



Washington, D. C.

**GREEN U. S. COMMANDERS
BLAMED FOR SETBACK**

Those in the know inside the Pentagon building say that if there is ever a thorough army probe it will show that U. S. intelligence fell down even more badly than former Chief of Staff Gen. Peyton March indicated regarding advance preparations for the German breakthrough. Even American news dispatches told of German activity behind the lines and lights burning at night.

Military experts also say, however, that other factors contributed to the serious setback, one of them being failure to have experienced colonels and lieutenant-colonels as field commanders. They trace this back to a ruling by the late General McNair, commander of the ground forces, that no colonel over 48 could serve in combat overseas.

This meant that many of the regular army, national guard and reserve officers who had been under fire in the last war, trained their men in the United States, went with them to the port of embarkation, then were left behind at desk jobs in the U.S.A. Youngsters, who were only lieutenants or captains in 1941, took their places. These youngsters had all the courage and vigor in the world, but they lacked one thing so all-important in battle—experience under fire.

106TH DIVISION CAVED FIRST
Military experts point out that the division reported to have caved in first when the Germans counter-attacked was the 106th. It had just gone into the line and not one hostile shot had ever been fired over its head. This division gave way like straws before a tornado.

If a committee of congress should ever take the trouble to look up the officers of the 106th division it will find that just before it called all its older field officers were removed, and younger, but very green officers, put in their places. Had the 106th division held for only a few hours it would have made all the difference in the world to the rest of the army and to the length of the war.

Military experts say somewhat the same thing happened at Kasserine pass and Salerno. At Kasserine pass, green field commanders ignored the first rudiments of defense, namely that a halted regiment should dig in and prepare field fortifications in enemy territory.

Maj. Gen. Lloyd Fredendall was made the goat at Kasserine pass and transferred back to the U.S.A., just as Maj. Gen. Ernest Dawley was made the goat at Salerno. However, high-up officers, who have studied these battles, say the real fault was not theirs, but that all colonels of the 34th division which lost so heavily at Kasserine were replaced by green field commanders just before the division saw action. To get the entire picture, it is necessary to recall that after Pearl Harbor the army collected the majors, lieutenant-colonels and colonels from the regular army, national guard and reserves who had battle training in World War I, calling many from civil life, and put them in charge of troop training. As a result the army had a sizable group of experienced field officers not easily stampeded.

McNair Copies British.
Then in June 1942, General McNair, commanding the ground forces and an A-1 general in most respects, suddenly decided to copy the British. He found that British colonels were around 45 years of age, so gave verbal orders that no American colonel over 48 could serve with combat troops.

Army experts say that undoubtedly, some colonels and lieutenant-colonels needed to be weeded out for physical or other reasons. The army has been too lax with its physically unfit during soft and easy years of peace. However, they believe that General McNair swung far too far in the other direction.

Fortunately a lot of the troops landing in Normandy were seasoned under fire in Italy. Gen. Mark Clark has done a great job there of baptizing troops. Others, such as General Patch's Seventh army were seasoned at Guadalcanal, but obviously there were not enough seasoned troops to man the long front extending all the way from Holland to the Alps, and the Nazis kept probing one spot after another until they found the softest part of the front. Perhaps their intelligence even knew that green commanders had just come into the line.

CAPITAL CHAFF
One of the last acts of the 78th senate was to cancel from the federal government's list of assets, money borrowed by four southern cities in 1861, just before the Civil war. These have been listed as "unavailable cash" since that date. New Orleans owed \$31,164.44, Little Rock, Ark., \$5,823.50; Savannah, Ga., \$265.76, and Galveston, Texas, \$53.26.
The CIO claims that Secretary of Labor Perkins has become radical by anti-CIO.

G.I.s and Jumbo Make Good Team



Capt. Stanley R. Hall, post exchange officer of the South East Asia command, moves a 2,600 pound electric refrigerator into the PX with the help of a group of G.I.s and a 35-year-old elephant. Jumbo, or Karunavathi, was rewarded with a quarter stalk of bananas and a few slices of bread. The G.I.s will share contents of refrigerator.

Gen. Arnold Welcomes Bong Home



Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the U. S. army air forces, is shown as he welcomed Maj. Richard Bong, who has just returned from the southwest Pacific. This is first photo of General Arnold wearing his new five star insignia, denoting his rank of "General of the Armies." Bong is still leading ace of war.

Hold Italian Mule Lottery



Italian farmers, in liberated areas of Italy, who had lost much of their livestock as a result of the war, are being afforded a chance to acquire mules and horses. Drawings are held and the lucky winners are given a chance to purchase the livestock. The drawings are held under the direction of the Allied armies.

Bombing Plays a Strange Trick



One of the freak effects sometimes achieved by high explosive bombs is seen in this photo, of a town in France, on the U. S. Third army front. The big building at the end of the street took a direct hit and was split down the center. One-half of the building disintegrated into rubble, the other remained standing firm.

Aids FBI Spy Hunt



Harvard Hodkins, 17-year-old school student, spotted Gimpel and Colepaugh, German spies. He followed their snow tracks and discovered they came from the ocean. His report to his father, a sheriff, brought the FBI and the arrest of the Nazi spies.

Hand Grenade Yank



Trained for rough hand-to-hand battle, this coastguardman of the rugged Greenland patrol, yanks the fuse of a hand grenade with his teeth and prepares to let it fly at the enemy. Even on Greenland he secured practice against Nazis.

Polish War Orphans



An excited bunch of kids, little Polish war orphans, pile down the gangway of a troop transport far from war's dangers. They had embarked at Bombay, India, to find a new home thousands of miles from their ravaged homeland.

Mike's Life Saved



The dollars and dimes contributed to the March of Dimes, January 14-31, will help to save others as they did two-year-old Michael Sullivan at St. Louis hospital, operated for infantile paralysis cases.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND RADIO

WASHINGTON. — The magpies' limb has been rather contentedly quiet since election. What few yipes have emanated therefrom have, however, disclosed that some curious ideas about democracy and freedom are developing in this country.

For example, it is the radio that is free and the press is shackled says an unfriendly reader from a small Wisconsin community. He reasons it out that the radio generally does not take sides in political arguments, does not criticize group actions of a political nature, and, therefore, is "free," while the newspapers, with their various editorial policies, express preferences and criticize political groups and, therefore, are unfree.

The radio is not primarily a public service. It is an amusement business. Its character is more that of a theater than a newspaper. It handles news only as a minor sideline. Also, it gets practically all its news from the same sources as most newspapers, the press associations. Chosen as its commentators are many men who have a theatrical delivery style, not always those who know most about news.

My Wisconsin friend is factually wrong also in assuming radio commentators did not represent both sides in the last election. They did, and I hope will always continue to represent both sides strongly. To keep political discussion free of criticism would bring a weak-tongued nothingness in popular expression to work the people for themselves.

Here is the point where my Wisconsin friend, and so many who believe as he does, have fallen into undemocratic delusions.

"Without controversy," says Churchill, "Democracies cannot achieve their healthening processes."

Freedom is not one-sided. Politically, it may be that in Russia, and perhaps other spots in the world, but in this democracy, freedom of expression means the right to be in a minority. Oppositions are not extinguished or purged after elections. Indeed, it means the right to be vitriolic, or even the right to be wrong. It requires criticism of all forces in politics.

Business Reasonable.
Generally, most people in the commenting—far more than in the political—business strive to be reasonable and factual, but they have the right to be unreasonable and humorous. There are all kinds of people on all sides of every question. The very nature of democracy assumes that they will express themselves freely in their own way, and, from their debate, hot or cold, decisions will come.

The press is far more free than radio. The air waves are under government supervision, supposed to be technical, but you may have noticed the Democratic campaign publicity director, Paul Porter, has been given the radio (communications) commission chairmanship.

Certainly radio has a constant fight on its hands to keep itself free, as licenses must be frequently renewed and the radio commission can at any time drive a station out of business.

Not so with the press. Its primary business is news and it is not under government supervision, although its newsprint is rationed and news censored by government. Furthermore, it has a heritage in news presentation, evident in the mind of any young scoop reporter, anxious to get all the facts no matter who they help or hurt. Competition is faster than in any other business I know.

The fight for exclusive presentation, practical judgment, better written newspapers, more complete coverage, is vicious and eternal. Editorially, every shade of public mind is presented. By and large, it is the newspapers which keep the intelligent people of the country informed. Radio cannot do it, lacking a medium permitting thoughtful story or financial incentive for news development.

Only a few people seem interested in preventing the expression publicly of any views except those with which they agree. These people are not only undemocratic but unwise. They can never add to their own understanding or store of knowledge by listening to those who agree with them. They can learn much from those who disagree.

A restless appetite for something called "freedom" is loose in the land. The youth wants it.

This is what war is being fought for. Most of the internationally agitating societies in New York also have the word freedom attached to their titles—Polish, Russian, internationalist, what not.

But what is this "freedom" for which we yearn? It must be something different from that freedom which we have had. It is not alone democracy, for we have had that, still have it. We need a definition of freedom.



HOW WILL YOU HAVE YOUR POSTWAR CAR?

The society of Automotive Engineers wants suggestions from the public on the construction of postwar cars. It has sent out the following list of questions, to which Elmer Twichell has appended answers:

1—Should automobile bodies be made longer or more compact so they could be parked easier?

Ans.—Shorten them up, boys! And how's about installing a swivel so they can be folded in the middle?

2—What is the better type of body, the standard five-passenger, four-door sedan or the model with two large doors?

Ans.—That two-door buggy is okay only for gymnasts and contortionists. And when you open one of those doors you are practically establishing a roadblock.

3—Should headroom be sacrificed for a low, rakish roof?

Ans.—Are you kidding? Lower that roof another quarter-inch and only a turtle can be comfortable in it. You might keep the roof where it is, but cut holes in it for heads and hats.

4—Would an air-conditioning unit for summertime be worth the extra cost?

Ans.—It depends on the extra cost. Personally I think it a mistake to make the autoist any more comfortable. He seems to be asleep most of the time now. Has he become too lazy to open a window?

5—Does the windshield construction and design permit vision clear enough for safe driving?

Ans.—Now you're on a vital matter, mister. The primary need is a new type of windshield glass to which no sticker can stick. A windshield should be a windshield, not a combination filing cabinet, billboard and wastebasket.

A driver should no longer be in doubt whether what he sees directly ahead of him is a pedestrian or his tire certificate. And no sunset is improved if the sun appears to be setting behind his toll-gate sticker, Federal auto tax and parking-space stamp.

6—Has ornamentation gone too far? Has too much attention been paid to fancy hardware, fancy shapes, contours, etc.?

Ans.—It is high time to draw a line somewhere between automobiles and nightclub bar fixtures. Radiator ornaments should seem less like meathooks. And those door-knobs rip a lot of garments.

7—Should the new cars be so designed as to place the driver further front or further back?

Ans.—Further back! He seldom sees the red lights from where he is now!

THE PRIVATE PAPERS OF PRIVATE PURKEY

Dear Harriet—
Well Congressman Clare Luce came to the front and fired a howitzer, but them Germans is still resisting and it looks like we would have to try something else. I was very disappointed by the results. Miss Luce fired the gun okay. Her form was good and her rhythm was pretty fair. Also so far as we know the gun was alright.

We all waited breathlessly on account of this was the first time any gun with so much personality behind it had been used in the war. Also never before had a gunner been so perfectly dressed, with no flaw in the style nowhere. The lady wore a regulation officers coat and pants, with ski-shoes, woolen socks, a dotted kerchief with muffler to match and earrings. (It was the first experiment with earrings by either side so far.)

Well, like I said we all waited for big results but nothing special happened. There was the same explosion, roar and distant explosion but no white flags. Sergeant Moon-eye says the Krauts did not know who was firing that howitzer and that our side fell down in not notifying them. He says if the Krauts had anybody a half as good looking as Clare Luce behind a gun Goebels would of been warning the whole world about it for weeks in advance.

I feel better about the whole war. I hope Miss Luce sticks around and that in the next campaign we get Mrs. Lydig Hoyt and Lana Turner. All my love, Oscar.

Caught Napping
It never fails to raffle me when neighbors do their carpentry on Sunday afternoons the minute the crib at last has "Junior" in it. It may be they have tried, but cannot love their little fellowman who blithely wakes them up at dawn before they're even set to yawn. Perhaps they feel the sprightly chap has proved he doesn't need a nap. By acting like Vesuvius, But, holy smoke, his mother does!

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

AGENTS WANTED

LADY WANTED in every community, both rural and city, to sell line of household necessities to her neighbors. Our line includes such scarce items as cheese and laundry soap. Liberal commission. General Products Company (U-3), Albany, Georgia.

BABY CHICKS

GOLDEN RULE big husky chicks, from disease free flocks, profit by our 30 years flock improvement, standard breeds. Big early order discounts, folder tells all. Write **GOLDEN RULE HATCHERIES**, RUSSELLVILLE, IND.

LAND FOR SALE

California Tax-Delinquent Lands Selling at fraction of true value; deeds direct from State; inquire **TAX LAND RESEARCH**, P. O. Box 442, Eureka, California.

REMNANTS

MAKE LOVELY QUILTS: 500 Colored print percale Quilt pieces \$1.00 Postpaid! 1100 \$1.98. Sample 100, 25¢ Free Pattern! Weeds Remnants, Dept. W, Bedford, Pa.

Shoulder a Gun— Or the Cost of One ☆ ☆ BUY WAR BONDS ☆ ☆

Happy Relief When You're Sluggish, Upset



WHEN CONSTIPATION makes you feel punk as the dickens, brings on stomach upset, sour taste, gassy discomfort, take Dr. Caldwell's famous medicine to quickly pull the trigger on lazy "innards," and help you feel bright and chipper again.

DR. CALDWELL'S is the wonderful senna laxative contained in good old Syrup Pepsin to make it so easy to take.

MANY DOCTORS use pepsin preparations in prescriptions to make the medicine more palatable and agreeable to take. So be sure your laxative is contained in Syrup Pepsin.

INSIST ON DR. CALDWELL'S—the favorite of millions for 50 years, and feel that wholesome relief from constipation. Even finicky children love it.

CAUTION: Use only as directed.

DR. CALDWELL'S SENNA LAXATIVE CONTAINED IN SYRUP PEPSIN

How To Relieve Bronchitis

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly always the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

WOMEN in '40's

Do You Hate HOT FLASHES?
If you suffer from hot flashes, feel weak, nervous, a bit blue at times—all due to the functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Taken regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such annoying symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is made especially for women—it helps restore and that's the kind of medicine to buy! Follow label directions. **LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND**

DR. PORTER'S ANIMAL ANTISEPTIC OIL



IS YOUR BARN A HOSPITAL?
It's only fair to your livestock to keep time-tested Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Oil on hand always in your barn, for emergency use. Remember, even minor injuries can become serious infection sources if neglected. Soothes, aids natural healing. Chances are your veterinarian uses it. Nothing like it for minor burns, bruises, cuts, saddle and collar sores, etc. Use only as directed.

The GROVE LABORATORIES, INC.