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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

Navy Reveals Damage to Jap Isles; Senate Again Acts on Price Control; LaGuardia Quits OCD, Landis New Head; Normandie Creates Problem for Navy

(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.)

RAID: On Japs

After two weeks of censorship the Pacific fleet command allowed news men to disclose the amount of damage inflicted by the U. S. navy in their spectacular attack on the Japanese Marshall and Gilbert Islands. These reports indicated that with the loss of only 11 U. S. aircraft, plus a minor bomb hit on one cruiser, and with a small loss of life units of the American fleet accomplished the following:

- Destroyed four military air bases.
- Destroyed two military villages.
- Destroyed four radio stations.
- Sank at least 18 Jap ships, including a modern cruiser, two submarines and a 17,000-ton liner.
- Damaged at least eight other Jap ships.

In addition to an undetermined number destroyed on the ground, the Japs lost 38 aircraft, including fighters and bombers.

Described as almost perfect timing and executed with speed and daring the raid was the first big answer to the often asked question, "Where is the fleet?"

CONSUMERS: Face Living Costs

It was apparent that the price control bill, which had prevented inflation of certain farm prices, was going to be subject to changes that might bring a big rise in the cost of some items.

The senate agriculture committee had unanimously approved a bill

The amendment had been tacked onto a bill passed which provided \$1,000,000 for the purchase of gas-masks, auxiliary fire-fighting equipment and other protective goods to be used in the protection of the population against air raids.

The senate had been expected to go along with the house in its effort



JAMES M. LANDIS
Succeeding Little Flower . . .

to weed the "frills and furbelows" out of the program.

Senator Byrd, Virginia, keynoted this move by demanding that the OCD send his committee a list of all OCD employees getting over \$3,000 a year, and outlining their specific duties.

LUZON: 163 Planes

Continued efforts by the Japanese to land on Bataan had been turned back by General MacArthur's highly mobile artillery forces in the general's "last ditch" fight to keep the American flag flying over the Philippines.

The anti-aircraft fire of MacArthur's men had continued good, the bag of seven planes in one day comparing favorably with other fronts where the United Nations had many more serviceable aircraft than did the defenders of Luzon.

Captured prisoners and other methods of gaining information revealed that five Japanese divisions had been identified as taking part in the battle, which would bring the estimated strength of the Japs actually on the front battle-line at close to 100,000 men.

Other divisions were on the island, keeping communications open, and it had been reported that reinforcements for the Japs were constantly arriving, thus steadily increasing the pressure on the American-Filipino army.

NORMANDIE: \$80,000,000 Job

Whether carelessness, sabotage or Fate was responsible, the 83,000-ton Normandie, former luxury liner and now the naval auxiliary Lafayette, lay on her enormous beam-ends in 40 feet of water and 12 feet of mud at her dock in New York, an \$80,000,000 salvage job for the U. S. navy.

Twenty-two hundred men were at work inside of her, changing her over from peacetime to wartime uses when a welder's torch started a fire. Within minutes it was out of control.

SINGAPORE: Water-Pincers

A new tactic in warfare, the "water-pincers" movement, utilized by the Japanese in Malaya, had brought Singapore to her knees, spreading gloom in Britain, and making the defense of the East Indies a nearly superhuman job.

General Yamashita, commander of the Jap forces in Malaya, had won the Order of the Golden Kite and the Order of the Rising Sun for his success in driving the defenders out of Malaya, for smashing into the island of Singapore, first time in history that the historic port had been tested in battle.

The long, narrow peninsula of Malaya, difficult terrain, had apparently presented enormous invasion problems. The Japs had solved these by using small boats, many of them commandeered or captured, and sending small, well-armed and highly mobile detachments, first down the east coast, then down the west, making landings by night, and infiltrating behind the defenders.

SPY RAIDS: On West Coast



TWO BUDDHIST PRIESTS TAKEN
Weren't always praying . . .

More and more Japanese continued to be caught in the nets spread along the West coast by the FBI.

The spy raids were being carried out almost daily by the G-men, who in one raid got 20 alleged spies and saboteurs and a truckload of ammunition and weapons.

Chief concentration of the raids was in Pacific coast counties where there were large military establishments.

At Salinas, Calif., following the questioning of several Japs taken into custody at a large lettuce farm, one of them turned out to be a former chief of police in Tokyo. Another was formerly a high official in the same police force.

A raid on a Buddhist temple in Monterey county yielded three priests. All of them had been in this country only a few months.

In a sporting goods store, about to purchase firearms, a former Japanese bootlegger with a police record was taken into custody.

It was here that a whole truckload of ammunition, rifles, shotguns, etc., was seized, together with the proprietor, a Japanese.

In 45 places searched, the yield was, among other things, 60,945 rounds of ammunition.

TEA: Panic Buying

A new U. S. agency had been formed to handle the tea situation which developed after grocers were appalled to find customers ordering tea in five-pound lots.

The panic in buying followed similar lines to that in sugar, and which had resulted in the setting up of a sugar rationing plan.

As more or less a natural outcome of the news from the tea-growing areas, WPB began to get reports of "five-pound tea buying" from all sections of the country, and it was regarded as essential that rationing be adopted if the buying panic had not been stopped voluntarily.

In the sugar situation, cases of prosecution began to pop up, one chain store manager, trying to make a sales record for himself, having disposed of 31,000 pounds of sugar, allegedly to illicit still operators. He was fined \$500.

DUTCH: Under Pressure

Complaints from the Netherlands East Indies command that too much of the naval force of the United Nations was engaged in "non-combatant work" came as the Dutch faced a pincers movement against Sourabaya and the fear of a frontal attack on Java generally.

It was evident, said the Dutch leaders, that a giant pincers move was being directed at Java when the Japs landed in force on Celebes island, which formed the tip of the right flank of the Javanese defense line.

At the same time Axis sources had reported that the Japanese were demanding the surrender by the Dutch of all the East Indies, together with their oil supplies, in return for which the islands would be technically left as Dutch possessions.

Dutch sources said, however, that no Japanese proposal would be entertained, and they continued their "scorched earth" policy of destroying all oil installations before abandoning any property to the Japs.

Despite the costly losses inflicted on the enemy in Macassar strait last month, the Japs evidently had been able to make successful landings there.

Chief hope at present of the Dutch in captured territory was the report of successful guerrilla action which had really been the answer to the loss by Japan of any real victory in the war with China. One Dutch authority had said:

"Nowhere do the Japs feel safe. Our men behind their lines are picking them off, two today, ten tomorrow, and the toll is mounting and steady. This guerrilla war is being fought in an incessant downpour of rain."

Washington Digest

United Nations Are Forced Into Postponing Offensive

Axis Prepared for War Before Fighting Started While U. S. and Allies Must 'Prepare' As Battles Are Raging.

By BAUKHAGE

National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

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

It is an open secret that the high commands of the United Nations have agreed to postpone the hope of a general offensive for a year—possibly two.

Circumstances have forced the re-writing of the old military adage which says "The best defense is offense." The axis powers were prepared for war before they started fighting. The United Nations had to prepare after they started fighting.

The axis powers choose their own time and place for battle. They have the initiative. For the United Nations, because they have no choice, the best offense is defense.

Besides preparation, the axis powers—Germany and Italy in Europe and Japan in Asia—have another advantage, geographical position. That is, their supply lines radiate out from their own or occupied territory, to the fronts on which they choose to fight.

Although the total naval power of the United Nations is greater than that of the axis, it is so widely spread that it cannot contact the enemy at any one point where the enemy is not superior. In places where the enemy lacks ships it more than makes up in air power.

When the United Nations have trained and equipped land forces and have constructed naval air forces superior in quantity to the axis they will have an even greater advantage than mere numbers of effective man power. Then they will be able to take the initiative and when the axis is placed on the defensive, the latter powers will have one of their advantages of today turned into a disadvantage, namely, their geographical positions. They will become prisoners to sea power. Sea power will cut them off from the resources necessary for the armies and navies to carry on war, and food and fuel for the civilian populations to carry on life.

Raw Materials Will Count

The United Nations can build superior land, air and naval forces because they control more raw materials.

So, military experts say, the task of the United Nations is to remain on the defensive, wasting down as much of the enemy's power as possible while building up their own. Holding as much ground as possible, but sacrificing territory which they do not need now in order to save manpower and supplies which they do need now. The territory can be won back by the United Nations. The manpower and supplies which the enemy loses cannot be replaced.

This is not a popular kind of warfare. It is the kind that makes the people rise up and demand new leaders to bring them quick victories. It makes armies and navies restive. It is bad for morale. But it is the only kind of warfare that the United Nations can engage in now. More haste on the battlefield will make less speed toward final victory.

According to this plan, the defenders of the Philippines, of Singapore, of the Netherlands Indies, must fight as long as they can. But their com-



FURLOUGH ON THE FARM—The kid sister gazes wide-eyed at her sailor brother as he spins a yarn of the sea while helping her with the farm chores.—Official U. S. Navy Photograph.



Women Toil on Defense Work

Volunteers Go Into High Gear With Attack on Pearl Harbor.

NEW YORK.—A day in the life of a woman volunteer defense worker is more crowded than a debutante's social schedule and more hectic than a housewife's blue Monday.

Volunteer defense work, covering anything Americans may do on the home front in total war, went into high gear with the attack on Pearl Harbor. Most active organizations so far are the American Red Cross, American Women's Voluntary Services and the Office of Civilian Defense.

At the office of the motor division of the A.W.V.S., smartly uniformed Bernice Reedy was on duty at 7 a. m. to answer telephone calls for emergency motor service.

In spite of the confusion of 50 or 60 women who "want to do something" milling about, Miss Reedy dispatched a car to take a small child to a throat clinic.

No Lunch Hour Here. She directed three fur-coated, shrill-voiced women to the registration desk and at the same time arranged transportation for a troupe of entertainers to Camp Upton.

While she ate her lunch off a tray she arranged to have surplus food from a day market picked up and delivered to a social service agency.

The motor corps is only one division of the A.W.V.S. which is organized in 28 states and has 150,000 workers. In the last two weeks more than 1,000 eager women have registered at its local office.

Motor corps volunteers must have a driver's license. They take courses in first aid, convoy driving, map reading and mechanics and must give 50 hours service before they can wear the corps uniform—a tidy, two-piece outfit in gray blue gabardine with lots of brass buttons.

Air raid and fire warden, many of whom registered with precinct police and fire chiefs months ago as a lark, found themselves in classrooms, manual and notebook in hand.

To a timid woman in a class of 35 prospective wardens, who asked "What can you expect in a blackout?" Miss May Eren, instructor, answered crisply "A lot of darkness."

10,000 Jobs Listed.

She proceeded to outline wardens' duties: enforcing lighting restrictions; helping steer persons to safe places; assisting victims; reporting fires, and organizing neighborhood groups.

Most members of the warden classes proceeded immediately to first aid classes. These are organized by the Red Cross with some duty to fit every woman's talent.

At the Office of Civilian Defense a group of 40 interviewers who volunteered to help volunteers, struggled at cataloguing qualifications of 600 workers a day. The OCD acts as a clearing house. The idea is to get volunteer workers into one of the 10,000 jobs listed with the OCD.

"I got up at six this morning to get to a class in airplane spotting, before I came here," a weary interviewer said as she catalogued her last applicant.

"I guess I'll end the day by going over to the Red Cross blood bank and give 'em a pint—if I have any red corpuscles left!"

Army Vehicle Jockeys

Have Jive Talk of Own

BROWNWOOD, TEXAS.—No good "cowboy" will do any "highballing" because he knows that if a "Jesse James" doesn't get him the "meat wagon" may.

Puzzling? Well, maybe, to civilians, but the terms are in everyday use in the motor pool of the army's 36th division, based in Camp Bowie here.

A "cowboy" is a good driver of any army vehicle. He is contrasted with a "gear-fighter" who makes noise shifting gears, a "hot foot" who rides the clutch, a "firebug" who drives with one flat tire on a dual wheel assembly despite knowledge the resulting friction causes a fire hazard, and a "highballer" who drives at excessive speed.

A "cop caller" is a truck with noisy brakes, while one with defective brakes is a "killer." A radio reconnaissance car is a "crackle crate," a motorcycle is a "pop cart," an ammunition truck is a "boom wagon," and a convoy commander is "the bull of the woods."

A mechanic, of course, is a "nut-buster" or a "grease monkey," while the crank handle is the "Armstrong starter."

And, as for those terms in the first paragraph, no good driver will do any speeding because he knows that if a military policeman doesn't get him the ambulance may.

Patched Suits and Less Food Foreseen

What the War Will Mean to Average American.

NEW YORK.—Mr. and Mrs. Average American can look forward to living in a smaller house, having one egg instead of two for breakfast, wearing patched clothes and playing parlor games instead of going to the movies, for the duration of the war.

Prof. Colston E. Warne, professor of economics at Amhurst college and president of the Consumers union, painted this picture of plain living for the average American family—the one that lives on \$1,180 a year. His statement was based on surveys made by the union.

"The average American has a better job and more money," Warne said, "but he is squeezed between higher prices and fewer consumer goods to be had at any price."

"The fact that the estimated national income for 1942 is \$100,000,000,000 against \$90,000,000,000 for 1941 and that we are soaring toward a super-boom in jobs and production, is a little cause for cheer for most of us."

"Taxes for 1942 will reduce Mr. Average American's \$100 to \$80 and rising prices reduce the purchasing power of this to \$42, compared to 1939."

In terms of every-day living, Warne explained that this would mean many families would not be able to buy milk. Others, accustomed to having an egg and toast and potatoes for breakfast would get along on toast and potatoes.

"People who are used to buying one or two new clothing outfits a year," he said, "probably will patch up what they have."

He'll move into a smaller house to cope with spiraling rents. Warne's best advice to average Americans was to concentrate on buying good food.

Monocled Hobo Ends 56 Years of Globe Trotting

Years of Globe Trotting

MIAMI, FLA.—A 70-year-old monocle-wearing hobo named Sandy J. Ledger, who has crossed the Atlantic 42 times and has held such jobs as circus peanut vender and typesetter for the Times of London, has announced his 56 years of globe tramping are over.

He is not a bum, but a hobo. A hobo, he said, is a rover who works—a bum is just a bum. Ledger declared he has always worked—in his time he has been a weaver in Massachusetts, a longshoreman in France, a bull puncher on a cattle boat, a compositor on the Times of London, the London Daily Mail and the Paris edition of the New York Herald Tribune.

"You can't go on wandering forever, not at my age," Ledger said as he remarked that he had decided to settle in Miami which he described as "one of the finest cities in the world."

Ledger, who is a printer by trade, claims the distinction of being the first American printer to print a newspaper at sea.

Optometrists Find Way

To Measure Eye Fatigue

CHICAGO.—Optometrists know that tired eyes do strange things. They twist, turn upwards and sometimes refuse to focus at the end of a fatiguing day. So the optometrists have invented a new device for measuring eye fatigue. It is a stereophycychrophometer.

Dr. Herman Shurin of Kansas City, Mo., recommends the stereophycychrophometer for measuring eye fatigue of pilots and automobile drivers to determine when they should and should not fly or drive, thus diminishing danger to themselves and others.

He told the America Academy of Optometry that the device is the only one ever advanced that tests upper and lower deviations of the eye—sure signs of fatigue—at the same time. Its most practical value in the present emergency, Shurin said, will be to determine the length of time pilots can operate before their vision becomes too distorted.

Red Chutists Play Both

Ends Against Middle

LONDON.—Russian parachutists set German troops firing upon each other during a recent raid, reports the Soviet army newspaper, Red Star. As heard by the British Broadcasting corporation, the Red Star said that Red chutists "encountered a long column of German motorized infantry, supported by tanks and armored cars. They opened fire on the center and both ends. Confused by the darkness both ends of the column started blazing away at each other, and the parachutists watched the Germans exterminating their own men."