

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Allied Military Representatives Plan Over-All Strategy for Defeat of Axis; Red Troops Close on Nazi Strongholds; October Draft Quota to Include Dads

(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.



With the historic Chateau Frontenac in the background, English-American political and military leaders meet for memorable conference. Seated from left to right are Prime Minister MacKenzie King of Canada; President Roosevelt, and Prime Minister Winston Churchill of England. Standing from left to right, Gen. H. H. Arnold, Sir Charles Portal, Sir Allan Brooke, Adm. Ernest King, Sir John Dill, Gen. George Marshall, Adm. Sir Dudley Pound, and Adm. William Leahy.

## MEDITERRANEAN:

### Zero Hour

The zero hour for Italy arrived. Across the Mediterranean, Allied transports massed in North African ports. Axis planes flying in to bomb the shipping were met by walls of steel anti-aircraft fire and scores of fighter planes.

Plowing along the Italian shoreline, Allied cruisers and destroyers poured heavy shells into important railroad junctions and power stations. Overhead, all kinds of bombers — fighter, medium and heavy — dropped high explosives on Axis troops moving along open roads and through mountain passes.

As Allied artillery pumped shells into Italy from Sicily, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower counted 167,000 Axis casualties in the 39-day campaign which won the island. Our own losses were placed at 25,000.

## Peace and the Sword

Assault of Hitler's European fortress and policies for dealing with re-occupied countries—upon these momentous questions turned the sixth conference between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in Quebec.

Formulating the military grand strategy were approximately 350 army and navy officials from the U. S., Great Britain and Canada. Over their maps they planned, first, the invasion of Europe, then, the conquest of Japan.

Joining Roosevelt and Churchill were their foreign secretaries, Cordell Hull and Anthony Eden. With them, the two Allied leaders discussed the measures to be taken in restoring order in re-occupied nations, and the policies to be pursued to meet Russia's territorial claims and demand for participation in the rehabilitation of Europe.

## RUSSIA:

### Push Nazis Back

Russian troops, closing in on the charred ruins of what was once the mighty industrial city of Kharkov, found their advance delayed by strong German counter-attacks. But as fighting raged at the gates of the former "Pittsburgh" of the Ukraine, other Red forces worked their way northwest to seal off the last railroad running out of the embattled city.

Farther to the south, the Nazis claimed the Russians threw in tanks to re-enforce 150,000 Red troops hammering along the big bend of the Donetz river. This would indicate the Russians concentrated their striking power along the whole Ukrainian front, where the Germans have been making a slow retreat with the Reds pressing forward in the teeth of intensive defensive artillery, mortar and machine gun fire.

The Russians claim the Nazis have 211 divisions, approximating 3,000,000 men, on the eastern front, with 38 divisions in reserve in Poland.

## FOREIGN PACTS:

### Due for Congress' O. K.

Agreements that the executive branch of the government may enter into for the temporary management of conquered countries will be subject to a majority vote of the house and senate, according to plans developed in conferences between Secretary of State Cordell Hull and congressional representatives.

Such action would give congress a check over the government's policies in the restoration of order in the devastated areas. Since congress would be called upon to appropriate funds for the execution of such policies, it demanded the right to control their expenditures to protect this country's best interests.

In discussing the plan, Sen. Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan stated that mere congressional majorities for approving temporary agreements in no way would affect the constitutional provision for a two-thirds vote of the senate for the ratification of a final post-war treaty.

## SOUTH PACIFIC:

### Finish Job

Heading northward, American airmen nosed their craft for Weewak, New Guinea. Raiding that Jap air and supply base the day before, they had surprised the enemy and shot up 120 planes parked wing-to-wing on the ground.

As they returned, 30 Jap interceptor planes zoomed up. But the American air armada mowed its way through the attackers, knocking out 28. Then sweeping low over the airfield, the Yanks bombed and cannonaded the planes and hangars that had been spared. Of the total of 225 enemy craft that had been sent to Weewak to re-enforce the Japs on the Australian front, 215 were demolished.

Meanwhile, American warships lurking in the Solomons, pounced on a Jap convoy moving supplies to its beleaguered forces. Broadside struck three enemy destroyers, sinking one. Most of the barges in the convoy were shot up in splinters.

## FASTEST TANK

Killing two birds with one stone, the army has produced the M-5 tank, with an automatic gear shift, and two Cadillac engines which auto mechanics can easily service on the battle field.

Reputed to be the fastest tank, the M-5 has two hydraulic transmissions which operate through a transfer unit, to deliver



the power of the engines to the tank tracks. This is said to be the first automatic shift ever installed in a military vehicle.

To every one mechanic schooled in air-cooled aircraft engines generally used in tanks, there are 10 mechanics familiar with automobile engines, army officials said. Hence, adoption of an auto engine for tank use will allow the use of many mechanics for servicing on the front with a minimum of instruction.

## GAS:

### Planes Fill Up

Gasoline for airplanes, ships, tanks, trucks and other vehicles of the armed forces will consume 30.6 per cent of total production east of the Rocky mountains for the rest of this year and approximately 40 per cent by 1945.

Airplane consumption of gas is enormous, heavy bombers eating up a weight of fuel equal to the weight of its engines for each two hours aloft. Flying Fortresses average more than one gallon to a mile. In the Tunisian campaign, 1,100,000 gallons of gas were burned daily in the planes in Maj. Gen. James Doolittle's command.

Civilian allotment in the 17-state East-coast area approximates 13,776,000 gallons of gas daily. When 126 refineries in the U. S. begin producing 100-octane gas for military planes, their capacity will be in excess of the East-coast area's daily quota. Many are in operation, while others are being rushed to completion.

## Who's News This Week

By Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

NEW YORK.—Fresh from an inspection of the WACs, Dr. Minnie Maffett harps once more upon the tune she was singing even before the National Federation for Girls as Men Get After the War and Professional Women elected her their president and spokesman. When this war is over, she says, women must be treated as individuals, not as a separate sex. Employers must give them in particular the same break they have promised men. Must return them to their pre-war jobs.

This country, particularly Texas, either has voluntarily treated Dr. Maffett as an individual, or has had to ever since she set out to make her own way. That was, roughly, 40 years ago. She is 61 now, born of a family which settled in Texas more than a hundred years back. She started out as a school teacher, but decided on medicine and hung out her shingle in Dallas when she was 33.

About that time Southern Methodist university needed a physician for women and Dr. Maffett took the job. She still has it but she carries on a general practice, too, is on the staff of a couple of Dallas hospitals, and has her dynamic oar in a dozen other activities.

Dr. Maffett is pink-cheeked, blue-eyed, silvery-haired, a pleasant sight for any patient, especially one of those males she says sometimes discriminate against her sex. A persuasive orator, she is careful to emphasize that women do not seek to supplant men. But a woman's brains, she argues, are good and men should be less reluctant to use them. Dr. Maffett sometimes shakes a finger at women, too. A while back she dressed them down for failing to vote at every opportunity.

NINE years ago a parcel of New York newspaper men trekked west to see the sights of Chicago's Century of Progress and one afternoon they spotted a couple of teen-age boys. The boys were pleasant-faced, their clothes quiet; both were stocky; hardly overweight, certainly not fat, but stocky. An older, thin, contemplative, seventyish, walked with them. Henry Ford and his grandsons were visiting their dynamic exhibit at the fair. The newspaper men were politely casual, but at least one blinked at the sight of a billion dollars on, so to speak, the hoof.

Outwardly casual, probably, but blinking must be the shoals of Ford workers as the elder of the two boys now takes off a navy uniform to take on major authority in the family company. Henry Ford II is just 25, shoved so early into heavy-duty harness by the death of his father.

The long boat ride that any smart fortune teller would have promised the young fellow yesterday is out from here on. Maybe a quick, short one into Lake St. Clair and back, but hardly anything more. Of course, if tank and bomber production do not lag, he may find time to ride a horse. He has won cups for his horsemanship, some extrajob ones up at Bar Harbor in Maine.

It is dollars to doughnuts that he takes his uniform off reluctantly. He was doing well in it. Yale, plus sound machinework instruction from a master, had helped him to his original commission as an ensign and appointment as an instructor at the Great Lakes Training station. And he had already had one promotion. He is still solidly built, with a full mouth, a heavy nose and a smooth left-side part in his hair. In build and the cut of his job he suggests Elliott, of the politically opposite Roosevelts, a trifle.

Three years ago Henry Ford II married. His wife was the little, more than pretty, Anne McDonnell. They have two daughters, offspring of the kind of romance for which a magazine editor sighs.

The two met seven years ago on the then glistening Normandie, now rising to a second life out of Hudson river mud, and they had a long week of moonlight on the Atlantic.

Arthur Vandenberg

## Soldier Newspapers Are Important Factors In Keeping Up Morale of Our Fighting Men



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON  
Released by Western Newspaper Union.

THERE'S an old saying that if two men meet anywhere in the world and one of them is an Englishman, the chances are he'll suggest they start a club.

If that's true, then it's equally true that when any unit of the American army, larger than a squad, arrives at a new post, be it on home or foreign soil, one of the first things the soldiers do is to start their own newspaper! This seems to apply to the fighting fronts as well, for soon after the American forces in Sicily had captured the town of Vittoria, a one-page sheet, called the Doughboy News, made its appearance.

As a matter of fact, the News is a "transplanted" soldier newspaper. It is published by and for the men of the 45th division of the United States Seventh army and it was started while the 45th was in training at Pine camp near Carthage, N. Y., where the paper was printed in the shop of the Carthage Republican-Tribune, a weekly. Its editor is Sgt. Don Robinson, formerly a reporter on the Oklahoma City (Okla.) Daily Times.

The Doughboy News, however, is only one of more than 1,000 such publications—820 camp newspapers in this country, 72 navy papers and 110 service papers abroad. The number of these papers reflect two things:

1. The fact that Americans are the greatest newspaper-reading people in the world, so when an American marches away to war a newspaper seems to be an essential part of his "equipment."

2. Although the home town newspaper is one of the most welcome pieces of mail that a soldier, sailor or marine receives, even this isn't enough for these news-hungry Americans. They want to read news of their own "outfits," their own activities and have the thrill of seeing their own names in print. Hence, the service newspaper.

These service newspapers have every imaginable variety of format, size and frequency of issue. There are dailies, semi-weeklies and weeklies. Most of them are printed but many of them, issued where printing facilities are not available, are mimeographed. But they all have one thing in common—they are primarily for the enlisted man and produced by enlisted men.

Outstanding among these publications are two which are international in their scope—Yank and the Stars and Stripes. When Yank was established last year it was intended to be a newspaper for men in the armed forces overseas—soldiers, sailors, marines, members of the coast guard and the merchant marine. However, six weeks after it started it was distributed to men in the camps at home as well as those overseas. Now it has eight editions—two in New York (one for the United States, the other for general overseas distribution), a British edition in London, a Caribbean edition in Puerto Rico, and others in Trin-

id, wrote some additional verses and set it to music. Since that time other soldiers have added verses of their own (most of which can NOT be printed) and now it seems likely that "Dirty Gertie From Bizerte" will be the World War II counterpart of "Mademoiselle From Armentieres" of World War I fame.

Another soldier newspaper which has won considerable fame for its verse is the Kodiak Bear, published by and for the soldiers, sailors and contractors' workmen stationed at Fort Greely and the naval air station on Kodiak island in the Gulf of Alaska. It started the same week that Pearl Harbor was bombed and one of its most famous poems was called "Valentine Verses to a Geisha Girl" which was an invitation to

Geisha Girl of far Japan  
Get aboard an old sampan;  
Paddle to some isle Pacific . . .  
Kodiak, to be specific.

The poem went on to assure the geisha girl of the warmth of the welcome awaiting her, but ended with this abrupt warning:

Come straight to us, my Lotus-Flower,  
Come to our bear-infested bowery;  
Bring your sisters, brothers, too . . .  
Bring your whole damn fleet of two-gid subs,  
But be ready for one heluva battle when you get here!

Although army regulations forbid giving out weather data, the Kodiak Bear has its own method of getting around that. For instance, there was this prediction:

The Weather:  
Chungking: Bely cold.  
Courtesy KODE Weather Bureau.

It is such things as these—bits of humor, typical American "gags," "wisecracks," jokes at the expense of themselves as well as their officers, both commissioned and non-coms (especially the latter!)—which help relieve the monotony and drudgery of the military routine and which make the service man's newspaper such an important part of his everyday life. Military officials testify to the fact that there is nothing like these newspapers to boost the morale of our men in the armed forces, maintain his interest in the job before him. So whether he's stationed in Alaska, Iceland, Trinidad, Australia or Iran, he looks forward each publication day to the arrival of HIS newspaper.

And as the African and Sicilian campaigns have demonstrated, he sees to it that his newspaper goes right along with him to the firing line. The Doughboy News, published in Vittoria, Sicily, may be the latest example of such a paper published deep in what was recently "enemy territory" but it's certain that it won't be the last.

The other day a staff sergeant who is the managing editor of one of the daily editions of the Stars and Stripes in Africa wrote back to his editor-father in the States:

"I'm waiting for the day when we publish either a 'Rome Daily' or a 'Berlin Daily.' Some fun, hey!"