

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Japan Begins to Feel Full Weight Of Allied Air, Sea, Land Blows; Europe Warned of Food Shortage

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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.



Juicy sides of beef, whole hogs, veal and lamb hang in the aging room of a quick freeze and food locker plant in Towson, Md., near Baltimore, while OPA investigators question locker holders about their meat supplies.

JAPAN: Target for Onslaught

Japan's dwindling empire was given a thorough going over with bombs, warship strikes and offensives by American and Australian land forces.

In an attack that carried American naval power almost within sight of Russian Siberia, a U. S. battle fleet made a surprise bombardment of the Japanese-held southern half of Sakhalin island in the Sea of Okhotsk.

Meanwhile the relentless air offensive snuffing out Japanese war production cities continued unabated. Climaxed by an hour-long radio challenge of American fighter planes circling three Tokyo airfields for the Japanese air force to come up for battle, approximately 800 planes set off the latest fires and explosions in Japan.

On Borneo the coveted oil fields held by the Japs since early 1942 came closer into Allied hands. Destruction of well facilities by the Japs had been widespread, but engineers were prepared to work on repairs.

On the Philippines the American command announced that the islands' 115,600 square miles are being transformed into bases "comparable to the British Islands" to pace the march on Tokyo.

The saga of the Philippines triumph disclosed that in 250 days of campaigning, 17 American divisions defeated 23 Jap divisions in "one of the rare instances when a ground force superior in numbers was entirely destroyed by a numerically inferior opponent."

It was estimated that 420,000 Japanese were slaughtered, including such hated outfits as the 16th Imperial division which had tortured American and Filipino prisoners in the "Death March" of 1942 following the fall of Bataan.

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Foreign diplomats in the Red capital reported that the Japanese mission there was highly nervous over the friendly relations evident between the Chinese and Russians.

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UNIVERSAL TRAINING: Governors Hear Plans

Pleas for support of a system of universal military training after the war were made to the 37th annual governors' conference at Mackinac Island by Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, and Adm. Ernest King, chief of the U. S. fleet.

Meeting with the state executives to report on the progress of the war on Japan, the top leaders of the army and navy pictured universal military training as essential to the future safety of the United States.

The two chiefs warned that if there should be another world war, it would come swiftly, without time or opportunity to train a large army.

Maintenance of a strong national guard with a large reserve maintained through universal training would keep the United States prepared, they declared, without the necessity of a large standing army.

ATLANTIC AIR: O. K'd for Three Lines

Certificates authorizing the operation of air transportation routes across the North Atlantic were issued to three United States air carriers by the Civil Aeronautics board.

The companies are Pan-American Airways, Inc., Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., and the American Air Lines, Inc. Terminal points designated by the board include New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago and Detroit.

The certificates authorizing the new services were limited to a term of seven years "in order that the operations thereunder, after a reasonable period, may be reviewed."

The action of the Civil Aeronautics board was approved by President Truman.

BERLIN: C.I.s Take Over Area

As Maj. Gen. Nikolai N. Barinov, Soviet commander in Berlin, formally turned the American occupation zone in the German capital over to Gen. Omar N. Bradley, the American flag was raised over the Adolf Hitler barracks.

A 4,000 vehicle convoy brought the American forces from Halle to the Zehlendorf area of war battered Berlin which will comprise the U. S. zone of occupation.

American veterans of World War II entered the former Nazi stronghold as conquerors, returning the smart salutes of Reich army traffic police.

For the duration of the occupation of the Reich by Allied armies, Berlin was to be jointly in the hands of the Russians, the Americans and the British. The British generally will control the northwest area of the city, including the localities of Charlottenburg and Wilmsdorf.

WAR PRODUCTION: 96,359 Planes

A forecast of the enormous American industrial capacity for postwar years was given by J. A. Krug, War Production board chairman, in a review of production results by war plants since the summer of 1943.

The United States produced 45 percent of the world's munitions in 1944, Mr. Krug's report disclosed.

"In 1944 the country produced 96,359 airplanes, including 16,048 heavy bombers, built 30,889 ships, 17,565 tanks, 595,330 army trucks, and produced 3,284 heavy field guns and howitzers and 7,454 light ones, 152,000 army aircraft rocket launchers, 215,177 bazookas and 1,146,774 tons of ground artillery ammunition," the report declared.

STARVATION STATION: Discovered in Bavaria

The grisly discovery of a Nazi "scientific starvation" station which was claiming children and adult victims until recently was reported by two public health officials of the American Military government in Bavaria.

The arrest of 4 German doctors and 3 hospital attendants at the station in the Kadiforen area, 45 miles southeast of Munich, preceded the announcement. One woman confessed killing 211 children for which she drew extra compensation, the announcement said.

LEGION: Backs U. N. Charter

Full support of the 1,600,000 members of the American Legion, including veterans of both World Wars was pledged to the United Nations charter when National Commander Edward Schieblering urged the senate to ratify the pact.

Schieblering set forth his views in a letter to all members of the senate.

"The American Legion feels that the San Francisco charter is an honest and able attempt to create a workable association of free and sovereign nations," the letter declared. "Implemented with force to maintain peace and prevent recurrence of war. It is obvious that it is the best and only charter that can be produced at this time."

NAVAL LOSSES

The loss of two American destroyers and one submarine was reported by the navy department.

The destroyers were the William D. Porter and the Twigg. Jap aerial attacks sank the destroyers off Okinawa six days apart, the navy reported. Casualties totaled 24. Of these, 183 were suffered by the Twigg in a surprise attack that blew off the ship's bow. Sixty-one wounded comprised the entire casualty list of the Porter, hit by an enemy suicide dive bomber.

CONGRESS: Back Bretton Woods

Having voted to extend the reciprocal trade treaty act for three years and grant the President power to cut tariffs 50 per cent under existing levels, the house also approved the Bretton Woods monetary agreements as part of the administration's program for participation in world economic stabilization.

Passed by a large vote against the opposition of a handful of Republicans, the agreements include:

1 An 8,800,000,000 dollar fund of currencies of 44 or more United Nations upon which any member country could draw to obtain foreign exchange at a stable rate for conducting business;

2 A 9,100,000,000 dollar world bank for reconstruction and development, with the various governments either loaning money directly or guaranteeing any private loans made.

As has been the case ever since the announcement of the agreements, chief opposition centered around the 8,800,000,000 dollar currency fund, designed to prevent upward or downward fluctuations in the value of different currencies.

According to opponents of the plan, sound currencies would be drawn from the fund, leaving only the unstable money of countries not adequately required to straighten out their economic affairs.

BERLIN: Dead City

Entering Berlin over a month after its capture, U. S. newspaper correspondents found a city of death, strangely quiet with piles of brick and masonry and steel heaps along the streets;

seared and gaunt walls sticking up like jagged teeth amidst the ruins, and all about the sweetly-sickening odor of death.

Though the Russians have pressed for the clearance of some streets for motor and pedestrian traffic, and installed emergency surface water piping in some sections, Berlin remains the terrifying example of the fate of present-day cities subjected to the fire of modern warfare.

As Americans motored through this fantasy of destruction, some of the 2,000,000 of surviving Berliners living in cellars or pummeled lower stories of burned-out buildings emerged from their hapless shelters, dazed and unkempt. They are living on meager rations and have no fuel. The only men seen were old and unshaven.

FARM MACHINERY: Production Problems

Despite easing of manufacturers' restrictions in June and the scheduled removal of all quotas in July, farm machinery companies are running up against a shortage of parts and manpower in producing sorely needed implements.

Of the parts, the most serious shortage is in gray cast machine castings, including cylinder blocks for tractor engines and rear axle housings.

Because of the pinch, output of mowers, binders and some types of harrows, plows, hay rakes and manure spreaders may be restricted.

Though the manpower shortage is general in the industry, the scarcity is particularly felt in the foundries producing castings. Throughout the entire war, foundries have experienced difficulties obtaining the necessary amount of employees, leading to wage increases in some instances to attract workers.

Because farm machinery manufacturers continued output during the war, they stand in a favored position in the reconversion period, not only because of the maintenance of their productive facilities, but also because of the continuation of their contacts with the thousands of sub-contractors turning out necessary small parts.

U. S. CASUALTIES: West Front Toll

Topping a million for all branches of service since Pearl Harbor, U. S. casualties in the fighting against Germany alone since D-Day totaled 514,534 or an average of 1,527 a day. Of the 514,534, 89,477 were killed, 367,180 wounded and 57,877 missing.

Against the 514,534 losses sustained by the 60 U. S. combat divisions opposing the Germans, 14 British and Canadian divisions incurred 164,512 casualties, including 39,599 killed, 126,145 wounded and 18,368 missing. Eleven French divisions suffered 11,080 casualties and one Polish division, 5,993.

Of the 57,877 U. S. troops reported missing, 15,000 to 20,000 may be prisoners yet to be recovered, it was said. Many may have been taken as such in the closing months of the campaign, when the disorganization of the Nazis prevented the official listings of prisoners.

WAR DEBTS

Addressing a statement to a senate committee considering extension of the reciprocal trade act for three years, prominent U. S. business men advocated passage of the measure and cancellation of all World Wars I and II debts if necessary to promote speedy postwar economic recovery.

The business men made their recommendations through the Committee for Economic Development, headed by Paul G. Hoffman, president of the Studebaker corporation.

Indian Horses

The American Indians did not have horses before the arrival of Europeans upon this continent. Dogs were the only animals used by these North Americans. Some authorities believe that all the wild and Indian horses of the West sprang from a few which escaped from the troops of Coronado in 1541.

Pheasant Country

South Dakota, long famed as the country's outstanding pheasant state, had a pheasant population of approximately 16,700,000 birds early in the fall of 1944, according to the South Dakota Cooperative Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

This is 44 per cent above the total population of chickens in farm flocks of the state. The figures, which are based on reports from more than 1,200 South Dakota farmers, indicate a statewide average of 34 pheasants for each 100 acres of land, or one pheasant for every three acres.

Five counties—Spink, Clark, Beadle, Miner and Sanborn—show pheasant populations of more than one bird to the acre.

Postwar Highway Act To Benefit Farmers

The federal aid highway act, recently approved by the President, provides half a billion dollars a year for the first three postwar years, an equal amount to be matched by the states.

The act provides for principal traffic arteries into and around the chief metropolitan areas, cities and industrial areas, according to Charles



M. Upham, director of the American Road Builders association. It further provides for principal secondary and feeder roads, including farm-to-market roads, rural free delivery and school bus lines, either inside or outside municipalities of less than 5,000 population.

Plans will not await the end of the war. Routes will be determined, right-of-way purchased and a comprehensive plan drawn up in the near future.

Push and Pull

While drawing a plow the horse's hoofs push against the ground and the horse's breast pushes against the breastband or collar to produce a pull on the plow. The situation is a complicated combination of pushes and pulls which illustrates Newton's third law of motion: "Action and reaction are equal and opposite in direction."

Army Companies

The letter "J" has never been used to designate a company in the regular army. It is believed the letter was omitted to avoid confusion since in 1816 when the system was established the letters "I" and "J" were frequently written exactly alike. For the same reason there is no "J" street in Washington, D. C.

Bible Translation

Words printed in italics in the Bible are not necessarily meant to be emphasized. In writing early editions of the Scriptures translators were unable to find English words equivalent to those in the Hebrew, Greek and Latin texts. Extra words inserted to make the translation intelligible were put in italics.

Pheasant Diet

Analyses of crops show that the Ringneck pheasant is a real friend of the hay fever sufferer. According to the Michigan department of conservation, ragweed has been found to be an important item in the pheasant diet. One crop contained 5,000 ragweed seeds, another 1,500.

Window Shade Care

When it is necessary to do a complete cleaning job on window shades use soap and water for the following types of shades: hand painted, pyroxylin and machine painted cambric shades. All other types are most satisfactorily cleaned with wall paper cleaner or art gum.

Origin of Sphinx

The Great Sphinx of Gizeh in Egypt is believed to have been built to protect neighboring tombs from evil spirits.

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"The Three Little Bluejays" Once there were three bluejays

Foreign Insurance The life insurance companies of the United States have never shown any great inclination to write life insurance in foreign countries, adding that today there are few American companies operating outside the continental limits of the United States. Several Canadian companies, however, have a fairly large life insurance portfolio overseas. In this connection the countries chosen by the United States and Canadian companies operating in the foreign field are generally more stable and consequently there is less risk of disturbance to foreign corporations in such countries.

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Milk Spot Milk spilled on clothing should be rinsed immediately with cold water before using warm soapy water.

Jap Beetle The Japanese beetle was found last year in 18 states outside those already under federal quarantine.

PREDICTING THE WINNER - - - By Collier



"Next Door" By TED SHEARER



who were the children of father bluejay and mother bluejay. The family lived in a little nest at the top of an old maple tree. One day when mother and father were hunting for worms, the three children climbed on a limb and were going to try to fly. Now there was one little bluejay who thought he knew everything, he stood up straight and quickly jumped from the limb. Little brother was hurt badly.

Soon mother and father bluejay came home. They found their son at the bottom of the old maple tree. They picked him up quickly and flew up to their nest. And then "The Three Little Bluejays" never tried to fly without their parents' permission.

Eula Irene Robinson, aged 8.

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