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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Allies Move Ahead in Normandy; DeGaulle Visit to White House Poses New Diplomatic Problem

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(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Saipan—Wives and children of Japanese soldiers on Saipan island are pictured after being rounded up by Doughboys from caves and jungles back of their lines.

EUROPE: Yanks Gain

Developing their offensive on the western end of the French battlefield, U. S. troops drove through marshy land to envelop the communications hubs of La Haye and St. Lo against the bitter opposition of an enemy taking every advantage of the soggy ground and hedge-rowed landscape.

On the eastern end of the front, British and Canadian troops battled large concentrations of German forces on the approaches of the defensive pivot of Caen, from which Field Marshal Rommel was sending out strong detachments in counterattacks to impede the Allies' thrust inland toward the important Paris region.

As the Allies nudged forward in Normandy, Berlin announced the replacement of Anti-Invasion Chief von Rundstedt by Field Marshal von Kluge, who led the Nazi sweep through France in 1940, and was at the helm during the drive on Moscow during the first year of the Russian war.

Other Fronts

Calling massive artillery into play from dominating heights, the Germans poured fire on Allied troop movements in Italy to slow their steady drive up the long peninsula to the rich agricultural and industrial regions of the north.

In Russia, German forces continued to give ground before strong Red armies massed along a 350-mile front in the north to escape encirclement and destruction. Near Wilno, the Reds milled on the threshold of the Baltic states, while farther to the south, their pressure forced evacuation of Kowel, bending the enemy line farther back toward Warsaw.

Focal point of German resistance in Italy was below the famed port of Livorno (Leghorn), whose capture promised to give the Allies another good Mediterranean harbor for the easier transport of troops and supplies for the crucial fighting in the north.

DIPLOMACY: French Problem

U. S. support of the De Gaulle administration of liberated French territory without formal recognition of it as a legal government was the latest diplomatic problem up for settlement in Washington, D.C. with De Gaulle's arrival in the nation's capital for discussions with President Roosevelt.

De Gaulle winged his way over from North Africa to seek approval of his negotiations with Britain, under which his administration would take control of liberated territory, arrange for supply and equipment of underground forces through lend-lease, and settle disputed property rights caused by transfers of ownership under Nazi occupation and Allied requisitioning for military purposes.

Although long complimentary to De Gaulle's Free French movement, the U. S. has been cautious in recognizing it as the legal representative of the people, declaring that only an election could determine their choice when circumstances permitted.

TRAGEDIES: Circus Fire

Overhead the famed Wallandas prepared for their celebrated tight-wire act on bicycles as 6,000 happy spectators awaited the performance under the big canvas tent of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey circus in Hartford, Conn.

Near a sidewall of the tent, a small flame was noticed. Suddenly, it flared and leaped upward, with great patches of burning canvas falling when fire had seared them off. The cry of "Fire! Fire! Fire!" spread through the panic-stricken spectators, and their frantic shouts mingled with the din of roaring animals in the corral outside.

As the great sheets of burning canvas fell on top of the milling crowd below, adults and children struggled to make their way to safety, but scores were trapped, with some running into the steel ramps through which animals were led into the arena.

As rescue workers dug into the debris, they extricated the bodies of 135 victims, mostly children, and more seriously injured.

Miners Trapped

As scores of relatives of 64 miners trapped in the Powhatan pit near Bellaire, Ohio, waited hopefully at the mine entrance, officials grimly announced that the shaft would have to be sealed off to prevent the flow of oxygen feeding the raging flames underground.

In one last desperate effort to free the men entombed in a dead-end tunnel when a rock fall broke a high-voltage trolley wire along the main passageway and sizzling sparks ignited coal, skilled crews prepared to drill down 350 feet to open a shaft for lowering food and water.

In a previous effort to free the entombed men, rescue workers were cutting a new 500-foot tunnel through coal and rock to bypass the flames and reach the victims, when new fires halted their work.

Train Wreck

Climaxing the string of major tragedies was the derailment of a Louisville and Nashville train in Clear Fork River gorge near Jellico, Tenn., with early reports listing 25 dead and many injured.

Casualties on the troop-carrying train resulted when the locomotive and two coaches left the track and plunged 50 feet into the gorge, and two other cars overturned on the edge of the decline and caught fire.

Although hindered by darkness, rescue workers used acetylene torches to probe the wreckage and remove victims, while mountaineers hoisted the stricken up from the gorge with block and tackle.

CHINA: Bloody Fighting

Fighting with their backs to the wall, Chinese troops stiffly resisted strong Japanese efforts to seal off the embattled country's whole eastern seacoast and strengthen their grip on the Asiatic mainland.

Chinese forces far to the southwest sought to join up with Allied troops driving through Burma to open up a new supply-route to China from India. Only 26 miles of mountainous terrain stood between the two armies.

The 14th American air force joined in the savage battle in China, bombing and strafing the enemy and dropping tons of ammunition to the valiant defenders.

PACIFIC: Subs Take Toll

With the Allies pressing closer to Japan's inner supply lines feeding her booming war industry, U. S. subs and air forces can be expected to take an increasing toll of enemy shipping, navy secretary James Forrestal declared.

In reporting that U. S. subs recently had sent 15 Jap cargo vessels and two warships to the bottom, Forrestal said such losses crimped the enemy's whole war program, since he must move about 75 million tons of water-borne freight into the home islands yearly, including 75 per cent of his oil and gas supply from the East Indies.

Despite heavy marine losses, Forrestal said, the Japs have lightened the effects through use of huge stockpiles of materials built up before the war, lessening of transport to encircled South Pacific areas, and the utilization of surplus prewar shipping tonnage.

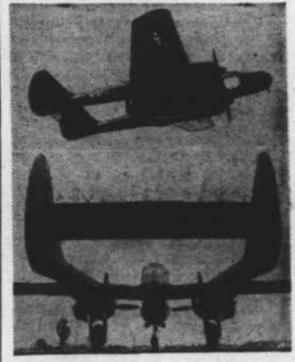
LEND-LEASE: Steady Shipments

Lend-lease shipments of food to the Allies continued at a steady pace during the first five months of 1944, with some commodities being sent in larger volume and others in smaller amounts, with little net effect on domestic supplies.

During the period, 9.3 per cent of the total U. S. meat supply was shipped under lend-lease, with the major portion consisting of pork. About 15.6 per cent of the nation's pork was sent abroad.

The United Kingdom and Russia continued to receive most of the lend-lease food, with the U. S. supplying 10 per cent of British needs.

'Black Widow'



Although military officials have concealed details, a full and rear view of the new twin-fuselage "Black Widow" fighter plane with a central cockpit, was released. Said to be the largest and most powerful pursuit plane built, the "Black Widow" is especially equipped for night fighting. Blank spots indicate censor's deletions.

BUGS: Man's Allies

Acting in conjunction with the U. S. department of agriculture, the nation's farmers are turning predatory bugs upon destructive insects to assure crop growth.

In Illinois alone, more than 40,000 wasps and flies were released to combat corn borers threatening the state's rich grain fields. No sure-fire remedy in themselves, however, the work of the predatory insects can only complement clean farming and deep plowing, agronomists say.

When turned loose, the predatory insects crawl through the corn borer's tunnel in the stalks, with the wasps penetrating its body to lay eggs in it, and the flies depositing eggs on the outside. As the eggs feast on the borer even in the pupa stage, they eventually destroy it, while emerging themselves.

ROBOTS: Inflict Casualties

With all Britain stirred by the robot menace which continued to exact its toll of casualties and damage, Prime Minister Churchill told the parliament that over 10,000 people had been killed or wounded by the flying bombs and he could give no guarantee about the future of this form of attack.

Although declaring that the Allies would not be goaded into diverting attention from the Normandy battlefield by the robots, Churchill said that considerable numbers of U. S. and British planes have been hammering the French coast from which the flying bombs are believed to be launched.

Powered by fuel and compressed air and automatically piloted by gyroscopes, the robots have been buzzing over southern England at speeds of 300 m.p.h. or more and altitudes of about 3,000 feet, to suddenly break off into a 30-degree glide and crash to earth with an explosive force of 1,000 pounds.



The New York and Hollywood Scene:

Faces About Glammerville: Al Jolson spellbinding a squad of U. S. Marines at the Beverly Hills Hotel pool . . . Bette Davis and Sec'y Morgenthau thrilling the uniformed men at the Hollywood Canteen . . . Dinah Shore thrashing nine ditties for them . . . Bonita Granville showing Lt. Joe Wade the cinemagicians. He's all mended from that New Guinea crackup . . . Ella Logan's real tears as she microphoned "That Old Feeling" to the China-Burma-India sector via the Mail Call program, which isn't heard by the public here . . . Veronica Lake, tiny as a doll, floating to the rhythms of Emil Coleman's and Phil Ohman's crews at the Mocambo . . . Lovely Marianne O'Brien of the Warners' factory surrounded by Marines in the Clover Club . . . Miriam Hopkins at La Rue with her constant companion, who never was itemed as her favorite male. He's a Greek biggie . . . Bob Hope and his Johnny Weismuller hair-do. "No cracks," he warns with a threatening finger, "I'm doing a pirate picture."

Marshal Rommel (according to Britishers who made their escape back to our lines) has a sense of humor, he thinks . . . He made several British officers attend his frequent lectures, during which he affected a pose that the Battle of Africa was a sporting event. He would give these prisoners a testimonial dinner with all the pomp he could muster on the desert. Big entrances, place cards, introductions, salutes and so on . . . And then, while the German staff dined on excellent cuisine, the British prisoners were served a meal consisting of their own K-rations captured with them. Rommel also delighted in pointing out their errors and why they were captives. He was asked by a correspondent: "To what do you credit your success? How will the enemy ever beat you?" . . . With a gleam in his monocled eye Rommel replied: "The German Army is great because of its great organization. I know exactly when I will enter a town. One month ahead I know what suite I will have in which hotel. If, however, some day, I march into a place and go to my suite and find another German general—then I will know we are licked!"

The "Oklahoma" cast is reported doing so much ad libbing that "they are spoiling the show." Guild execs shrug and say: "Look at the box office" . . . The New York Post Office has broken all records in the district. To date this year it has done business totaling 103 millions . . . The book now on FDR's bedside table is "Rendezvous with Destiny." The only comment on the book appeared in a Chicago paper briefly and a story in the Christian Science Monitor. Not a single review has appeared on it yet . . . Hepburn's newest interest, they say, is a famed polo player . . . Add ditty similarities: "Time Waits for No One" and "Tales from Vienna Woods" . . . Lana Turner won't bark about it until she sees it here, but those delicious canapes Ray Bourbon served with cocktails the other sundown were made from dog food . . . R-R-Ruff-Ruff!

The Late Watch: Shirley Ross and her husband, Kenneth Dolan (who parted last season), are happier than ever. They reconciled after he was quoted here as saying the fault was all his because: "I neglected my wife instead of my clients" . . . There will be a copyright war over U. S. rights to the song popular with the troops, "Lili Marlene" . . . Douglas Miller, who wrote "You Can't Do Business With Hitler," told OWI chiefs that the war with Germany will last at least another year and with Japan two . . . T. Casey, the B'klyn Citizen editor, has written two songs with Johnny Tucker of Hook and Ladder Co. 117 in Astoria . . . All major networks banned the song, "Don't Change Horses," which has nothing to do with politics. It has been networked since April. The authors wrote "Mairzy Doats."

Quotation Marksmanship: Noel Coward: The most terrifying thing to a man is a woman who cries in advance . . . E. Hemingway: The saddest thing in the world is the affection of man and woman; the most fortunate ending is by death . . . J. Porter: She whines him around her finger . . . Mable Bandy: Eyeslashes that could sweep the cobwebs from any man's heart . . . L. Corning: Low clouds on the verge of tears.

What Army Eats Isn't 'Chow' Nowadays; GI Meals Must Be Tasty and Nourishing

Quartermaster Corps Tests Insure Purity And Palatability.

By AL JEDLIKA

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Wherever Johnny Doughboy may be fighting today, he's eating his fill of good, nutritional food.

Whether it's in the South Pacific, Europe or the Mediterranean, he's finding his fare palatable and strengthening; maybe not quite like Ma's home cooking, but just what a fighting man needs to make him fight hard.

If Johnny Doughboy is eating well, it's no accident. Rather it is the result of careful scientific study of the quartermaster corps' subsistence research and development laboratory in Chicago, which is chiefly contributing to the army's conquest of food problems arising from different climatic and storage conditions throughout the world.

There was a time when the army wasn't so exacting about food, when fares were plain and repetitious. No farther back than World War I vets lost much of their enthusiasm for corned beef and salmon because of their constant serving. But thanks to the sympathetic understanding of Col. W. A. Point, who appreciated the value of a nutritional as well as a tasty fare for troops, the army instituted a subsistence school in 1920, which spawned the research laboratory in 1936.

When the laboratory was opened that year, there were no indications that the U. S. would find itself in a world-wide struggle five years later, fighting in jungles, mountains, deserts and snowy steppes. But when that day did come, the laboratory



A MAJOR on the Quartermaster Corps laboratory staff places various foods, such as navy beans, bacon, raisins, plum jam and butter in a special testing box that can simulate either arctic cold or tropic heat.

was ready to undertake the vast task of adjusting the American soldiers' food to the different embattled regions.

No less than 31 army officers and 61 civilians are at work in the research laboratory—chemists, bacteriologists and vitamin experts, working in approximately a half-dozen different fields under direction of Col. Roland A. Isker. In addition, there are an experimental kitchen for testing preparations and a dining room where help is served new food and asked to comment on its palatability.

In the absence of Colonel Isker, who was on a mission in Europe, Dr. Jesse H. White was in charge of the laboratory, and it was he who escorted this Western Newspaper Union correspondent through the premises.

A retired army colonel who returned to duty at the research laboratory without assuming his old military rank when the war's pressing events forced a need for trained men, Dr. White has been associated with the quartermaster corps since 1907, and always in the forefront of the drive for progressive procedure. Originally a meat inspector for the navy, Dr. White first undertook the study of canned fruits, vegetables and other items for the army, and participated in Colonel Point's special subsistence schools.

Boneless Beef

Although Dr. White has been in on the whole gradual development of the army's scientific food program, meat still remains his first interest, and to him must go the credit for the acceptance of boneless beef.

It was only after Dr. White's insistence that the army experiment with boneless beef during the maneuvers of 1936, eliminating the p/w and expensive cuts and wastes in the carcass. In 1940, the army went still further with boneless beef



VARIOUS chemical and physical tests of food samples are conducted constantly in the Quartermaster Corps laboratories, to determine their stability under differing climatic conditions and other influences that would affect their wholesomeness.

under Dr. White's leadership, utilizing the entire carcass for roasts, stews and sausages. Though the conservation of space was a factor then, it did not assume the tremendous importance it did with the outbreak of World War II, when the long supply lines imposed a severe strain on our transport system.

As a result of Dr. White's sharpness, the army achieved additional conservation of space through his suggestion for cutting pork loins in two and fitting one end in the slope of the other, thus forming a single package of half the former size.

As a fruition of the effort to provide a variety of food to troops, three times as many meat items have been developed under the direction of the research laboratory than existed during the last war.

Before the war, packers professed difficulty gaining pork luncheon meat in large containers, but careful research overcame the problem. Formerly, the lard in pork sausage had oozed from the meat and collected around the walls of the can, but this liquefaction was also corrected. Heading off the inevitability of complaints from a continuous serving of Vienna sausages, a coarsely ground, spiced frankfurter was developed for variety.

With the extension of the fighting to the tropical climates, preservation of fats and oils have presented a difficult problem, but under the direction of the research laboratory remedies have been developed.

'Army Spread'

Most noteworthy of these developments, perhaps, is the so-called "army spread," a combination of butter, cheese curd and milk powder. It was produced following a search for a palatable fat to replace the old "Carter Spread" composed of butter and hydrogenated cottonseed flakes, which tasted tallowy and stuck to the roof of the mouth. Although "army spread" has filled the bill for an appetizing fat, it is of no use as a shortening or in frying.

Due to scientific methods in the preservation of lard and other shortenings, troops afield now profit from the availability of high caloric biscuits. The celebrated hardtack of old was nothing more than flour, water and salt, since no stable shortening had been discovered. But through the use of antioxidants, fats and notably lard have been so treated that they would stay fresh and usable from six to nine months.

Working in conjunction with processors, the dairy products section of the research laboratory under Lieut. Robert J. Remaley has developed an evaporated milk with a concentration of 3.1, surpassing the old figure of 2.1. Of value to the army in the economy of space, the new product should prove of equal advantage to women shoppers in the postwar world.

Advancements also have been made in the production of dehydrated cheese. Previously sold primarily to bakers for fillers, spraying, etc., the cheese retains its essential flavor.

Lieutenant Remaley's department also has been active in the preparation of vanilla ice cream mixes, shipped in the form of dried powder to the various fronts, where fruits or other flavoring agents may be added.

Sea Water for Baking

Technologists in the research laboratory's baking department are engaged in various experiments on cereals and other components of breadstuffs. One experiment concerned the use of sea or ocean water in the production of bread, since there are many military baking installations in the various war theaters where fresh water is limited.

After careful experimentation with ocean water provided from the country's eastern and western coasts, it was discovered that the variation in salt content of ocean water was not sufficient to require any change in

the regular army bread formula other than the omission of salt. Prior to the experimentation, however, the ocean water was treated with calcium hypochlorite on the basis of 0.5 grams to 31 gallons of the water, against possible content of algae, sea weed, etc.

Proceeding on the principle that flour is the most important and the one indispensable ingredient to the production of baked products, the quartermaster corps tests samples from each car offered before acceptance. Made from either hard spring or winter wheat, the flour must produce bread with good volume, grain and texture, creamy white crumb color, and pleasing flavor and taste, according to Technologist Paul V. Holton. Containing about 12 per cent protein and one-half per cent minerals or ash, the army flour is enriched with thiamin (vitamin B1), riboflavin (vitamin B2), niacin and iron.

One of the outstanding developments was the production of a granular dehydrated yeast for use overseas because it will keep well for a year if under refrigeration of 40-50 degrees F. and show no appreciable loss in baking strength if stored at 70 degrees or below for six months. If kept at higher temperatures, however, the yeast quickly loses its quality. Other factors favoring granular dehydrated yeast, which is manufactured in pellets and packed in two-pound size, moisture proof cans, are its quick action during baking and its greater leavening power per unit of weight.

Canned Rations

To meet the needs of our soldiers under the varying conditions of war, rations have been developed. For instance, when establishing a beachhead there is no time for the preparation of a meal. The "K" ration which may be eaten cold, is designed for such an exigency. The "C" ration is intended for later use when the beachhead is established and the tension is not quite so great. The "C" ration which may be eaten cold but may be made more palatable by heating the canned components, requires a minimum of preparation. For scout troops or just-back-of-the-line eating, the 10-in-1 ration is preferable. The "D" ration, a high calorie chocolate bar, is carried by the soldier to be used only in an emergency. Each of these rations has been developed only after the most careful research. They must be nutritionally adequate, of excellent keeping quality (at least six months under varying conditions of climate), easy to carry, and palatable.

One of the research laboratory's biggest tasks was in the improvisation of packing to suit the various climatic conditions encountered. In early South Pacific fighting, many different types of packages deteriorated on the tropical beaches under the elements of rain and heat.

Through careful research, however, various protective coatings and waterproofing materials, such as waxes, were developed, not only to guard against exposure on the beaches but also to enable many of the packages to be floated ashore to facilitate unloading operations.

The laboratory has a cooperative project called the Guinea Pig Club, of which every employee as well as every officer in the laboratory is a



THE FOOD on Maj. W. E. Harper's plate is equivalent in bulk to the condensed "K" ration, which is contained in the little packages spread on the table.

member. At noon, midmorning, or midafternoon, samples of proposed ration items are served. The tasters are instructed, in the case of two items, to choose the one which they prefer. If only one item is under test, the taster is requested to tell whether he likes the item or not and why. Figures are tabulated statistically, and the popularity of an item may thus scientifically be obtained.