

ATTACK ON AMERICA!

Startling Expose of U. S. Lack of Defense

By GENERAL ARED WHITE

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S HAPPENED

COLONEL FLAGWELL, acting assistant chief of staff G-2, in charge of military intelligence, estimates from secret information that there are 200,000 European regulars in Mexico being prepared for an attack on the United States under the military leader VAN HASSEK.

CAPTAIN BENNING, during young American intelligence officer investigating espionage activities in Texas, is revealed to Washington and sent to Paris for instructions from the United States ambassador there to slip an officer into the Mexican service in Mexico City.

CHAPTER II

The plane swung back across the Andes and alighted to a landing. Benning thanked the pilot for a safe journey north and sped by military sedan across the river into Washington. At the war department he went to the second floor and reported to the G-2 section.

Colonel Flagwell had come down early for Benning's arrival. His placid, unemotional face broke in a slight smile and his eyes twinkled at sight of the young officer. He led the captain into a private office and closed the door.

Without formality Flagwell said: "Someone must go into Mexico and get the facts, Benning. I need to remind you of the danger of such an enterprise. While I have thought of you for the detail, you need not accept unless you want to."

"Thanks for thinking of me, Colonel," Benning said with an easy smile. "When do you wish me to leave?"

There was an approving gleam in the Flagwell eyes as he took from his pocket a bulky sealed letter and handed it to Benning. "You're sailing for Europe at eleven on the America. Available information is in this letter. When you've read it, destroy it by burning. You'd better take a commercial plane to New York. Your boat reservations have been attended to. On landing at Southampton, cross the channel to Le Havre and proceed to Paris by express. Our ambassador, Mr. Shields, will be expecting you in Paris. Any question, Benning?"

"I think not, sir," Benning said.

"Good luck," Flagwell said, rising. "Do a thorough job of it and get the Mexican picture back here as soon as possible, consistent with thoroughness. I'll have an officer at the airport with your tickets and expense money. That's all, Captain."

The embassy staff had calculated to the minute when Benning was due to arrive from the Gare du Nord. No sooner had he dropped the bronze knocker than the embassy front door opened. A bespectacled male secretary looked him over in sharp appraisal and said, "You are the gentleman we're expecting?"

"Captain Benning, just in from the United States," the captain answered.

"Please come in," the secretary said. "Mr. Shields has reserved this hour and is waiting for you."

The ambassador was at the door of his reception room to receive his visitor. Mr. Shields was a portly, amiable, middle-aged man in late middle life. His round, florid face was an ingratiating smile as he invited Benning to a seat and tendered a cigarette.

"I'm glad you're here on the job, Benning," he said. "There's quite a bit to be done in Paris, and you must be in Bordeaux tomorrow to catch your boat for Vera Cruz."

Benning said, "I'm at your disposal, sir."

The ambassador regarded his visitor with a certain whimsical witfulness. He lighted a cigarette.

"You know, Benning," he said, "I decidedly envy you this opportunity for distinguished service. I think I know what's under the surface of things in Europe, but I can't prove anything in the concrete way that's necessary. So you must go to Mexico to do the job."

"I suppose, sir," Benning commented, "that our government was informed at least of the larger diplomatic facts."

"Facts?" Shields echoed the word derisively. "But there's only one accepted fact in international relations today: that the maps are listed for an overhaul. Outwardly everyone is paying for peace to come out of the current muddle. Under the surface the big question is, when will the lid blow off? We're looking to you for the answer, Benning."

Benning's eyes narrowed. "I'm not sure I understand, sir."

Mr. Shields laughed mirthlessly. "I'll speak frankly. Why, after those devastating, murderous months of savage mass murder last year did the coalition powers patch up an armistice with the allies while their armies squatted inconclusively on a mere segment of conquered Europe? Outwardly to work out a peace formula to save civilization. But now everyone suspects the armistice is a coalition subterfuge to shift some elements, rather new forces, and vastly more important—crucial to the United States from a disastrous armed intervention. I didn't mean to get all steamed up on that subject, Benning. But in this grim world of reality in which I have to work, our smug provincialism at home does get on my nerves at times, and I mention how it cramps our style. Getting down to your work, do you by any chance remember the case of a Lieutenant Bromlitz of our army who escaped some two years ago from the United States?"

"Very distinctly, sir," Benning answered at once. "Happened in

my own regiment at Fort Jay. Bromlitz was accused of stealing canteen funds. When the adjutant arrested him, Bromlitz knocked the adjutant down and, in his efforts to escape, shot and killed the corporal of the guard. By some black magic Bromlitz then vanished into thin air."

"At the present moment," Mr. Shields said, "Bromlitz is at the Fortress of Vincennes, held incommunicado by the French. They sniped him a few days ago when he arrived from Luxembourg as an army intelligence operative for the past year. It seems he had made connection with Van Hassek agents and was selected for the Mexican service."

Benning made a swift deduction and said dryly, "I assume, sir, that I am to go to Mexico masquerading as an escaped murderer." "A very lucky break, Benning. We have the whole inside of it. Bromlitz is known to be an American with a record that strips him of any possible American loyalties. As a former American officer, Van Hassek no doubt thinks the fellow a valuable acquisition. Gave him the rank of major, which you now inherit."

"Isn't it a big extraordinary, sir, that the French learned all this?" Benning wanted to know.

"Not when you consider the facts, Bromlitz, it appears, has a flair for romance. He fell very much in love with a girl in Luxembourg, told her his plans, promised to send for her as soon as he could afford it."

"And she spilled the beans?"

The ambassador smiled and said, "Why not? The French keep their ears to the ground and they're keen. Bromlitz, since he first showed up in Luxembourg. They put their cleverest spy agent on him, a Mademoiselle Lucette Duros. The French are turning Bromlitz's passports and secret orders over to us. You'll need only to transfer your own photograph to the Bromlitz passports. Then French have a special process for doing this. At your convenience on route to Mexico you should practice his signature. I thought, too, you might want to look the fellow over to refresh your memory on his mannerisms."

Captain Benning thought briefly and got to his feet. "Very good, sir," he said. "If that's the game, I'm ready to go to Vincennes."

The ambassador handed Benning a packet of papers, comprising the Bromlitz carte d'identite and several orders in German and Italian. A secretary came into the room to make a photograph of Benning for transfer to the Bromlitz passports. Benning then left the embassy and took a taxi cab to Vincennes.

Benning passed out of Paris through the Porte de Bercy and sped to the grim old walls of the ancient citadel. A sentry challenged at the gate, examined Benning's credentials, and sent him to the commandant who dispatched a sous-officier to guide the American to the Bromlitz cell.

Bromlitz, stretched out face downward on a cot, raised his face as the steel door opened on the little hole to which he was confined. His alert, bony black eyes searched the face of his visitor, and he sat up as recognition came to his face.

"Hello, Benning," he said. "So it's you come after me, eh? Well, I'm glad, if I must be hanged, that it's to be an American job."

"Merely a little visit, Bromlitz," Benning answered. "I'm not to take you home, but you'll understand my confusion of gratification that you've been run down at last. Corporal Hill, the man you killed, was a member of my company."

They engaged in a strained conversation. Benning prolonged his visit while he studied Bromlitz for his own purposes. He asked many questions of the Bromlitz stay in Luxembourg, which the prisoner answered freely. He was good humor that his visit had brought to the fellow. But Bromlitz parting words cleared up that enigma.

"May I ask you a special favor, Benning?" Bromlitz asked as Benning rose to go.

The prisoner was suddenly solemn, there was a pleading note in his voice, a beseeching look in his black eyes.

"I owe you no favors, Bromlitz," Benning said brusquely.

"A very little favor to a man who must die," the other implored. "Let me tell you, Benning, and you won't say no. Your coming here has greatly relieved my mind. I was suspicious that I must have been betrayed to the French, but now I know it was the American secret service that caught up with me. A small distinction you say? But an important one to me. The one fine thing in my life has been, Benning, a girl whom I hoped soon to marry. Please let me write a message to her at Luxembourg. Tell her I was killed by a train, drowned—tell her anything but the truth. She must think me dead. Out of her loyalty she might wait for me through empty years, and she'd too fine for that. Or, please, let me think I'm honorably dead and can't ever return. You'll do that for me, please, Benning?"

(To be continued)

**DANCE AT
ORIENTAL GARDENS
Saturday Nights**

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

with

Major Hoople



Dynamite in Mail Jails Its Sender

—TRINIDAD, Colo., Jan. 3.—(AP)—

A postal clerk's concern over a package marked "air mail" but lacking sufficient postage, led to the arrest today of Arthur Thompson, 23, on a charge of attempting to send a stick of dynamite and a threatening letter through the mails.

Thompson was given a preliminary hearing and remanded to jail.

Dr. Ben B. Beshoar, Trinidad postmaster, quoted Inspectors T. B. Strively and William Obrecht as saying Thompson, a resident of Sopris, Colo., had confessed, saying he was sending the package to a relative at Spokane because of "family trouble."

A clerk found the package Dec. 13, Dr. Beshoar said. As he started to cancel it by hand, he noted it lacked sufficient stamps to carry it air mail, as marked. There was no return address. Postal officials decided to open it to see if they could determine the sender.

Inside, the postmaster reported, was a stick of dynamite, around which was wrapped a letter made up of words clipped from newspapers. He described it as "threatening."

Mundein's Post Given to Archbishop Stritch

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—(AP)—The most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, archbishop of Milwaukee, has been appointed by Pope Pius XII to succeed the late Cardinal Mundelein as archbishop of Chicago one of the largest and wealthiest Catholic dioceses in the world.

The announcement was made by the apostolic delegation today, and said that the most Rev. Moses K. Kiley, bishop of Trenton, N. J., would become archbishop of Milwaukee. Archbishop Stritch is 52 years old. He will be the spiritual leader of more than 1,000,000 persons, and also will serve as chairman of the administrative board of the national Catholic welfare conference, to which he was elected in November.

Southern Pacific Agent at Glendale Retires

GLENDALE, Ore., Jan. 4.—(AP)—Zook, Southern Pacific Co. agent here for the past thirteen years, retired from service December 31. Mr. Zook went to work for the company in 1896 at Pittsburg, Kansas, and, with the exception of four years, has been employed by it since, making a total of thirty-nine years in service. Since 1906, his work has been in Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Zook have purchased a home at San Diego, California, where they plan to reside permanently. They left Saturday evening for Portland, where they will visit with their nephews, Les-

Six-Legged Hog to Be Exhibited Here

A three-year-old, six-legged hog, weighing 450 pounds, has been brought to this city by M. Phillips, resident of Roseburg, who recently purchased the animal in California, and is soon to exhibit it throughout Douglas county.

The hog, it is said, really is five animals in one and has excited much interest among scientists who examined it in California.

Mr. Phillips found the hog while visiting in California and purchased it from the owner, who had planned to exhibit it at the Golden Gate exposition but was discouraged because of the fees charged by the show management. Mr. Phillips displayed the hog at several schools and in California towns and reports that it excited much interest and comment.

The animal, he reports, has six well developed legs. For the first few months of its life it used four hind legs, but one set was injured and since that time it has not had muscular control over the appendage.

Mr. Phillips arrived at his home in Roseburg last Sunday after several months spent in California. He is arranging to exhibit the animal Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Crescent heights, immediately north of the city limits, and later will show it at Oakland and Sutherlin.

Back From Portland—Mrs. Stella Quinn, Douglas county school superintendent, has returned here from Portland, where she attended the O. S. T. A. convention.

Relief At Last For Your Cough

Even if other medicines have failed you may get relief now with Creomulsion. Chronic bronchitis can develop if your chest cold is not treated and you cannot afford to take a chance with any medicine less potent than Creomulsion which goes right to the seat of the trouble & help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Creomulsion blends beachwood essence by special process with other time tested medicines for coughs. It contains no narcotics.

No matter how many medicines you have tried, tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding that you are to take the way it quickly allays the cough, permitting rest and sleep, or you are to have your money back. See that the name Creomulsion is on the bottle and you will get the genuine product and the relief you want.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

"Like Buying

\$8 SHOES FOR \$2"

A bargain like that would sell out most any shoe store in a few hours—yet, that's exactly the kind of a bargain you get in fuel savings when you put a "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractor to work on your farm. How? Because the average "Caterpillar" Diesel burns only half as much fuel (costing half as much per gallon) as the average gas tractor, doing the same work. Result: 1/4 the cost—\$2 against \$8—\$200 against \$800! Ask for an economy demonstration on your own farm.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Farm Bureau Co-op. Exch.

ROSEBURG, OREGON

Student Aviation Activities Noted

Good Progress Announced by Instructor Sink; Exams Slated for Solo Fliers.

Despite stormy weather the Umpqua Flying club has maintained a great deal of activity at the Roseburg airport. Students have been taking advantage of periods between rains to secure instruction in flying time and have been making excellent progress, according to Ernest "Red" Sink, instructor.

Ben Fennell of Oakland sandwiched dual time between rains Wednesday, Dec. 31, and made his first solo flight on the last day of the year, becoming the latest solo flier of the club.

Wallace Cloake, now attending state college at Corvallis, a solo student in the local club, became the first to obtain his solo license. He was followed last week by Walt Edmunds who went to Medford for his tests. Edmunds was complimented by the examiner from the Civil Aeronautics Authority for his exceptionally high grade in flying and written tests.

Requirements Outlined
Students taking a flying course are given eight or more hours of dual instruction. Before making a solo flight they must secure a physical examination from a licensed examining physician, whereupon they may be permitted to take a plane alone. They are limited, however, to an area fixed by the instructor and must carry a license signed by the instructor and prescribing the limits within which they may practice. After five hours they may take an examination from a federal inspector and secure a solo license, which entitles them to fly any place in the United States.

Mr. Sink last week renewed his instructor's license for another six months' period. Commercial and private licenses are renewable each year, but instructors must secure a physical examination and license renewal every six months.

Inspector Dated Here
Word has been received that Charles Walker of Portland, CAA inspector, will be in Roseburg Jan. 19 and at that time several of the solo students plan to take examinations for solo licenses.

The contest for solo students, which has been in progress for several weeks, is nearing a close and will probably be completed this week with written examinations. Mr. Sink reports. The cup to be awarded the winner is on display at the office of Dr. H. C. Church.

The night school being held weekly at the junior high school building is drawing a large attendance and several new students have entered recently. The school is open to all interested persons. Mr. Sink reports. Classes are held each Tuesday evening. The course will continue for about three months.

Sonja Henie Scores Another Film Wow

By MWD

Sonja Henie, the radiant little blonde Norwegian skater—always one of my favorite cinema stars—returned to the alighting screen of Hunt's Indian theatre yesterday in "Everything Happens At Night," a romantic comedy filled with love, laughter and spiced with plenty of mysterious danger.

It is one of Sonja's best to date. As in her past productions, the dazzling queen of the silver skates is given ample opportunity to thrill you with several superb performances on the ice, and in addition you see Miss Henie astride a pair of skis surrounded by some very beautiful snow-covered Swiss landscape.

There is really a worthwhile story this time. "Everything Happens At Night" places Sonja in the role of a daughter of a famous European peace advocate, believed to have been assassinated. In Warsaw a year before, but now hiding from the "Gestapo" in an obscure Swiss village farm where he has been writing anonymous peace articles on world intrigue. Ray Milland and Robert Cummings, two reporters on rival papers, are sent to Switzerland to verify the rumors of "Dr. Hugo Norden's" sudden re-creation. They meet and fall in love with Sonja, unknowingly exposing the existence of her father to the world and to his enemies. In the end all is well—one gets the girl and the other a portfolio of Dr. Norden's memoirs—you can guess which.

A variety of short subjects completes the bill—a news reel, "Color Parade," a comedy, and a "Merry Melody" color cartoon, "The Land of the Midnight Sun."

Comeback

HAVANA, Ill.—Traffic problems probably won't be increased by this:

A gas distribution firm announced it has applied for 1940 licenses for a 1940 one-cylinder car and a 1940 two-cylinder machine, and will put the cars in running condition.

Morgan's Grocery

PHONE 68
Bargains for Friday and Saturday
SWIFT'S HOCKLESS PICNICS—(A delicious meat), cellophane wrapped, lb. 20c
BORDEN'S MILK—Tall cans, 3 cans 20c
PUREX—1/2-gallon jugs 23c
LANE COUNTY BEANS—3 cans 25c
THOMPSON'S CHOCOLATE MALTED MILK—1-lb. 39c
can

NORTHERN TISSUE

5 Rolls
29c

TRY THE NEW.. NORTHERN FACIAL TISSUES

500 Sheet Package
23c

APPLES—Local Spitz, good size, box 75c
BANANA SQUASH—Each 10c

HOT RED & WHITE CEREAL SALE

Triangle—Regular or Quick ROLLED OATS

9-lb. sack 33c

Fancy Blue Rose (New Crop) RICE

4 lbs. for 25c

Blue & White OLEOMARGARINE

1-lb. Pkg. 2for 25c

A & H BAKING SODA

1-lb. Pkg. 7c

Cut MACARONI

4 lbs. for 17c

Red & White Mayonnaise

Pint Jars 23c

Red & White Medium Rip OLIVES

Pint Tins, 2 for 29c

Red & White COFFEE

1-lb. tins 27c

Red & White COFFEE

3-lb. tins 80c

KLEENEX

200 sheets 2 for 25c

Memorie—Fancy Orange Pekoe BLACK TEA

8-oz. Pkg. 32c

SunSpun Salad Dressing

Quart Jars 33c

Red & White New England Baked Beans

No. 2 tall tins 15c

PlaSafe MATCHES

6 boxes for 15c

RINSO

Large Pkg. 22c

Crystal White SOAP

8 bars for 25c

Red & White PEANUT BUTTER

2-lb. glass Jar 33c

These sharp, chilly winter mornings call for HOT breakfast foods to start the day. Red & White Wheat Cereal and Super Flake Oats hit the spot and furnish the heat producing elements so necessary. Wheat Cereal is an excellent source of iron, phosphorus and calcium and is often used in infant feeding. To put pep in their step serve your family these nourishing hot breakfast foods all winter long.

9-lb. sack 33c

Red & White CORN FLAKES

3 Pkgs. for 19c

Red & White PREMIUM CHOCOLATE

8-oz. Pkg. 15c

Red & White CATSUP

14-oz. bottles 17c

Oro SHORTENING

4-lb. Pkgs. 43c

Lady Godiva Toilet Soap

Fancy French Milled 4 bars for 19c

Red & White New England Style Brown Bread

No. 2 tall tins 15c

Washo Granulated SOAP

69-oz. Pkg. 43c

Sun Kist Fancy New Tiny Irish Potatoes

No. 2 tins 10c

THE RED & WHITE STORES