

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Nazi Struggle for Russia and Egypt Takes Spotlight From Pacific Battle; Growing Force of U. S. Air Power Is Displayed on World's Many Fronts

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.

U. S. AIR POWER: Around the Globe

From widely scattered sections of the world's fighting front came reports of the increasing strength of America's hard-striking air power.

Most dramatic was the announcement from London that for the first time the United States army air force had made an attack on Nazi occupied Europe. Six bombers, American made and American manned, took off and during a daylight raid smashed Nazi planes and troops on the ground at three Holland airbases. Later enemy ships were attacked off the Dutch coast.

One interesting sidelight of the raid was that its principal hero, Capt. Charles C. Kegelman of El Reno, Okla., was awarded the Distinguished Service cross by Maj. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander in chief of U. S. forces in the European theater, and Kegelman thus became the first member of the 1942 AEF to be decorated for gallantry in action against the enemy in Europe.

His feat was described as a demonstration of "superior airmanship and extraordinary coolness in the saving of the lives of his crew" after the plane he was piloting was struck hard by anti-aircraft fire over the bombing target.

Chinese Front

Meanwhile, the newly installed U. S. army air force in China started things off in good fashion by shooting down five Japanese planes in a battle which came as the result of a direct challenge by the U. S. forces to the enemy.

Background to the battle was a Jap radio report that their forces in the Hengyang area would "blast the new U. S. air forces out of China" and a reply by Brig. Gen. Claire L.



BRIG. GEN. CLAIRE CHENNAULT Off to a good start.

Chennault, commander of the Americans, that any such attempt would get a "cheery welcome." Then came the Jap raid and the skies over Hengyang were subjected to what was described as perhaps the fiercest air battle over central China.

Australia Sector

General MacArthur's Australian headquarters reported that on the same day as the battle over central China, American and Australian planes shot down six Jap planes and damaged six others in heavy attacks on invasion bases Salamaua and Lae, New Guinea. Three United Nations planes were reported missing. In addition to the Jap planes destroyed, the report added that direct hits were scored on enemy airbases, striking runways and buildings.

MORE SPIES: In Caribbean

Shortly after the FBI announced its arrest of the eight Nazi saboteurs who reached the U. S. via a submarine route, U. S. army headquarters in the Panama Canal Zone came through with the seizure of 20 alleged Nazi spies. It was claimed that these persons were engaged in a plot which included fueling of Nazi submarines and spotting of Allied shipping targets in the Caribbean. Arrests were made from Panama to British Honduras, and business men, night club hostesses, trusted Canal Zone workers and shipping employees were involved.

SUBMARINES: Pacific Too?

While Washington officials had announced that convoys were being used to protect shipping in America's Atlantic coastal areas, a threat appeared in a new sector. This came in the form of dispatch from Santiago, Chile, which disclosed that the Chilean ministry of the navy and the Pan-American Grace Airways were checking reports that submarines had been observed in the Pacific.

RUSSIA: Pincers

When the Nazis finally drove the Russian defenders out of gallant Sevastopol, they succeeded in opening the second claw of a giant pincers movement which had for its other base the Kharkov foothold.

But success in Sevastopol was difficult to obtain. Even the Nazis admitted that. For 27 days everything the Nazis had was blasted against the besieged naval base. The Red navy had to retire from it to less secure bases in the Black sea. Still the Nazi bombers came.



MARSHAL SEMEON TIMOSHENKO No rest for Nazis.

Finally the last Russian foothold in the Crimea fell and Hitler had gained an important wedge in his drive toward the oil fields of the Caucasus.

Not only did they open up to this rich prize, but the fall of Sevastopol meant that more men could now be diverted to the fighting around Kharkov.

But before the Nazis had a chance to rest and to realign themselves, cagey Russian Marshal Semeon Timoshenko struck savagely at them and regained several villages. The Nazis in turn had their eye on the Don river and would not be stopped until this objective was won. Although another front was opening to the northwest of Moscow, the battle of Kursk-Kharkov was viewed generally as the scene of Hitler's all-out 1942 offensive. For this was what he needed most of all—oil. And the winning of the Kharkov engagement meant that his goal would be much closer.

ALEUTIAN FOG: Lifts a Bit

Navy censorship and the dense fog that hangs over the far tip of the Jap-invaded Aleutian island chain, lifted aside to disclose that the U. S. naval air forces had been busy.

A navy communique reported that "our aircraft returned safely" after five raids on Kiska and Agattu. A Jap force of three transports and their escorting vessels were inflicted with undetermined damage off Agattu and four attacks were made on the Japs at Kiska.

But the best news from that area was the announcement that on Independence day U. S. submarines sent three Jap destroyers to the bottom and left a fourth severely damaged. The communique reporting these sinkings said that three destroyers were fired upon near the Jap-occupied island of Kiska and the other one near Agattu island.

EGYPT: Rommel's Romp

While the German high command withheld any actual forecast as to the number of days it would take them to reach and capture Suez, British forces were letting nothing stand in their way of giving the Nazis the very fiercest resistance possible in the battle of Egypt.

Reports from Britain's Eighth army in this sector told of a weakening of German power under the leadership of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. These reports said that many German soldiers had advanced to the British lines in surrender because they described themselves as "too tired" to fight.

His mechanized forces had advanced to a line 65 miles west of Alexandria before the British could present even a show of strength to deter him.

This stand by the British, as reported from Cairo, came in the form of the greatest aerial onslaught ever unleashed in the Middle East. The site of the battle was El Alamein and its pace was terrific. The British were fighting for a knockout to Rommel's already far advanced desert army. Rommel wanted to save what he had gained and push forward, of course.

Egyptian government sources said that raids had been made on the Suez canal and Premier Mustapha Nahas Pasha announced a complete blackout of Cairo.

BRIEFS:

**FREEDOM**—In a message to the people of Puerto Rico, Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes said that: "as far as it is in my power to achieve



SECRETARY HAROLD ICKES 'Freedom' after victory.

it, Puerto Rico will share equally and fully in the freedom, security and opportunities offered by eventual victory."

**APPLICATION**—In Mount Clemens, Mich., a man wrote to his rationing board asking permission to buy a new car because he was engaged in war work. His name? Edsel Ford, president of Ford Motor Company.

**UNUSUAL**—As authorities of French Guiana began preparations for military registration, a report from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, said that "unusual military preparations" were taking place in the colony.

**WEDDING**—President Roosevelt's close friend and adviser, Harry Hopkins, and Louise Macy are to be married in the White House on July 30, it was announced at a press conference held by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in Washington.

**SHUN**—Squabbles that interfere with war materials production should be shunned by labor, said Lieut. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, army chief of supply, as he addressed a luncheon of AFL and CIO labor leaders in Detroit. "We all belong to the same union," he said. "the Union of the United States of America . . ."

MOTORING: And It's 'Joys'

It didn't make much difference to motorists, but gasoline went up 2 1/2 cents a gallon along the East coast. Main trouble was that you couldn't get much gas in that area anyway. Reports reaching the 31 states where gas is still rationed said that thousands of motorists were being turned away from empty gas stations in the East.

It was also generally believed that gas rationing might be the formula for the rest of the nation if the rubber salvage drive didn't bring enough of this vital scrap. After 219,000 tons of it had been collected in the originally scheduled period the drive was extended ten days.

Secretary Ickes, on leaving the White House one day, rolled up a heavy rubber mat from the floor of this important building and carted it to a scrap depot.

WARNING: From an Expert

Recognized as an expert in aviation, Maj. Alexander P. de Seversky, airplane designer and military analyst, has given the United Nations a stern warning on the importance of gaining air superiority before attempting the opening of a second land front to relieve Nazi pressure on the Russians.

On a nation-wide radio hookup, which had as its forum topic the possibility of a land and sea invasion of Europe, the former Russian army official declared that it was opinion that a costly mass invasion would not get the desired results unless the German's mastery of the air was first disposed of.

"We have no alternative but to concentrate upon an all-out aerial offensive against Germany proper . . . In that way we offer true relief to Russia because we help to disarm Germany by smashing its industry, transport and fuel supplies, disorganizing and demoralizing the enemy," said the major.

Aligned with Seversky was William B. Ziff, military expert, who pointed out that failure of the British to invade Norway and the recent blasting the Japs took at Midway were examples of what Britain and America would face if they tried an invasion without first getting control of the air.

On the other side of the debate were Brig. Gen. Henry J. Reilly and Wythe Williams, author and radio commentator. Their point of view was that while planes were vitally important in any invasion attempt, the invasion of Germany by land would most surely have to be made if the Nazi war machine was to be broken up.

ERSATZ RUBBER: At Less Cost

While cost of production is the least of worries in the government's projects for making synthetic rubber, officials are now learning that it costs less than at first estimated.

Two major plants are now in production and Arthur B. Newhall, rubber co-ordinator, has issued a statement to the effect that the 800,000 ton-a-year program will not use up all the \$850,000,000 which congress had allocated to it.



Washington, D. C.

BEHIND RAF RAIDS

Few people outside the inner circle know it, but the recent bombing raids on Bremen, Cologne, Essen, have been accomplished in part through the farsightedness of Ed Stettinius Jr., who, long ago saw the importance of high octane gas and demanded that the administration start large scale production.

Stettinius has taken it on the chin regarding the slowness of aluminum production and has admitted he was wrong. (Real reason for the tragic error was his reliance on Aluminum Corporation of America figures.) But on two other vital commodities he was way out in front.

One of these was rubber. Stettinius was the first to see the need of building synthetic rubber factories to prepare for the fall of Singapore and began dining on Jesse Jones for nearly a year before he could get Jesse to move.

The other commodity was high octane gasoline, without which the current bombing raids could not take place. One bomber takes about 1,000 gallons of gasoline to fly from England to Germany and back, so with 1,000 bombers staging a raid, 1,000,000 gallons of fuel is used up in one night.

U. S. PRISONERS IN BATAAN

Ex-Undersecretary of the Interior Jack Dempsey has taken up with the American Red Cross the problem of getting a Red Cross representative in Manila to look out for U. S. prisoners from Bataan and Corregidor.

So far, the Japs have not permitted a Swiss Red Cross representative in Manila, though they have admitted Swiss representatives to Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

No excuse has been given by the Japs for not permitting a Swiss representative in Manila, but U. S. officials presume it is because they don't want anyone from the outside world to see what is going on there.

Meanwhile, however, the treatment of U. S. prisoners in Japan and China is reported to be good. The Swiss representatives make regular reports, state that American prisoners have no complaints, that sheets on the beds are changed frequently, and that married men are allowed to go to see their wives every week-end.

ROYAL PRESS CONFERENCE

At King Peter's conference with the press, the Yugoslav monarch was completely poised, though admitting the camera men fazed him a bit. With characteristic zeal they monopolized the proceedings with popping flash-bulbs.

A reporter asked Peter what his outstanding impressions were of the U. S.

"One that stands out is your friendliness," he answered promptly. "Everywhere I have gone I have noticed that."

"Does that include photographers?"

"Well, they are persistent, aren't they? I wouldn't mind if they didn't keep shooting off things in my face."

TANKER-SAVING PIPELINE

American automobile owners don't know it, but indirectly they had the British to thank for the final decision to build a new pipeline from the South to the Middle West.

Secretary Ickes had been urging construction of this pipeline for more than a year—always being rebuffed by the War Production board.

Part of Ickes' argument was that it was foolish to waste American tankers by having them carry oil all the way to England from the Gulf of Mexico. If, on the other hand, tankers could load oil and gasoline at a Middle Atlantic port, they could save 1,000 miles of travel and reduce the exposure to submarine attack. Tankers are getting scarce these days, and the shorter the distance they have to steam, the more trips they can make.

Ickes put forth this argument emphatically at the last hearing before the War Production board, but was rebuffed by Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, head of the army's service of supplies. Somervell poo-pooed the idea that England was hard up for oil or gasoline, said he had just returned from there, and that Ickes' argument was pure poppycock.

Ickes made no immediate reply, but cabled the British government. The British were boiling mad, and the reply he received clinched the matter. The War Production board decided Somervell didn't know much about British oil supplies. The pipeline was ordered built.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Capitol insiders are betting that before the tax bill finally emerges from congress it will contain some kind of provision for compulsory war savings as an anti-inflation measure. Secretary Morgenthau has been opposed to this, but recently seems willing to shift his view.

Former OPM boss William Knudsen, in his new role as a lieutenant-general in the army, has inspected 285 war plants and in many of them he has recommended changes which have increased production.



By VIRGINIA VALE Released by Western Newspaper Union.

LARRY PARKS, young Columbia Pictures' leading man, and eight other lads who are making their first bid for screen fame have taken over the 26-room house once owned and occupied by the late Thomas Meighan.

Larry, who heads the group, has an important role in the Astaire-Hayworth musical, "You Were Never Lovelier." He says it cost only \$14.75 to furnish the house—it cost Meighan more than \$9,000! They've thrown four rooms together and built a theater in which they rehearse parts for pictures coming up. There is a large portrait of Tom Meighan over the living room fireplace—they picked it up in a Hollywood prop house.

The sponsors who, seven years ago, were farsighted enough to see the potentialities of an obscure radio couple and build them into the famed Fibber McGee and Molly, give radio another innovation this summer; they're substituting a



John Nesbitt and Meredith Willson

Metro news commentator and a musician in a half-hour replacement program while Fibber and Molly vacation. The commentator is John Nesbitt, the musician, Meredith Willson. The program combines music with snatches of history, literature and current events.

Walt Disney, whose "Bambi" will soon be released through RKO, has acquired the screen rights to Major Alexander P. de Seversky's "Victory Through Air Power," and will make it into a feature picture for exhibition sometime this fall.

Imagine Charles Boyer producing and acting in something called "Flesh and Fantasy." It will be his first production for Universal; he'll star in one episode, Edward G. Robinson in another, and let's hope they change the title!

Capt. Hewitt Wheelers, the army flier who was cited by the President for his exploits in the Pacific war, will play himself in a short subject, "Beyond the Line of Duty," which Warner Brothers will produce for the army air corps.

This shortage of leading men has proved too much for Harold Lloyd. He's produced two pictures for RKO, "A Girl, a Guy and a Gob" and "My Favorite Spy" and has left the studio. His next picture would have been "Butterfingers," a football comedy.

Samuel Goldwyn will select six of the loveliest and most talented secretaries of Washington, D. C., for roles in "They Got Me Covered," co-starring Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour. The story brings out the part that Washington secretaries play in helping to run the government; it's said that they arrive in Washington at a rate of 5,000 daily!

The biggest all-star lineup ever gathered for a summer radio show is the one that Bob Hawk's sponsors have booked for Friday nights; it's a 60-minute show featuring Xavier Cugat's orchestra, Connie Boswell and Margo, Lanny Ross and a new comedian, Herb Shriner.

Richard Denning, male lead in "Beyond the Blue Horizon," has held many of flimdom's stars in his arms. He made the test with Veronica Lake which won her role in "I Wanted Wings." Paulette Goddard got her Paramount contract after making a test with him; Ellen Drew's test set her for "If I Were King"; Mary Martin's put her into "The Great Victor Herbert," her first film role. A closeup of his chest substituted for one of Bob Hope's; his back did the same for Bob Burns. Now he's getting a chance, all of him, in the Lamour picture.

ODDS AND ENDS — Paramount plans to present the Quiz Kids in feature films following the completion of their present series of short subjects at that studio. . . . Ruth Hussey takes another step toward well-deserved stardom with the role of Mrs. Andrew Johnson in "The Man on America's Conscience". . . . Eddie Albert will play opposite Lupe Vélez in "Ladies Day," a comedy of the woman's side of big league baseball. . . . Patricia Morrison owns a horse—but don't, and her horse unless it's a 14-hand Palomino. . . . Metro has bought "Cabin in the Sky," one of last season's most successful musicals.



By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D. Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for July 19

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CAIN AND ABEL: A CONTRAST

LESSON TEXT—Genesis 4:1-15. GOLDEN TEXT—By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous.—Hebrews 11:4.

The weed of sin is fast growing, and brings forth bitter fruit. The disobedience of Adam and Eve resulted in their being put forth from the garden, but that judgment did not terminate the awful plague of sin. We see it in this lesson showing forth in their son, as it has in all the sons of Adam down through the centuries.

It is a dark picture and one which would discourage us did we not know that redemption has been wrought out by "the second man, the Lord from heaven" (I Cor. 15: 47).

We have here two sons of Adam with their differing personalities, a clash and the first murder, and then one man, a vagabond on the face of the earth.

I. Two Sons (vv. 1-7). The birth of a child is always an exciting occasion, and one can readily imagine what it must have meant when the first boy ever to be born put in his appearance. What joy, what concern for his welfare, what plans for the future! And then, what disappointment and sorrow!

But before speaking of that, let us observe how he and his brother differed in their interests and personalities. It is a surprising thing how completely different two sons in the same family can be.

Abel chose the work of a shepherd, much honored in the early history of man. Cain became a tiller of the soil, which with the passage of time has come to be more important than the other.

They also had a different viewpoint on worship. Cain was a religious man. He apparently was the first to worship, but he came in the spirit of one who recognized God only as his Creator, the One worthy of his homage. Abel came also with a gift, but his attitude was quite different. His offering spoke of sacrifice, the need of a covering for sin (cf. Gen. 3:21). It was more than homage, it was a plea for forgiveness.

The Lord's acceptance of Abel's sacrifice made Cain angry (v. 5). Here again he differed from Abel, for there was no angry response on his part. Abel had recognized God's desire in worship. Cain not only failed to do so, but rejected God's instruction and His plea (vv. 6, 7). Jealousy led to anger, and anger (as it so often does) led to

II. Murder (vv. 8, 9). Instead of repentance and correction, the anger of Cain carried him to the awful conclusion of hatred, the taking of life. We tend to think of murder as a crime which only a desperately wicked man would commit. They hardly think of the "respectable" little sin of envy as being the root of murder, but it is, often and sometimes very quickly.

Actually there is no little sin, for it is the genius of sin to grow, to increase, to go step by step, yes, often by leaps and bounds, to its horrible fruition. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). Why trust it?

The deceitfulness of Cain's heart is shown by the callous evasiveness of his reply to God concerning his murdered brother. His sin brought God's question. It always does. Do not assume that you can hide from Him. It has been suggested that committing sin is like touching a burglar alarm—the bell rings, and one must answer for his act.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" is the perfect expression of the selfish and indifferent attitude of the world. Human beings are regarded as simply those to be exploited, beings upon whom they may prey. For example: Just to make money, men are willing to destroy a fellow man with intoxicating liquor, or break down his decency and morality by selling him indecent books or magazines.

Murder having taken one of the two sons, we find that the remaining one is just

III. A Vagabond (vv. 10-15). Judgment for sin made Cain a wanderer and a fugitive. Never would he be able to get away from the cry of his brother's blood (v. 10). No wonder he said he could not bear it. But notice that his cry was not one of repentance or contrition, but only of fear, of retribution.

So God shows mercy, forbidding the judgment of men upon Cain. Vengeance belongs to God, and in this first murder He reserved judgment to Himself. Later He put upon man the responsibility of judging and punishing murder by death (Gen. 9:6), but here He put His protecting hand on Cain.

Yet, to be a fugitive, with no real abiding place on earth, and every man's hand against him, was indeed a heavy punishment. One could have wished that it had brought repentance, but it did not. May none of us go the way of Cain



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