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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Russian Crisis Heightened as Nazis Push on Toward Caucasus Oil Fields; 4,000,000 Men in Service, Says FDR; Japs Resume Offensive in New Guinea

(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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U. S. MANPOWER: Total Mobilization?

Mobilization of the total manpower of the United States—estimated at 60 million labor units—was forecast as work proceeded in Washington on the formulation of a national war service bill. This vast reservoir of man power would be assigned as part of the total war effort to essential services in factories, on farms, in laboratories and in educational activities training the nation's youth.

Sponsors of the proposed bill pointed out that it would not only do for this country what the "essential work" order had accomplished for Great Britain but provide additional directives as well.

Back of the sponsorship of the bill, was the urgent belief of the chiefs of the war administration that the longer the war goes on the more imperative will it be for the nation to assign each available man and woman to a specific task in the total war effort.

Looming as a possibility was the registration of 42,000,000 women between the ages of 18 and 65, supplementing the recent registration of all males between the ages of 45 and 64.

LEND-LEASE: Much More Needed

Critics of the lend-lease administration found ammunition for their offense when the Office of War Information disclosed that "somewhat less" than 12 per cent of this country's total munitions output was being shipped to America's Allies.

While acknowledging that this was "not as much as they need to do the job," the report declared that in shipments of planes and tanks the proportion was "much higher."

The OWI noted that cash purchases by foreign governments had brought the total war shipments to a figure higher than 12 per cent, but did not name the total.

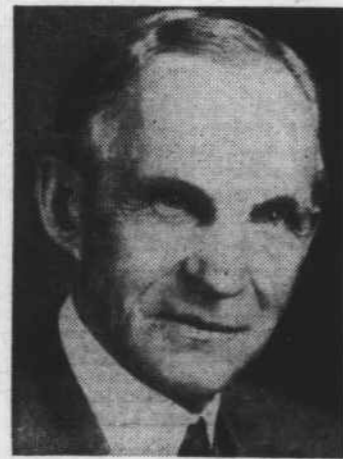
Although admitting that the lend-lease program was not so large as they wish it to be, the OWI spokesman asked that "other considerations be taken into account."

FARM-BORN PROPHECY: Ford Sees Prosperity

Beginning the 80th year of his life, Henry Ford emphasized his unshaken conviction that beyond the present war lies an era of prosperity unparalleled in the world's history.

The farm-born industrial genius visualized an intensive development of the soil as a preventive of war and as the keystone of a new peaceful world order.

"Intensive production," he said, "means a world busy at work and a



HENRY FORD
"Make idle land work . . ."

friendly, helpful exchange of goods. Such a world has neither time nor incentive for war."

Idle land, he added, was a hampering factor and he favored forcing it into production through higher taxation if necessary.

Summing up his philosophy of peace, he declared: "The intensive production of the world's goods, new goods to serve human needs and legitimate desires—that is the broad highway to peace."

HARRY HOPKINS: 17th Groom

Social historians recalled that 16 times before the White House had been the scene of weddings. Thus Lend-Lease Administrator Harry Hopkins and Mrs. Louise Gill Macy became the 17th couple to say "I do" in the historic old mansion on Washington's Pennsylvania avenue.

The close personal relationship between Hopkins and the President was emphasized by the fact that the wedding was held in the White House and witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Social historians further recalled that it was 24 years since the last White House wedding had occurred. That was in 1918 when Alice Wilson, niece of President Woodrow Wilson, and the Rev. I. Stuart McFerry were married.

Washington Digest

Allied 'Raids in Force' May Divert Nazi Troops

Germans Fear Large Scale Commando Attacks; Hold Million Well-Equipped Soldiers in Reserve.

By BAUKHAGE
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What about this second front?

The chorus demanding an invasion of Europe, not next year or next fall but sometime before day after tomorrow is rising to a fine crescendo. It is reduced to black and white in the Russian press, it is echoed in Lord Beaverbrook's publications in Great Britain, it is applauded by the common people in England whose affection for the Russians has grown by leaps and bounds.

Those are the outward signs. What is happening behind closed doors is, of course, harder to estimate. We know that the official Russian news agency, TASS, recently instructed its Washington correspondent to sound out informally, officials here regarding their prejudices, predilections and prognostications on the subject of aid to Russia in the form of a direct attack on the Axis. We know that the Russian ambassador in London openly, if not for official record, conducted similar inquiries. We know that a report reached Washington that the British censor, allegedly an American request, clamped down on second front speculation. At the war department here it was stated there was no information concerning issuance of such orders or such a request from Washington. This attempt, if someone did make such an attempt, to silence discussion of a second front may have meant that some military move was imminent. If so, what would the nature of that move be?

I have made diligent inquiry and although of course specific information cannot be expected, some general principles can be discussed.

In the first place, I can find no encouragement for any military source for the idea for an imminent invasion of Europe on any scale which would identify it as a genuine second front. However, I have noted a slight change in attitude of persons who ought to know the plans so far as they are to be known. Instead of saying: "some time," or "perhaps in 1942" they now cautiously admit "not before the fall."

But as the clamor increases for some effort to divert Hitler from his mad charge toward the Caucasus, we do hear that some form of distracting military activity may be looked for. The Germans fear this. They also fear that what might be launched in the guise of a Commando raid might develop into a life-size invasion.

Hardened Veterans
There is proof of this: First, the Nazis are feverishly strengthening their defenses along the coast areas in great depth. Second, they are holding about a million men in Germany, equipped and ready. Hitler will throw them into the Eastern battlefield if he dares, or into western Europe if he must. These are well-equipped outfits, some of them fresh, well-trained troops, some parts of rebuilt organizations which were shot apart in Russia but are now rehabilitated and reconstructed, able men and hardened veterans.

And as nearly as a layman, restrained by a desire not to reveal anything which might serve as aid and comfort to the enemy, can do so, and building on the slight information available, the following seems to be the picture: Aside from the continuation of mass air raids when the weather permits, the only probable move on the part of the Allies in the immediate future will be an effort either to immobilize this German reserve or draw it toward the western front, not to engage it in battle.

The means of doing this will probably be what are technically termed "raids-in-force." That is, the landing of troops in numbers, perhaps in thousands, with the purpose of creating as much damage as possible to German installations, the holding of their positions for some time in order to divert as many enemy troops as possible, but so planning and executing their activities that they can retire when their mission is accomplished without heavy losses.

These attacks would be on a much larger scale than anything which the



Check Rise in Cost of Living

Climb Is Halted for First Time Since 1940, Leon Henderson Reports.

WASHINGTON.—Leon Henderson reports that for the first time since November, 1940, the steady increase in living costs has been checked. This, he declared, was a direct result of the general retail price ceiling which became effective in May and the accompanying measure to reduce rents in the defense areas.

The price administrator praised the nation's 1,900,000 retail store operators for their "wholehearted" cooperation in "the battle against inflation" through their compliance with regulations which in some cases, he admitted, have been difficult to observe.

Mr. Henderson was commenting on a special study by the bureau of labor statistics of the department of labor on living costs in 21 cities in the period from May 15 to June 2. "The first returns are in," he said. "They are good. They show that at last the upward movement in living costs has been checked and that they actually declined slightly in the period under study. The survey demonstrates that if we are really serious about it, the battle against inflation can be won."

Battle Not Yet Won.
"But that battle is not won yet. If future reports are to be as good, we must have the unremitting vigilance of every one. To hold living costs stable is the people's battle. The people must be on guard, and I may say they are not yet sufficiently on guard."

"Our experience during the first month of general price regulation has shown us all too clearly that there are still a few people who do not believe in keeping down the cost of living as a part of the war job, or who would like to see controls applied only to the other fellow. There are some who would like to see the administration of this program hamstrung or crippled. I feel certain that public opinion will scuttle the efforts of these groups, but the public must be vigilant."

"It is our good fortune that those who are opposed to price control are a small minority. During these first early weeks we have had the enthusiastic support of the great majority of manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These people have gone to work with a will to make the program succeed. I would like particularly to pay tribute to the nation's 1,900,000 retail store operators. Many of them are experiencing federal regulation for the first time. Some of the regulations admittedly have been difficult."

Retailers Are Helpful.
"These store keepers have enlisted wholeheartedly to see that the battle against inflation is won. The retail store keeper of the country has shown himself to be a high-grade soldier."

"The program for the months ahead is one of joint effort by consumers, retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and the government to see that the provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation are followed scrupulously. We have seen what this regulation can do to hold down prices. We must all join to see that it works as well in the future. It is the job of every one to see that the ceiling prices are rigorously observed."

"We must also backstop the ceiling by seeing that the buying power of the country is brought down to levels approximating the supply of goods and services that are available."

French Girls Trained
In Domestic Science

VICHY.—Domestic science courses have been made obligatory for all girls in France by a law just published by the state.

A suggestion advanced by Andre Francois Poncet, former ambassador to Berlin and Rome, who is writing in the newspaper Figaro under the pen name of Celsus, goes even further and proposes a national home training for women which would be comparable to the training for men in the National Youth camps.

But in these days kings and queens and princes feel they simply have to come to the United States and pay their respects and "sell" themselves and their countries to the American people. We are pretty important as a nation. We will be important after the war, too.

The result is that kings and queens have had to revise a lot of their habits—habits which they probably don't enjoy but which are, or have been demanded of loyal subjects everywhere. What is the use of having a king if you don't treat him like one and if he doesn't treat you the way you think you ought to be treated by your ruler—deus gratia.

Venezuelan Indians Collecting Rubber

Transport Jungle Product to Shipping Points.

CARACAS.—Hardy Indian tribes who hacked their way into the jungles of Amazonia a generation ago have once again begun producing rubber in the largely unexplored region of Venezuela.

According to Dr. Carlos Wendehake, who arrived here on one of his few vacations in a 39-year existence in the jungles of the federal territory, the new government price of 2.55 bolivars per kilogram (75 cents per pound) has stimulated the collection of wild rubber which had virtually halted some years ago. He estimated the latex shipped from the territory this year will be in excess of 420,000 pounds.

The amount is not enough for export, but it will partly solve the tire problem in this country. Construction of roads and the introduction of new methods of collecting latex will probably multiply the production many times in 1943.

Until 1912 Amazonia produced large quantities of rubber. The product was placed in canoes, paddled down tributaries of the Orinoco river to depots and loaded on river boats to Ciudad Bolivar, where it was transported to ocean-going vessels and carried to New York or La Guayra.

At that time rubber brought 1,200 bolivars per quintale (\$252 at the prevailing rate of exchange). When the Far East began to send its products to the market, the local price for rubber dwindled to 32 bolivars (\$7.26).

Dr. Wendehake is a brother of Dr. Rafael Wendehake, expelled from Panama because of his close association with former President Arnulfo Arias.

Use of Milkweed Fiber

In Lieu of Kapok Likely

PETOSKEY, MICH.—Milkweed fibers, said to be six times more buoyant than cork and producing a floss said to be warmer than wool, may be America's answer to the problem of producing a substitute for kapok, with the world's principal supply of that product cut off by Japanese conquest of islands in the southwest Pacific.

Dr. Boris Berkman, for 30 years a practicing physician in Chicago, said the navy wants 1,000,000 pounds of milkweed floss for use in lifejackets and as lining for flying suits, and he has perfected a commercial size model of a machine that will produce about 600 pounds of the floss a day.

Initial production of the milkweed products, Dr. Berkman said, will begin this summer in a factory to be established in northern Michigan as the first of its kind in the world.

Obtaining 1,000,000 pounds of the floss, Dr. Berkman estimated, would require harvesting and storing of 10,000,000 pounds of milkweed pods, the product of at least 50,000 acres of wild lands. The harvest would be made in late August.

May Use Juice of Orange In Making Gunpowder

WINTER HAVEN, FLA.—Making gunpowder from oranges was one use for the citrus fruit that even the Florida Chamber of Commerce had overlooked. But federal scientists say it can—and probably will—be done soon.

Citrus officials here report that by using the scraps from oranges, 190 proof alcohol can be produced and further processing can be made into ammunition.

Costs will be cut one-third by use of the orange waste which is pressed into juice, as compared with the use of blackstrap molasses, scientists at the United States Citrus Products laboratory say.

The discovery resulted from experiments to use the sugars found in the pressed juices to manufacture alcohol and so render more sugar available for human consumption.

'Zip Your Lip' Order In Southern California

LOS ANGELES.—"Zip your lip" orders were given to soldiers and civilians alike by southern California army and civilian defense officials.

Lieut.-Col. Ross Diehl, intelligence officer for the defense command, has given every soldier in southern California this order:

"Trust no one, confide in no one and discuss with no one matters involving military information of any type. In short, zip your lip."

Willard Keith of the office of civilian defense said:

"To be prudent during the days to come is just good common sense."



Attorney General Francis Biddle (right), who headed the prosecution of the eight Nazi saboteurs before the military commission, is shown as he left the U. S. Supreme court in company with Oscar S. Cox, assistant solicitor general, after he fought the defendants' effort to have the Supreme court transfer their trial from the military to civil courts.

RUSSIA: Nazi Steamroller

Inexorably the Nazi's monster war machine had forced the Russians back mile by mile from Kharkov to beyond Rostov in the lower reaches of the Don basin.

Throughout the cruel retreat of 250 miles Red Marshal Simeon Timoshenko had shrewdly played his string out. His formula: Fall back before the superior Nazi onslaught; contest every inch stubbornly; inflict the maximum damage on the invading Germans.

By thus staying his hand he had kept his own army intact and had forced the Germans to extend themselves. But the Nazi resources in men and machines had seemed to be without limit, for it was reported that 12 fresh divisions and 10,000 tanks had been poured into the conflict after the fall of Rostov.

Hitler was said to be willing to gamble the lives of a million young Germans to gain control of the Russian oil fields of the Caucasus. To turn aside the onrushing Axis flood, General Timoshenko had thrown his Red army reserves into a titanic struggle for the preservation of Russia.

The grimness of the situation was underscored by Premier Stalin's sharp order to his armies: "Not one step back! Every officer and man must stand his ground and fight to the bitter end."

Inspired by Stalin's appeal, Red forces defending the approaches to Stalingrad hurled the German thrust back. The Russians made a determined stand on the Don river south of Tsmylyansk, while on the north flank at Voronezh they dislodged the enemy from strong positions.

4,000,000 MEN: In U. S. Service

President Roosevelt told the nation that with 4,000,000 men under arms, the slack in America's food supplies is being rapidly taken up and shortages may be expected in specific things to eat. He emphasized, however, that there will be no shortage of food and that America will have enough to eat.

To illustrate his point, the President cited temporary shortages of meat in several sections of the country. A number of similar shortages are likely to occur, he said, and listed these reasons for the beef scarcity: 1.—The usual off-season for beef; 2.—People with more money than ever before trying to buy more expensive cuts; 3.—Greater consumption of meat by the armed forces than they ever ate in civilian life; 4.—The necessity of buying in advance for the services, which further tightens the shortages.

The problem of shortages, the President declared, lies in directly with the scrap salvage campaigns now under way—iron and steel scrap, waste fats, tin cans and rubber.

Mr. Roosevelt said he was appealing to every householder, every shopkeeper, every citizen "to dig deep into his attic, cellar, barn and back yard and turn in every ounce of scrap useful to war production."

EGYPT: Nature Aids Allies

Nature Aids Allies

Superior air power, reinforced mechanized troops and a desolate waste of quick-sand marshes combined to give the British defenders of Egypt the upper hand over Marshal Rommel's Nazi invaders.

The strengthened air power manifested itself in sustained attacks on the German fighting positions, devastating bombing attacks on Tobruk, Matruh and other key Axis supply bases by American as well as RAF planes. The augmented tank forces demonstrated their power in Allied advances from El Alamein on the Mediterranean to the Tel el Eiza sector and in the capture of a substantial number of prisoners and supplies.

Of the favorable factors—the third—the impenetrable marshes of Quattara remained as Rommel's biggest obstacle to reaching his goal of Alexandria and the Suez canal. This vast sink which reaches from the interior of the Sahara to within 35 miles of the Mediterranean coast at El Alamein, prevented the wily Axis general from attempting a flanking movement around the British lines. Although Arab caravans have crossed the tip of the Quattara marshes, the shifting dunes, the quick-sands and the marshy quagmires made the use of tanks and mechanized equipment impossible.

PACIFIC AREA: Japs in the Jungle

After giving Gen. Douglas MacArthur more than three months time in which to ship men, guns, fighter planes and bombers to the eastern edge of New Guinea, the Japs had resumed offensive movements against Port Moresby and extended aerial feelers toward the Allies' rear bases on the Australian mainland.

The Jap strategy was to advance toward Port Moresby by means of land patrols along a narrow trail leading toward a strategic mountain pass in the Owen Stanley range from their recently won base at Buna.

American and Australian troops demonstrated that they were prepared for the Nipponese infiltration tactics, for Allied patrols drove the Japs back from Kokoda area in the foothills. Specially trained in jungle fighting the Allied troops were able to meet the Japs on their own terms and to deal them their first defeat in a type of fighting that earlier had won Malaya and Singapore for them.

MISCELLANY:

WASHINGTON.—Jurisdiction of President Roosevelt's military commission was upheld by the Supreme court when that body denied the seven Nazi saboteurs the right to have their case heard in civil court. Chief Justice Stone made the announcement, holding that court was not granting the prisoners' plea to file writs of habeas corpus after an army tribunal had completed extensive hearings and testimony as to their guilt.