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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Red Army Drives Toward Baltic Sea; Partisan Forces Ban Yugoslav Ruler; Allied Heavy Bombers Smash German Gun Installations in Northern France

(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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PACIFIC JITTERBUG:—Doughboys on captured Makin island in the Central Pacific watch somber little native hula dance.

EUROPE:

Blast Rocket Guns

While U. S. and British troops battled the Nazis at close quarters in southern Italy, waves of Allied bombers rumbled over northern France to smash at German rocket gun installations.

Both on the U. S. Fifth and British Eighth army fronts in southern Italy, doughboys and Tommies engaged the Germans in hand-to-hand fighting, Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark's men fighting for mountain peaks flanking the road to Rome, and Gen. Bernard Montgomery's warriors striving to clear the path to the highway hub of Pescara.

As reports continued to seep into Britain and the U. S. of the Germans' new rocket gun capable of hurling an explosive charge of from 7 to 21 tons about 20 miles, Allied bombers combed the French coast around Calais to blast at the installations for the new weapon.

Ban King

Charging that the war minister of the Yugoslav government-in-exile had made a "lasting" deal with the Germans and organized civil strife against patriotic elements, Josip (Tito) Broz's communist backed Partisan forces forbade King Peter's return to the country until after the war.

Broz's action followed the attachment of U. S., British and Russian King Peter officers to his staff, as a result of the Allies' preference for the Partisan forces over King Peter's Chetniks because they have been offering the Germans more resistance.

Further, Broz's political council canceled all treaties and international obligations of King Peter's government, on the supposition it no longer was representative of the people.

VETS:

Discharge Pay

To every vet discharged after 18 months of service overseas would go \$500 under provisions of a bill passed by the senate and sent to the house for consideration.

Vets serving abroad for 12 to 18 months would be paid \$400 and those less than 12 months, \$300. Vets with 12 months or more service in the U. S. would get \$300, and those with less than 12 months, \$200.

In the house, 44 representatives have organized for higher discharge payments, favoring Rep. William Lemke's bill providing \$100 on release and up to a year's pay.

RUSSIA:

Match Wits

Russian and German generals matched wits along an 800-mile front as winter fighting flared to major proportions in the east.

While the Reds surged into German lines guarding the Baltic region, the Nazis threw strong tank forces against the Russians on a 400-mile stretch further to the south. Thus did one attack act as a lever against the other.

The Russian drive was concentrated on reaching the shores of the Baltic sea: (1) to cut off Nazi armies in the Leningrad region from those to the south, and (2) to cut off shipping at present helping supply them over Baltic lanes.

BOLIVIA:

New Government

First order of business on the new Bolivian revolutionary government's calendar was compensating survivors of the 19 striking tin miners shot by troops under direction of the ousted Gen. Enrique Penaranda last December.

As calm was restored in the country, U. S. withheld recognition of the new government, to determine whether it was a successful pro-Axis coup in view of the fact that the guiding light of the movement, Paz Estenssoro, was once locked up in connection with pro-Nazi activities.

U. S. interest in Bolivia centers around its rich tin and quinine resources, among the last left to the Allies following Japan's occupation of Malaya and the Indies. The revolutionists have expressed a desire to continue favorable business relations with the Allies, a matter on which General Penaranda himself had hedged.

STORAGE:

Seek to Ease Glut

With U. S. food storage facilities crammed, many meat packers have been selling pork products below ceiling prices or in carload lots at a discount. At the same time, it was revealed that the War Food administration prepared an order restricting storage of such meat specialties as hogs' heads, bones, ox tails, tripe, hearts and liver to 10 days without permit.

Meanwhile, WFA extended its price support of \$13.75 per hundredweight to 270 to 300 pound hogs, because, (1) packers have been buying bargains outside of the 200 to 270 pound support range and guaranteed weights have been piling up in the yards; (2) farmers have been sending 200 to 270 pounders off to market to get the \$13.75 top.

Troop Gliders



CORN BORER:

New Treatment

Irrked by the corn borer's damage, 29-year-old John Bell of Watseka, Ill., hit on the idea of curbing the pests by making the stalk of the plant distasteful.

A soil expert for a fertilizer concern, Bell worked for three years on his project, reaching the point where he planned to submit his product to the University of Illinois' agronomists for testing.

Mixing commercial fertilizer with combinations of minor plant food essentials, Bell spread his product over 1½ acres of a 42-acre corn plot infested by borers. Shortly after, it was seen that the borers began leaving the treated tract, which yielded 22 bushels more than the other acres.

Although the compound absorbed by the stalk is unpalatable to the borers, it is not toxic to livestock, tests showed.

GREAT BRITAIN:

Migrations Planned

Actual contacts of many Britons with the many parts of the kingdom's far-flung empire have aroused their interest to resettle in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa after the war.

Circulating among the population, numbers of soldiers from the dominions have acquainted Britons with opportunities existent in their countries, and British youth now being trained in South Africa have interested folks about its wealth and climate in letters home.

But while dominion representatives in London have been besieged by inquiries as to taxes, education and resettlement financing in their countries, the dominion governments themselves were said to be chiefly concerned with reemployment of returning war vets before immigration.



Washington, D. C.

FARM LAND BOOM

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard will soon trot up to Capitol Hill with a proposed bill in his pocket to put an end to the farm land boom. He is keenly worried about speculation in farm properties, has made a couple of speeches on that subject, but has not disclosed the full extent of the penalties he will propose to stop land speculation.

His bill carries a tax of 90 per cent on profits from the sale of farms held less than two years. In other words, if a farm is bought and then sold again in a few months, the deal is obviously for speculation, not for farm production, and the profit would be practically confiscated by the proposed tax.

Farm sales are so heavy that, if the present trend continues, they will surpass those of 1919-20, which was a record year. Iowa farm land, for example, is bringing \$225 an acre.

Wickard has evidence indicating that the men engaged in this speculative buying are not farmers, and most of them are not even residents of farm areas. They are investment houses and insurance companies, who have money lying around loose and think they can make a killing, as they did in World War I.

The record of their speculation in that period is still written black on the pages of farm history. It is seen every time AAA makes benefit payments, for the largest checks in many states go, not to individual farmers, but to insurance companies and banks which have bought land or taken it over by foreclosing mortgages.

Wickard is prepared for opposition to his bill. However, the opposition will come, not from farm elements, but from the speculators, and also from Wall street brokers who fear that the next move might be a capital-gains tax on stock-market operations.

ELK HILLS BOILS

Latest developments in the Elk Hills oil controversy are known only to those who can see the inner workings of the cabinet.

Attorney General Biddle was expected to denounce the navy's contract with Standard Oil of California as illegal. The reason he didn't is that two cabinet colleagues got next to him and changed his tune.

Experts in the justice department have declared the contract definitely illegal, and passed their findings along to Biddle. Biddle, in turn, was expected to tell the house naval affairs committee the same thing, with the result that congress would undoubtedly recommend condemnation. Thus, Standard of California would relinquish all the property to the government.

But when Biddle appeared before the committee, he pulled his punches. Instead of declaring the contract illegal, he merely stated that he had "grave doubts" about it.

The committee was expecting a forthright statement. Even its chairman, Congressman Vinson of Georgia, who is very close to navy officials, privately favors condemnation.

Secret of what happened is this. Two cabinet colleagues got hold of Biddle's coat-tails. One was Secretary of the Navy Knox, who was responsible for the contract in the first place; the other was Harold Ickes, whose Petroleum administration is headed by a Standard Oil of California executive.

The fight is not over. Look for fireworks in public hearings before the committee next month.

SUBSIDY ISSUE POSTPONED
The 9-8 vote by which the Bankhead anti-subsidy bill was defeated in the senate banking and currency committee came as a surprise to insiders.

When they first took it up behind closed doors, most members of the committee figured that the bill would be reported out favorably and that Roosevelt would suffer a resounding defeat on subsidies. As it turned out, the deciding vote for subsidies was cast by Republican Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota, whom Bankhead supporters considered in their anti-subsidy camp.

Terrific pressure had been exerted on Ball by some of the big dairy interests in his state. However, the young Minnesotan is a fearless statesman who believes in putting the interests of the nation and of the majority of the people over special or state interests. He not only voted against the inflationary Bankhead bill, but also against the Taft compromise which was licked by a lopsided vote.

'Master Mentalist' Finds Thought Reading Easier Than Addition; Challenges Skeptics

Dunninger Denies 'Supernatural' Aid, Credits Telepathy

By ALBERT J. PUGNER

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Arithmetic was tough for Joe Dunninger. So he found an easy way to get the answers. He just read them from the minds of his teacher and classmates.

This was fun, so after school Joe tried reading others' minds. He soon found out, says he, that if a person would concentrate upon any simple question for a second, he could tell exactly what that person was thinking. Today, 35 years later, Joseph Dunninger is still reading others' thoughts on the radio, over the telephone, and, previously, on the stages of America and most foreign countries.

After relating how he discovered his thought-reading ability, Dunninger, a tall, solid man with receding hair and searching eyes, emphasized:

"There is nothing supernatural about my work, and I am not a fortune teller."

Those are the words with which he usually opens his weekly performance before a visible and radio audience. A few seconds later he calls from his desk on the stage:

"Someone is thinking of Harriet. Will that person please rise?"

A woman in the audience rises. Dunninger asks her: "Have we ever met before, madame?"

"No," she answers.

"Very well," continues Dunninger. "You are thinking of a Harriet Davis. Her address is 6217 South Campbell street. Is that correct?"

"Absolutely," gasps the woman. Dunninger calls out, "I seem to get a word that looks like Baylor. It seems to be a university."

A military officer stands up. "Is that your thought, sir?"

The officer nods and Dunninger calls out with great emphasis: "Do you swear that I have prearranged nothing with you and that you have not revealed this information to anyone in the audience?"

"I do, sir," answers the officer.

"Very well," says Dunninger. "You are thinking of Baylor University in Waco, Texas. You studied there, and now you are thinking of the course you took. Chemistry and pre-medical. Is that right?"

"It certainly is," answers the officer.

Judges Check Show.

Carefully watching these strange proceedings are three judges seated near Dunninger. They are usually famous persons such as U. S. Sen. Hattie W. Caraway, Paul Whiteman, Judge Edward R. Koch of the New York Supreme court, and John A. Zellers, president of the Advertising Club of New York, all of whom have acted as observers on the program.

Recently, Maj. Lenox Riley Lohr, president of the Museum of Science and Industry, former general manager of the National Broadcasting company, acted as a judge and assisted Dunninger in what was described as "the greatest long distance mental telepathy experiment ever attempted."

Major Lohr, seated next to Dunninger in Chicago, Ill., telephoned Congressman William A. Rowan in Washington, D. C. He asked Rowan to select any volume of the Congressional Record, and then select any three words on any page of that volume.

"Tell Mr. Rowan to put his finger on a word—any word," instructed Dunninger. Major Lohr relayed the message. Dunninger quickly wrote something on a large white sheet of paper. "Now the second," he continued, and immediately, wrote again. "And the third," he concluded.

"Now," announced Dunninger, "I ask the judges to initial this paper



THREE FAMOUS personages whom Dunninger has mystified. Thomas A. Edison, the great inventor, Barbara Hutton, the heiress, and Maj. Lenox Lohr, scientist and radio executive, who assisted in a startling experiment on thought transmission by telephone.



JOSEPH DUNNINGER, who bills himself as the "Master Mentalist," sits at a desk before the studio audience during much of his program. Sometimes he writes on a slate, or draws symbols that come to him from his subjects' minds. The "Blue" on microphone refers to Blue network.

I have written on so they can identify it, and then to place it in an envelope and seal it."

Then Major Lohr asked Rowan by telephone to reveal the words. They were "Thanksgiving," "unanimous," and "consent." The envelope was opened. One of the judges read Dunninger's words. They were "Thanksgiving," "unanimous," and "consent."

The paradoxical Dunninger constantly insists that his work is not related to the supernatural and in the same breath relates that he has asked the United States navy to let him make our battleships invisible to the enemy. He's a magician, too. When he gets bored reading minds, he might be found on a stage making an elephant or two disappear, sawing a woman into eight pieces, or, if the sawing makes her nervous, he'll just let her float in midair.

But thought reading occupies most of his time these days. According to Dunninger, this is how it's done:

"The sender must concentrate upon his thought. The receiver does not try to form a preconceived idea of what the thought will be, but keeps his mind open and then accepts the first impression without question."

"I usually vision a black slate and my impressions usually come in the form of white writing or images upon this slate."

Sometimes Dunninger uses real slates, as he did in Chicago when entertaining a group of 4-H youths at their 22nd annual congress. The "Master Mentalist" called a young farmer to the stage, handed him a piece of chalk and a large slate, then told the youth to leave the room and draw any symbol upon the slate.

This Time It's a Real Slate.

Dunninger picked up another slate. Almost as soon as the youth had left the room the "Master Mentalist" drew a large dollar sign which he displayed to the audience.

The youth returned and held up his slate. On it was a dollar sign.

Dunninger hopes to try a variation of this feat with Walt Disney of Hollywood soon. He will ask Disney to draw Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, or any other famous animated cartoon character. Dunninger, seated in another room, or possibly another city, will try to read Disney's mind and reproduce the character.

"I am not an artist, but I believe I can reproduce a fairly clear likeness," he ventures. He probably will succeed. For although he says

he is not a musician, he succeeded in reproducing a bar of music written by Paul Whiteman while the two men were separated by the thick walls of different broadcasting studios.

"Of course," explains Dunninger, "I go out on a limb when I read single minds. Naturally, the more minds concentrated on the same subject, the easier it is to receive that subject. Therefore, in practicing thought reading, it is best to start out with a group of minds concentrating on the same thought."

Some of the famous minds Dunninger has read are those of Theodore Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, the duke of Windsor, Thomas Edison and Pope Pius XII.

The "Master Mentalist" discusses his strange art quite freely. He believes it could be developed for use in such fields as criminology, psychology and psychiatry, but he thinks the time is a long way off, because so little is known as to the nature of thought reading. He believes the reception is in the subconscious mind and "possibly may operate as a radio receiving set."

A Mental Radio.
His theory is that he figuratively twists dials until he hits wave lengths on which he receives messages or images.

Before a broadcast, he tunes up by walking through the audience as he distributes slips of paper on which they are to write their thoughts. These slips stay in the possession of the writers and everyone is urged not to show his slip to anyone in the studio.

"Those slips are the explanation of your mind reading act," wrote one person to Dunninger. "Somehow or other you manage to read them, probably when you walk down in the audience." Another skeptic wrote: "You take the slips away from the people, read them, and return them without the audience realizing it."

He disposed of the slip theories by reading several thoughts which had not been written down. "I ask people to write their thoughts," explains Dunninger, "because it usually makes those thoughts clearer in their minds." As for walking in the audience, Dunninger says he does that "to become acquainted with my subjects. It seems to make the impressions come clearer and faster."

Skeptics Amuse Him.
Skeptics are constantly trying to explain Dunninger's work in terms other than telepathy. Sometimes this is a source of amusement, says he.

"Two or three men investigating my work apparently were passing notes to each other in the studio during one Sunday afternoon broadcast," Dunninger relates. "I kept receiving impressions of these notes. One note read: 'Dunninger walks down in the audience.' Another was: 'I'm a criminologist. I don't get this.' Some day I'm afraid I'll embarrass one of these investigators by reading his note over a nationwide hookup."

"My work cannot be explained except as telepathy, and my offer of \$10,000 to anyone who can prove that I use confederates, employees, or stooges, still stands."