**WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS** 

By Edward C. Wayne

Jap Invasion Bases in New Guinea Strengthen Drive Against Australia; Promised Dominion Status for India Fails to Result in Expected Harmony

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



Reports from Australia emphasize the importance of Allied attacks on the Japanese invasion bases of Salamaua and Lae in northeast New Guinea. From Salamaua to Thursday Island, off the northern tip of Australia, the distance is 400 miles. From Port Moresby, the nearest major harbor to the mainland, to Cape York, on the northern Australian tip, the distance is little

INDIA:

Britain's Problem

against all white men.

Chinese allies.

complished nothing.

be seen.

Churchill had informed Commons

which had been demanding some forthright action on the problem of

Hindustan, that nothing could be done now, but repeating his promise

of dominion status for India "after the war."

So far this problem was the most

trying one facing the British. In Burma they had found what they

were up against, with the Burmes

revolutionaries joining the Japs, and

many of the others turning frankly

The British defenders of Burma,

cut off by these tactics, had been

forced to retreat more and more,

and finally, in a daring maneuver

had struck northward, and had

smashed their way close to their

What Britain feared more than

and to this the best Church-

anything was a frank and open uprising of all of India's 350,000,000

ill could do had been to re-offer what

had been offered back in August,

1940, and which, apparently, had ac-

But this time he went a little fur-

government had adopted a definite

plan as to how the dominion status

would be carried out, and that he

was sending his own right-hand

man, Sir Stafford Cripps personally to India to explain it all to them.

India's religious and caste prob-

ems were, admittedly, severe, and

whether Cripps could dig his hand

into India and come out with Brit-

ain's little white rabbit remained to

He was a miracle man in Russia

and a miracle man before Commons.

Could he perform a third in this

Millions of Americans, many of them making their first trip to Uncle

Sam's tax windows, had made their income tax returns for 1942, but only

pay the full amount.
At the same time they were aware

that 1943 taxes would be much high

er, and there were thousands who

had a different picture of their fam-

ily budgets after making their re-

In the meantime, in Washington,

though some government authorities

were against the sales tax as putting

the burden on the weak, began seri-

ous consideration of some form of

sales tax as being probably less

painful and more sure of large

The house ways and means com-

mittee had taken the bit between

its teeth in demanding that treasury

officials furnish them with data on

the probable yield of some form of

Secretary Morgenthau had taken

the position that a sales tax would be not only inequitable, putting the

heaviest burden on the poor, but that it would be inflationary.

sales tax.

returns than increased incom

turns than they did before.

war? Britain hoped so.

Millions Pay

He told the Indians that the

### AUSSIES:

On the Spot

Hardly had the battle of Java reached the mopping up stages than the battle for the approaches of Aus-tralia had started with rumblings from within the continent that the Aussies were far from pleased with the amount of preparedness they

The signal for the beginning of the "curtain-raiser" for the attempted invasion of Australia had closely followed the shut-down of communications with Java, and came at the same time news was received that some 3,000 Australian troops, badly needed at home, were still fighting a hopeless fight on the island of

The spearhead of the projected invasion was apparently to be based on the island of New Guinea, just to the north of the continent and immediately threatening it as the shortest airline flight from the East

The Japs had landed large forces at Salamaua, Lae and at Finschaven, and had been busily engaged in consolidating these positions as bases of supplies.

This was enough to set at rest any doubts Australians might have had that India and not they were going to be next on the Jap time table. Not only that, but the Japanese, with brutal frankness, had broadcast that stralia was going to suffer same fate as had the Dutch East Indies.

How much American aid and reinforcement already was in Austra-lia was dubious, and a closely guarded military secret. If we were weak, the military leaders naturally didn't want the Japs to know how weak, and if we were strong enough to de-feat them, when and if they should land, these same leaders didn't want

to warn them off. The only stories concerning the amount of aid had come from Mc-Daniel, who had written that the town of Perth was so full of American troops that it looked like an American city, and from British Cor-respondent Harr, whose dispatch had caused an immediate tempest

which hadn't gone anywhere at all. Harr it was who, apparently writ-ing from the midst of an American convoy bound to Australia had said that the "sea was covered with ships" and that "hundreds of America's best fighting pilots" were aboard.

America also was sending men "from the plains states" he added, but gave no hint of their status.

It was from Australian leaders themselves that the hint came that the continent was ill-prepared. One

"It is the plan of the Japanese to attack us before we can get prepared, and before we can receive reinforcements."

Secrecy had muddled the picture for Americans, but certain it was that in going after Australia the Japs were really biting off a chunk which would take a bit of chewing, for they'd find no fifth-column there waiting to be taken over.

Need Man Power For Spring Drive

NAZIS:

Whether Germany was planning peace or not, London had been hear-ing reports that the Nazis were seriously short of manpower which was needed for the spring offensive against Russia.

The first indication of this was

when the Nazis issued an estimate of losses thus far in the war which was by far the largest figure they had ever admitted, though still far short of the Reds' claims.

The Germans admitted loss 1,500,000 men since the start of the war, and said that half of these had been lost in the winter on the Rus-

The report had come out of London that the Nazis now were asking for 2,600,000 fresh troops from Italy, Hungary and Slovakia for the

spring offensive.
Soviet authorities claimed that the Germans had lost 6,000,000 men on the Russian winter front alone, of these 1,700,000 killed, 2,000,000 seri-ously wounded, and the rest missing

or prisoner.

Of the new troops Germany was said to be asking for 1,500,000 from Hungary, 1,000,000 from Italy and 100,000 from Slovakia, Rumania was said to have given an army of 1,000,-000 last fall, but the Reds asserted that practically all of these had been

## HARA-KIRI:

On Bataan

Though there had been little action on Bataan peninsula, there had been a change in Japanese com-manders with stoutish General Homma reported to have plunged a ceremonial knife into his own rotund vitals, and General Yamashita, the conqueror of Malaya, reportedly

taking over in his place.
In the best tradition of the Samurai, to be replaced by another general as having failed calls for a quiet trip into a secluded room, there to take a swift trip to visit one's ancestors. No soft berth at a desk awaits the

unsuccessful commander in the field. For him comes swift dishonor, and death just as swift, at his own hand. Such is the code of the Samurai. When General Homma met Gen-

eral MacArthur he met more than a superior general and superior fight-ing men—he met the end of the road. At the time Yamashita was or-ganizing his forces for the purpose

of wiping out MacArthur and wiping away his predecessor's dis-honor (or of encountering some of his own) there was a huge demand



LIEUT. GEN. MASAHARU HOMMA

sweeping the country for some definite answer as to why substantial aid could not be sent to the Philip-

Accompanying this was some fairly sharp criticism of the adminis-But in the main the response of the public to the "Send Aid to MacArthur" campaign was rather a tribute to a hero than any suggestion as to how the job might possibly be done. The President had told his press

"You tell me how to get the help there, and I'll send it."

To this poser the answer had not

## MOVING DAY:

For Aliens

Pacific coast residents were told that the huge machinery necessary for moving about 100,000 enemy aliens and American citizens of Japa-nese extraction out of the coastal

area was finally complete.

The work of moving them, the government had said, might start

any day.

Where they would be sent, there had been little hint, but two sec-tions had been mentioned, one of them in Idaho and another in Colo-

It was to be a huge task, but with the war going as it had been in the Pacific, white residents of the Pacific coast would breathe more easily when they had gone.

## Lady Test Pilot Has Tough Job

Despite Daredevil Aspects of Life, She's Feminine as Rustling Taffeta.

NEW YORK.-Alma Heffin holds down one of the toughest jobs in aviation—a job that has brought fame and glamour to many of her male colleagues.

Alma is an honest-to-goodness test pilot, all 110 pounds of her. As far as she knows, she is the only won test pilot in the United States.

Despite the daredevil aspects of this life, petite Miss Heflin is as feminine as rustling taffets. She likes open-toed shoes and exotic perfumes. She dances a fine rumba,

On a leave of absence from the Piper Aircraft corporation for a hur-ry-up physical conditioning course here, Miss Heflin was ready to talk when encountered in the Hudnut suc-

Snap this picture of a female test pilot and paste it in your album:
Light-brown hair, cut in pageboy
style, with a soft roll off the forehead; steel gray eyes; 5 feet 3%
inches tall; soft-spoken, and just past her mid-twenties.

Flying for Eight Years. Miss Heflin has been flying for eight years, has averaged 20,000 air miles a year and has more than 1,100 hours to her credit.

Alma had flying ambitions from the time she saw her first plane. considered flying a challenge, and she answered it.

It was tough sledding at first. She was teaching school in Spokane, Wash., when she began taking flying lessons. But there never was enoug time. So she chucked the security of school-marming and departed for Dallas to take a thorough course in aviation. She knew there was a place in the business for her, but she had many an application turned down before she caught on with the Piper people. It took a six-hour selling job to get a trial and then she had to take a six-month workout in the factory.

It's Hard Work. Attempts to get Miss Heflin to de-scribe the thrills of power diving and wind screaming along the fuse-

lage provoked only a smile and the "It's hard work."

Explaining that the planes made by her company were not dive bombers or flashing fighters, Miss Heflin insisted that they had a definite part in the defense effort since "Cub" ships were being used in the ships were being used in the civilian pilot training program and by the army's new "grasshopper

They need a plane that will take off like a singed cat and climb like a homesick angel," she said. "The first test I put them through is the short takeoff—within 200-300 feet of runway. Once in the air with 4,000 to 5,000 feet of space beneath, I put my ship through a precision spin from left to right, then two vertical turns and occasionally some combat maneuvers-for gaining or los-

ing altitude in a hurry.
"Then comes what we call the 'hands off' flight for stability. I let the controls from 15 to 30 minutes Finally, the minimum glide-as flat as possible—and I am ready to put the approval tag on the ignition

#### 'Love Insurance' Is Sold By Soldier to Colleagues

CAMP CALLAN, CALIF.-Twentyfiye cents a month, buys "love insur

ance" at this training camp.
For 25 cents every pay day, Private Clifford Elliott, former Altoona, Kan., farmer, insures the affections of the girls who were left at home Private Elliott has sold his "policy" only to members of his battery, but the idea may attract customers from others among the 10,000 men stationed here.

Private Elliott collects a monthly total of \$15 from worried rookies. The first to prove he has lost his girl gets the pool. Selectees having more than one girl must decide which to insure.

## Wages Rose 25 Per Cent To 41 Billions in 1941

WASHINGTON. - Some 40,000,000 workers received about \$41,000,000,-000 in wages taxable for social se curity purposes in 1941, representing a 5,000,000 increase in the number of workers, and a 25 per cent increase in wages over 1940, Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, an-

nounced. At the same time, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced that hourly earnings of workers in manufacturing industries rose 1.5 per cent to a new high level of 78.1

## Build Air Models, Navy Asks Youths

10,000 Each of Fifty Types Of Planes Wanted.

WASHINGTON .- The navy calls upon the youths in American high schools to take a direct and vital part in the training of its fast-growing air service.

Through Secretary Knox it asked urgently that these youths build 500,-000 aircraft models, 10,000 each of 50 types of fighting planes, for immediate and continuous use in the training of naval combat forces for aircraft recognition and range estimation in gunnery work.

Because of the projected employ-ment of the models in war training, Mr. Knox emphasized they must be built with scientific precision and ac-curacy, one inch on each model representing six feet on an actual plane, scale of one to seventy-two.

Thus, it was explained, the pro-portions would hold true as to dis-tance. A model sighted by a train-ing aircraft gunner at 35 feet would appear as would a plane at just under a half mile. Studying the model through the standard ring sight used on aerial gun mounts, Mr. Knox said, would give "invaluable" training for the cadet ier, teaching him type, identification and range.

Such training can be given only with three-dimensional models, he

Plans and specifications are being prepared by the navy's bureau of aeronautics. Some are being sup-plied to the United States office of education, which will administer the program with the co-operation of all state departments of education and the local public and private schools.

Approved models will be sent to aviation units, ashore and affoat,

## Expert Claims 'V for

Victory' 1917 Invention TULSA.—The slogan "V for Vic-ory" was used in the last war. Phil

McMahon of Tulsa can prove it. McMahon has collected propaganda posters from all over the world. He has placards from every nation that was engaged in the last World war and now has started collecting new ones from the present conflict.

The "V for Victory" slogan was used by the Allies in 1917, but then it was a flag, the collector said.

Some of his choicest propaganda paintings are in an art museum in Tulsa. They have been assembled in a separate room and praised for their artistic value. Some of them are elaborate affairs. They vary from post-card size to six feet square.

Recently he wrote to a public minister in Italy asking him for some late propaganda posters. They never arrived because when they reached the Bahama islands the British censored them. Some from Germany also have not yet been delivered. He received Russian posters on the first boat to reach America following the beginning of war between Germany and the So-One of the prize paintings, McMahon said, is from China, sent him by Mme. Ching Kai-shek.

## Army Plea Fails to End Mississippi's Blue Laws

JACKSON, MISS. — Despite an army plea, Mississippi's 120-year-old Sunday blue laws remained on the books today. The house of repre-sentatives voted 66 to 63 against a bill to legalize Sunday motion pic-tures and ball games. The action killed the move for this biennial ses-

Proponents read the legislators a letter from Maj. Gen. Dan I. Sultan, division commander at Camp Shelby, urging passage as an aid to soldier morale

Opponents' arguments closed with a plea by a minister member, Rep. J. D. Holder of Lee county, to vote negatively "for just one reason—it violates the law of almighty God; it's morally wrong."

### 3 Axis News Agencies Closed Down by Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO.-The Brazil National Press council announced the closing of the Transocean and Stefani news agencies, German and Italian organizations, and refusal of permission for DNB, the official German news agency, to continue operations.

The measures were the outgrowth of Brazil's break in relations with the Axis powers following the Pan-American conference here.

The press council also announced the cancellation of registration of many newspapers previously published in German and Italian which had switched to Portuguese under a general ban last August on the for-eign language press.

## Washington Digest Farm Bloc in Congress Threatens Wickard's Policy

'Highly Insistent' Group Fights to Prevent Surplus Commodities Corporation From Selling Farm Products Below Parity.

By BAUKHAGE

WNU Service, 1343 H Street, N-W, Washington, D. C. It is the equal of five long blocks

from where Secretary Wickard's windows look out on the wide sweep of lawn in front of the Department of Agricuture building, along the winding roads to the White House. But Mr. Wickard, except for cabinet meetings, doesn't take that trip very frequently. It is not because he isn't as welcome as any other member of the President's official family. It is because he feels pretty sure if he tends to his agricultural knitting he won't be fired.

That can be said (and is said) in spite of the fact that he is probably the only member of the cabinet whom the President ever told a large group of listeners that he could fire.

That was at a White House press and radio conference when the President was being questioned concerning what seemed to be a conflict between the secretary of agriculture and Price Control Administrator Henderson as to who was going to regulate farm prices. He said if they didn't agree he could fire them The controversy has been forgotten and Secretary Wickard, who can talk only half as fast as Price

Secretary of Agriculture, Wickard

He is being annoyed . . .

Administrator Henderson and isn't

even a quarter as glib, didn't lose

any of his price controlling power. But the past weeks have seen

those prerogatives attacked from

another source-the ever-constant

source of annoyance for the depart-

ment of agriculture—the farm bloc

Today it is the farm bloc which is

again annoying Mr. Wickard. This highly consistent and highly

it just wasn't going to let Mr. Wick-

ard's Surplus Commodity corpora-tion sell farm products below parity.

First, they induced the senate to pass a law agin' it. Then when the

President said he'd veto the meas-

ure they decided to tack it on to

the war appropriation bill-as a rider.

Then the President said it was reprehensible to make an amendment

to an important bill when it wasn't germane to the bill. Then the boc

decided to tack it onto the appropri-

ation bill without which the depart-

ment of agriculture cannot pay its

bills. The department, however, seemed willing to face that calami-

ty. They were willing to let the President veto the bill so long as

they were able to carry out their

policy of selling commodities below

parity if they wanted to. (They knew

they could get another appropria-

"The farmers of the country un-

"All we want to do is to sell grain

low enough so that it will make it

more advantageous for the farmer

to raise livestock. We don't need the wheat and corn. We have plen-

England. If we decrease the price

of feed the farmer will automatical

ly raise more livestock and let nature turn the starches we don't need

into protein. And also into fats. We

need fats and oil more than ever

We do need the meat. So does

derstand better what we are trying to do than some members of con-

gress," said one official to me. This is his explanation:

in congress

isn't going to lose anything. If we sell our grain at 15 per cent below parity he knows that he can get that 15 per cent back, through bene-

that is per cent back, through benefit payments for soil conservation."

That is the explanation of the case
which sounds simple even to the
layman. But that isn't the way the
President explained it. He said that if the department of agriculture did not have its way the cost of eating would be raised a billion year.

But the fact remains that the President is satisfied that Mr. Wick-ard knows what he is doing and that he is doing what the President thinks is right.

Of course this doesn't make it right, or if it did, it wouldn't make it necessary that the people accept it, if they prefer some other pro-gram. If the farm bloc has enough of a following among the voters it can write its own ticket. We are still a democracy. It is a lot short-er from the ballot box to the congress than it is from the department of agriculture to the oval office in the executive wing of the

The Basic Rule

Behind War Censorship In Washington we have a cen ship for press and radio and also several propaganda organizations

which are censorship in reverse.

A great many letters which I receive from listeners to my radio program say: "Of course we realize you are not allowed to say (this or that)," or "we realize you have to say (that or this)." But the surprising thing is how seldom the "this or that" which the listeners mention are the things the censorship for bids us to say, or the "that or this" is ever even suggested by the propa-

ganda organizations As a matter of fact I have had only one direct contact with either the so-called propaganda bureaus or the censorship. A man whom I know personally who is connected with the Office of Facts and Figures once called me up and said that he would be able to give me some in-teresting information from time to time. He never has.

As to the censorship, the radio chains drew up their own code before the censorship organization was founded. It is based largely on common sense and except for certain specific details this code differs very little from the rules which the censor expects us to follow. Before I go on the air a member of the news staff of the Blue network reads over my script. So far nothing has been

changed so far as I can recall. Until we have official confirmation from the army or navy we are movements, or any ship ments. Ship movements include vertical movements downwards (sinkings). When we repeat infor-mation contained in enemy state-ments we have to say they are enemy statements and if possible we balance them with some statement

from a friendly source.

Behind all censorship, behind all government regulation of speech and action in wartime is one rule; do not give aid and comfort to the enemy. Specific information of a military nature gives aid and comfort to the enemy. We may feel positive that the enemy can get or has already obtained that information from some other source but that does not excuse us for repeating it publicly. Certain things are printed in the newspapers which the radio cannot broadcast because radio waves travel everywhere and weather report can be picked up by, a submarine a few miles off the coast. That submarine could not

mation which might give aid and comfort to the enemy lies another field: the field of speculation, rumor, comment of a nature which might be interpreted as giving aid and comfort to the enemy. Here we simply have to use our own judgments. Criticism of our government or of the government of one of the United Nations may give comfort,

# get a copy of a newspaper until it made physical contact with the shore or with someone who was there. Beyond the field of factual infor-

if not aid, to the enemy. But I have never been called on the carpet for reporting such criticism when it oc-

reach lats and on more than ever since the vegetable oils of the Neth-erlands Indies have been cut off." That is the way the department of agriculture talks. "And," they add, "the wheat and corn farmer