

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

## Nazi Crisis Heightens as Allies Break East-West Defense Fronts; U.S. Tightens Net on New Guinea

Released by Western Newspaper Union.  
 (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.)



Normandy—Having extinguished fire which destroyed ammunition truck at left, Doughboys resume charge under fire near St. Lo.

### EUROPE: Yank Break-Through

With the harassed Germans holding down British gains on the eastern end of the Normandy beachhead, U. S. troops unloosed a powerful assault on the western sector to break through the Nazis' first-line defenses and force an enemy withdrawal along a 40-mile front.

With heavy bombers preparing the ground for the big offensive with an earth-shaking attack that buried many of the German soldiers and armored dirt over their guns, U. S. shored forces then rode into battle to exploit the breach in the defenses. As the enemy pulled out, U. S. fighters and fighter-bombers swooped low to shoot up the retreating columns.

On the eastern end of the front, Nazi Marshal Rommel threw in a succession of counter-attacks to curtail the British advance south of Caen, with fighting see-sawing as one side would go into action when the force of the other's initial assault had been worn off.

As Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, 61, watched the ground forces he had built up in action in Normandy, he was killed by enemy fire.  
 Renounced for having reorganized the old "square" division of 20,000 men into the modern "triangular" unit of 15,000, and one of the leaders in the development of powerful, mobile anti-tank guns to combat the armored battle-wagons, General McNair had received Gen. George Marshall's praise as the "brains of the army."  
 A soldier for 41 years and veteran of the Mexican campaign and World War I, General McNair was commander of U. S. ground forces before being sent abroad recently on a secret assignment. While observing the North African fighting in 1943, he was wounded by shell fragments.

### Near Warsaw

Capital of old Poland—and deep inside the Germans' defense lines, the ancient city of Warsaw reverberated to Russian guns as the Reds pressed their offensive on the central sector of the 800-mile eastern front.

While the Russian spearheads pointed almost halfway across old Poland, Allied troops drew up in Italy for a grand assault upon the enemy's "Gothic Line," first of his defenses guarding the northern plains. Taking advantage of the mountainous terrain on the approaches to their new fortification system, the Germans resisted stubbornly in heavy delaying action.

As German lines stiffened on the northern end of the eastern front, and Hungarian troops slowed up the Russ drive in the Carpathian foothills in the south, the full weight of the Reds' advance was thrown into the central sector, where the open plains gave the Nazis no natural cover.

### DROUGHT: Partly Broken

Although varying rainfall broke an extended drought in the Ohio and middle Mississippi river valleys to help bumper plantings along, the eastern coastal sector from New England to Maryland suffered from continuing dry weather.

With corn tasseling and new ears appearing, soybeans starting to fill, and pastures drying, the wet weather arrived in the Midwest at a critical time.

Although the rainfall pushed the corn along in Kansas, an important part of the estimated 207,918,000 bushel wheat crop was threatened with ruin by moisture as it lay in the field because of a lateness in harvesting and shortage of facilities for moving the grain to market.

### GOOD NEIGHBOR: Not So Good

Charging the present Argentine government with offering friendly support to Axis establishments and scotching the solidarity of western-hemispheric opposition to the enemy, the U. S. government reasserted its non-recognition of the new regime.

Indulging in no diplomatic double-talk, the government, through Secretary of State Cordell Hull, branded Argentina as a "deserter to the Allied cause," then went on to charge that the new regime assisted Axis subcontractors to bid on work utilizing American material, and also allowed distribution of imported newspaper to Axis papers attacking the United Nations' cause.

### TIRES: Less Heavies

Because of the army's increased demands, and a shortage of manpower in manufacturing plants, civilian allocations of heavy and small truck and bus tires for August were sharply reduced, while the quota for passenger use remained unchanged.

Although the War Production board recognized that the present grave truck and bus tire situation may result in a curtailment of essential transportation, it revealed that the army refused to consent to a diversion of its earmarked stocks to civilians.

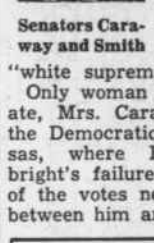
In tendering his resignation as Rubber Director, Bradley Dewey declared that U. S. plants were now producing synthetic rubber at a rate of 836,000 tons yearly, and that future manufacturing costs may eventually be cut to 12 cents a pound.

### U. S. SENATE: New Faces

When the next congress convenes, Senators Ellison "Cotton Ed" Smith (S. C.) and Hattie Caraway (Ark.) will not be among the members.

Dean of the senate with 36 years of service and famed for his championship of the farmers, "Cotton Ed" was defeated for re-nomination for a seventh term by Gov. Olin D. Johnston, former textile worker. Besides his ardent support of agriculture, Smith also was known for his opposition to tariffs, his upholding of states' rights and his advocacy of "white supremacy" in the South.

Only woman member of the senate, Mrs. Caraway was fourth in the Democratic primary in Arkansas, where Representative Fulbright's failure to win a majority of the votes necessitated a run-off between him and Governor Adkins.



Senators Caraway and Smith

### ON THE HOME FRONT

To prevent the diversion of material into higher priced clothing, the War Production board ordered manufacturers to channel about 50,000,000 yards of cotton fabric into cheap and moderate clothing during each quarter of the year.

At the same time, the WPB considered a further reduction in the release of refrigerators since 55,000 remain out of an original stockpile of 700,000 when production was stopped in 1942, and the present supply would be exhausted by the end of this year.

With milk production in seasonal decline and the demand for exportable dairy products rising, the War Food administration ended the July ice cream holiday by again limiting manufacturers to 65 per cent of the milk they normally used and 22 per cent of their milk solids content.

### PRODUCTION: Army Sets Pace

With the war department declaring monthly war production goals were not being met, and output of materials was \$400,000,000 behind schedule during the present quarter, the army service forces set the pace for increased delivery by putting both its military and civilian personnel on a 54-hour week in all establishments with unfinished work.

There was no indication of how many of the army's 1,250,000 employees in arsenals and depots would go on the extended week with the civilian personnel paid time and a half for all work over 40 hours, but the order was expected to affect 50,000 persons at all headquarters of the service forces.

Army plants operating on three shifts were exempted from the order. Where compliance would result in a surplus of labor, workers would be transferred to other jobs.



### Anecdota Presidentialia:

Although the White House is the last place in the world (except Grant's Tomb) you'd expect to find a gag-man, some of our Presidents have fashioned bon mots that would have earned them berths on leading radio comedians' payrolls.

Calvin Coolidge, generally accepted as the tightest-lipped of the Chief Executives, has several nifties to his credit. A Washington correspondent questioned him about his reaction to Rupert Hughes' biography debunking many of the legends about George Washington. Coolidge gazed out the window and then muttered nasally: "I notice the Washington Monument is still standing."

In a discussion on the proper use of a word, Grover Cleveland was surprised to hear a Senator refer to his source as "Daniel Webster's dictionary." "But my dear Senator," said Cleveland, "Noah made the dictionary." "Don't be silly," replied the Senator, giving him a scornful look. "Noah built the ark."

### 'IT CAN'T BE DONE'

When Wilson was faced with severe opposition on his League of Nations proposals, the objection, "It can't be done," was familiar to his ears. At such times he would relate this story: A man was telling his son a bedtime story about an alligator. It was creeping up behind a turtle, with its mouth wide open. Finally it was within reach but just as its great jaws were snapping shut, the turtle made a spring, ran up a tree and escaped. "Why, dad," said the boy, "how can a turtle spring and climb a tree?" "Great Scott," replied the father, "he had to!"

A Congressional committee was meeting with President Wilson, and, as you can well imagine, many of the good Representatives were shaking the walls with their loud, but un-rational oratory. The Prez listened patiently for a while, and then related this story: "I am reminded of the old Colored man down in Virginia who was riding a mule, and who was caught in a violent thunderstorm while passing through a dense forest. Although he trembled at the horrifying peals of thunder, he was thankful for the occasional flashes of lightning which enabled him to see his way. At last he prayed: 'O Lawd, if it's jes' the same to you, I'd rather hev a little less noise an' a little more light!'"

Theodore Roosevelt had this legend on his White House desk: "The value of a smile—costs nothing—but creates much. It is rest to the weary—daylight to the discouraged—sunshine to the sad—and nature's best antidote for trouble! Yes—it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen—for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody—until it is given away."

A large Republican meeting was attended by a small boy offering for sale four puppies, so young their eyes were still unopened. "Get your McKinley pups!" he shouted, and enjoyed a brisk sale. Two weeks later, the Democrats had a meeting in the same town, and the little boy was again seen hawking an armful of pups. "Get your Bryan pups!" he yelled this time.

"See here," said an onlooker, "didn't I see you selling 'McKinley pups' here a few weeks ago?" "Yessir," replied the lad meekly, "but these are different—they've got their eyes open!"

Of course we can't prove it, but George Washington is alleged to have become wearied with an official investigation which paraded a score of experts through his chambers. "It is my opinion," he is quoted, "that calling many witnesses to prove one fact is like adding a large quantity of water to a small quantity of brandy—it makes it weak."

## Committees for Economic Development Plan to Maintain Employment After War

### Surveys Being Made In More Than 2,000 U. S. Communities

By AL JEDLICKA  
 Released by Western Newspaper Union.

In over 2,000 communities throughout the United States, people are laying their own plans for a return to a peacetime economy when the war ends and the country's gigantic armament production ceases.

Although these people are being guided by the Committee for Economic Development, they are not trained technicians nor market analysts nor economists themselves, but just plain Mr. and Mrs. America familiarizing themselves with the conditions peculiar to their communities and anxious to provide opportunities for its prosperity in the critical postwar world.

Citizens in towns and cities ranging from hundreds to thousands in population have grouped to undertake a problem that otherwise might be cast solely upon the shoulders of the government, and thus they have sought to apply democratic principles directly through themselves rather than through distant public officials.

Recognizing the great business possibilities in the postwar world, and seeking to acquaint the people the country over with them so they might relieve any distress attending demobilization of the military establishments and industry, the Committee for Economic Development, or CED, was organized in 1942, and began its operations in 1943, with the intention of assisting in the creation of postwar planning groups in communities of more than 10,000. But with the realization that only through a widespread organization affecting every economic segment of the country could any movement be effective, the CED extended its activities to smaller cities as well, where the limited fields offer an even more thorough application of the plan.

Headed and supported by the nation's biggest businessmen, the CED makes no bones about its objective of stimulating individual initiative to assist in the solution of the grave problems which demobilization will present. But, in pursuing its goal, CED's organizers welcome the backing of every economic group within a community: the businessmen, the farmers, labor, public officials and any other persons who might be interested.

Each City Makes Own Plans. In proceeding with their work, CED's organizers insist upon each community developing its own plans, on the principle that its members are more familiar with the city's circumstances than anybody outside of it might be. CED actively enters the picture through its guidance in organization, the distribution of findings of its expert research departments, and its establishment as a clearing house for the exchange of information gathered through its country-wide operations.

As an indication of the grass-roots character of the communal postwar planning, CED's records show that 35 per cent of the cities organized are under 10,000 population, and in the typically rural state of South Dakota, for instance, 130 out of 172 communities engaged in the program have less than 1,300 people.

The working of the program may be best explained by a study of its actual operation in one of the small cities, as described by Mr. Hermann C. Wehmann, CED's regional manager for the Ninth Federal Reserve district, embracing the Northwest.

In helping to organize a town, Mr. Wehmann said, CED representatives contact some representative member of the community, who then assembles other active citizens to discuss the program. Expenses are negligible, since the local chamber of commerce, etc., furnish the headquarters, and financial outlay is limited to stationery and postage stamps.

To get an idea of the possible postwar conditions in the community, various surveys are conducted, Mr. Wehmann continued, with local industries canvassed as to the number of employees they expect they will be able to hire, and residents polled as to the different kinds of merchandise they plan to purchase. Businessmen then figure on how many people they will need to service the demand. Surveys also establish plans for postwar public works to take up any employment slack.

To provide a solid basis for the business community to figure on, residents polled also are asked to reveal whether they intend to purchase goods out of current income, installment credit, savings or bank deposits, or war bonds.

Through banks, building and loan associations, postal savings and war bond sales, financial assets of the community are tabulated, to determine the extent to which postwar activities might be supported.

Albert Lea, Minn., Survey. Typical of the consumer surveys upon which businessmen can project their potential needs, Mr. Wehmann said, was the one conducted in the town of Albert Lea with its population of 12,200, in Freeborn county with over 31,000 people, in Minnesota.

The survey showed that residents of the town expected to buy 1,156 automobiles at \$1,217,268, and farmers of the county 1,140 cars at \$1,105,800.

People in the town hoped to buy 442 new houses at an average cost of \$4,068, while farmers looked forward to the construction of 150 homes at \$3,150 each.

Repairs averaging \$514 were planned for 714 houses in Albert Lea, while similar work averaging \$900 was anticipated on 540 farm homes in the county. In addition, farmers indicated they would build 360 barns at an average cost of \$1,473, and 360 silos at an average price of \$539.

Farmers also expected to purchase 780 tractors averaging \$926 each; 810 prefabricated small buildings averaging \$566, and 810 electric services averaging \$325.

With businessmen thus able to figure upon their possible employment needs, and with surveys of local industries determining their future operating prospects, communities can partly visualize their postwar condition.

New Industries Encouraged. Towns that may be faced with a surplus of employables can be encouraged to explore the possibility of developing a new industry after consultation with economic experts at their state universities. In cases where such development may be desirable, consideration may be given to some industry which might be based upon a local agricultural crop.

After extensive field work, Mr. Wehmann has set up a chart of the employment prospects of towns which have undertaken communal



A Bergen County, N. J., housewife tells a college girl what she intends to buy after the war in the line of home furnishings, and what the family plans are for remodeling or repairing the house, purchasing an automobile, traveling, and so on.

Government Surplus Sales. Besides reconversion, CED also advocates the orderly disposal of surplus war material, so as to not repeat the mistakes that followed marketing of such goods after the last conflict, with the subsequent disturbance of normal channels of production and distribution. In this respect, the government already has established an agency for handling surplus goods, with emphasis placed upon a maximum return for any material.

In a recent address, Paul G. Hoffman, chairman of the board of trustees of CED, declared: "Private business cannot by any means do the entire job of providing postwar employment. But it is aware of its obligation to make its maximum contribution to that end. With labor and agriculture, it hopes to see reestablished after this war a free and growing American economy."

"What is America's postwar goal for civilian employment? The Committee for Economic Development places that figure at from 53 to 56 million jobs. That is 7 to 10 million more than in 1940, the banner year in all our prewar history."

"It is clear that private business—in which I include agriculture and the professions—must provide employment for the overwhelming proportion of those Americans who after this war will be seeking jobs. No governmental employment yet planned—let alone blueprinted—can take up more than a fraction of the unemployment slack that would exist if private employment were not able to go full steam ahead when the war ends."

Opportunity for Profit. "Meanwhile, the Committee for Economic Development is committed to these beliefs: "The American economy after this war must be predominantly one of private enterprise, in which the opportunity for a fair profit will encourage businessmen to expand present operations and to undertake new ventures."

"The American economy after this war must be an expanding economy in which more wealth will be created and consumed year after year, and in which the American standard of living will steadily rise."

"The American economy after this war must be such as to give every encouragement to the small businessman, for small business, and particularly new enterprise, promotes competition and flexibility in our economy, and thus furnishes protection against monopolistic practices which maintain prices and restrict production."

planning within his region, and as evidence of the value of the survey, consultations with Governor Thye of Minnesota have resulted in the state's consideration to locate public works projects within those areas where labor surpluses may develop.

In organizing communal planning the country over, the CED does not hold that such preparation will be a sure-fire cure for the employment and business problems that will develop upon military and industrial demobilization after the war.

The CED does not overlook the importance of industry quickly reconverting to civilian production to absorb the mass of employables, nor does it ignore the fact that any solid stability can be expected unless agriculture is assured an adequate market at a fair price.

On the question of reconversion, CED stands for the swift settlement of cancelled war contracts to provide industry with funds with which to finance the switch back to civilian goods. At the end of the war, CED figures that about 10 billion dollars of claims will be entered against the government, of which probably 2 billion dollars will be subject to dispute.

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The president of the bank in Ruthersford, N. J., gives pertinent financial data to a college girl interviewer. The figures on savings and demand deposits, war bond sales, personal loans and sales on credit, help the Committee for Economic Development in forecasting the purchasing power that will be available to buy goods when peace returns.