U. S. merchant marine, the Office of War Information reported, with military and reconstruction traffic continuing to and from the continent, and more shipping needed to transport increased forces and supplies over vast distances in the Pacific.

Three times the amount of shipping presently engaged for the European war may be required for the Pacific conflict, it was said, and eastern ports will be used to relieve some of the tremendous traffic that will be imposed on those in the west.

Presently, OWI revealed, no less than 5,000,000 tons of shipping are being used just to transport supplies from overseas bases to fighting fronts.

Unusual Quads

In the first case of its kind known in medical history, 30-year-old Mrs. Kathleen Hatcher Criminello of Philadelphia, Pa., gave birth to quadruplets in two minutes in a caesarean operation.

Weighing from three to three and a quarter pounds, the quads—three girls and a boy—are the 10th set in the U. S., such births averaging one in 658,503 cases.

Five feet and two inches tall, and weighing 118 lbs., Mrs. Criminello is the wife of a financial analyst for the Securities and Exchange Commission. A previous child died at birth.

Placed in an incubator, the children were tagged A, B, C and D. Said Mr. Criminello: "My wife went through the ordeal. I'll let her choose the names."

FEED:

**Outlook Good**

Despite smaller supplies of concentrated feed for the 1944-45 season, more will be available per animal unit, however, because of reduced livestock population, the department of agriculture reported.

Because of the record production of corn and sorghums for 1944, USDA said, the domestic supply of feed grains will approximate last year's at 130,500,000 tons. Stocks of by-product feeds will be slightly larger than last year. With decreased demands, moderate price declines were anticipated.

According to USDA, local feed grain supplies are smaller than last year in the east north central and the western states, but slightly larger in other sections. Except for the west north central and the western states, hay supplies are smaller.

CASUALTIES:

**Total 487,692**

With the army suffering the bulk of the losses, U. S. battle casualties on the far-flung fronts totaled 487,692.

Army casualties reached 417,121, of which 80,666 were killed, 229,212 wounded, 53,622 missing and 53,621 made prisoners. After more than a year of bitter fighting in Italy, where Allied forces pressed their offensive against strong Nazi fortifications, U. S. losses were estimated at 90,000.

Latest navy compilations placed casualties at 70,571, of which 28,231 were killed, 29,441 wounded, 9,421 missing and 4,478 made prisoner.

STAR STATE

Texas led all states in mineral production in 1943 and was the only state producing minerals valued in excess of a billion dollars in that year, the bureau of mines, department of the interior, revealed.

With its mineral output valued at \$1,116,056,000 last year, the Lone Star State retained for the ninth consecutive year its rank of first in the United States in the value of such products. The total represents 16.97 per cent of the national mineral production value.

Washington Digest

**Robot Gives World Taste Of the War of Tomorrow**

**Destructive Power of New Weapon May Be Turned Against Both Armies and Civilians in Future Conflicts.**

By BAUKHAGE  
News Analyst and Commentator.

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

By the time this reaches print, the true story of the robot and the whole story, including the last chapter, may be revealed. Perhaps it will be withheld until Germany is on her knees and the heavy censorship which has descended over the last, desperate blows of the cornered animal can be lifted.

The part of the story which is now being revealed is that of a menace which dropped to a low in August of this year, when only 4 out of 101 bombs aimed at London reached their destination, began to rise again after that until, at this writing, V-1s are falling on the British capital and vicinity three times a week.

What is more, only the V-1s are being mentioned. Although the V-2, a rocket much larger than the V-1, was described for a while, and a more mysterious V-3 was mentioned some time ago, today no word is spoken of either. What is mentioned is that war damages are being repaired in London by some 132,000 laborers. This total is 40 per cent of Britain's total building personnel. Only 40,000 men were employed for this work in 1941 during the battle of Britain.

The attacks now going on, like all of those since the Allies took over the invasion coasts and captured the launching sites, are made by robots launched from the backs of planes piloted by live pilots. It is generally admitted that they will keep right on coming as long as Germany is in the war. The robot war isn't over. Londoners are still moving nightly in the shadow of death.

The British Information service has released a film which tells the story of what happened when the V-1s were coming over from the launching platform. It is a terrible human document. As one woman correspondent who has just come back from the front remarked: "That is worse than anything in France."

**Broke Full Force Of Attacks**

A man who knows robots pretty well from first-hand contact told me "If the flying bombs (V-1s) had been launched as the Germans planned to launch them, in the quantities in which they were then able to produce them, and from the launching platforms already installed, they would have been sent against London at the rate of a thousand a night, every night."

That, of course, would have meant the annihilation of any city.

Briefly, the developments which broke the German plan were these: In April of 1943, British secret agents sent in vague reports of German plans for some type of long-range bombardment.

Intelligence service discovered a new weapon being developed on the Baltic coast; the RAF made photographs.

Many pictures were taken and finally a large factory was discovered at Peenemuende, an island in the Baltic, with a miniature airplane-shaped thing on the ramp. Scientists deduced that the weapon was a pilotless, jet-propelled plane.

Peenemuende and other manufacturing sites were destroyed. By winter, 100 ramps were discovered similar to the one at Peenemuende all along the French coast. They were bombed, repaired, re-bombed. By the following summer new ones had been completed.

Secret service pieced together a description of the bomb. Defenses (barrage balloons, etc.) were prepared.

The first robot attack began at the time of our invasion of Normandy. In the first month only 40 per cent of the bombs were brought down by defense.

The defenses were changed; the defense belt was moved to the coast so the gunners could get an un-interrupted view of the oncoming robots. By July, 74 per cent of the robots were being brought down. The RAF with speedier fighters helped to get many.

The situation improved until August. . . . All this is highly condensed and only suggests the tremendous work

involved as well as the loss of 450 British and American aircraft including many heavy and medium bombers, involving approximately 2,900 pilots and aircrews.

That is past history. The future, as I say, is shrouded in mystery. As for the present, the method of carrying the robots on the backs of live-piloted planes makes it possible for the enemy to approach their targets from any direction. So the attempt is made to stop the thing at its source and so-called "intruder" planes try to linger over the German airdromes where it is known the pick-a-backs take off and destroy them as they rise. Some are destroyed there. For the rest, it is an endless patrol of the North sea and the Heligoland Bight, searching the whole heavens for the planes themselves or trying to spot the robots after they are launched and dive-bomb them down or pick them off with ack-ack, or hope they will entangle themselves with the wires from the captive balloons.

The robot has not yet said its last word. . . .

**Hits 'Inconsistent' Diplomacy of U. S.**

Before we can get any sort of international organization working, we, the United States of America, must have the confidence of the other nations of the world.

We, "US," have a pretty good reputation, a "reservoir of goodwill," as Wendell Willkie called it. But we have also a few blotches on our escutcheon. And it might be well for all of us to read a book which, although I cannot agree with all its conclusions, fascinates me.

It is called "Our Jungle Diplomacy," and was written by a former member of the American foreign service, William Franklin Sands, in collaboration with Joseph M. Lolley. It made me think.

Mr. Sands' thesis is that our diplomacy has been operating "in a jungle of our own creation" and he cites in detail certain specific examples to show where he believes our diplomacy has led. His findings are startling: Japan's annexation of Korea, he says, follows the pattern laid down by the United States in regard to Hawaii, Pearl Harbor, he boldly traces back to Panama!

Mr. Sands has some rather jolting ideas on power politics. He says that although the United States has no consistent foreign policy, we have, nevertheless, indulged in power politics. But, he hastens to add, power politics is not per se, unwise or immoral. (It depends on the power.)

But whatever has been the long-range effect of our diplomatic conduct in South America, Sands believes that "the chief fruit of our jungle diplomacy is the disastrous war in which we are now engaged."

I would not go so far as to say that a less jungular diplomacy on our part alone could, under existing world conditions, have preserved the peace in the face of a confirmed aggressor, but I must admit that our statesmanship has not acted as much of a pacifier so far.

Sands quotes the famous saying of the great military authority, von Clausewitz, to the effect that "war is the continuation of a nation's policy by forcible means," and then he says that since we had no policy to extend, the war in the Pacific is an extension of Japanese policy. Sands says (and makes a very convincing argument) that that point was clear when the Japs took Korea 40 years ago.

And then he comes to this striking conclusion:

"Two courses were open to us . . . we might have prepared to challenge the rising power of Japan . . . or we might have adopted a policy 'of gradual retreat in the Pacific and of genuine conciliation in the Americas, which might have enabled us to avoid the clash of power politics in the Far East, might have made our intentions plain, and might have made our moral position less equivocal in Latin and Asiatic eyes."

Read "Our Jungle Diplomacy" as an astringent to inflated national egotism, if for no other reason. It is a refreshing mental menol.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

Some 11,000 practical farmers in two-thirds of the nation's counties, cooperating with the department of agriculture extension service, are checking land values and other agricultural facts in preparation for service as personal advisers to veterans interested in farming.

Japanese papers now number only two pages a day.

The median level of education of American soldiers in this war is the second year of high school. In 1918 it was the sixth grade.

The Japanese have announced that they are planning to manufacture large quantities of "synthetic beer" that will be shipped to the fighting front to "comfort" Japanese soldiers.

**Hedda Hopper: Looking at HOLLYWOOD**

"SHOW GIRLS," said the late Flo Ziegfeld, "are a gift from heaven." But Bill Perlberg, Twentieth Century's new beauty impresario, thinks a little grooming on earth can do wonders. He believes in gliding the lily.

And with this in mind, he's put 14 showgirls under long term contract - and given them the tag Diamond Horseshoe Girls because they make their bow as a group in "Diamond Horseshoe."

"Legs" Grable's new starring picture. The way beauty salesmen work has fascinated the world ever since the day Paris slipped

Helen of Troy a golden apple. The girl that is one man's dish is a pain in the neck to the fellow in the next orchestra seat: so the impresario has to think fast to pick 'em to suit every taste and yet get a group that blends together. Most notable successes in this line have been Charles Cochran of London, and the late Ziegfeld of Broadway. You can't omit Earl Carroll's garden, or George White's girls, Billy Rose's six footers, known as the Big Bruisers, or Sam Goldwyn's girls.

**Sure Fire**

Musicals make an ideal setting for beauty, as every producer knows. And as Producer Bill Perlberg intends to make a goodly list of technicolor super-dupers during the coming two years, he sent out scouts to fine-comb the United States of America for the most dazzling girls to be had. The 14 Diamond Horseshoe Girls came from New York City, Syracuse, and Port Jefferson; from Springfield, Mass., and Minneapolis, Minn.; from Portland, Ore.; Tulsa, Okla.; Beverly Hills, and Manhattan Beach.

When Perlberg began adding up the personality list of his 14, he got some surprises. He found he had a millionaires on his hands; a fourth generation movie family provided another; two had been welders in war plants; one had been a saleswoman for Standard Oil, taking the job to release a man to the army. Greatest shock of all was when his assistants told him he had looked over the entire group from "Cover Girl" and selected but one—blonde Carol Andrews.

Barbara Slater, of New York, lives at Town House while working—takes her millions as she does her glass of orange juice. Has what Noel Coward calls "the perfect ffigah!" She's been given the typical Junior leaguer's European education. Her father is a toothpaste king, and her mother was on Broadway as June Keith.

**There's Beauty and Beauty**

When you talk to Perlberg about beauty, he tells you it must have "impact." "Pretty girls are a dime a dozen, Hedda," he says, "especially in Hollywood. But very few have impact—it's a combination of beauty, personality and that intangible something we call magnetism for lack of a better word."

Ellen Hall is a delicate brunette. I remember her mother, Ella Hall, of old silent films, and Arthur Johnson, her father. Some call him the Gary Cooper of his day.

Another girl was a mail clerk on Twentieth Century's lot. Bill looked up one morning and there stood a goddess with a batch of mail in her hand. Bill hustled her over to the test stage. When the rushes were run, he had another Diamond Horseshoe Girl—Mary Jane Shores, daughter of Writer Lynn Shores. Green-eyed Cathy Downs' father is a blueprint and pattern maker at Port Jefferson, L. I. She's east coast in manners, sings, dances and went in for a classical education.

Quite a few of the girls had a bout at modeling: Alice Elyand, Carol Andrews, Mary Meade and Betty Jane Graham.

**Still They Come**

Jan Bryant was an usher at Grauman's Chinese, then completed nine months of back-breaking work as a welder. Ruth Lewis boasts she can take 150 words a minute. Yvonne Vautrot is tiny, dark and intriguing. Was a saleswoman for Standard Oil. Eve Miller, who reminds you of Barbara La Marr, also did a bit of welding.

In movies it takes less to become a star than it ever did on Broadway. Don't take my word for it—just look around you next time you see a picture and judge for yourself!

**Annie, It's Mutual**

Ann Sheridan phoned to say hello, and she's happy to be home. Her first picture, she thinks, will be "Danger Signal." What it's about she hasn't an idea. She's interested in getting meat on her chassis. She went from 126 to 114 pounds. . . . Metro has a new singing sensation, Marilyn Hansen. She turned down Nelson Eddy on the air to sing at Camp Roberts. . . . After much jollification and threatening lawsuits, Jennifer Jones does a picture a year for five years for Twentieth.

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