

McNutt Lashes 'Disciples of Despair,' Calls for All-Out Attack on Tokyo; Pan-American Solidarity Increases; R.A.F. Reverses Tide in Malta Battle

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

LABOR:

Picture Complicated

The labor situation, in the other big battle which had centered in Washington, the fight over whether the 40-hour week should be retained or not, had complicated the New Deal picture tremendously.

On the one hand Secretary of Labor Perkins and the White House itself had been found apparently unwilling to scrap the 40-hour week, while Thurman Arnold, of the attorney general's staff, had issued the most bitter statement against labor unions as obstructing the war effort that had come out of Washington since the New Deal started. Now, the unions were wholeheartedly against the move to end the 40-hour week, claiming that the only benefit their workers had from it was the extra half-time pay for the usual eight hours of overtime weekly, while business already was being accused of getting huge profits for its share of the war-time boom in industrial activity.

Congressional leaders were found urging, against business, that all profits over 6 per cent be recaptured for the government, and at the same time highly divided over the 40-hour week.

Tremendous mail was being received on the subject, convincing many congressmen that a definite nationwide campaign to have the 40-hour week thrown out was in progress.

One official high in the War Production board stated that the 40-hour week through overtime payments was adding 8 per cent to the cost of all war contracts.

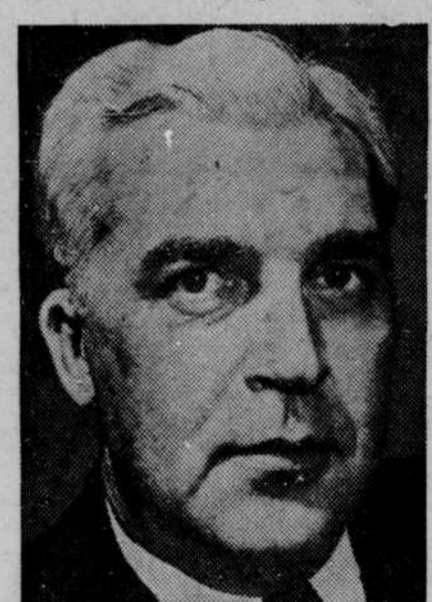
'ATTACK TOKYO':

Pleads McNutt

Lashing out at "disciples of despair," Paul V. McNutt, social security administrator, had urged an "attack on Tokyo" as the "real defense of America."

He said: "America's defense does not begin at wading depth on Coney Island, nor on the sun-drenched sands of San Diego."

"America's defense begins with the attack on Tokyo. It is when flames roar through Yokohama



PAUL V. McNUTT
"More Leathernecks, fewer bottlenecks," and the factories of the Ruhr are blasted and broken that Wichita, Kansas City and Omaha will be secure.

"The leathernecks of Wake Island taught the Japs what it costs to lick only a few hundred marines. What this nation needs is more leathernecks and fewer bottlenecks."

BRITISH:

Gain Air Strength

The report of a British-German air fight around Malta, where the British had been taking a beating since the war began without giving in, had been a signal for the fact that the British R.A.F. had been steadily gaining strength.

In this assault, British Hurricane fighters and anti-aircraft gunnery had brought down 12 bombers and two fighters in a 24-hour assault on the island, the biggest bag in the war so far.

Most significant was the fact that the "ack-ack boys," the gunners on the island, were credited with knocking the two fighters and 8 of the 12 bombers out of the air.

The other four planes shot down were fighter-bombers, similar in plan to our "medium attack bombers," and they were all bagged by the R.A.F. fighting squadron.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

New York: One of the most definite reports of the sinking of a U-boat off the coast was reported by General Drum, who said that a patrol bomber returning after a photographic mission had seen a submarine, had dropped four depth-bombs and that the oil and debris which littered the sea made it definite that the submarine had been sunk.

Peoria, Ill.: The government had stepped in and ended a strike on the 239-mile Toledo, Peoria and Western railroad. The government held that the failure of the railroad to arbitrate with the brotherhoods constituted a blocking of the war effort.

Istanbul: Turkey was predicting the fall of the Kallay government of Hungary in favor of a regime which would be still more favorable to Germany. The Turkish observers felt that it was a general move by Germany to "blackjack" Hungary into providing more soldiers for the Nazis.

LATIN-AMERICA:

Grows More Solid

Historians, pointing to the fact that 21 Latin-American nations either have declared war or have broken relations with the Axis, as compared with 13 in the last war, had expressed the belief that Chile would be the next one in, and that Pan-American solidarity was on the increase, boding well for hemispheric unity in the post-war period.

However, as President-elect Juan Rios had reached the threshold of his office following the election, Adolf Hitler had cabled him expressing the hope that "German relations with Chile might become even closer."

Chile and Argentina, at this point had remained the only two still maintaining relations with the Axis.

Hitler was quoted as cabling: "I take this opportunity to express the desire that the relations of sincere friendship between Germany and the Republic of Chile will be



PRESIDENT-ELECT JUAN RIOS
Relations with Germany strained.

preserved during your term as president, and if possible, become even closer."

Yet, by contrast, most Latin-American observers took this as a hint that relations were on the point of being broken.

JAPS:

Warn Aussies

The Japanese, apparently trying to undermine Australian confidence and trying to build up a lack of unity within the continent, were putting out "warnings to Australians" before they had tried a landing.

The grim determination of the Australians to defend their country, plus the appointment of Gen. Douglas MacArthur to the supreme command, was ample assurance that Japanese propaganda would fall on barren soil.

As the invaders of New Guinea were moving across the difficult and almost impassable terrain between Salamaua and Lae and Port Moresby on the southern coast, with prospect of a bitter battle at the end, they issued the following warning: "Australia stands at the crossroads. She must choose between freedom and the fate of the Dutch East Indies."

"Japan has no territorial aspirations, and wants Australia to become a partner in the eastern Asiatic prosperity realm."

"Australia, with a population of only 7,000,000 cannot defend her long eastern coastline."

"The countries, Japan and Australia, economically supplement each other. One way leads to the end of Australia's existence and the other to wealth and peace," said the Japanese.

At the same time the Japs showed evidence of being jittery over possible attacks by American planes from Alaska via the Aleutians, Adm. Koyazo Nakamura having told the Japanese people in a broadcast: "Experts that the United States in the spring will embark on surprise attacks on Japan by submarines and aircraft are unnecessary."

"The Americans have no adequate base."

European centers had placed little importance on the signing in Moscow of a renewal of the pact between Japan and Russia on the subject of fishing rights off the Siberian coast.

Refusal of Russia to have signed would have been viewed as a practical declaration of war. But few European observers took the signing of the pact, in existence for many years, as any special sign of friendliness.

ATLANTIC:

Sinkings continued at a rapid pace along the Atlantic seaboard, though there were not so many on the regular sea-lanes carrying commerce between Britain and the U. S.

Yet there were favorable signs, and measures were being taken to make the lot of the submarine harder, and to cut down sinkings.

One of these was the dim-out or black-out of lights of cities and resorts along the coast, particularly along sea-lanes frequented by coast-wise vessels.

Sinkings off Miami at night, for instance, had been reported caused in part by the silhouetting of ships close to shore by the lights of the city, the subs lying out to the east, and having excellent targets to fire at.

The answer came swiftly and patriotically, the cities along the coast immediately adopted "dim-out" or "black-out" precautions, not for their own protection, but designed to remove the light background for the ships passing close outside the beaches. The silhouette targets will be lost for the Jap raiders.

They moved for the most part in buses, the caravans rolling along in true army convoy style, with command cars at front and rear.

VATICAN:

And Neutrality



ARCHBISHOP SPELLMAN
"The church is against atrocities."

The sending of a Japanese mission to the Vatican in Rome and its acceptance by the pope had brought statements from Washington and London that the Allies "had directed the attention of the pope to the unfortunate effects of allowing Japan to establish a mission at the Holy See."

While there was no direct answer to these representations from Pope Pius himself, the pontiff's close friend and American spokesman, Archbishop Spellman of New York, said:

"Leaders of nations who have tried to influence the Holy Father on one side or the other in this conflict must understand that the Holy Father has to be impartial."

"While there can be no neutrality between right and wrong, and the church is against atrocities, the Holy See must keep in contact with and aid the Catholics of every nation."

"The Holy See must accept the envoys who choose to make these contacts."

SUGAR:

A Week of None

The announcement that there would be a week of no sugar sales decreed by the government for the week of April 27, came when sugar rationing, ban on sales of new automobiles, and demands that auto graveyards give up their dead were holding the economic spotlight.

The East was having gasoline shut-downs, with rationing in prospect throughout this territory, perhaps also in the Pacific Northwest.

Washington told the people of 7,000,000 tons of sugar having been withdrawn from the market by hoarders, and told of plans to make sugar hoarders give up their supplies to the retail stores, selling them back at retail prices.

A campaign had been started to force used-car lot junkmen to "turn over" their cars every 60 days or face the penalty of having their rusty metal requisitioned by the government.

In an eastern state of average size, it was said, the junkyards had 14,000 cars, enough metal to make 2,300,000 three-inch shells; 9,000 75-mm. howitzers or 6,000 anti-aircraft guns.

TRAINING PROGRAMS:
For Army Forces

War Secretary Stimson has announced that 100,000 men and women will be trained for civilian jobs—including overhaul and repair mechanics, production workers, inspectors at government factories, depots and arsenals—in government and state-owned schools and rented facilities of private technical schools. Eligible men must be outside the age and other selective service requirements. Students will be paid \$900 to \$1,400 a year in training. Courses vary from 15 weeks to four months. Applications may be made to any civil service commission local office.

The Army institute has been established at Madison, Wis., to provide for enlisted men with at least four months active service, correspondence study in more than 65 courses in English, social studies, mathematics, science, business and engineering at a cost of two dollars a course.

Army Ground Forces Commander McNair announced selection of a site "west of the Colorado river" for large-scale troop training in modern desert warfare, part of a program to develop task forces for mountain, airborne, and armored warfare and for joint ground operations. The department said the replacement and school command will open headquarters at Birmingham, Ala., and the anti-aircraft command at Richmond, Va., before April 1. The former will include 14 schools and replacement centers, including officer candidate schools. A military police replacement training center will be established at Fort Riley, Kan., about April 8, to accommodate 1,800 trainees from all sections of the country. Mr. Stimson said the R.O.T.C. program will be maintained in colleges, but the army cannot supply material and personnel to provide pre-induction training at such institutions.

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+ FIRST-AID + to the AILING HOUSE By ROGER B. WHITMAN

Roger B. Whitman—WNU Service.

RECONCRETING OLD SURFACES

AN UNEVEN concrete floor cannot be smoothed by the simple process of spreading new concrete on top, for the reason that concrete is not sticky and that the new will not adhere to the old surface. The usual process is to back and gouge the old surface with a pointed hammer or cold chisel to provide roughness around which the new concrete can harden, and so form a bond. This may be a long and tedious job. One of my correspondents describes a method that he has used with success and that simplifies matters. He treats the old concrete with a mixture of 1 part muriatic acid and 4 parts of water. After a few minutes the acid will eat into the old concrete and roughen the surface sufficiently to permit the new concrete to bond to the old. He says that this works even when the edges of the new concrete are as thin as feathers. The process must be used with great care, however, because of the corrosive qualities of the acid. In the first place, rubber boots, rubber gloves and old clothes should be worn. In making the mixture the acid should be poured slowly into the water with constant stirring, for otherwise it would spatter. It is left in contact with the old concrete for only a few minutes, and is then flushed off with plenty of water. A very thin layer of cement is scattered on the wet concrete, followed by a mixture of one part cement and 1 to 2 1/2 parts of sand. The new surface should be kept wet for three or four days in order to gain harness and full density. In applying the acid solution the greatest care should be taken to protect the skin, and anything else that might be injured by it.

Paint on Bricks.

Question: In my home there is a very old fireplace, and back of it a brick oven. The bricks are the soft pink variety, but previous owners have given them several coats of paint. Most of this I have taken off with a paint remover and putty knife, with turpentine and muriatic acid. The gray first coat remains in the indentations of the bricks. How can I get it out?

Answer: One way would be to use a gasoline blowtorch, which would turn the remaining paint into a powder with no strength. A stiff brush should take it out of the indentations. If there is near-by woodwork, the blowtorch, of course, must be used with very great care.

One-Flue Chimney.

Question: My chimney is built of blocks, with a terra cotta lining. I have a hot air furnace in the cellar and would like to have a stove in my kitchen. Would a hole in the chimney for a stovepipe be a fire hazard? The kitchen is finished with plasterboard. Is this more inflammable than lath and plaster?

Answer: If there is only one flue in the chimney, connecting a second fire to it would impair the draft and neither your furnace nor your kitchen stove would burn properly. Every fire should have its own flue. Plasterboard is considered to be less inflammable than plaster on wood lath.

Sticking Door.

Question: My heavy front door cannot be tightly closed without slamming, which is hard on the ears. As a result of the slamming one of the panels is cracked. How about a quiet closing?

Answer: The door frame is out of square with the door, possibly from the settlement of the house, in which case the edges of the door that rub against the frame should be planed to fit. Possibly the top hinge is loose, so that the door sags. Tightening the screws should help this. When properly fitted a door should be closed tightly without any of the edges striking the frame.

Roots in Sewer.

Question: Please repeat what you said some time ago on clearing tree roots out of sewer pipes.

Answer: The surest method is with an electric pipe-cleaner. All localities now have operators owning a machine of this kind, which are carried through to the end. Tree roots in a sewer can be killed by dissolving a half-pound or more of copper sulphate—blue vitriol—in a plumb line fixture and letting it drain into the pipe.

Cracks in Walls.

Question: There are cracks in the tongue-and-groove board walls of our enclosed porch. Putty put in them lasts only a short time. Could plasterboard be nailed on? Would it stand the weather?

Answer: In an enclosed porch the plasterboard would not be exposed to extremes of weather, and should give good service, especially if painted.

Cleaning Feathers.

Question: How can feather bedding be cleaned and renovated? Will this take away their fluffiness?

Answer: You will find that all modern laundries are equipped to do that job. Whether or not the feathers will flatten depends on their quality. Feathers of high grade will have their springiness improved, if anything. But low grade feathers are likely to be flattened.

Wax Removal.

Question: How can wax be removed from furniture and linoleum?

Answer: Wipe with turpentine.

MacArthur's Australian Campaign Heightens Spirit of All America



General Douglas MacArthur
A fighting General for fighting mad people is he . . .

NOW you are going to see some real fighting. That is what thousands of persons said, some of whom might have said it to you, when word was flashed from Australia that General Douglas MacArthur was down there to assume the supreme United Nations command in that region.

Ever since the war in the Pacific region began, the story of the ground warfare has been continually, and dishearteningly the same but with one exception.

Newspaper and radio accounts have related of continual retreats and, finally, surrenders by the Allied armies. But the brilliant exception to all this defensive warfare is and was the activity of General MacArthur, his aides, and his native and American troops fighting on the Bataan peninsula.

Not only did MacArthur stop the Japs—and thereby causing the commander, Gen. Masaharu Homma, to commit hara kiri—but he also put through two brilliant, strategic offensives which prevented further enemy advances at the time.

Such immediate background of this brilliant general, this Number One officer of the United Nations, was the cause for the increasing clamor of the Australians to have MacArthur come down there and help them, with American, British, Australian, and native soldiers, resist the Japs in the last Pacific region stand. So, after receiving orders on Washington's birthday from the President to go to Australia, MacArthur made plans with his successor, Maj. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, a brilliant tactician, for further defense at Bataan.

"Mac's the Man."

When a "roving reporter" for one of the outstanding Midwest newspapers went out to interview pedestrians as to how they felt about the new shakeup in military control in the Pacific region whereby General MacArthur was given complete military control, the consensus of opinion was, "Mac's the Man."

One fellow said that it was the best news he heard since the U. S. entered the war. A housewife said that, "MacArthur is the man for the job." A student on his way to his class at university said that if anyone can successfully "Slap the Japs," MacArthur is the one that can do it. A not too busy auto salesman said that the general's appointment was the most important move since the United States was stabbed in the back.

Such opinions as these of Mr. and Mrs. America reflect—it is almost certain to say—the opinion of this nation, and all Allied nations as a whole. Even in London, the newspapers there, commenting on the first time that a foreign general has taken command of defense in British dominions, had nothing but encouraging, hopeful, and optimistic words.

Fame After Career Ended.

Fame came to General MacArthur after his career had ended! For it was in 1935 that he retired from the army after making a "name" for himself as officer of World War I, and decorated for conspicuous courage. His decorations are reportedly more numerous than any other officer in the service.

Back in 1903 he was graduated from military academy, heading his class. Ever since then he has been showing his fellow officers and his men under him that he is "one of the men" who knows how to fight. Son of a Civil War hero, Lieut. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, General



Since General MacArthur has taken his new command in Australia to stop, and then push back, the Japanese drive, Maj. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright (left), shown talking with Gen. MacArthur, has been named to the command of the forces that outflung, despite 20 to 1 odds, the Jap forces on the Bataan peninsula in the Philippine Islands.

Like Father, Like Son

General Douglas MacArthur, and his deceased father, Lieut. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, showed great strategic talent. One of the father's Civil War tactics of battle eventually became a war department standard officer examination. The son's strategy in the Philippines is well known to all newspaper readers, who have been following his brilliant leadership.

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Both, when very young were hampered in their attempts to get into the army. Arthur MacArthur's difficulty came—at the time of the Civil War—when he was just 16. His father thought he was too young for the army. Douglas MacArthur's trouble in getting into the U. S. Military academy was due to spinal ailment. History, today, knows that both of them got what they wanted.

And now, Arthur MacArthur's son, Douglas, also has a son who is right in the heart of a battle sector—where, it seems, most MacArthurs want to be.

Future General??

Little four-year-old Arthur MacArthur, son of General and Mrs. MacArthur, is starting early in a possible war career. Besides having a famous general as a father, Arthur's grandfather, a Civil war veteran after whom he is named, commanded a Manila brigade in 1898 when U. S. forces captured that city.

When war broke out in the Philippines little Arthur and his mother, the former Miss Jean Faircloth of Murfreesboro, Tenn., were reported safe on the island. The next word that came through as to their whereabouts was when their arrival in Australia with the general and his staff was announced.

Douglas went with his father as an aide when he went to Tokyo on a mission in 1905-06. On three different occasions he saw extended army service in the Philippines. In 1935 he went to Manila as the commonwealth's president, Manuel Quezon's military adviser.

That his advisory capacity to President Quezon was of a successful nature is now seen in the successful manner in which American troops, Philippine scout professionals, and Filipino reservists, under his command, fought.

So, at the age of 50, after many years of active service, it looked as though General MacArthur's military life was at an end. It seemed that he was then destined for obscurity after being chief of staff for five years. But, it has often been stated, that it is the seemingly little incidents in a person's life which eventually develop into significant, extremely important matters. What would have happened had MacArthur, upon being "retired," not been sent to the Philippines to shape up a military force there is impossible to say.

Once again, MacArthur's life is showing that fact is oftentimes more interesting than fiction. Here, in MacArthur, you see a story book

soldier, cool, even tempered, poised, admired by his staff and men, preparing to do a titanic job despite heavy odds against it.

Even the general's air-flight of 2,000 miles to Australia had a touch of the dramatic to it. For the zone over which he and his officers and aides flew in two planes, has been conceded as being the "hot spot" of the southwest Pacific. This is the zone where both enemy and Allied planes are continually on the alert. Fighters, bombers, and interceptors, always ready for battle. When you look at a map and see the territory you will fully realize that MacArthur has not lost any of his boldness. It is such daring, skill, and calm that has put all the confidence of the Allied nations' people directly on his shoulders. The Yanks, and Aussies, being what they are in temperament, and disposition as to being ready for a fight at all times, now have a man as their leader they know will not fail them.

Congressmen Behind Him, Too.

That this attitude even goes for officials and congressmen in the nation's capital is noted in the comment of various congressmen on the day that MacArthur's safe arrival was announced in a special official war department communication. Sen. Millard E. Tydings, (D. Md.) said that Australia now has real leadership. . . . that he was very happy to know that MacArthur was down there where a man such as he is needed.

Rep. Joseph J. Mansfield, (D. Texas) put in a comment which all Americans fully understand. He said that MacArthur is sure going to "raise hell" with the Japs providing we can keep him supplied with a continuous line of supplies and men.

House Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin (R. Mass.), said he was happy to hear of the famous soldier's appointment. He further added that such an appointment will add to the confidence of the American people.

The day that MacArthur's appointment, and successful flight to Australia was announced, the President in his press conference also had words of encouragement for the American people. He said that the purpose of the transfer was not to develop further defensive measures, but primarily, and definitely to "win the war." President Roosevelt said at that conference that he felt, too, that every American man and woman held the same admiration for the fighting, brilliant general that he held.

Maj. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, close friend of MacArthur, and his right-hand man in the Philippines, is still there in the Bataan peninsula to carry on against the Japs. There, the odds are still 20 to 1, or even more, against the American forces, but Wainwright will carry on. For he, former commandant at Fort Myer, Va., is regarded by those who are familiar with his capacities and abilities as being one of the army's shrewdest students of modern warfare. Officer Wainwright began his career as a lieutenant in the Philippines.

ODDS AND ENDS—The U. S. navy likes Metro's neo-reeler, "The Battle," so much that the picture will be used for recruiting purposes. . . . Director George Cukor's directing "Her Cardboard Lover" for the third time; once with Laurette Taylor, once with Jeanne Eagles, now with Norma Shorer and Robert Taylor. . . . Sidney Chaplin, Charlie's 15-year-old son, when interviewed by Vox Pop at his prep school, said he wants to act and direct, like his father. He weighs 175. . . . RKO suspended Lucille Ball from salary for refusing to play the second feminine lead in "Strictly Dynamite," for which they'd lent her to 20th Century-Fox.

George F. Putnam, NBC broadcaster, had an awful time with history when he was in school. Now, as a result of reading the news over the air seven times a week since Poland was invaded in 1939, he has world history at his finger tips.

Richard Gaines is descended from President James Madison—but so far on the stage and air he's been busy portraying Abraham Lincoln and Woodrow Wilson—except when he took time out and did Patrick Henry in "The Howards of Virginia."

Star Dust

STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO

By VIRGINIA VALE

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

TAXICAB business boomed recently at one of Hollywood's major studios, unaffected by the rubber shortage. Richard Carlson and Martha O'Drisc