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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

U. S. Forces Gain Ground in Tunisia; New Food Czar Seeks Speedy Solution Of Acute Farm Production Problems; Russ Offensives Endanger Smolensk

(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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For conspicuous heroism as leader of a marine fighting squadron in aerial combat with Jap forces in the Solomon Islands, Maj. Robert E. Galer is presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Roosevelt. The air hero's mother is shown helping to adjust the pendant on which the decoration hangs.

FOOD: 3-Way Attack

No stranger to farm problems, food production or the delicate job of dealing with recalcitrant congressmen was Chester C. Davis, recently appointed chief of the new Administration of Food Production and Distribution. Former head of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Davis knew the ropes in Washington and how to keep from getting tangled in them.

For weeks the capital had expected some action in the increasingly critical food production situation. By relieving hard-pressed Secretary of Agriculture Wickard of his food administrator tasks and appointing Mr. Davis as sole food czar, President Roosevelt had created a new three-way agency, combining the Food Production Administration, the Food Distribution Administration and the Farm Labor Administration.

Closer working agreements between congress and the food administration and a minimum of official friction in dealing with war-created farm problems were expected to result under Davis' administration. Observers agreed that Davis had one of the toughest jobs in history, but they were betting he would win.

AIR RAIDS: Woe to Axis

Axis-held Europe will soon be subjected to round-the-clock air raids in which newer, bigger and faster American bombers will carry three or four times the bomb weight of present Flying Fortresses.

This prediction was made in London by Maj. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commander of the U. S. army air forces in Britain. American forces, he said, are now ready to build up a striking power on a par with that of the Royal Air Force. Soon, he added, will begin the sustained offensive in which the Americans will strike at Europe by day and the British will bomb by night.

General Eaker disclosed that in a series of 51 raids, the U. S. army air force has lost fewer than 90 bombers.

NORTH AFRICA: Rough Road Ahead

The battle to clear the Axis out of Tunisia was going to take time. Rommel's army still had an offensive "kick." The struggle was likely to get tougher before it got better.

These facts emerged more clearly as the inexorable pressure of the Allied forces ringing the enemy was met by counter attacks which had regained for Rommel's army much of the ground lost when the British Eighth Army sliced into the Mareth line.

The communiques did not indicate any lessening of the Allied effort. They merely served to show that the battle was by no means won at the present time. The conviction of an ultimate Axis defeat continued.

While the British stoutly contested the Nazi forces in the South, the Americans under Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton not only held their previous gains at El Guettar in the "waist" of Tunisia but pushed on east of Maknassy in a drive on the coastal road.

SOUTH PACIFIC: Prelude to Storm?

A lull in activity on both the Allied and Jap sides of the Pacific war had been taken by some observers to be merely the prelude to a storm ahead.

Action for some days was confined to local air and sea attacks in various sectors of the South Pacific. In the Solomon Islands, air raids were traded. American bombers strafed Rekata bay, while the Japs inflicted some damage on Guadalcanal. Further to the east, an American submarine torpedoed and sank a Japanese submarine. In Burma, American fliers attacked the long railway viaduct between Mandalay and Lashio, a bridge north of Rangoon and the Thazi railway junction. The RAF bombed Donbaik, north of Akyb.

ABSENTEES: Women Worst Offenders

Women war workers were charged with being guilty of almost twice as much absenteeism as men, in a report compiled by the National Industrial Conference Board.

Covering a "sample" group of 29 plants employing 106,620 persons, the report showed that in a single month 82,618 worker-days had been lost and that female employees averaged 1.16 days out of the month while male workers lost 0.65 day each.

Women showed a greater tendency to be absent for personal reasons, the survey disclosed. The board found that 50.4 per cent of their absences were in this compared with 47.8 per cent for men.

RAW MATERIALS: Allies Now 'Solvent'

William L. Batt, vice chairman of the War Production Board, announced that the United Nations have now achieved "solvent" in raw materials and "are assured of sufficient amounts of all kinds to meet any military needs regardless of the length of the war."

"No material is being used faster by the United Nations today than is being produced," he said. "It can be stated with complete safety that whatever the length of the war, ample raw materials are available to meet our military needs."

Batt credited the accomplishment to the combined raw materials board of the United Nations, established by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in their White House conferences in December, 1941.

UNIONS: War to Cease?

Many a priceless hour of war production time had been lost in jurisdictional disputes between rival unions. Although some wrangles still appeared inevitable, the heads of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Or-



WILLIAM GREEN
... raids to cease.

ganizations agreed to take definite steps to end the difficulties.

Appearing before the senate's Truman investigating committee William Green, president of the AFL, and Philip Murray, president of CIO, promised to reopen negotiations to end "union raiding," the maneuver by which one union seeks to oust another from representation of workers.

WAR BONDS: They Give Their Lives

"They give their lives—You lend your money."

That is the slogan of the treasury department's second War Loan drive opening April 12, which has as its objective raising 13 billion dollars through the sale of government securities. A substantial part of this vast financing—the most stupendous in world history—will be loaned by people in ordinary walks of life.

Financial experts point out that there are in liquid funds in the U. S. at present, more than 40 billion dollars which should go into the purchase of government bonds. It is from this huge reservoir that the treasury expects to meet its new goal.

Army Prepares to Rule Occupied Countries; Officers Taught Characteristics of Beaten Nations to Assure Efficient Administration

Specialists in Law, Finance and Communication Recruited for Service Training; Aim Is to Win Conquered Foe's Friendship.

Looking ahead to the time when land now under Axis domination will be wrested from them, the army is operating a school of military government under general supervision of the provost marshal general at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Designed to train officers for future duties in military government and liaison work, the school provides a highly intensified 16 weeks' course for qualified commissioned officers in the army of the United States and to a small number of civilians with specialized training. The members of this latter group are commissioned in the specialist reserve section, Officers Reserve Corps, prior to their attendance at the school.

When the United States army captures territory from the enemy, it is the responsibility of the commanding general of that particular theater of operations to set up a military government over the occupied land. He becomes military governor and is in supreme control until such time as it is possible to re-establish a civil government.

It is extremely difficult for the commanding general's regular staff to handle the countless details involved in the administration of a military government due to the press of their other duties and the specialized knowledge required in many cases. Thus the war department, through the school of military government and other special schools, is training officer personnel to act as top administrative officers and as junior officers in military governments under the direction of a theater's commanding general. A pool of technical talent has also been established, the members of which are called upon to fill technical and advisory posts.



Brig.-Gen. C. W. Wickersham

The experience gained in 20-odd occupations during our history is valuable, as is that gained by other of the United Nations whose experience is available to us. The policy of the United States army in regard to military government, and the one on which the teachings of the school are based, is as follows:

"The military government should be just, humane, and mild as practicable, and the welfare of the people governed should always be the aim of every person engaged therein."

The school of military government obtains its students from recommendations of the 10 service commands, various supply and administrative divisions of the war department, the commanding generals of the various armies, from personal applications of officers between the grades of captain and colonel, and from a selected few of the specially qualified civilians commissioned in the Specialist Reserve section, Officers Reserve Corps, who are members of the reserve pool of technical and professional specialists created by the provost marshal general.

Those with experience and training in the fields of public works (transportation, gas, electric and water systems); finance (taxation, monetary systems, etc.); public health (sanitation, medicine, disease control); education (supervision of school systems); public safety (maintenance of order, prevention of crime); legal (supervision of military and civil courts); communications (postal service, telegraph, telephone, etc.); public welfare (care of infants, children, the needy and aged); and economics (supervision of agriculture, manufacture, and trade) are selected for further detailed instruction at the school.

Since January, these troops had been waging a valiant battle against a numerically superior and better equipped Japanese army in the tropical fastness of Bataan.

From the foxholes dug out of the earth; from behind the towering brush; along the scraggling mountains and hillsides, and under the torment of blazing sun, these men fought off the invaders for four months.

Those four months gave the United Nations precious time to feverishly reform their ranks in the Southwest Pacific. Those months occupied the bulk of a Japanese army that might otherwise have driven into Australasia.

By April 9, however, the limit of their resistance had been reached. Their numbers dwindling, their supplies running low—without adequate support of aircraft, tanks and guns—they were being pressed farther and farther back toward the sea. A few managed to escape to the rockbound fortress of Corregidor, which also later surrendered.

The spirit of this army was best described by Lieut. Norman Reyes, a young Filipino officer broadcasting

tary government, courses in military government are offered at the provost marshal general's training center, Fort Custer, Mich., to selected junior officers and enlisted men of the corps of military police. These courses are designed to train men for future assignment to occupational police units in areas taken over by our armed forces.

Washington Determines Civil Policy; Army Administers Such Policy

Since the army's mission insofar as military government is concerned is primarily an administrative one, many underlying policies of such a government cannot be determined by the war department. The political policy will be set by the state department, the fiscal policy by the treasury department, the Federal Reserve board, etc. Because of this limitation, the army selects a certain number of technicians for military government work from the nominations of certain government agencies such as state, treasury, and commerce departments, Board of Economic Warfare, etc.

These technically qualified civilians are formed into a pool. They are commissioned in the specialist reserve section, Officers Reserve Corps, but kept on an inactive status until needed. They may be called to active duty for a training period, not to exceed four months, during which time they will receive army indoctrination courses and special instruction at selected colleges and universities on the areas to which they may subsequently be assigned, as required. In addition, certain civilian agencies have been asked to make special studies in the field of international law and economics, the results to be incorporated with existing information on military government.

Besides training officers for military government, the provost marshal general also trains liaison officers. With American troops stationed in many United Nations countries and territories all over the world, friendly contact between our soldiers and civil governments and civilian populations is of prime importance. To further this relationship and to promote a better understanding between these groups, is the important duty of our army's liaison officers.

ONE YEAR AGO—TIME GAINED AS YANKS HOLD ON AT BATAAN

April 9, 1942 . . .

Through the jagged jungle of Bataan a small, open car bearing a white flag chugged toward the Japanese lines. In the car were Maj.-Gen. E. B. King and Col. E. P. Williams who were to announce the surrender of 35,000 American and Filipino troops.

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from Corregidor April 9. He said: ". . . With heads bloody but unbowed, they have yielded to the superior force of the enemy."

"The world will long remember the epic struggle that Filipino and American soldiers put up in the jungle fastnesses and along the rugged coast of Bataan. They have stood up uncomplaining under the constant grueling fire of the enemy for more than three months. Besieged on land and blockaded by sea, cut off from all sources of help in the Philippines and in America, these intrepid fighters have done all that human endurance could bear."

After paying due respect to the gallantry of the American army in a speech February 20, President Manuel Quezon of the Philippines then stressed the role the Filipino played in the courageous struggle on Bataan.

"By our decision to fight by the side of the United States, by our heroism and by our loyalty to the American flag, we won a battle greater than we lost," Quezon said. "Our decision and our heroism have won for our people real freedom for all time."

"You know what President Roosevelt said in his proclamation to the Filipino people on December 23, 1941. These were his words: 'I give to the people of the Philippines my solemn pledge that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and materials of the United States stand behind that pledge.'

"In the name of the Philippines, I am a signatory to the Atlantic charter. We are one of the United Nations. And whether the war is over before or after July 4, 1946, the date fixed for the establishment of the Philippine republic, I am certain we shall have our own representation in the peace conference."

Who's News This Week

By Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

NEW YORK—Harold B. Rowe stands in Washington holding a serving spoon that reaches all across the continent. You eat what he dishes out. Here's Chap Who He counts Dishes Out What the beans, We Have to Eat the prunes, the pounds of beef, divvies them up among the army, our lend-lease friends, and the home front. He is the OPA's boss of food rationing, and his promise that national control will cramp hoarders and end local shortages makes a pin-up poster that John Citizen wouldn't swap for Hollywood's loveliest.

Rowe was born on one of those deep black Iowa farms where any man can learn a lot about food because it is so abundant. He needed the big University of Minnesota to finish his education although he studied first at Iowa State. At Minnesota he moved a step along toward his present eminence as a food expert. He learned to cook. He hired out as a waiter to get the meals he couldn't afford to buy, but when he dropped a tray of glasses the lords of the University cafeteria figured he would do less damage in the kitchen. If he dropped a roast it could be brushed off, and they hoped he'd hang onto pies.

After Minnesota he taught for six years at Massachusetts State college. He has been with the government since 1941. He lives in Kenwood, Md., with his wife, son and daughter, Verna, Marvin and Shirley Ann. He has a round mild face and an easy manner that ought to keep him from looking old for quite a spell. He is in his middle thirties.

TWO brothers of Anthony Eden, British foreign secretary, were killed in the last World war and he fought all through it, coming clear with a major's tab and the Military Cross. Today his two sons, like your sons and the sons of everybody else, are in increasing jeopardy with every month that this second World war hangs on. These are reasons why Eden, on his visit in Washington, went to work like a nailer to smooth over aggravations among the United Nations and to stave off the third World war that some people say is shaping up even now.

A few years back Sir Austin Chamberlain, brother of Munich's Neville, called Mr. Eden a first-class second-rater. The Chamberlains are gone now and the second-rater is the No. 2 man of Britain. Only Churchill stands above him. Eden got into politics as soon as he finished at Oxford after the war. He was old Stanley Baldwin's white-haired boy. He has been in the house of commons since 1923, but his real start dates from the time he was named secretary to the secretary of state for foreign affairs. He zoomed after that and now is himself the secretary for foreign affairs. This is his second turn at the job.

He is still only 46 years old, tall, broad-shouldered and usually the best-dressed man at the party. Admirers say he takes after his mother, a famous beauty. His family runs a long way back. Robert de Eden started it in 1413 and Hitler might have ended it. Eden and Adolf, talking one day, discovered that their outfits had shot at each other around Ypres in 1917.

ONE of tallest generals in any army helps the Americans push against Rommel's men on the side opposite from where Leclerc fights. This is Brig. Gen. Everett Hughes' 6 1/2 Feet. He stands a bit over six feet five inches in his army shoes.

Hughes has cussed at red tape all his army life and it is his odd luck to be made Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's deputy commander in charge of training, supply, hospitalization and personnel, all bound round with red tape. In the battle some of the loss of any military property can be blamed on a lone enemy shell; a little one will do. In the supply area everything must be signed for, and if the papers aren't kept there is weeping all the way back to Washington.

General Hughes came into the army from South Dakota. He left West Point in 1908, rated his class' most efficient cadet.