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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Allied Forces Meet Bitter Resistance In Final Phase of Battle for Sicily; Japanese Employ New Naval Strategy To Supply South Pacific Strongholds

(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.



Here's the way the Allies work in setting up a base after landing on hostile shore. As the first Allied wave struck Sicily, men waded deep in water pass supplies ashore from a lighter, while men in foreground prepare roads for tanks and other vehicles.

SICILY:

Yanks' Test

More than three divisions of Adolf Hitler's crack German troops took up positions around San Stefano in northern Sicily to await the assault of Gen. George S. Patton's charging American Seventh Army.

The San Stefano region loomed as the Axis' northern anchor for their shrunken lines in the mountainous corner of the island where they found themselves pocketed. Much like the Tunisian terrain, great difficulties confronted Patton's Yankees, who were faced with a tedious crawl up rocky slopes in the face of stiff machine gun and mortar fire.

To the west of the Axis defenses, stood the Canadians, encountering the same obstacles as the Americans. To the south, Gen. Bernard Montgomery's British Eighth Army poised for action against strong German forces, which had held them up in the plains after a slashing tank attack.

Thus the final phase of the battle of Sicily opened.

Five Points for Italy

Successful as a diplomat once before when he pulled Adm. Jean Darlan's French North Africa over to the Allied cause, Gen. Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower addressed himself to another soldier, this time Italian Premier Pietro Badoglio, in a bid for Italy's withdrawal from the war.

Commending the Italian people and Italy's royal house for removing Mussolini, General Eisenhower stressed five points in his address to the newly constituted government.

Said General Eisenhower: 1. Only the Germans in Italy are blocking peace; 2. Cessation of hostilities is possible immediately under honorable terms; 3. Discontinuance of assistance by the Italians to German armed forces is a prerequisite of peace; 4. A pledge that Italian war prisoners will be returned if Allied prisoners in Italian hands also are returned; 5. If hostilities cease, the liberties and traditions of Italy will be restored.

PACIFIC:

Rip Jap Barges

Although Japan's merchant marine ranked No. 3 among the world's fleets before Pearl Harbor, her maritime position has since slipped in view of her losses and limited ship-building facilities.

As a consequence, the wily Nips have devised a new system for supplying their embattled South Pacific island forces: strongholds are now being supplied through small, swift coastal barges, in which the enemy sail at night, and in which they hide by day in the many coves along the shores lines.

Well aware of the Japanese system, American airmen have concentrated much of their bombing against these craft. Barges attempting to stock enemy troops at beleaguered Munda on New Georgia Island have had rough going at the hands of U. S. aviators, and a concentration of the craft at Rein Bay, New Britain, was the target for a heavy Allied assault.

With the Allies threatening their sea-borne supplies and bombarding them from the sky with deadly torpedo and dive bombers, Jap troops, true to their tradition of fighting to the death, clung desperately to the last perimeter of their defenses at Munda.

SHIPS:

1,496 Delivered

In the first six months of 1943, Pacific coast shipyards turned out 393 vessels of approximately 4,200,000 tons; Atlantic coast shipyards completed 259 of over 3,000,000 tons, and gulf coast yards produced 108 of 1,150,000 tons. Grand total: 760 ships of 8,350,000 tons!

Since Pearl Harbor, American shipyards have turned out 1,496 vessels, more than existed in the entire U. S. merchant marine before the war. This production has given the country a greater commercial fleet than Britain and a larger one than Japan, Germany and Italy combined.

Once looming as the great bottleneck in Allied war plans, America's industrialists overcame the shipping hurdle with a mass production technique which also has given the U. S. supremacy in aircraft construction. Not only have war materials been flowing overseas in great numbers, but the improved situation has increased use of shipping for civilian supply.

GAS:

Sees More for East

Completion of the "big inch" pipeline to the East which will supplement the railroads' transport of oil to that section of the country, will result in a reduction of the "A" and possibly the "B" and "C" gas ration cards in the central states, Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes indicated.

At present, "A" card holders in the East only receive 1½ gallons per coupon, while the same coupon draws 4 gallons in the central states. Ickes indicated that central states' allotments may be cut down as much as two gallons.

Gas rationing in the central states has been primarily enforced for the preservation of rubber, Ickes said. Because oil was relatively plentiful in these states as a result of insufficient transportation facilities to haul it to the East, rations were more liberal. Now that facilities are available for increasing the haul, however, Ickes felt that the supply should be "equalized" as much as possible throughout the country.

RUSSIA:

Peak Offensive

Peak of summer fighting in Russia centered around Orel. Here, the Reds exerted the greatest pressure against stubborn German forces ringed from the north, south and east, with their principal railway supply line running westward to Bryansk seriously threatened.

According to Russian accounts, the Germans used large forces of reserves to counterattack advancing Red units from the south and east. Admitting they were outnumbered, the Germans were said to have fallen back slowly under the trip-hammer blows of Russian armored columns.

The Germans told another story. They said their attack at Belgorod in the first stage of the summer fighting broke up Red concentrations at the southern end of the 160-mile front and compelled the Russians to concentrate on Orel. Here, the Nazis said, they were pursuing a policy of defensive fighting to exhaust the Reds' strength.

Heavy fighting was reported south of Leningrad by both sides.

FDR:

Help to Servicemen

Declaring that America's servicemen and women must not be demobilized into an environment of inflation and unemployment, to a place on a bread line or selling apples, President Roosevelt outlined a six-point program for post-war recovery.

The program was the highlight of a speech in which the President declared Mussolini's ouster was the first crack in the Axis, and the initial step in Italy's democratic reconstitution.

The President's six-point program for demobilization includes: 1. Mustering out pay large enough to cover the period before employment is obtained; 2. Unemployment insurance; 3. Opportunity for education or trade training at U. S. expense; 4. Credit for unemployment compensation, old age pensions and survivors insurance for the period they were in service; 5. Adequate hospitalization, medical care and rehabilitation of disabled servicemen; 6. Sufficient pensions for disabled in armed forces.

DOCTORS:

Face Draft

Out of the nation's 170,000 doctors, 47,000 already are in uniform, and out of the 70,000 dentists, 17,000 are in the services.

However, the army has requested a substantial addition to these numbers, and to meet the need, the War Manpower commission has planned to draft doctors and dentists between 38 and 45 years of age.

Under the WMC's plan, the army would waive its prohibition against the drafting of doctors and dentists over 37. Faced with induction as privates, the men will rather seek commissions which their professions ordinarily are granted when entering the service.

Heretofore, local and state committees have recommended induction of doctors and dentists.

MIDWEST:

Looking for Trouble

August 16, farmers, small manufacturers and merchants from five midwestern states will meet with 25 senators and congressmen in the Radisson hotel at Minneapolis, Minn., to present the problems besetting them in a wartime America.

In calling the conference, Representative August Andresen of Minnesota declared: "One of the primary purposes of the congressional recess was to permit members to secure first-hand information from their constituents on the prosecution of the war and the effect of the present federal policies upon business and agricultural economy of our country."

Regional in character, the conference will not be confined to a single district, but will give the legislators an idea of the situation confronting a variety of interests. Senators Robert La Follette from Wisconsin and Guy M. Gillette from Iowa have endorsed the parley, which besides being open to their states also will take in Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

MEAT:

More for Civilians

Action by the War Food administration assured civilians of increased meat supplies.

Whereas packers formerly were required to set aside 45 per cent of production for the government, WFA cut the figure 5 per cent. Moreover, a temporary slash was made in the government's purchase of pork products.

The action in beef was attributed to the heavy run of grass fed cattle expected from the southwestern and western ranges, while the cut in pork purchases was made at a time when hog marketing declines.

HENRY FORD:

'Would Have to Run'

"If I felt any better, I'd have to run." With those words, sprightly patriarchic Henry Ford recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

Once again in active command of the great Ford works for the first time in a quarter century as a result of the death of his son Edsel, the elder Henry has supervision over his plants' production of motor equipment and bombers for the army.

Declaring that the general welfare of the community should be the guiding moral principle, Ford said that business and industry must build the physical basis of the good society.

"There must be more and more industry," Ford asserted. "It is essential to political and economic freedom."

War Goods, From Brushes to Bombs, Are Stored In Huge Warehouses of Utah Ordnance Depot

Munitions Are Made In Nearby Factory At Salt Lake City

By John Elbridge Jones

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

The military axiom that "an army travels on its belly" is true, but a modern army needs many other necessary supplies—shoes, for instance, and trucks, and tanks, tractors, munitions and guns.

To furnish these supplies when and where needed and in the proper amount, the U. S. army has built up separate organizations with the army, headed by Lieut. General Brehon B. Somervell, called "Service Commands." There is a "Service Command" for each military area not only within the U. S. but wherever the army goes.

For the first 12 months or more of this war all information regarding army operation and placement was a military secret; now—in driving for final victory—the army wants you to know how it operates; how it takes care of your son or your husband—what it feeds him, how it clothes him—what it gives him to fight with and how it cares for him when sick or wounded.

With that in mind Maj. Gen. Kenyon A. Joyce, commanding general of the Ninth service command, with headquarters in Salt Lake City, Utah, recently invited a group of newspaper men to visit all of the army service forces. These newspaper men were shown everything and told everything, but they were restricted not to reveal military information helpful to the enemy.

Non-Combat Goods.

All of the thousands of articles called "non-combat equipment," meaning, in general, everything the army uses except actual weapons and fighting machines, are procured by purchase or are made to order. Canned vegetables, blankets, safety pins, uniforms of all sorts, road machinery, and stoves are samples of these things not used in actual fighting, but most necessary just the same.

The Ninth service command procures and stores this non-combat equipment in Utah Army Service Forces depot at Ogden, under the direct command of Brig. Gen. Ralph Talbot Jr. Here are tremendous warehouses and storage spaces—much of it in the open, with seemingly miles of rows of equipment such as trailers—trench diggers—harrows, carry-alls, scrapers, water tanks, plows, portable generators, barb wire and bridge building material.

The depot is roughly a mile wide by three miles long. There are 15 permanent type warehouses of concrete and steel and nine temporary warehouses of wooden construction. They house everything the army needs and uses outside of munitions and implements of war.

Several are used for food, others for clothing, kitchen equipment, for automobiles, for drainage tiles, for pipe, for everything.

On display were box lockers, 12 kinds of hats or caps, shirts and underwear, carrying bags, gloves, coats, mess kits, sleeping bags, uniforms for army and for WACs and for nurses, musical instruments, shoes, socks, tool sets, helmets, plastic



This young war worker, Miss Louise Anderson, is exhibiting belts of machine-gun cartridges for airplanes. She operates a machine that fills the belts, which are made of webbing.



Inspectors at the Tooele Ordnance depot examine a batch of empty cartridge cases, returned to be melted into brass scrap. They must see that no live ammunition has got mixed with the shells, since it would explode in the furnace and possibly cause an accident.

foot tubs, flags, tents, tent stoves, and mountain tents. Among thousands of other articles were pack kits, gasoline lanterns, emergency rations, G. I. thread and needles, compasses, pliers, sunburn cream, chap stick, towels, and rubber pants.

Unique here was the fact that a part of the guard for daylight service is made up of women: women trained to do guard duty—to carry a gun and use it. Police dogs aid the guards at night.

Making Cartridges

Guns, cartridges, bombs and similar munitions, as well as war machines—like tanks and armored trucks, are made at the army's own ordnance factories, or by private manufacturers, under government contract. One of these latter is the Utah Ordnance plant in Salt Lake City.

The plant area is about 5,000 acres with more than 175 buildings—10 miles of heavy track railroad and 17 miles of surfaced road. Inner and outer fences extend a distance of about 21 miles, most of which is under 24 hour surveillance by auxiliary military guard under direction of the army.

This plant is the last word in a modern line production system for manufacturing small arms ammunition, such as 30 and 50 caliber armor-piercing, tracer, incendiary and ball shells. Here the principal operations are making the shell, the bullet, and the primer—bringing them all together, and then filling them with powder. The finished ammunition is put into belts—or clips and then packed in metal-lined cases for shipment.

Outstanding in the plant is the continuous rigid testing and checking—for on the efficient operation of these munitions may depend the life of your son or husband. Finally a certain percentage of each batch is sent to the ballistics department, where shells are actually fired in guns used by the army and are checked for accuracy, fire power and penetration.

Tooele Ordnance Depot.

During war the various ordnance manufacturing plants may ship direct to the field of action, but a large part of the material must of necessity be held in reserve in storage. For this purpose the government has built huge storage depots in strategic locations. These basic supply depots are removed from the seacoast for protection, yet so located that war goods may be transported swiftly by rail, highway or plane to the points of embarkation.

The army has built the Tooele Ordnance depot at Tooele, Utah, about 40 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. The depot, comprising an area of some 26,000 acres, is served by two transcontinental railroads, giving quick access to the Northwest, the San Francisco Bay area and the Southwest—all important ports for the Pacific theater of war. Within the depot are 150 miles of hard surfaced highway and 77 miles of railway track. Five Diesel switch engines handle freight cars.

The ordnance depot performs three main functions—first it is the reserve storage for all munitions—including rifle and machine gun ammunition, shells and bombs of all sizes and weights. It stores reserves of ordnance equipment such as pistols, rifles, machine guns, cannon, trench mortars, and mobile fighting equipment such as tanks, jeeps, trucks and tractors.

Repair and Salvage.

Second, the ordnance depot is a service organization. It puts equipment together, gets it ready for shipment and ships it. It takes care

Who's News This Week

By Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

NEW YORK.—Vice-Adm. Frederick Joseph Horne takes a good look ahead through his binoculars and reports that the end of the war is not

Adm. Horne sights on the horizon. It may be a long time before the Pacific's horizon is in the zone. It may run until 1949 in the Pacific, he says, and he knows plenty about the Far East, and Tokyo in particular. He was in Japan all the time the United States was in the last war. He went out there as naval attaché to the American embassy in January, 1915, and stayed four years. His government handed him the Navy Cross for what he accomplished, and Japan, being one of the Allies in those days, passed him a decoration, too, the Third Order of the Sacred Treasure.

This is the third war in which this native New Yorker, now 63, has had a hand. He had entered the Naval academy in 1895 at the ripe young age of 15, and while still a middle he served in the North Atlantic aboard the USS Texas in the scrap with Spain. When the war was over, he went back to Annapolis, graduating in 1899. Since returning from Tokyo, he attended the Naval War college. What's more he went to the Army War college, too.

Back in the mid-Twenties some of his flying officers got his sea dog dander up when they tried to tell him that the orders he gave couldn't be carried out. He promptly had himself assigned for training with the air arm at Pensacola, and in 1926 he was qualified as a naval aviation observer. Later he commanded the aircraft carrier Saratoga. Since March, 1942, he has been one of Admiral King's right bowers in planning sea operations. Planes are his specialty.

Katherine F. Lenroot were setting upon a prayer for children, and who would be more likely to pray for them, she might easily

Statistics Are Her Grenades in Battle For Child Welfare

"Old Age! This child shall grow to meet thee only; None of the hundred other deaths shall harm him."

Children have been Miss Lenroot's concern for 30 years and on, and though progress must seem slow she probably would agree that in her time some of those hundred other deaths have been scotched.

Just back from South America she notes that there also at least a few have been; under-privileged children receive lowered, even free food; medical care spreads. It is 13 years since she was last in South America and she found a change so great "I could hardly believe my eyes."

Ever since she went into the children's bureau of the department of labor, Miss Lenroot has had a strong interest in South America. She is well known there, and speaks Spanish fluently enough to make an easy way from the plateau cities of New Granada to low-lying and windy Punta Arenas, though she might be more comfortable if she stopped at Buenos Aires.

Children everywhere have been Miss Lenroot's strongest interest ever since she came out of the University of Wisconsin. Even earlier she was badgering that state's legislature in their behalf.

After graduation, a novice lawyer, she hired out as a deputy industrial commissioner, but after a couple of years found her life work with the federal bureau at Washington. She has been its chief for ten years, and is an authority on its multitude of problems.

She is a systematic chief and calm, but if the objective is big enough she can make a final drive as headlong as this fellow Patton. She Exposed the Sicily Statistics Expendability of her to declare in distress that mothers were this country's cheapest commodity, so many of them die in childbirth. If she were saying that now she might put it ironically that they are as expendable as P-T boat crews at Corregidor. Her arsenal of facts and figures is inexhaustible. It would stretch from here to there and back again.