

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

German Spearheads Across Don River Are Established After Heavy Losses; Nazis 'Dig In' Along Egyptian Front; Gandhi to Japs: 'You're Not Welcome'

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. Released by Western Newspaper Union.



In answer to a call from President Roosevelt, representatives of labor and capital meet in Washington to discuss anti-inflation measures. Front row, left to right: W. Witherow, president, National Association of Manufacturers; Philip Murray, president of the CIO; Erik Johnson, president of the chamber of commerce; William Green, president of the AFL; and George Heany of the AFL. Back row, left to right: Walter Weisenburger, National Association of Manufacturers; James B. Carey of the CIO; and Joyce O'Hara of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

RUSSIA: Desperate Battles

Bridging the lower Don river, Nazi troops continued to press on in their steady drive into the Caucasus. Russian infantrymen, battling desperately from the southern bank of the Don, 120 miles east of Rostov, threw tons of explosives at the Nazis, but two German spearheads were established.

A Soviet bulletin announced that nine pontoon bridges were smashed, throwing Nazi troops and equipment into the Don. But new reserves were ready to take the place of the drowned men, whose bodies were left to float down the river.

Despite German successes at Rostov, Soviet troops made the Nazis pay dearly for their gains. In part, a Russian communique announced that "One small group of Soviet infantry alone in one day with anti-tank guns, machine guns and incendiary bottles destroyed nine German tanks and killed hundreds of Hitlerites."

The communique said that the Red army still was fighting stubbornly at Novocherkassk and at Tsimlyansk.

Soviet airmen were credited with destroying 289 German planes during the week. Russian losses for the same period were placed at 137.

In one sector of the front Russian soldiers were said to have wiped out more than four Nazi regiments in three weeks' fighting, capturing large military stores, including 400 machine guns, 560 automatic rifles, 46 mortars and 20,000 shells. In addition, they destroyed 328 tanks.

EGYPT'S WAR: Nazis Dig In

A lull in the desert war saw German troops digging in on the front 75 miles west of Alexandria, from El Alamein to the Quattara depression.

A communique from Cairo announced that heavy British and United States bombers continued to sweep across the Mediterranean to attack Crete and that another force struck at Tobruk again.

Light bombers continued to hammer Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's sea and air bases, troop and vehicle concentrations. Additional information said that fires and explosions occurred when the big bombers struck at airdromes in Canada and Tympakion in Crete.

BOMBS: On Wide Fronts

On several widespread battlefronts the thud of United Nations' bombs and shells jarred the Axis into realizing that all offensives in this war were not necessarily theirs.

Six times in ten days warships of the British navy bombarded Matruh, the enemy's most advanced sea base in Egypt. British reports said that the Axis held city had been knocked "flatter than a pancake" as a result of the some 2,000 shells blasted into the vital harbor facilities. Use of the harbor by the Axis was believed to be out of the question for practically every shore building had been blown into debris.

Meanwhile from Cairo came word that the Germans and Italians based at El Daba, west of El Alamein, had been heavily bombed from the air and U. S. planes were reported to have caused immense damage to the Axis ports of Bengasi and Tobruk, still further to the west.

Allied ground forces were kept busy consolidating their positions as a dispatch out of London said that while the Axis appeared to be on the offensive in Africa, the safe arrival of a single enemy convoy might swing the balance the other way.

On New York Front



Senator James M. Mead, President Roosevelt's choice in the New York gubernatorial race, as he addressed an outdoor second-front rally in New York city. Mead opposes Attorney General John J. Bennett, who is backed by James A. Farley.

NEXT JAP MOVE: 'Fool's Paradise'

"... I say we are living in a fool's paradise. It is only absolute fear that will awaken the people to a realization of what they must face in the immediate future."

With those words Premier Mitchell Hepburn of Ontario emphasized the peril which faces the United Nations—particularly Great Britain and the United States.

Hepburn predicted that Japan's next major move would be an attack on Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian islands. From Dutch Harbor long range bombers could attack the United States production centers on the West coast and a considerable distance inland.

"Untold difficulties" may be in store for Britain because of the desperate situation of the Russian army, the premier said. Nazi subjugation of the entire Mediterranean area "will mean Germany will occupy the whole of France and take the French fleet."

SHIPPING: Highest Level

One week last month merchant ship sinkings rose to the highest level since the beginning of the war and also "greatly exceeded new construction."

This brought from the War Shipping administration a limit on shipping space to "cargo essential to the prosecution of the war." This action was expected to increase substantially the cargo space for the United Nations' military requirements.

WSA also reported "the several different fleets of the United Nations are combining their operations as complements to each other for war purposes" with the Combined Shipping Adjustment board directing shipping in the various pools.

A definite shortage of trained seamen is reported because of the "tremendous wartime expansion of our merchant shipping."

PRODUCTION: Greater Increases

While the Joint War Production Committee of the U. S. and Canada was reporting that the annual rate of munitions production in the U. S. for the second quarter of 1942 was nearly four times that of 1941, it was also announced that Canadian production was almost three times the 1941 rate, and even greater increases are scheduled.

A report covering the first half year of the board's activity in coordinating joint production outlined steps taken to increase war output by eliminating duplications, increasing the number of common type weapons, arranging more rapid exchange of supplies, breaking transportation bottlenecks, eliminating tariff and other barriers and promoting full exchange of information on production methods and designs. Technical subcommittees maintain constant contacts with those in charge of production in each country.

BRIEFS:

REPAIRS: Whether flown by the Royal Air force or by their own crews, American planes in England will be maintained and repaired by the United States air force from now on. The move is designed to increase efficiency and speed.

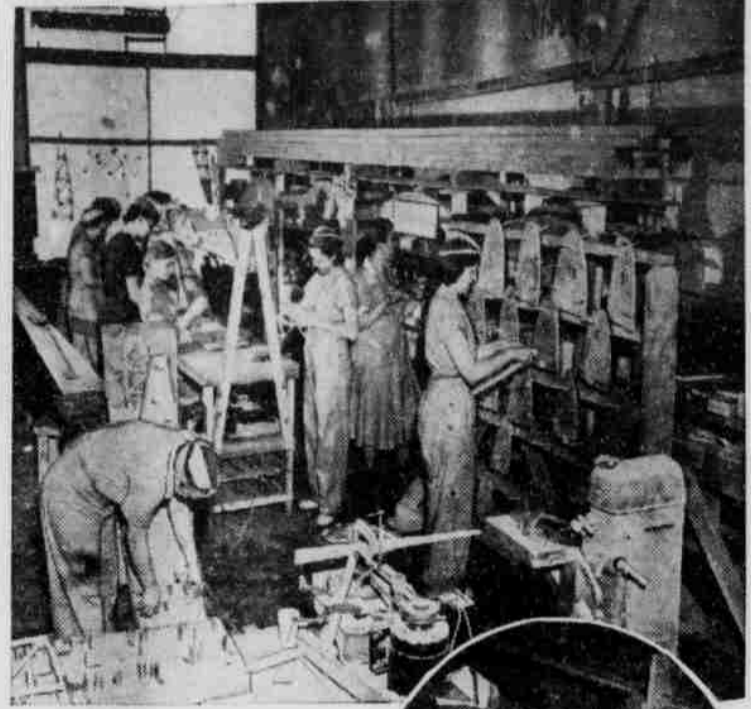
INCREASE: The Australian government has decided to increase the pay of service men in the new budget. The increase is expected to consist of additional allowance for dependents.

CONFISCATED: The government has confiscated 29 Italian and German ships, including a German vessel caught in the Caribbean last year masquerading as an American ship. Included also are those ships damaged by their crews while in American ports in March, 1941, as part of a general sabotage plan.

WEDDING: Dark-haired Diana Barrymore, actress-daughter of the late John Barrymore, and Bramwell Fletcher, stage star, have applied for a marriage license and announced they would be married within a few weeks.

Birth of a Glider

Glider pilots must first gain their experience through "training gliders," which are now coming off the production line. One of the factories engaged exclusively in manufacturing them is the Laister-Kaufman plant at St. Louis, where these pictures were taken.



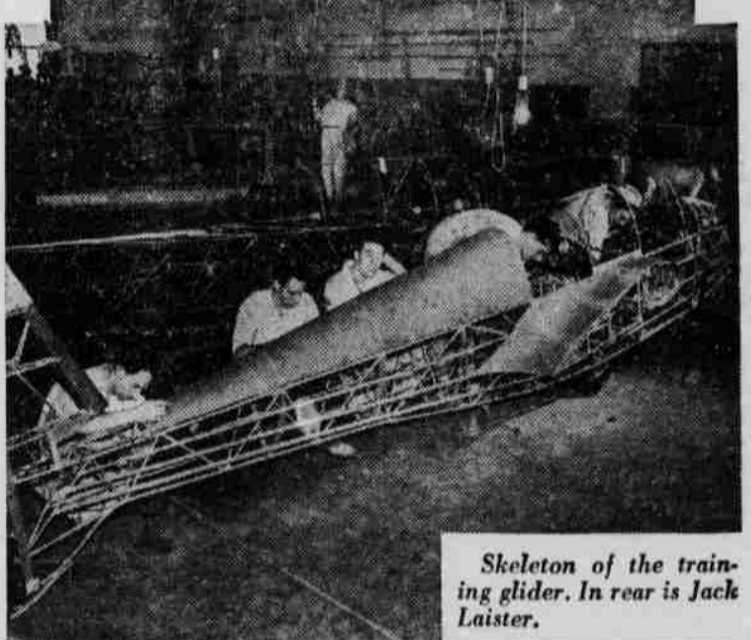
The TG-4A is a two-place glider which weighs less than 500 pounds. Jack Laister, the designer, and president of the plant, is famous in amateur glider and soaring circles.

A large part of the construction work at this plant is being handled by women. Picture at top shows a group of them busy in the rib and wing assembly section.

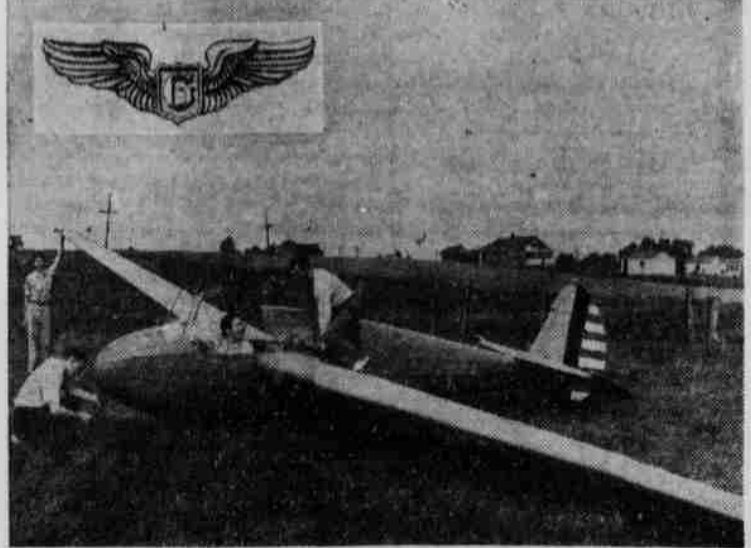
Right: Dressing down a piece of wood for the glider's wing.



The men employees of the big glider plant spraying wing dope and stenciling the army insignia on wings for the first production line model.



Skeleton of the training glider. In rear is Jack Laister.



The glider is re-assembled at the airport, and is given a final check before taking initial flight. Inset: Insignia for glider pilots.



The first production model gliding in for a perfect landing.

Advertisement for 'The Washington Merry-Go-Round' by Drew Pearson.

Washington, D. C. U. S. FOREIGN LEGION Most people don't realize it, but there are many enemy aliens who are officers in the U. S. army. In fact the army, true to the American tradition of the melting pot, is made up of American citizens of almost every national and racial background, including 2,720 German aliens, not to mention 2,700 Germans who are naturalized citizens.

The Italian total is 2,472 aliens and 3,781 naturalized. In addition, there are 644 Japanese in the army, plus 3,000 Japanese-Americans, formerly of the Hawaiian national guard, most of whom are assigned to the 100th battalion at Fort McCoy, Wis.

The army goes on the assumption that any man who wants to fight can be a good soldier. Of course, the "enemy aliens" are checked and double-checked before they are admitted for enlistment. The men who pass these tests are found to be even more zealous for the defeat of the dictators than the average American.

Latin-American Battalions. To make the melting pot more complex, the army has a Filipino infantry battalion, and is forming a battalion for Norwegians in the U. S. and Norwegian-Americans. Instruction and conversation in this unit will be in the Norwegian language.

Equally eager to fight are thousands of Latin-Americans, especially from the nearer countries, such as Cuba and Mexico. The office of the U. S. military attaché in Havana is flooded with applications from young Cubans who want to wear the uniform of Uncle Sam. Most of them would renounce Cuban citizenship if necessary.

But what they do not realize is that if they come to the United States, they are likely to be swept into the U. S. army, whether they like it or not. Within five days after entering this country, aliens must register for the draft, and they had better leave the country pronto if they don't want to be inducted.

Not yet arranged, but highly desirable, is a Latin-American battalion. There are now ten Latin-American countries which have declared war on the Axis, and thousands of their young men want to follow up that declaration with something more than police duty at home.

BACK-BREAKERS An American diplomat returning from Italy tells this revealing story about the true sentiments of the Italian people.

In his office at the U. S. embassy in Rome he found a clerk, an Italian girl, crying. When he inquired what was wrong, she replied: "Oh, I'm ashamed to be an Italian. You remember what boasting the Fascists did about the Greek campaign? They said: 'We will break their kidneys.' But everybody knows who really beat the Greeks; it was not our army; it was the Germans. But now—have you seen the poster on the streets this morning?" And the girl broke into tears again.

The diplomat looked outside at the poster, which that day was appearing all over Italy. It showed a Greek soldier lying on his face, with a steel bar across his back. On top of the bar was the Fascist insignia, and on the side, the swastika. The caption read: "We said we would break their kidneys. Mussolini is always right."

Note: All reports from Italy tell of a growing disgust with the Mussolini government, and a growing hatred of the Germans. But the people are too cowed to revolt.

NO-CHAUFFEUR ARNOLD Trustbusting Thurman Arnold hails from the small town of Laramie, Wyo., and he doesn't see any reason why he should hire a chauffeur to drive his car. So he drives it himself.

One evening, after he and Mrs. Arnold had been dinner guests of Mrs. Evalyn (Hope Diamond) McLean, they were going out the front door, when the doorman said, in his most elegant manner, "Shall I call your car, Mr. Arnold?" With a dour expression on his face, Arnold said, "You can call it, but I don't think it will come."

CAPITAL CHAFF The Thurman Arnolds are mourning over the fact that Angelica has eaten Henry Wallace's corn. When the vice president heard about it, he having given the Arnolds a present of Iowa hybrid corn, he remarked: "I hope the corn did Angelica some good." Angelica is the Thurman Arnolds' cow.

Mrs. Claude Pepper, wife of Senator "No-X-Card" Pepper of Florida, walks to social engagements or takes the street car.

There may be a gasoline shortage, but you would never know it at Washington's Congressional Country club. On a recent Sunday there were so many golfers that caddies had to double up and carry two or three bags each. On the same Sunday, motorists so jammed the highways between Washington and Eastern Shore beaches that cars were lined up for three hours waiting for the Chesapeake ferry.

Advertisement for 'Household Hints' by Drew Pearson.

Porch rockers will not "walk" if a strip of felt is glued on the bottom of each rocker.

A finger cut from an old glove and slipped over the end of a curtain-rod enables it to be pushed through curtain-hems of the finest net without catching and tearing the fabric.

Kerosene will soften boots and shoes that have been hardened by water.

Chamois leather gloves will not dry stiff if, after washing, they are rinsed in warm water to which a teaspoonful of pure olive oil has been added.

A simple way to freshen white washing silk which has become yellow through constant washing is to add milk to the rinsing water and allow it to soak for a few minutes before squeezing out.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

Advertisement for 'LARGE TOMBSTONE' by International Memorial Co.

Telling time in the Navy is on the 24-hour system. Morning hours are from one to twelve, but afternoon hours are from 1300 to 2400 (midnight). So if you ask a sailor the time and he says "seventeen," subtract 12 and you get five o'clock in the afternoon. It's simpler if you ask him what cigarette he smokes. Chances are he'll say: "Camel," for Camel is the favorite cigarette among Navy men as well as among men in the Army, Marines, Coast Guard. (Based on actual sales records from service men's stores.) Local dealers are featuring Camel cartons as gifts for men in the service from the folks back home.—Adv.

Advertisement for 'NEW FREE GIFT WITH SILVER DUST' soap.

Advertisement for 'FINE Cannon FACE CLOTH WORTH 10¢ OR MORE FREE IN EVERY BOX YOU BUY'.

Having Contentment The contented man is never poor; the discontented never rich.—George Eliot.

Advertisement for 'That Nagging Backache' and 'DOAN'S PILLS'.

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Advertisement for 'MERCHANDISE Must Be GOOD to be Consistently Advertised BUY ADVERTISED GOODS'.