

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Furious Tank Battles Rage in Russia As Nazis Seek to Encircle Red Army; Farm Income Increased by Two Billion; Allied Victories Threaten Jap Bases

(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 meritorious work as commander and military governor of the Territory of Hawaii during the critical period after Pearl Harbor, Lieut. Gen. Delos Emmons (extreme right) receives Distinguished Service medal from Secretary of War Henry Stimson (at extreme left). Brig. Gen. H. B. Lewis (center) attended the ceremonies.

#### RUSSIA: Blitz Again

Seeking to wipe out the big Russian bulge on the central front, 500,000 German soldiers continued their attacks at both ends of the bulge, with the objective of encircling the huge Red army from the rear.

At the southern extremity of the bulge near Belgorod, the Reds admitted that the Nazis had scored early gains. According to the Russians, the Germans were backing up their forces with masses of tanks and airplanes. In action was a new tank, bigger than the 60-ton Mark VI.

From dispatches, the battle assumed the old lines of German blitzkrieg. The Nazis concentrated their strength at certain points and then threw their whole weight against them. As their forces streamed through, the Russians moved to pinch off the tanks and infantry and isolate them from the main armies.

Although claiming success, the Germans said that the huge bulge still extended 85 miles to the west.

#### CONGRESS: Adjourns for Recess

Capping its hectic deliberations with an agreement to give President Roosevelt a free hand in reducing retail food costs through subsidies, the 78th congress recessed for a summer vacation.

The session saw passage of notable legislation. For the first time, taxpayers were put on a current basis with the enactment of pay-as-you-go legislation. Approximately 130 billion dollars was appropriated.

The administration's authority to make lend-lease and reciprocal trade agreements was renewed, and permission was given for use of 2 billion dollars to stabilize foreign currencies.

President Roosevelt's limitation of wartime salaries to \$25,000 was repealed. Spurred by the walkout of the nation's coal miners, anti-strike legislation was passed over a presidential veto. Although both houses took favorable action on the Commodity Credit corporation and agricultural department bills, they killed a senate proposal to raise the ceiling on corn to \$1.40, and also voted to abolish crop insurance.

#### PACIFIC ADVANCE: On 700 Mile Front

The languorous islands of the Southwest Pacific know peace no more.

Along a great arc of 700 miles, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's offensive continues to rage, with American troops menacing the Jap air base of Munda in the Solomons, and Allied troops pressing against Salamaua in New Guinea from three sides.

Trapped in the narrow Kula gulf, eight Japanese warships were reported sunk, sent to the bottom by a thunderous broadside from U. S. naval vessels.

By making two landings on New Georgia island, American troops closed in on Munda from the north and east. Finished by the Japs last December, this air base would give Allied fighters and bombers a springboard for attacking the great enemy naval and airplane center of Rabaul, between the Solomons and New Guinea.

Strafed and bombed by Allied airmen, Jap troops gave ground before advancing columns in the area south of Salamaua.

#### MEAT: Hog Marketing Heavy

Because of heavy pork production, output of meat has been running fairly even with that of 1942. Record slaughtering of hogs has offset the decline in the butchering of cattle, and, to a considerably smaller extent, of sheep.

According to retent estimates of the War Meat board, hog slaughter rose 26 per cent over last year, and pork production was up 40 per cent.

The severe decline in cattle slaughter and resulting meat products amounted to 40 per cent under last year. Although calf butchering slid 28 per cent, meat output was down about 38 per cent.

Moderate decreases were noted for sheep and lamb slaughter, although meat production showed a sharper drop.

#### GIRAUD Welcomed in Capital

While 15,000 residents of Martinique reportedly rioted in support of Gen. Charles DeGaulle, Gen. Henri Giraud was received in Washington by President Roosevelt under circumstances indicating the Allies' public acceptance of his leadership of the French National committee.

According to the Martinique reports, the rioters' actions prompted the administrator of the island to consider severance of relations with Vichy and entrance into the provisional government of the French National committee headed by General Giraud and DeGaulle. The committee already had appointed a military commander over the territory.

General Giraud's stock in Allied circles rose with the U. S. government's announcement that it had uncovered a secret document, showing that General DeGaulle's followers have sworn to perpetuate him in power after the war, contrary to the promise that the French people would be permitted to freely choose their own leaders following the liberation of the nation.

#### Production Miracle

Sprawling over 1,350 acres of rambling plains near Fontana, Calif., stands the first complete steel mill ever built west of the Rocky mountains—the work of Henry J. Kaiser, the production genius of World War II, the man who can get things done.

Fifteen months ago, 60,000 hogs grubbed over these plains. Today, a long row of white buildings of concrete and steel, with entire sides of windows tinted blue, mark the first great steel mill to be laid out on an assembly line basis. Relieving the monotony are victory gardens planted around the entire site.

Everything in the new mill is moved by 3½ miles of conveyor belt. Ore from Utah and coal from California move to grinders and coke ovens on these conveyors. Two banks of 45 coke ovens each feed a huge 97 foot blast furnace, which resembles a milk bottle. In the fall, a mill for rolling steel plates will be completed to round out the construction, and this building alone will be 1,100 feet long and 300 feet wide.

Built in consultation with the United States, Bethlehem and Republic Steel corporations, the Fontana mill has cost \$3 million dollars. The RFC advanced the funds.

#### SHOPPING NEWS: Stockings; Salmon

Government agencies moved on two fronts to give good cheer to the women and housewives of America.

War Production board announced that it would permit spinning of 100 dernier rayon yarn to assure continued manufacture of full-fashioned hosiery. WPB also allowed an increase of 1½ inches in the length of women's full-fashioned acetate rayon stockings to provide better wear, since this type does not stretch readily.

The price of the half-can size of Alaska Chinook salmon was "rolled-back" six cents by the Office of Price administration. Maximum dollars and cents ceilings also were placed on canned Alaska King, Coho, Pink and Puget Sound sockeye salmon.

#### GREAT BRITAIN: Taxes High

Speaking before the house of commons, Sir Kingsley Wood, Great Britain's finance minister, revealed that taxes took 40 per cent of all private income in England last year. More than 12 million Britons are on the tax rolls, and of these, 10 million are in the lower brackets.

It was also announced that already the British government has borrowed a sum more than double the size of the national debt before the war began. The debt now approximates 70 billion dollars.

Sir Kingsley said that thus far Great Britain has advanced 780 million dollars to Allied governments, exclusive of lend-lease aid.

## Recent Allied Success in Undersea War Is Result of Coordinated Campaign

### Improved Weapons, Better Use of Old, Defeating Subs

"The submarine was utterly defeated in May," Prime Minister Churchill stated triumphantly in a recent address. The first lord of the admiralty amended this by announcing that the British navy had set a new record in that month for U-boat sinkings, and that losses now exceeded German production.

Thus the gravest threat to Allied success, the submarine campaign against shipping, is being answered, as it was in World War I. Success is coming faster than anyone dared hope a little while ago. In April Admiral King of the U. S. navy predicted that the submarine danger would be brought under control within four to six months. Secretary of Navy Knox a few days later said that the increasing numbers of destroyers now guarding convoys would soon have their beneficial effect.

The peril to the "bridge of ships" carrying war supplies to Europe and the Orient is not being met by any one "secret weapon." Destroyers, airplanes, cannon, radar, helicopters, balloons and many other war machines are being employed in combinations best adapted to the task.

The change for the better has come rather suddenly. Only last January the tremendous losses in shipping tonnage were causing extreme concern in Allied war councils. Almost a million tons a month was being sunk last year. Charles E. Walsh, chief of the maritime procurement division, has revealed that over 11 million tons went down in the first year of war. The Merchant Marine reports that nearly 5,000 men have been lost in the last 20 months. Until very lately, there was little light through the dark clouds.

#### Ships Getting Through.

Now the great fleets of merchant ships are arriving in Allied ports with small losses. The protection devised by the navy is succeeding. A convoy, which may consist of hundreds of ships carrying ammunition, food, plane parts, oil and thousands of other war materials, as well as troops, offers many tar-



gets for enemy submarines and torpedo planes. Destroyers, ranging along the flanks, and ahead and behind the convoy, are the usual defenders of the slow and helpless freighters, tankers and troopships. But the "greyhounds of the sea" have a lot of auxiliaries under the new system.

One of these is the corvette, a small merchant ship converted to a light warship. It can function much as the destroyer does, although it



A HELICOPTER LANDS—Settling slowly on the space marked out as its landing "field" on the deck of a Victory ship, this helicopter makes a perfect landing. This peculiar aircraft can rise and descend almost vertically, and can hover over the water, spotting submarines.

does not have its speed or maneuverability. Then there is the aircraft carrier, which is accompanying large convoys lately. Planes from the carrier can patrol a wide circle and prevent any enemy surface craft from surprising the convoy.

That new marvel, radar, can locate enemy planes and submarines with amazing accuracy, in fogs or at night. Destroyers are being equipped with radar now. Listening devices to detect submarines by the pulsations of their propellers, have been in use for some time, so the officers in charge of the defense of a convoy have several means of knowing when the enemy is approaching.

Only about 500 miles of the voyage between the United States and British ports is beyond the range of land based aircraft, according to Secretary Knox. The patrol planes of the Allies can protect shipping within an arc six or seven hundred miles in radius.

#### Ships Mount Heavy Guns.

Convoys are so large, however, that despite all sorts of armed guardians, some ships will be attacked, and perhaps damaged or sunk. Often too, a single merchant ship has to travel without escort to enter a small port off the regular run, or for a number of other reasons. Merchant ships have long been accustomed to mount some cannon in wartime, but against modern enemy craft, ordinary seamen have little chance to use their weapons effectively. The maritime commission has ordered every American ship to carry a five-inch gun. A crew from the navy mans the piece, which is deadly to enemy submarines and destroyers, or any vessel with thinner armor than a cruiser.

Ships are protected against aircraft by anti-aircraft guns and .50 caliber machine guns. Expert navy crews also handle these ordnance. Submarines and planes are reluctant to get too close to a ship that can defend herself, and torpedoes, bombs and gunfire aimed from a distance are less accurate.

A barrage balloon is now being added to the defensive equipment of merchant ships. The balloon trails steel cables when in the air, thereby preventing a divebomber plane from getting too close to the ship, or from running along it and strafing the crew with machine gun bullets. The gas bag is raised and lowered by a cable attached to a winch near the stern.

Last month the maritime commission and the War Shipping administration decided, after a successful demonstration, that helicopters can be employed to give added protection to individual ships. Every new Liberty model ship will carry a helicopter, according to present plans. As these peculiar aircraft can rise and descend almost vertically, they can operate from a small area on the deck of a vessel. Whether the ship is part of a convoy or sailing alone, the helicopter can hover around, watching for the enemy.

#### Some Sinkings Inevitable.

Ships will be damaged and sunk, however, despite all defensive precautions and efforts. Some are wrecked by storms, or are smashed on rocks or icebergs. Even when in a sinking condition, nevertheless, a ship may sometimes be saved by some of the safety features that are part of a modern ship. If the ship must be abandoned, other emergency features help to save the lives of the crew.

Many safety devices have been added, and old ones have been improved. Several have been built into the ship itself. The maritime commission found that men were hurt frequently in the dark passageways when the lights went out after a torpedo had struck. Luminous-paint signs now mark all passageways and exits, and directions point to ladders and indicate the switches of emergency lights.

## Who's News This Week

By Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

NEW YORK.—Peace and its problems are the concern of brisk Nelson Rockefeller. His Office of Inter-American Affairs, having scotched the Axis fifth, columns southward, works now, he says, for a long-term two-continent control of production and prices.

An aggressive grandson of the aggressive John D., Sr., young Nelson has fixed himself solidly in the hemispheric picture. His family name may have helped him to a running start and Harry Hopkins' blessing gave him an early breather, but latterly he seems to have done very well on his own.

He is 35 now, with the strong, squarish face of his father and considerable good looks. Married 13 years he has five children—Rodman, Ann, Steven, and twins, Michael and Mary. Not until the second twin was one of the five named for Mary Todhunter Clark whom Rockefeller married practically the minute he finished his studies at Dartmouth.

At Dartmouth he lived on \$1,500 a year, but he had to save 10 per cent and give 10 away. That was a 20 per cent income slash long before Morgenstern got the idea. But he learned to handle money. And now, as a trustee of the Rich Metropolitan Museum of Art and of the Livy Modern Museum, and as a director of the family's epochal Rockefeller Center, he deals with mountains of currency and never turns a hair.

THROUGH three long years Sir Bernard Paget's Home Command has stood on the alert, never sure it would not need to fight on the beaches of Normandy and in the Coasting Down Hill hills. Now, With a Tail Wind however, England

hears of a happily "altered military situation" and Sir Bernard orders soldiers to begin tearing down those barriers hurriedly raised when the terrible Hun was just outside the gate.

A lieutenant general, Sir Bernard has been commander-in-chief of the Home forces for a couple of years. Earlier he tangled with the Nazis in Norway. They had him outnumbered and his problem was to pull back his hardpressed troops and embark them without a major engagement.

He deployed by day, forced the Nazis to deploy to meet the threat of battle, then at night ran like all get-out for the coast. It was a back-handed victory, but then he was content.

In the last war Sir Bernard ended up a major, DSO, MC, with an Italian decoration, numerous flattering dispatches and four wounds, including a crippled left arm. When the French chivvied Abdel Krim he was an observer, perhaps picking up some pointers about night retreats.

A redheaded son of a one-time bishop of Oxford, and 55 years old, he still is enough influenced by his father to want sweetness and light in his army. Not long ago he ordered an end of strong language, or at any rate less of it. With those barriers falling his soldiers should find obedience easier.

THEY tell you, in army circles, that Lieut. Gen. Joseph T. McNarney is about the best poker player in uniform anywhere. They do not mean, however, that he is bluffing when he

Best Poker Player In Army Says Japs ever, that On Skids; No Bluff

warns that the tide of war has turned and the Japs had best hant high ground.

Deputy chief of staff, the youngest officer ever to hold that post, McNarney is generally considered a soldier who talks only when he knows his facts.

He was born in Pennsylvania 50 years ago. His father was a lawyer, a tough prosecutor; his mother an indomitable temperance worker. After West Point he switched in '15 to the signal corps which then included the little air arm we possessed. About the same time he switched to matrimony with a handsome little school ma'am from San Diego.