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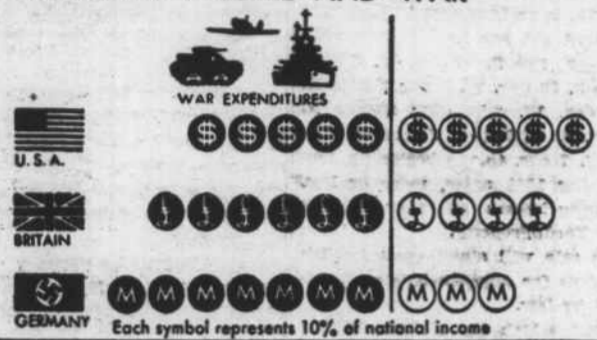
## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Allies' Italo-Balkan Moves Factor In Baffling Axis on Invasion Plans; U. S. Moves to Solve Corn Shortage; Russ War Stepped Up on Orel Sector

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. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

## TELEFACT

### NATIONAL INCOME AND WAR



### MEDITERRANEAN: Balkan Powder Keg

The summary closing and opening of the Turko-Syrian frontier within a 48-hour span by the Allied command had presaged new and important military moves, as the Mediterranean area from Italy to the Balkans had tensed for oncoming action.

Increasing evidence that the Axis' much-vaunted Balkans bastion might be a powder keg instead came in the form of reports from Ankara that Rumania had sounded out the Allies on armistice terms. From Ankara, too, came steadily mounting proof of Turkey's closer friendship with the United Nations. The appointment of Brig. Gen. Richard G. Tindell as American military attaché in Ankara and the dispatch of a contingent of Turkish fliers to America for special training were significant steps in this direction.

Reports from Axis sources had reflected increasing official bafflement over the Allies' next moves. After telling its listeners of "many landing craft concentrating from African coasts toward Pantellaria and the massing of a million troops for an Italian invasion," the Rome radio had broadcast a report that "large British forces were concentrating along the southern frontier of Turkey."

Observers for months had known that large numbers of Allied troops had been training in Syria. Lying in the eastern corner of the Mediterranean, Syria offered an effective base for operations against Crete, the Italian-held Dodecanese islands, Greece proper or other Axis points in the Balkans.

### BUREAUCRATS: Congress Compliments

The much-criticized home front government bureaus were given a friendly pat on the back and a virtual clean bill of health when the house appropriations committee approved appropriations of \$2,939,441,504 for 18 civilian war agencies, including the Office of Price Administration and the Office of War Information.

In making public its highly complimentary report on the work of these agencies, the committee admitted that mistakes had been made and will be made, but denounced those who criticize "without knowledge of the tremendous burdens thrown on agency heads and of the great strides made in putting the United States on a war footing."

"The type of criticism that serves only to create public distrust in the agencies is not helpful to the war effort," the committee's report said.

### OIL PACT: Navy Cancels Deal

The tempest over the navy department's contract with the Standard Oil Company of California for operation of the Elk Hills naval oil reserve subsided when Secretary Frank Knox announced cancellation of the agreement.

The decision to cancel followed a legal ruling by the department of justice that the proposed arrangement exceeded the authority granted by law, a navy announcement said. Norman H. Littell, assistant attorney general, testifying before the house public lands committee, said that a department report sent to the White House had concluded that the navy's agreement with the oil company was "illegal and invalid."

Colonel Knox declared that his own investigation of the agreement established that "no improprieties had been employed by either party to the negotiations."

### CORN: '42 Loans Called

First steps in a program to solve the increasingly serious corn supply situation came when the government formally called loans on 47,000,000 bushels of 1942 crop corn effective July 15. The government had previously used deliveries of grain through liquidation of 1938-41 loans to restore the operations of two closed-down processing plants.

The corn loan move was described as "only an immediate palliative, not the final answer to the problem," and it was stated that efforts to find a solution would continue.

The government's action came as the War Food Administration and Commodity Credit corporation received a request from the Corn Industries Research foundation for either complete lifting of federal price ceilings on grain or the imposition of ceilings on hogs. Meanwhile, J. B. Hutson, director of the Commodity Credit corporation, said that 25 million bushels of privately owned corn in grain elevators would be seized for plants manufacturing by-products for war uses, unless "crops can be moved off farms."

### RUSSIA: Orel to Forefront

A stepping-up of land activities was reported on the Russian front, with especially heavy fighting reported in the Orel sector. Here, Russian troops defending a strategic newly won bridgehead were reported to have beaten off eight German counter-attacks.

It was reported that strong formations of Soviet planes had broken up German formations supporting Nazi tank and infantry units. The Germans, however, were reported bringing up reinforcements in an effort to forestall the possibility of Russian flanking movements against Orel, strategic Nazi-held base midway between Moscow and Kharkov. Heaviest fighting was reported in the vicinity of Mtsensk, 30 miles northeast of Orel.

Russian air forces continued their efforts to disrupt Nazi supply concentrations by striking at four railroad junctions over which German supplies and reinforcements must move for the Bryansk-Orel-Smolensk area. The junctions were Roslavl, Unecha, Vladislavka and Novozybkov.

### PACIFIC: 13-to-1 Record

With all indications pointing toward major sea and land engagements looming in the Pacific, air activities still held the center of the war stage in this theater.

Most dramatic of all engagements was that fought out over the Solomons when American planes shot down 77 Jap aircraft over Guadalcanal while losing only six of their own. This 13-to-1 score turned in by American combat fliers in the Solomons who have heretofore included army, navy and marine pilots was regarded as the best ever recorded in a single air action anywhere.

But Allied planes were not idle elsewhere. Liberator bombers made their second heaviest raid of the war on Jap-held Kendari, on Celebes island, 850 miles northwest of Darwin, Australia, damaging airbases and destroying planes parked on the ground.

In China, a military spokesman for Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek charged that the Japanese again were employing poison gas in their operations in Suiyan province. Meanwhile Chiang's forces claimed new successes, including the recapture of strategic towns south of the Yangtze river.

### TAXES: 50 Billion Goal

Secretary Henry Morgenthau disclosed that the treasury would trim its request to congress for more new taxes down to \$12,000,000,000 instead of the \$16,000,000,000 originally planned. Nevertheless, this would be enough to raise the public's overall tax bill during the 1944 fiscal year to \$50,000,000,000.

Declaring that the Treasury's goal was to pay half the annual war costs "as we go," Mr. Morgenthau estimated that this goal is \$4,000,000,000 less than President Roosevelt's January budget objective.

Treasury recommendations for raising the additional revenues were slated for submission to congress before its proposed summer recess.

### RATIONING: Eight New Plans

Louis J. Kroeger, OPA rationing official, disclosed that eight new rationing programs are being prepared by the Office of Price Administration and may be instituted within the next year.

Mr. Kroeger told a house appropriations committee that two of the ration plans will be placed in force immediately, but that six others, including coal rationing, are contingent on directives from other government agencies. The two programs definitely scheduled cover cooking and heating stoves, and a new system of allotting foods to all types of institutional users, including hotels and restaurants, which will not affect consumers directly.

Except for coal, the other prospective rationed items were not listed, but Kroeger said they included goods for which the government officials see a definite possibility of shortages in the next fiscal year. Eggs, milk and other foods have been mentioned recently by government food experts as possible candidates for rationing.

### RUSS-POLES: Postwar Assurances

Assurances of Soviet aid in restoring a strong and independent Poland after the war were given by Premier Josef Stalin of Russia.

Stalin's promise was contained in a message sent to the first Congress of Polish patriots in Russia who told him that "we will not allow persons who strive to drive a wedge between the Polish people and the Soviet union to trouble the water."

Observers noted that the Polish government-in-exile had no part in the exchange of amenities between the two peoples. Russia recently broke off diplomatic relations with General Sikorski's group in London, because of charges by the Poles of Russ executions of Polish army officers and counter-charges by the Soviets of pro-Axis espionage by the Poles.

### EUROPE: Air Blitz Continues

Even as English King George V was inspecting the Allied armed forces in North Africa, air forces of the United Nations were preparing for the war's next decisive move by softening-up forays against Axis positions from western Europe to the Eastern Mediterranean.

In a single six-day offensive, British and American bombers hammered destruction on nine different major German cities. These included Cologne, Dusseldorf, Munster, Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven, Bremen, Bochum, Kiel and Oberhausen. Heaviest industrial was reserved for Cologne, industrial capital of the Rhineland and the third largest city in the Reich.

In the Mediterranean, American and British bomber fleets swarmed over Sicily, attacking five major Italian air bases and maintaining a day-and-night marathon of disaster to the Axis. The Allied fliers attacking Sicily reported tough fighter opposition and strong anti-aircraft fire, contrasting sharply with the lack of Axis opposition over Pantellaria.

### PAYROLLERS: 300,000 Cut Urged

Charging that the government payroll has more than tripled since the First World War and that the government could get along with 300,000 fewer employees, a joint congressional committee on reduction of nonessential federal expenditures recommended that the Civil Service commission act to eliminate unnecessary personnel.

"Wasteful personnel practices," a committee report said, should be prevented by a complete reorganization of personnel servicing and management functioning.

The beneficial effects of a merit system during the past two years, the committee charged, "have been impaired and federal funds have been wasted through the negligent attitude of personnel officers and operation officials."

## Prisoners of War Are Held in 17 States; Some Work on Farms and Public Projects

### Defeated Men Happy About Hearty Food, Humane Treatment

Prisoners of war, principally from North Africa, are being shipped to the United States and placed in camps, there to remain until peace returns. Some 36,688 men have arrived, of whom 22,110 are Germans, 14,516 Italians and 62 Japanese, up to the first week of June, the war department announces. They are confined in 21 camps, located in 17 states.

These former enemy soldiers are being treated according to the humane requirements of the Geneva convention, of which both Germany and Italy are signatories, as is the United States. Japan has never accepted this agreement.

These men may be employed, within rigid provisions, on farms and public works construction, thereby possibly relieving the labor shortage in some regions. Another advantage of having these prisoners here, is that their presence here keeps their friends and relatives in the homelands anxious about their welfare. This anxiety may help to insure honorable treatment of American prisoners in Axis camps. On the other hand, the reports which prisoners write home about the good food and decent living and working conditions here, should have a favorable propaganda value.

Germans are housed in these 11 camps. These are: Camp Breckinridge, Ky.; Camp Chaffee, Ark.; Crossville, Tenn.; Camp Gruber, Okla.; Hereford, Texas; Huntsville, Texas; Roswell, N. M.; Stringtown, Okla.; Angel Island, Calif.; Camp Blanding, Fla.; and Fort Meade, Md. There are some Italians at Crossville, Angel Island, Camp Blanding, and Fort Meade are temporary establishments.

There are 10 camps for Italians. These are: Camp Atterbury, Ind.; Camp Carson, Colo.; Camp Clark, Mo.; Weingarten, Mo.; Crossville, Tenn. (separate from Germans); Florence, Ariz.; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Ogden, Utah; Camp Phillips, Kan.; and Camp Wheeler, Ga. All these are permanent. The 62 Japanese are confined at Camp McCoy, Wis. (See map.)

**Room for 55,000 in Camps.** The present capacity of these camps is stated as approximately 55,000. Present camps will be expanded, and new ones established as needed, the war department says. Most prison camps are located within army camps.

The commanding officer of the army installation is also the commanding officer of the prison establishment. Where the prison camp is not within an army installation, the commanding officer of the prison camp is designated by the commanding general of the service command area.

The standard stockade at each of the prison camps is an enclosure within a double barbed wire fence, with guard towers covering a narrow alley between fences. This stockade is divided into three compounds, containing hut shelters, mess halls, toilet facilities and other installations to provide for 1,000 men. Within their respective compounds, the prisoners may circulate freely, but guarded gates restrict passage



German and Italian soldiers, herded into huge barbed-wire enclosures after surrender in Tunisia, lean on fence, weary and broken in spirit. Some appear to be crying. But the two grinning fellows (right) plainly show their joy that it's all over, as they anticipate transfer to Canada or the United States.

from one enclosure to another. Guards and administrative personnel are housed outside the stockade in nearby barracks and offices.

#### Will Work as Harvest Hands.

The office of the provost marshal general has found that many of the prisoners were tradesmen, including carpenters, stone masons, house painters, but the use to which their skills may be put is restricted.

Many others were farmers. Their use in farming will be confined to those operations which require a dozen or more men at one time, such as cotton picking and harvesting. Prisoners must be under guard at all times. Being soldiers, they cannot be placed in the custody of a civilian, and it is impracticable to send a guard out with small groups.

Other occupations which will employ large numbers of prisoners are road building, irrigation developments, dam construction and projects of a similar nature.

All of the enlisted prisoners, whether working or not, receive an allowance of 10 cents a day for the purchase of toilet goods or other articles from the stockade canteen. Their pay when working, 80 cents a day, is deposited in a credit account. The prisoner may withdraw, in the form of canteen coupons, one-half of each month's credit up to a maximum of \$10 per month.

When working for a state or private contractor, the rate of pay is decided upon in advance between the employer and the camp commander. The rate, however, may not be less than that of 80 cents a day paid when the work is done for the federal government.

Officer prisoners are not compelled to work. If they choose to work, they are paid the same basis as the enlisted man. Regardless of whether or not the officers work, under the Geneva convention they are paid in accordance with their grade and in line with specific arrangements between the enemy powers. This pay for German and Italian officer prisoners is the equivalent of \$20 per month for warrant officers and first and second lieutenants; \$30 for captains, and \$40 for those in the grade of major and above.

#### Sports and Reading Rooms.

Facilities for recreation are provided at all of the camps. Equipment supplied by the war department is supplemented in many cases by gifts from private organizations.

Because the prisoners naturally favor the sports of their own countries, standard army athletic equipment kits have not proved generally satisfactory.

National preferences and tastes are taken into account in planning the meals for the prisoners. These menus, covering meals for a month, are prepared in the office of the quartermaster general. Substitutions may be made from a list of foods indicated as approximately equivalent in food value to any item on the specified list. For instance, the Italians at Camp Atterbury, Ind., asked for more bread and spaghetti instead of their meat allowance. The camp now gets more flour and less meat. The menu for a typical day at that camp consists of spaghetti, pork, potatoes, cole slaw, canned pears, coffee and thick crusted Italian bread. It is mentioned that the men leave their plates clean.

The administration of each prison camp follows a well-established pattern. A typical prison camp, for example, housing 3,000 prisoners, requires the services of 506 officers and enlisted men of the United States army. This detachment is made up of three military police escort companies, 21 additional officers, and three attached officers. These companies usually are rotated, one being on actual guard, manning towers and gates, while another is in alert and another is engaged in tactical and other training exercises or in supervising and guarding work details.

The prisoners are organized into companies of 250 men each, with each company under an officer of the army of the United States. In turn, battalions are formed within the camp, all under the camp commander.

Although the company commander is assisted in administering his company by enlisted members of the army of the United States, including a first sergeant, a mess and supply sergeant, a clerk, an interpreter and cook, the prisoners themselves are permitted to organize and administer their own affairs as much as possible. From their own ranks they may choose leaders to serve as their spokesmen in making requests or complaints to the company or camp commander. Cooks, barbers, tailors, cobblers and other essential personnel also are chosen from among the prisoners.

## Who's News This Week

Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

### NEW YORK.

John Jeremiah Pelly, president of the Association of American Railroads, takes a rightful pride in his contribution to wartime America. *This Man Fulfilled Boyhood Promise Made to Mother* What his trains have done in hauling war supplies and moving troops on top of their regular traffic makes every railroad man from president to brakie hold his head high. This is the second war Pelly has had to contend with. Twenty-five years back he was keeping soldiers and munitions rolling successfully over the Illinois Central, for which he was then superintendent of the Southern division.

Leaving the University of Illinois early because his family needed an extra bread winner, he started out teaching school in Anna, Ill., where he was born 65 years ago.

When the Illinois Central gave him his first job as a clerk at Anna, he promised his mother he'd give her a ride some day in his special car. He kept his word. Before that, however, he had been a section hand. The fine physique he'd gained hauling onions on his father's farm stood him in good stead there. Soon he was foreman of the gang and in 1904 his road made him a division supervisor. Later he worked all over the system, rising with each move. When he left the Illinois Central in 1926 to head the Central of Georgia Railway, he had become vice president in charge of operations.

In 1929 he moved to New York as top man of the New Haven. Five years later even the travel-worn commuters mourned when he left for his present job.

ASKED once what his hobby was, a James Vincent Forrestal replied "obscurity." That's something he gets little chance to enjoy these days in his role of un-dersecretary of the navy. In fact, ever since he took over that job in August, 1940, just two months after congress created it, and became the driving force behind the production of ships, planes and guns, he has been very much in the foreground. Blunt in speech, quick in his grasp of new and intricate problems, steady under pressure, this civilian from Wall Street hits it off well with the Annapolis-trained career officers.

Forrestal is a product of the Hudson valley. He was born in Beacon, N. Y., 51 years ago. After graduating from high school there, he tried his hand at newspaper reporting before entering college. He started at Dartmouth, but finished at Princeton. Despite the fact that he had to work his way through, he found time to edit the Daily Princetonian.

The last war, in which he was a naval aviator, interrupted his financial career for a couple of years, but soon after the Armistice he was back at it. The twenties were still young when he became Clarence Dillon's right-hand man. In June, 1940, when President Roosevelt called him to Washington as an executive assistant, he left the presidency of Dillon Read & Co. to accept.

BRIG. GEN. Patrick Jay Hurley's tasks in the present war have been as minister to New Zealand and as President Roosevelt's special representative in the Middle East. They haven't kept him clear of excitement and danger, though. As a result his country has just awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross. He has made extremely hazardous flights to the South Pacific, the Orient, the Middle East and Russia. On these he displayed "conspicuous courage and initiative," his citation read.

Early in the war he was kicking that he had missed all the shooting. Then while he was in Fort Darwin, the Japs cut loose with an air raid, and he was slightly wounded. He had had two other close calls. Last December while he was touring the Russian front a land mine blew up his car. In April, when on his present mission, his plane developed engine trouble over the South Atlantic and the pilot barely got it back to Brazil.

### Location of Camps for War Prisoners

