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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS — By Edward C. Wayne

Nazi and Italian Activities in U. S. Are Curtailed by Government Action; 'War of Nerves' Continues as Fighting Centers in Near East and North Africa

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

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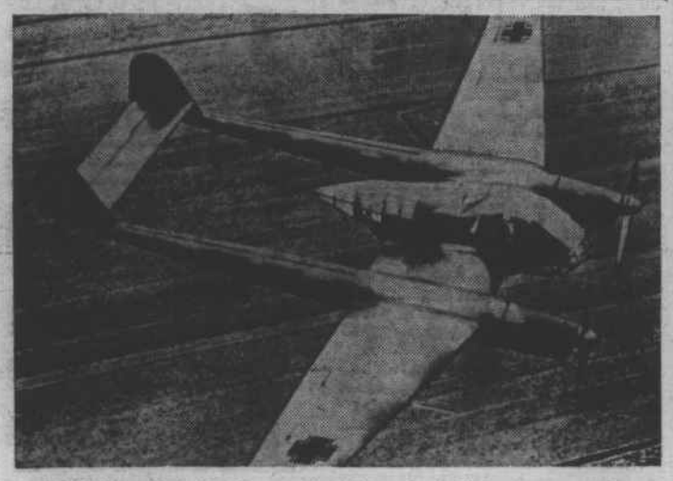

What is said to be the most modern short distance reconnaissance plane in the world is this double-fuselage ship of the Nazi luftwaffe. It is superior in maneuverability to a pursuit plane and has strong offensive as well as defensive weapons. Cannons and machine guns of the latest construction are carried in the ship which is powered by two powerful motors. Its crew of three has unobstructed views on all sides through the glass-enclosed cockpit.

NETS:
A Tightening

Following up the sinking of the Robin Moor, the government tightened still further its nets about fifth columnists, first by freezing all Axis assets in this country, and, second, by ordering all German consulates closed down, also news agencies and travel bureaus.

Another order, that barring the leaving of the United States of any German nationals until further notice, plus the word that was sent out that there would be a tightening of immigration permits, was held to be contingent on Germany's attitude to the American protest on the Robin Moor.

The fact that the remaining 35 Americans aboard the ship were eventually saved, the state department said, did not change the diplomatic situation regarding the vessel.

America, President Roosevelt indicated, was going to be firm from now on with regard to fifth column activities and sabotage, and was going to see to it that it was known who was coming into the country under the guise of "refugee."

WAR:
Of Nerves

In spite of considerable activity in the Near East and the North African fronts, the war settled down to a "war of nerves" again, with the nervous tension reaching far and wide as Germany massed men and machines on the Russian border.

The troops were not placed geographically close to the border, but were so disposed that they were within an exceedingly short distance in time from what many believed was a "bluff" objective.

The announcement that a Turkish-Russian-Nazi pact had been drawn up did little to relieve the nervous tension, as it was not immediately confirmed, nor was it clear whether this would solve the situation.

For few thought that any such agreement, made under the threat of an army force variously estimated at from a million and a half to two million men, would be long adhered to if the men were withdrawn.

Senator George, head of the foreign affairs committee, frankly expressed the belief that Germany, by the move against Russia and the concentrations in the upper and lower Balkans, was "trying to make sure of her eastern front" before attempting the long expected invasion of Great Britain herself.

However, even Senator George saw in the move the conviction by the Germans that it would be a long war, and an effort to obtain satisfactory supplies of wheat and oil.

Still others believed that a Russian-Turkish pact, implemented by troops of sufficient numbers to continue to enforce respect and strict adherence, might permit Germany to move southward through Russia and Turkey into the Near-East and the Middle East, and thus to close the pincers on the entire Eastern Mediterranean country.

This was the stage setting that caused the spread of the war of nerves into Britain itself, for day after day went by with only the most desultory German bombing efforts against England.

AIR:
Special Arm?

The question of whether the United States shall have a separate air force or whether the army and navy should each have its own was being debated.

The senate had a bill for a separate air arm, under a new cabinet officer, just as the army and navy each has its own secretary.

There were many taking stands on each side of the question, but the general feeling was that the bill, if it reached debate, would pass.

However, some pointed to the experience of the British eastern Mediterranean fleet, abandoned by planes when the RAF decided not to defend Crete. The ships found themselves practically at the mercy of the German bombers, and losses were heavy indeed.

The others pointed to the stories about the Illustrious, a British plane carrier, presumably as well equipped as any fleet could be to cope with enemy planes—yet almost destroyed twice in recent weeks by the fire power of enemy bombers.

The first school maintains that the reason the fleet was in severe trouble off Crete was that it was deserted by the RAF over which it had no control, the RAF being a separate arm.

The navy should have had its own planes, and depended on them, it was maintained. The other school, in pointing to the Illustrious, showed how the navy cannot expect to manage even its own planes efficiently, as the two services are so foreign to each other.

They also pointed to the disastrous habit of army and navy aviation competing with each other, in designing planes and purchasing and equipping them, thus each developing its own source of supply—a bad economic procedure of production when mass methods are considered.

Yet, it was pointed out, even if the senate bill creating a separate force is successfully carried, it would be a long time before it would actually get into being, for the army and navy are too busily engaged in supplying themselves and training pilots right now to allow any of their energies to be spared to build up a new separate air arm.

JAPAN:
Admits Failure

The upshot of the Japanese-Dutch East Indies affair appeared to be a total defeat for the Japanese, though it was by no means clear whether Nippon was willing to let it go at that.

The long-awaited text of the final Japanese statement, once the Dutch had stood firm and refused all the Jap requests and ultimatums, was, briefly, this:

"So sorry, but everything will be as it always has."

The Japanese admitted they had accomplished nothing, but that normal relations with the Dutch would continue.

Yet back of all these was the growing conviction that Nazi Germany would not be satisfied with a bland admission of defeat on the part of Japan, but might demand action, thus either losing an ally or perhaps hurling the specter of war into the southern Pacific.

Honors for Both

Robert Jackson, newly selected as associate justice of the United States Supreme court, shows his fatherly pride as he poses with son, William E. Jackson, upon the latter's graduation from Yale.

KNOX:
And Stimson

Secretaries Knox and Stimson, also Canada's prime minister, Mackenzie King all made important statements carrying big sidelights on the war and America's national defense.

Knox, speaking in Canada, said that the United States is "practically" deciding that her course will thoroughly parallel that of Canada in the present struggle.

He thanked the Canadians for remaining aloof from America's own decision-making, and reminded Canada that at the time when she was making up her mind, America did not meddle.

Secretary Stimson, in Washington, arguing that the $285,000,000 St. Lawrence river seaway ought to be constructed as soon as possible in order to provide a safe journey much of the way from American factories to Britain, foresaw a long war.

One senator asked Stimson if it was not true that the project would take four years to construct, and if so, wouldn't the war be over long before it was finished.

Mr. Stimson said, in the first place, that he thought it was going to be a long war, and in the second place, we ought not to go on a basis of thinking it would be a short one.

Premier King, in the United States for a visit, made Canada's answer to American isolationists and enemies of the lease-lend bill who had accused Canada of demanding "cash on the barrel-head" for Canadian production while Britain asked the U. S. for leased or lent goods.

Mr. King said that Americans who made these statements failed to take into account the fact that Canada was giving the United Kingdom enormous quantities of men and munitions which were neither leased no lent but were an outright gift toward the winning of the war.

He said that Canada was not forced to fight on behalf of Britain, that the decision was fully and freely made by Canadians themselves on a basis of complete autonomy.

He added that he believed the United States, in much the same way, had arrived at the same decision—to give all-out aid to Britain.

CHUTE:
British Style

A dramatic story of how the British were using parachutists in occupied France was told.

The little party of chutists landed near to the German-held airport, made contact with British agents on the ground, also with French people sympathetic to Britain, gathered together and made a surprise nighttime assault on the airport.

They seized the control room, also the field itself, and a barrack room in which were German pilots awaiting the command to take to the air.

Other squads went out to the landing field and destroyed 30 planes on the ground, also the buildings were set afire and burned.

The chutists then sped for the coast, where motor torpedo boats were waiting for a prearranged signal to take them back to England.

The maneuver was said to have been carried out so swiftly that the German headquarters did not know anything had happened until it was all over the chutists were safely on their way back across the channel.

The move was predicated by the sympathy of the French people, and this was borne out in repeated dispatches and stories by returned refugees, one of which told of British skywriters almost daily writing "Courage" (spelled the same in French and English) in the air over French territory.

Washington Digest

Nation's Nutrition Problem Is Subject of Wide Study

Experts Seek Methods of Restoring 'Pep' to America's Diet; Chaplain Has Vital Role in United States Army.

By BAUKHAGE
National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

WNU Service, 1343 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Starving in the midst of plenty! That is what is wrong with a much larger segment of the American people than we ever guessed. And a lot of the hungry have plenty of money in the bank and a lot of others have plenty of potential food in their garden plots. Sounds ridiculous, doesn't it?

But it is true. And in a week or two you will probably see one of the 2,000,000 pamphlets which were printed by the government printing office in Washington and distributed by the office of the co-ordinator of health, welfare and related defense activities.

This pamphlet asks and answers 20 questions about "enriched bread." Because modern bread is not what it used to be when it was the strong "staff of life" that helped our healthier ancestors, a hundred years ago, battle their way over life's highroad.

Of course it's the vitamins we lack.

What are we going to do for the thousands of Americans who are only "half alive," as the famous nutrition specialist, Dr. Russell M. Wilder of the Mayo clinic, puts it? We are going to try to make them "all alive"—and alive longer, too.

This month, organizations have been meeting all over the nation to talk about this problem that has come upon America since we began refining the "pep" out of our foods, our bread and our fats and our sugar. The American Medical association is taking a hand. So is the National Society of Home Economists with 17,000 teachers in it—just to mention two of the many groups which have joined Uncle Sam in this job of building better bodies, brighter minds and a more stalwart nation.

I sat today in the office of M. L. Wilson, head of the extension service of the department of agriculture. I hated to leave, so fascinating were his stories, true stories from the laboratory and the home and the canning factory, the garden and the field, the hospital and the kitchen. How the missing vitamins and minerals through the co-operation of food-processors will be restored chemically to products. How a great educational campaign will teach people how to choose from the foods they have; how to provide food elements for those without means; how the house-wife, the doctor, the dietician and the restaurant keeper will be shown ways to help nourish the nation's sinews.

"Only about one-fourth of the families of the United States with diets that could be rated good" were found in a recent survey by the department of agriculture.

And so a national nutrition conference was called which mapped the job conquering hunger, "the oldest enemy of man."

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Why America Doesn't Want War

In the hours when Washington was awaiting the details of the sinking of the American ship Robin Moor, reportedly by an "unidentified submarine" there was, for these days, an indescribable calm in the capital.

After the White House press conference I walked down the winding path under the elms which seemed to cast a shadow of peaceful security across the whole nation. I reviewed in my mind conversations of the week with certain earnest men in high places in the government. They had given me reasons to hope that the United States would not be drawn into Europe's frightful struggle.

When I reached my office I jotted these reasons down. Here they are:

1. The people do not want war.
2. The United States is not prepared—the navy, yes; but not the army or the air corps.
3. If we went in there would be a demand for supplies at home which Britain needs.
4. If we took an aggressive step against the Axis powers, Japan would be bound to join Germany and Italy against us.
5. If Germany struck first, Japan would not have to go in, therefore, Germany would avoid "incidents."

These were the reasons, I believe, why Washington awaited the "details" of the sinking of the Robin Moor with such calm.

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Chaplain Is Important In Army Life

"In all my years of service I have never known a boy who was led astray by anything in the army."

There was a bouquet of red roses on the desk of the sandy-haired colonel who made that remark to me.

It was his birthday but the 28 roses were for his 28 years as chaplain in the army.

He was William Arnold, chief of chaplains of the United States army, whose job right now is being headshepherd for flock of a million new lambs, the boys in the regular army, the navy, the marines and the new selectees.

"Chaplain," I said, "if you could write a letter to the families of these boys who read the weekly newspapers, what would you say to them?"

The genial features above the clerical collar lit up with interest.

"The one thing I'd like to tell them," he said, "is this: as far as religion goes—a boy is just as safe in the army as at home."

"From 5 a. m.," as Colonel Arnold put it, "until the stars come out."

And then a twinkle came into his eyes that I wish every mother's son might have seen.

"You know, they say the devil finds things for idle hands to do," he smiled, "Well the devil is out of luck in an army camp, hands and feet and head are pretty busy from reveille to taps."

"Even old soldiers," he went on, "when the day is over are ready to read a little and maybe sing a little, and then go to bed."

And at this point, if I may interject a personal word, I can come out for confirmation of that statement. I know. I was there.

But as far as the soldier's spiritual life goes things are different from when I was in the army and when Chaplain Arnold began his service.

Today there is religious service every day in an army camp.

But let's get down to brass tacks, as the chief of chaplains and I did in our talk. I call it a talk. It was not an interview, just an ex-soldier talking to another in a room with the scent of red roses and a calendar open showing Jesus before the tomb with the stone rolled away.

Is the boy in trouble, is he heavy-laden, is he sick?

It's the chaplain to whom he goes or the chaplain who comes to him. Suppose the boy is just laid up with a cold. The chaplain is there, every day in the camp hospital or the sick-bay, to say, "Howzit, buddy?"

Suppose he is too sick to write home. Down sits the padre and takes the letter. Suppose he is real sick. The chaplain talks to the doctor, and then writes to the folks. Suppose it is critical. Then the chaplain, if he doesn't happen to be of the same faith as the boy, gets the lad's own pastor or rabbi if he has to send to the nearest town for him.

But suppose the boy is heavy laden with some of the troubles he does not like to write home about. Nine chances out of ten the chaplain has guessed it. If he has not he will listen and give advice out of his wide experience, out of the devotion and charity that are in his soul (or he would not have the job).

We talked of these things and others in the quiet office and then Chaplain Arnold leaned across the desk and said:

"Here's one thing I wish you'd tell these people you write for, tell them to write a letter about their boy and address it, 'Chaplain' and the same address they write to the boy. And if they know anybody—any relatives in the town nearby the camp, write to them and suggest that they invite the boy to come to see them over the week-end, and write to the priest, or minister or rabbi of their own denomination. He'll be glad to co-operate."

At that point he leaned back and smiled. "You know," he said, "Our chaplains in the army represent 27 denominations of the 261 in this country and they give a fine example of co-operation that the churches outside the army might well copy."

Attics Give Up Gifts for Briton

Materials of All Sorts Are Donated by Americans To Help in War.

LONDON.—A look at the list of gifts to Britain's evacuees, bomb victims and members of the army, navy and Royal Air force reveals that a lot of American attics have been cleared during the last year—all to the benefit of men and women who are fighting Britain's war.

Leaders of the English-Speaking Union, which has been co-operating with the American branch of the organization as well as with other United States charitable organizations in collecting clothing and materials of every description to aid the war effort, said that only very rarely have they been sent gifts which could not be used by someone somewhere.

What might have been Uncle Ned's old cornet which looked like it had been kicked around in an attic for many years, now is doing duty in an army band which lost all its instruments in the evacuation of Dunkirk. Junior's football, which he left in the basement when he went to college, might now be doing service on a field near a Canadian encampment where American volunteers are teaching their British mates the rudiments of the game.

Many Garments Sent.

More than 65,000 garments and thousands of other gifts have been received from all over the United States. Most of the garments are hand-knitted stockings, sweaters, gloves and mufflers. They represent an enormous amount of knitting, purling and stitching by thousands of women in America.

Gifts have been received from Colorado mountain towns, from Chicago, Milwaukee, Roanoke, Va., New England, Cleveland, Cincinnati and California. Some of these are marked "To the men serving on the 50 United States destroyers" which were granted in the air base exchange. Others are designated for the men of the coastal patrol life saving service or the Royal Air force. But most of them are just sent to be distributed where they are most needed.

Besides the gifts of garments, Americans have sent more than $5,000 in cash to the union as well as 14 American ambulances, money for first-aid mobile posts, one complete surgical unit, a mobile feeding post and mountains of Red Cross and hospital supplies.

Offers of Homes.

Not the least important has been the offers of hundreds of homes in the United States to care for British children for the duration of the war.

"The American gifts have been more wonderful than it is possible to imagine," one organization official said. "The clothing is always freshly cleaned and the people in the United States seem to have a second sight when it comes to giving things.

"Whenever we need little girls' dresses, or sturdy trousers for boys, or shoes for bombed firemen or layettes for babies—in fact, about anything possible to imagine, we know we usually can count on them being in the next shipment. They usually are."

These gifts served immeasurably in brightening the lives of the fighting forces as well as the evacuees and persons who have lost their homes. Dolls, toys, magazines, books, ping pong sets, dart boards, tennis racquets, cricket bats all have been distributed from the American donations. Cigarettes, tobacco, candy, cookies and even fruitcakes and cookies which could be safely shipped without spoiling have been sent.

Concrete Made With Mica Base Proves Versatile

RALEIGH, N. C.—Concrete that can be sliced with a handsaw and punctured with an ordinary driven nail is being tested by the ceramics department of North Carolina State college.

During the recent Engineers fair at the college, William A. Scholes, ceramics research engineer, demonstrated the new material's versatility by several tests with ordinary carpenter's tools.

Scholes drove several nails into a block of the new concrete, which is made with vermiculite instead of sand. The block didn't split and the nails didn't bend.

He then sawed it into small sections with a handsaw. There were no cracks and the edges were smooth.

Scholes, conducting experiments with the new material for the Tennessee Valley Authority, hopes the vermiculite product will come into widespread use for building low-cost pre-fabricated houses.

10,000 Yankees Are With Allied Forces

Eagle Club Head Tells of Boys in All Uniforms.

LONDON.—Ten thousand Americans, most of them under 25, are fighting with Britain and her allies, Robert Hutchinson, chairman of the American Eagle club, said.

The Eagle club is a sort of super-canteen for Americans on this side of the Atlantic and for other forces. It is maintained by private contributions, plus profits from low prices charged the troops.

Hutchinson and Mrs. Hutchinson, known as the father and mother of the Eagle club, say they knew hundreds of the volunteers from the United States by name and thousands by their faces.

"The largest number is with the Canadians," said Hutchinson. "But you find American boys everywhere."

A number of those in England were caught in German invasions of European countries and finally made their way to London.

"We meet them in the 'Free French' and even in the 'Free Rumanian' forces," said Hutchinson.

"We particularly need a dormitory for these boys," Hutchinson said. "We close early and have to turn them out into the blackout."

Hutchinson said many persons had the idea the life of a soldier in this war was comparatively easy.

"I know better," he said. "I have seen them come in here after being bombed out, after operating anti-aircraft guns and after working with bomb damage until they are tired, dog tired."

The Eagle club is the one place in wartime London where an American can buy a hamburger for less than 10 cents and coffee that tastes American.

Sugar Industry in South Was Born in Old Kettle

BATON ROUGE, LA.—An old iron kettle, blackened by the many fires over which it has hung in the past 200 years, rests on the campus of Louisiana State university as a memorial to the man who made Louisiana's sugar industry possible.

Indigo was the money crop when the French planter aristocracy owned plantations that stretched for miles along the bayous and lakes of southern Louisiana at the end of the Eighteenth century. Jean Etienne de Bore was no exception.

De Bore was born in the Illinois section of the Louisiana Purchase territory. At the age of four he was taken to France by his parents where he received his education and later married into large colonial holdings.

He returned to New Orleans with his wife about the time of the French revolution and established his plantation on what now is a part of Audubon park near the city limits.

There he engaged in the planting of indigo. When a blight, however, wiped out the indigo crops, De Bore and the other planters were faced with bankruptcy.

Many planters already had tried to granulate sugar from cane juice, but their experiments failed time after time. De Bore, overriding the protests of his wife, decided to have a fling at the sugar business.

Former Cripple Starts New Club for 'Shut-ins'

WATERLOO, IOWA. — In gratitude for freedom from the crutches which she had to use for 12 years before being cured, Vivian Brown, 25, has organized a Shut-in Club which now has 225 cripple members.

When her last operation left her cured she was free to pursue her own activities, but she said she couldn't forget all the crippled children whom she had lived among in hospital wards, so she started the "Ship of Joy." Members live in all parts of the nation.

Since its start the group has purchased and distributed 12 wheel chairs, 10 radios, two typewriters, and many gifts to shut-ins. The club has a library of 100 jig-saw puzzles and 300 books.

High School Class Has Grandma, Mother, Bride

WEST MANSFIELD. — The 1941 graduating class of the local high school includes a grandmother, a mother and a bride.

Mrs. Agnes Chambers, 55, who has 11 grandchildren, spent the last four years in high school completing the education she started many years ago.

The mother is Mrs. Donald Steinhelfer, who has an eight-month-old son.

The bride is Mrs. Gerald Rea, who was married during the winter and who decided to continue her studies.