

Britons Eager To Mop Up on Nazis, Analyst Observes

Civilian Spirit of Offensive Found Everywhere; Nation is Posed for 2nd Front Signal

By DeWITT MacKENZIE (Wide World War Analyst) LONDON, Sept. 30.—The most important thing your correspondent can report from his initial glance at this wartime Britain is that John Bull and his wife and youngsters—that is, the civilian rank and file—not only are amazingly fit but grimly anxious to get speedily ahead with the bloody task before them.

The spirit of offensive is everywhere. At the risk of being called fanatical, I'm going to confess to being mightily impressed during the short time I've been here by an odd circumstance: I haven't seen a single fat, or even plump, person.

Now, that is a matter of importance when you figure out why it is so, for while Britons as a whole don't run to avoirdupois, there always have been plenty of stout persons about, and the traditional John Bull is ample of waist.

I don't mean to picture a people gaunt from hunger. They're well enough fed, though on pretty tight rations, but we have here a whole population which by the exigencies of war has trained down to the fitness of athletes.

Along with this there's another thing which gives pause for thought. I get the impression the people have reached the point where there might be a danger of overtraining. They have been so long set, tensely waiting for the word to go get Hitler, that they are beginning to suffer a bit from the strain like a runner who is posed for a tardy-starting run.

That is a condition which can only be cured when the allies are ready for all-out offensive action. In their hearts, the British people already have started the big drive to finish off Hitler. They are as eager as anyone else to slash through any possible delays.

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Dieppe Raid Cost Half of Attackers, Churchill Admits

LONDON, Sept. 30.—(AP)—The allied invasion test at Dieppe met tank barriers of unforeseen strength and the attackers' losses were "very nearly half the total" of the troops involved, Prime Minister Churchill said in the House of Commons today.

As at the first meeting of the reconvened House yesterday, when the prime minister emphasized the undesirability of speculation on the time and place of a second front, his reports were in answer to a battery of questions.

Churchill said the military force commander at Dieppe had described the support given by the RAF for the operations there as "faultless."

The RAF fought the greatest air battle of all time over the coastal town, destroying nearly 100 German planes for certain and possibly bringing down many more, Churchill said.

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Huge Losses Fail to Halt Stalingrad Siege

(Continued from page 1.) invaders launched repeated, futile attacks to widen a wedge in Stalingrad's northwest section.

The Russian suffered particularly heavy losses in trying to capture one height, the Russian command said. "In this battle, the enemy lost over 700 men."

Red Star said the Germans, fearing sudden night attacks, were sending rockets flaring through the skies and floating down by parachutes to light the battle scene.

While acknowledging the gravity of the situation within Stalingrad, Red Star declared that Russian troops had repulsed Nazi shock forces which knifed into a factory district on the northwest outskirts Monday.

Only the sparest details were forthcoming on street fighting inside the Volga metropolis, with red army headquarters announcing merely that "our troops fought fierce engagements

against enemy tanks and motorized infantry... a guard mortar unit wiped out 800 Hitlerites."

Reds Gain Elsewhere Dispatches to the Soviet newspaper Comsomoil Pravda declared that "the initiative remains in our hands" on the northwest steppes, although the Germans were reported mashing tremendous forces to replace defeated divisions.

On the central (Moscow) front, Russian shock troops were reported to have cut through the "line of the Fuehrer" above Rzhnev, 130 miles northwest of Moscow, in an attack launched after a barrage by hundreds of guns.

The "line of the Fuehrer" was apparently the system of heavily fortified defenses erected by the Germans for the past 11 months around Rzhnev, a key Nazi stronghold. Trenches, underground communications, mine fields, wire barricades and three lines of fire points guarded the zone.

Far to the south, in the Caucasus, strong red army forces were reported to have stemmed a series of attacks by reinforced German columns seeking to break down through the Terek valley toward the Grozny oil fields.

The Russians said the fighting throughout the Caucasus was becoming more severe as new lines crept farther down the mountains and German Alpine troops attempted to capture strategic passes before deep winter sets in.

On the Black sea coast, in the northwest Caucasus, the Russians said they had routed a Rumanian mountain division below Novorossisk. Red navy marines were credited with capturing a height, destroying 45 dugouts, seven block houses and four headquarters, and killing 500 axis troops.

A Berlin broadcast said German troops driving down the coast had reached the suburbs of Tuapse, Black sea naval base 75 miles below Novorossisk, and that the battle for the port had begun.

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Nazis Ready To Greet 2nd Front, Hitler Declares

BERLIN, (from German broadcast, Sept. 30.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler told his people today that we believe that we shall continue to defeat our enemies until final victory is ours."

He assured the German nation that Stalingrad was bound to fall. Hitler's address, his customary winter relief campaign speech to the Nazi party, broke a five-months' silence.

On the same occasion last October 4, Hitler told the Nazis that "now it can be declared that the enemy is broken and will never rise again."

Hitler declared that if the British try again to invade Europe, no matter where, "they can deem themselves lucky if they stay for nine hours on the continent, as at Dieppe, for we have made thorough preparations to welcome them."

"The Germans have persisted in the theory that the big commando raid on Dieppe last August 19 was an actual invasion attempt."

"We are determined to hold this year what we have and to attack where we believe it to be necessary," Hitler went on. Brands foe as "idiot."

"For our enemies, it is nothing if we take Stalingrad, if we pierce through to the Caucasus, if we capture the Ukraine and the Don and if we gain grain and oil for Europe."

"But if they are able to make a landing and painfully succeed in keeping this foothold for nine hours, this is for them an extraordinary sign of the force which the British empire is able to bring up."

"If I had an enemy of great military caliber I could figure out where he would attempt to attack but as I have to deal with an enemy who is a military idiot one cannot say where the invasion attempts will be made."

At the start of his speech, Hitler turned to the "Atlantic charter," which he called "a stupidity which will be valid for only a couple of years and will be eliminated by hard facts."

During the German break through to the Don river, Hitler declared, 75 Soviet divisions were destroyed.

He enumerated these as the most important war developments of recent months:

Germany has become safely entrenched on the Black sea;

Kerch and Sevastopol (barriers to conquest of the Crimea) have been taken;

Tobruk again is in German hands.

Chance to Upset Jap Drive Muffed, Adm. Hart Charges

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 30.—(AP)—Admiral Thomas C. Hart, former commander of allied naval forces in the western Pacific, believes that army air fighters failed in the first day of the battle over Luzon and thus missed a chance to cripple Japan's drive to Java.

Hart, in an article in the October 3 issue of the Saturday Evening Post, released today, also asserted that "fighters based on Oahu aerodromes missed their big chance "during the Pearl Harbor attack."

Party Leaders Voice Claims on Next House

(Continued from page 1.) capture more than 50 democrats' seats and not lose any of their own to organize the next house.

Johnson said there were about 40 democrats and as many republican incumbents who won in 1940 by a margin of 500 votes or less.

"These seats are all in the doubtful territory," he said. "We may lose some, but we hope to gain at least as many as we lose. We probably will lose a few along the eastern seaboard, but make them up in the west."

The Oklahoma said he believed it likely his party would gain as many as five additional members from California, whose present delegation is now made up of nine democrats and nine republicans with two vacant seats formerly held by democrats.

Press Control Threat Seen Gannott, publisher of a Rochester, N. Y., newspaper, said freedom of the press was being threatened and that important news was being "held back needlessly."

"I maintain that to win this war, we must keep the people informed and thus strengthen their morale," he declared, adding that for a long time there had been "a deliberate plan by the administration to smear, weaken and destroy our newspapers because they have dared to criticize new dealism."

"The radio," he continued, "is under control because it is licensed. Freedom of speech over the air is being increasingly restricted. The next step is to control the press."

"The pending suit against the Associated Press has this objective. If the A. P. can be made a public utility then there will be removed the last barrier in the way of putting all wire service under some government commission. Then government control tightens and freedom of the press perishes."

"Already, I am sorry to say, it is fast disappearing under the pretext that war demands control."

Compromise Ends Parity Price Fight (Continued from page 1.) future increases, which occurred after the bill was signed, could be considered under its terms.

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