

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Nazi Steamroller Pushes Soviets Back In Struggle for Control of Caucasus; Government Wheat Sells for 83 Cents; Wage Pattern Set by Ruling on Steel

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)
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Coast Guardsman Jack Cullen, 21-year-old hero who confronted the Nazi saboteurs who landed on American soil from a submarine, is shown as he was congratulated by Vice Admiral Russel E. Woesche, commander of the U. S. coast guard, for his devotion to duty and outstanding performance that led to the capture and trial of the spy ring. Cullen was advanced from seaman to coxswain in recognition of his service.

RUSSIA:

Nazi Steamroller

Adolf Hitler had demonstrated that the long delay before he launched his monster offensive against the Soviet Union had not been wasted and that despite terrific losses his tank forces had lost none of their striking power.

For the mighty thrusts which started originally in the Kursk and Kharkov areas had steadily gained in weight and momentum, forcing their way through the Don basin. The attack developed three spearheads aimed to split the armies of Marshal Timoshenko in the Ukraine and those of Marshal Zhukov in the Moscow area. The northern objective was Voronezh on the Moscow-Rostov railway; the central thrust was aimed at Kuibyshev; and the southern had Stalingrad as its goal.

Moscow made no effort to minimize the danger of a broad breakthrough. For once holding a line from Rostov to Stalingrad, the Nazis would be in position to swing southward to Astrakhan on the Caspian sea and into the Caucasus itself, where waited their supreme prize—the fabulous oil pools of Tiflis and Baku. Moreover, such a move would pave the way for a junction by Nazi Marshal Von Bock with the armies of Japan poised on the borders of India far to the east and those of Field Marshal Rommel, on the shores of the Mediterranean.

EGYPT:

Collision of Tanks

Air-borne from Crete came Rommel's long-awaited reinforcements. Tough and battle-seasoned were they and expert at storming defenses such as the British were manning against them in Egypt's crucial El Alamein sector.

Tricky Marshal Rommel employed a battle device that had won for him on many a previous occasion—that of beginning his attack at dusk when the sun was in his opponents' eyes.

Bringing up heavy tank reinforcements, both sides battered each other in battles on which the fate of Alexandria and Suez depended.

The Nazis' immediate goal was a desert coastal ridge five miles west of El Alamein which the British had won from him days before. In the fiercely contested struggle, the RAF was actively engaged, with fighter bombers and light bombers scoring many direct hits on tanks and ranging far to the rear to harass Rommel's thinned-out supply and communication lines.

DRAFT:

'War Effort'

"Contributing to the war effort" will be an important factor in determining the draft status of married as well as single men.

In defining what constitutes "contributing to the war effort," selective service headquarters outlined 34 different types of jobs which would place a man in that category and thus delay his induction. Draft officials emphasized that the supply of single men of all classes would have to be exhausted first.

CHINA FRONT:

Doolittle Sequel

Ever since the attack on Tokyo by Brig. Gen. James H. Doolittle and his squadron of American bombers, Japanese objectives in China have been the seizure of areas from which United States bombers might strike again.

Thus when Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's battered armies acknowledged the loss of Wenchow and Julian, seaports in southern Chekiang province, after steady withdrawals from strategic points in the Kiangsi-Fukien-Chekiang area, another air threat to Tokyo had been removed.

Bravely, however, a Chinese official spokesman pledged that with increasing air support from the United States, the Chinese army would intensify its counterattacks and would immobilize more Japanese troops in China than ever before.

Elaborating on China's view of the war and her role of tying up large numbers of Japanese, the spokesman said both Germany and Japan were "now making desperate bids, as they must score certain successes this summer in order to sustain a long war against the United Nations."

'FIGHTING FRENCH':

U. S. Encourages

More effective co-operation between the followers of Gen. Charles De Gaulle and the governments of the United Nations was forecast as a result of several steps which coincided with the celebration of Bastille day.

First of all, the De Gaulle movement acquired a new name—"Fighting France" instead of "Free France." At the same time the French National committee became an administrative central body.

To symbolize the new relationship the United States announced the appointment of Admiral Harold R. Stark, commander of U. S. naval forces in Europe, and Brig. Gen. Charles L. Bolte, chief of staff of the army's European headquarters, as military representatives to General De Gaulle's headquarters in London.

This step did not affect United States relations with Vichy, already badly strained by Pierre Laval's refusal to accede to President Roosevelt's request that French naval vessels interned at Alexandria, Egypt, be removed from the danger of Axis capture.

SECOND FRONT:

Dress Rehearsal?

From London came two significant reports indicating that plans for the long-heralded Anglo-American second front in Europe were going steadily forward. Just when such a front would be possible, however, no military observer would hazard a guess.

Described as a "prelude to what may be major military operations on the European coast," powerful American and Canadian forces plus



GEN. DWIGHT EISENHOWER

units of the Royal navy and marines carried on the greatest raid and invasion maneuvers ever held in European waters.

At the same time, Lieut. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of American forces in the European theater, continued methodically the job of setting up the organization that will carry on the offensive. Giving attention to land, air and supply forces, he announced that Maj. Gen. M. W. Clark would command all ground forces, Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz would command air forces and Maj. Gen. J. C. H. Lee would be responsible for supplies.

OPA:

'Politics Out'

Price Administrator Leon Henderson has won many an enemy among professional politicians for his blunt disregard of partisan tactics. Hence his latest warning to OPA employees that any political activity would result in instant dismissal, was not calculated to gain him any new friends among the politicians. But observers believed it would step up the OPA's efficiency.

New Weapons To Jolt Nazis

'Frightful Surprises' Now in Production Called Key To Victory.

WASHINGTON.—New and secret aerial weapons, which will deal the Axis some "frightful surprises," have been developed by American warplane manufacturers, it was disclosed with publication of the aircraft year book for 1942.

"There are many new developments under way, not experimental but actually in production and promising soon to give the enemy one jolt after another," the book declares. It is published by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America and edited by Howard Mingos.

Holding that superior air power is the key to victory, the book says the United Nations look to the United States to furnish planes and men.

China Needs Planes.

"China must have American planes, fliers, service crews and a steady stream of supplies," the book says. "So must the Pacific islands, Australia, New Zealand, India, North and South and Central Africa. So must Russia, the Near East, and above all, England, and, ultimately, Norway, Free France, and others now craving American help in expelling the invaders."

The book asserts the United States will need planes for its own armies and those of its Allies, for convoys to guard against attack from the air and to protect the entire western hemisphere—"all our far-flung bases in all our neighboring seas, all the coastlines, the islands off every shore."

"Still that is not all. Our surface navy must have more air force than the enemy can possibly bring up for attack at any one place, at sea or in port, throughout the world. At the same time our striking air forces must be numerically superior on every mission everywhere.

Build Air Strength.

"Finally, our American air forces must be built up to a strength which will enable them to take home to the enemy, in every lair where this evil spawns, the ceaseless, devastating attacks with thousands of tons of high explosive bombs that must obliterate eventually his arsenals and his home defense, and in some cases inevitably annihilate his people on the ground, and win the war."

Credit for much of the progress of the war aviation program is given to Lieut. Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the army air forces, and Rear Admiral John H. Towers, chief of the navy's bureau of aeronautics.

Veteran of Three Wars

Is Back in U. S. Army

NEW CUMBERLAND, PA.—Veteran of three wars, Mike Vujovich, 53, a coal miner from West Hazleton, is back in the army as a buck private.

Mike, who was outfitted at the army depot here while waiting for assignment, said he hoped to see active overseas duty with infantry troops, despite his age.

A native of Montenegro, Mike fought against Turkey in 1912 and the following year served with the Serbian army against Bulgaria. At the close of the campaign he emigrated to the United States.

He went into action again as a member of the Arizona National Guard's expedition to the Mexican border against Pancho Villa and shortly after the outbreak of the World war went to France with the 89th division.

Mike returned home from the war wearing a sergeant's stripes, but just now he'd just as soon be "a good private as a bum sergeant."

U. S. Army Curbs 'Black Market' in Cigarettes

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—American army authorities, co-operating with Australian customs and excise officials, have instituted new restrictions on cigarette sales to prevent American soldiers from peddling them to natives in a new "black market."

The army stores department has banned the sale of more than one pack of American cigarettes a day to the United States soldiers, and has ruled that the corner of the package must be torn before sale.

Australia has likewise moved to stop the illegal traffic by making possession of American cigarettes by Australians an offense under the smuggling laws.

Following imposition of restrictions on civilian use of tobacco here, bootleg traffic grew serious. American soldiers, who could purchase unlimited quantities tax free at their canteens, were re-selling the packs for as much as 60 cents each.

New Drug Combats

Blood Clot Danger

Doctors Report on Method to Fight Thrombosis.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—New discoveries in research to combat thrombosis and its danger of circulatory obstruction were reported to the American Medical Association.

The investigators, including Drs. Irving S. Wright and Andrew G. Prandoni, of New York; Jesse L. Bollman, F. W. Preston, Edgar V. Allen, Nelson W. Barker and John M. Waugh, of the Mayo clinic, Rochester, Minn., presented a joint paper on their findings.

Their work was performed with dicoumarin, a substance obtained from spoiled clover, and used in reducing coagulation of the blood. The paper explained that one of surgery's serious risks is the possibility of formation of blood clots which may remain at the point of their origin, or may be carried into the blood stream and obstruct circulation.

In the past, the paper said, a substance known as heparin was used. This is isolated from horse liver, is costly and must be administered by vein injection, requiring careful supervision. Dicoumarin is about one-tenth as costly and can be given by mouth.

The investigators said dicoumarin was discovered after cattle breeders complained that their stock frequently, for no apparent reason, bled markedly and often fatally. Research workers learned the bleeding followed the eating of improperly cured hay or silage made from sweet clover.

Col. Norman T. Kirk told the orthopedic surgery section of the association that the use of sulfanilamide and sulfathiazole had aided greatly in closing of wounds in this war much earlier than during World War I.

Western Cowboys Guard

Army Ordnance Depot

PUEBLO, COLO.—Western cowboys are riding herd on something far more valuable than steers these days on the plains near Pueblo.

They are serving as mounted guards at the huge army ordnance depot near here and Maj. Harold Horne, of Kansas City, who at 29 is the youngest ordnance depot commander in the nation, says they are far more satisfactory than automobile patrolmen.

Besides their greater maneuverability, the cowboy guards can patrol the miles of arroyo-etched prairie without using precious tires or gasoline.

The Pueblo cowboy guards, officials say, are the first ever used to guard a modern war plant.

The bronzed guards wear old-fashioned "six-shooters" strapped to their hips and carry lassos on their saddles. They say they are ready for anything—but so far they have not run up against anything tougher than prairie rattlesnakes. They shoot them just for practice.

An Old French Cowhand

Makes His Way Home

VICHY.—A French soldier who escaped from a German prison camp in Silesia said he had led a cow across most of Germany and had been mistaken by Nazi patrols as a farmhand taking the animal to pasture.

He and the bedraggled cow arrived in Amiens four weeks after he left the prison camp. He said the cow had nearly died of fatigue, and they had to rest several days in the Rhineland.

He sold the cow to an Amiens butcher.

Refusal of Priorities

Halts Big Highway Job

EDMONTON, ALTA.—Because the federal oil controller has refused priorities, some 60 miles of main highway surfacing which was to have been done in Alberta this summer has been suspended, probably for the duration.

While asphalt will be made available for road repair work, materials for the long-range program which the provincial government planned will not be available because of the demands on the country's fuel requirements for war purposes.

Leave Old Mining Town

As Dam Backwaters Rise

REDDING, CALIF.—The little town of Kennett, with less than 200 inhabitants, will be empty and under water before long.

The evacuation of residents will be completed before August. Then it will be submerged by the waters in the reservoir rising behind giant Shasta dam.

Washington Digest

U. S. Bond Purchases Are Better Than Forced Savings

Federal Taxes Unable to Cover Total of Present War Expenses; Transport Planes' Importance Growing.



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Washington, which never hesitates more at offending the electorate than in election year, today is faced with doing that most offensive thing of all—taking away the people's money.

The President's anti-inflation program has not been carried out and nobody dares take the first cruel step to put it into force.

The love of money may be the root of all evil, but the presence of too much money in too many pockets has become an evil, too. The two methods of rooting out this evil are to stop the money coming into all these pockets and to take it away after it gets there. I have had an interesting glimpse into plans for the taking away process through the eyes of some of the men who have some very decided views on that subject.

My story begins in a very ornate corner of the Capitol building just off the senate floor.

Senator Z was opposite me. I always call on him when I want an idea in a couple of pungent paragraphs. He was once a newspaper man himself, and as a timid representative of a news syndicate many years ago I used to beard him in his news den.

"Senator," I said, "what are you going to do about taxes?"

Senator Z's eyes lighted up. He shifted his cigar. "Baukhage," he said and slapped my adjacent knee, "I am not going to do anything—now. When the time comes I am going to do a lot. Let me tell you something. Last January Secretary Morgenthau came and talked to some of us. He said: 'I know it's hard for you folks to vote for a big tax bill in election year. But it's got to be done. And I'll tell you what I want. I want the country to pay for the war two-thirds of the way as we go. I want you men here to make a team and agree to that. Taxes to equal two-thirds of expenditures.'

"So we agreed. But in the five months since then the expenditures have increased so that the balance has been thrown completely out. Instead of paying with taxes two-thirds of current expenses we will be lucky if we can pay one-third. "And let me tell you this: It is a lot better to make the taxes lower, to leave some money in the taxpayers' pocket and force him to buy bonds. I'm not coming out for compulsory savings now for that would defeat itself. I am going to wait until Joe Doaks begins to realize what is happening.

"And let me tell you this!"

"When this war is over, unless the money to fund the war debt is still in Joe Doaks' pocket, Joe is going to lose it and the whole economic framework of the country will go to pot. Joe doesn't know that. He thinks the money in the bank is still his. It isn't. It's the bank's. Now Joe won't keep the actual money in his pocket. He'll spend it if he does. But if he buys a government bond and puts that in his pocket, he will be safe. So will the country."

"Well," I asked the senator, "when are you going to do something about this, are you going to come out for compulsory savings?"

"No," he said, "but I have a plan, and when Joe Doaks realizes that Henry Morgenthau's voluntary purchase of bonds has fallen down I'll be ready."

Americans Show They Can Do It

Nobody dislikes anything compulsory more than red-blooded Americans, but when an emergency arises, if they feel it is a real, national emergency, they will do what they are told and do it willingly. Three million men did it willingly in the last war when they were told they had to go and fight. Millions are preparing to do it in this war.

Now saving is something that Americans talk about but never have done so much about. In the piping times of peace the insurance agents used to tell me that 90 per cent of the American people had no estate at all when they died and

were utterly dependent when they quit work.

Working men and farmers are two of the most independent thinking classes in America today. But strangely enough, the same day that I talked with Senator X in the over-stuffed chair in the senate anteroom I ran into P. P. is a great friend of the oppressed. He is also a great friend of the laboring man, oppressed or otherwise.

After an exchange of greetings I said to him:

"How do you fellows expect the farmer to be willing to let farm prices be curtailed in any way when wages aren't frozen?"

"I don't," he said, "but I have a great idea. I have been working on Phil Murray about it. It is simple. Let all wage raises from now on be paid in non-negotiable war-bonds. That will stop inflation, for it will keep the money out of circulation."

Well, as I say, I'm no economist but after those two experiences I have begun to get ready to sign up right now for so many bonds a month.

Military Transport Planes For Troop Movements

"Which would you rather try to lick? One wild cat or a swarm of hornets?"

Naturally, I chose, not too willingly even for a purely mental combat, the wildcat.

"So would the Germans," My lunch partner leaned across the frail restaurant table and pounded it until the tomato-juice cocktails leapt into the air and frightened war-workers looked at us apprehensively.

"You could take a million men across the English channel in ten days in small planes that could be built in six months. They would be as thick as hornets. Those planes could be built without the slightest strain on our war effort."

"That's just an example," my friend went on, "of what we could do with planes if we could get these fossils to build them. Check my figures with the Civil Bureau of Aeronautics if you want to."

"What if I am really getting at it this—" my friend went on and then stopped to absorb the agitated tomato juice. Soon he was off again on a most interesting exposition concerning air-power. I tried to keep up with him.

It is hard for a layman to assay these enthusiasts. What they say is always studded with figures quoted from official records. And they usually can quote volumes to prove that people who disagree with them said the same things about Billy Mitchell's ideas all of which have been proved correct.

What my friend was getting at was this: That military transport has been woefully neglected. That only now are we beginning to build transport planes on a scale to meet the demands.

Germany has 10,000 transport planes in service. We only have five flying between China and India. But even a plane carrying 1 1/2 tons could do the work of a hundred and fifty trucks over the Burma road.

I had just heard the surprising word from the lips of a Chinese general that even before the Burma road was destroyed, China was getting very little more in the way of supplies than she is today. Why didn't we begin plane transport then? I thought of the couplet by Pope:

Be not the first by whom the new is tried
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside.

I thought we had gone a long way in transport already. Our transports or ferries are over every continent except Antarctica. The Pan American Airlines, which established a regular service across Africa, transporting its own supplies and men to equip the fields, is about to be taken over by the army.

But, according to my friend, we would have been much further along if it hadn't been for "Brass hats who think only in terms of text books that don't even contain the words 'dive-bomber,' or 'glider' or more than passing mention of any aircraft except balloons."

I don't know—perhaps it is time to lay the old aside."