

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS By Edward C. Wayne

Nazi Drive Cuts Deep Into Greece As Yugoslavia's Army Is Smashed; London Blasted With 'Worst' Raids In Reprisal for Attacks on Berlin

(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.)



William Knudsen, Defense Commission chief, who has announced that auto manufacturers will curtail production 20% to speed defense work is shown as he inspected a shipyard at Quincy, Mass. He told workmen that: "Time is the thing."

BALKAN: Catastrophe

Before the Nazis' Balkan campaign had been under way two weeks it was apparent that another major catastrophe for Hitler's enemies was in the making, but how extensive or how catastrophic none was prepared to say.

After eleven days of fighting, Berlin reported that Yugoslavia's army of some 1,200,000 men had capitulated and laid down their fighting equipment which had proved relatively ineffective against the highly mechanized Nazi legions.

London announced bad news too with the report that it had been subjected to the worst air blitz "of all time." German sources say this terrific raid came as a reprisal for British raids on "cultural and non-military" objectives in Berlin.

In the very beginning of the Balkan campaign, the Nazi-Italian forces took the offensive in Northern Africa, and the two battles proceeded almost in unison, the British being driven practically out of Libya by the time that the British sources were ready to admit that Yugoslavia had been defeated.

Reaction of the British people was bitter, not that they were unwilling to receive news of a defeat that had been more or less expected, but because the ministry of information and the intelligence department were accused of having fallen down on the job.

This also was the reaction in Washington, where it was freely said by those in the military know that the British permitted Roosevelt to promise aid to Yugoslavia and Greece when it should have been known that aid to the former was to be only a gesture, and that the Serbs and Slovenes could not hope to stand up to the attack more than a week or two.

Washington sources of high military information frankly said that the British intelligence had fallen down, as it had in the Battle of France, and that the best information in our national capital had been to the effect that the infiltration of Nazi mechanized forces into North Africa had been of the smallest.

These sources said they had been told that this shipping of tanks and men to North Africa had had only one purpose—that of putting pressure on the French colonies, and forcing them to stand firm with the Vichy government.

Whether this was deliberate self-delusion, or an attempt to delude the American and British people was not known, but certainly it was bad information, whether deliberate or not.

For in about two weeks the British had lost everything they had gained in Libya, and found themselves seriously on the defensive as far as the vital Mediterranean port of Alexandria and the equally vital Suez canal were concerned.

Highlights . . . in the news

BELFAST: Observers were wondering what stand, if any, Eire would take in the face of the first serious bombing of northern Ireland. This city and surrounding towns were hard hit by a blitzkrieg from the air and there were many casualties.

WASHINGTON: Danish Minister Henrik De Kauffman made the Greenland agreement with this government, and then was fired, but is still recognized by the U. S. The same happened to French Vice Consul Paul Bibby, who, claiming he was the sole "real" representative of France in the U. S., offered this country the use of bases in North Africa.

CHUNGKING: China, despite the recent Japanese-Russian accord, has been advised that Russian aid to China in its fight against Japan will be continued.

GREECE: On Her Heels

The Greek armies, which had checked the unaided Italian forces presented against them in the Albanian campaign, found themselves facing a horse of another color when the Nazi hordes moved in from Bulgaria and south from Yugoslavia.

Greek sources in the United States, many of them intensely patriotic and hoping against hope for a Greek victory, had been saying during the Albanian battle that if the Nazis ever got in, Greece could not hold out for a month.

How true these predictions were in their essence began to be seen as the Nazi campaign against northern Greece proceeded. Salonika fell, trapping much of the Greek army in Eastern Macedonia and Thrace. Then the Germans broke through into the Struma river valley, through the Monastir gap and made contact with the Italians in northern Albania.

It was not long before the plan of the Graeco-British forces to defend a line running in an inverted V-shape from Adriatic to Aegean seas had to be revised, and the whole hinge of the V, in the Lake Ochrida-Phiorina sector had to be abandoned, and the armies retreat until the line was more nearly straight.

Along this line a frightfully intense battle started, and few were sanguine enough to believe that the line would hold and further retreat and withdrawal not be necessary, particularly as the line, as first drawn, lay over heavy mountain ranges with peaks up to 6,000 feet.

And the Nazis had broken through these, and the fighting in its secondary phase was on terrain more to the liking of the mechanized units.

LABOR: And Defense

The strike situation showed some further amelioration, with the announcement by Bethlehem Steel that about 90,000 of its workers would get a 10-cent-an-hour increase in wages.

This, for the moment, relieved the public of the anxiety lest a strike hit this steel-producer, holder of more defense contracts than any other concern in the country, and one of the nation's largest builders of merchant ships.

The coal strike, however, continued to cause trouble, with four more killed near Harlan, Ky., at a mine which was continuing to operate despite the general shut down.

Negotiations for the ending of this strike were in their final phase, with every evidence that the agreement would go through and that soft coal strikes would be over for another two years, if not longer.

Those watching the labor situation felt that the soft-coal agreement would pave the way for better general industrial conditions and that promised strike threats against U. S. Steel and General Motors might not materialize.

The settling of the Ford strike was held up as a shining example of handling what looked like a certain impasse.

Yet there were still moves afoot in congress which would not exactly outlaw strikes, but which would provide for a 30-day "cooling off period" before the actual calling of a walkout, and also calling for official recognition of the Dykstra-headed national mediation board.

SHOTS: And Spies

The shooting to death of Editor John F. Arena of an Italian language newspaper in Chicago was tabbed as a Fascist secret police slaying after it was learned that a few hours before he was shot he had furnished information to the Dies committee.

A Chicago newspaper man who had talked with Arena a few hours before he was murdered beside his automobile, quoted the editor as saying that he had received threats against his life.

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

Washington, D. C. NAZI LAKE

Tell-tale signs accumulate that the next big Hitler drive is to make the Mediterranean an Axis lake. The most obvious, of course, is Hitler's unannounced plan to launch submarine and bombing raids against Suez from his new base at Salonika and from the Greek islands.

Secret plans for closing the other end of the Mediterranean have been evident for some time along the Spanish border, where big guns are ready to be rushed against Gibraltar.

Most significant of these preparations, however, has not leaked out. It shows how extensive are Hitler's ambitions around the Mediterranean. For some weeks now, Nazis have been busy dismantling the airplanes of General Weygand in North Africa. Every morning the French wake up to find a magneto missing from one machine, a carburetor from another. Gradually, the essential parts of this air fleet have evaporated.

Hitler is taking no chances on letting what remains of the French air force get into British hands. There now seems to be little question that Hitler plans to take over French possessions in North Africa, together with French naval bases, as soon as the time is ripe.

Note—U. S. military observers believe the Mediterranean will be ripe first, next Russia. That is the way the Hitler time-table looks today.

IRISH ARMS

The visit to Washington of Irish Defense Minister Frank Aiken, on an arms purchasing mission, was no boon to congressmen of Irish descent who voted against lend-lease.

He has pointedly avoided them, and instead gone out of his way to hobnob with the members of congress who supported the bill—particularly House Democratic Leader John McCormack, who sponsored the measure, and Rep. Jim McGranery of Pennsylvania.

The tall, genial Irish minister has been eloquent in praise of British courage and President Roosevelt's policy of making the United States the "arsenal of democracy." He wants to draw on that arsenal to arm Ireland against the Nazi menace.

The Irish are as adamant as ever, Aiken says, against turning over their urgently desired bases to the British. But he points out that Ireland is Britain's "breadbasket," having provided one-third of its food, considerable clothing, and other necessities since the war began.

Ireland proposes to mobilize an army to battle off any Nazi attacks, if the necessary equipment can be obtained from Britain and the United States. Britain has agreed to furnish some, and Aiken hopes to get the rest here. He says he has "several hundred million dollars" to spend for anti-aircraft guns tanks, rifles, ammunition; also for wheat and food.

Note—Ireland has an army of 250,000 volunteers, but only 25,000 are properly equipped and garrisoned. Most of the men are local "security guards," who train only once a week.

LEND-LEASE KINGPIN

Kingpin in directing the lend lease program is Harry Hopkins, gaunt intimate of the President.

Living and working in the White House, Hopkins is Roosevelt's personal spokesman on all lend-lease matters and holds all the reins. No move is made without his knowledge and approval. In inner circles Hopkins is referred to as lend-lease "co-ordinator," but actually he is the boss-man for the President.

Hopkins' chief assistant is Maj. Gen. James H. Burns, one of the army's procurement aces.

The test in passing on allied requests for supplies is whether they will also be useful for our own defense. The government's policy is to provide all equipment and materials possible, but not to disrupt our own defense program.

An example of the emphasis on standardization of the armament of the U. S. and Britain was a recent request for 37-mm. shells. It was turned down because 75 mm. is the caliber of the guns now chiefly in use in our army. Production of 37 millimeter shells would have required extensive retooling, only to turn out ammunition of no value to us.

The actual placing of lend-lease orders is being handled through three offices; munitions by the navy's bureau of supplies and accounts and by the bureau of ships; and army supplies by Under Secretary of War Robert Patterson.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Braintester Tom Corcoran, in private law practice since last November, will return to government office—but not as a braintester. He will be entrusted with a key administrative job as assistant secretary of the navy for air.

Socialite Jimmy Cromwell, former U. S. minister to Canada and defeated Democratic candidate for the senate in New Jersey, is quietly plugging himself as successor to Philippine high commissioner Francis Sayre.

After London's Worst Air Blitz



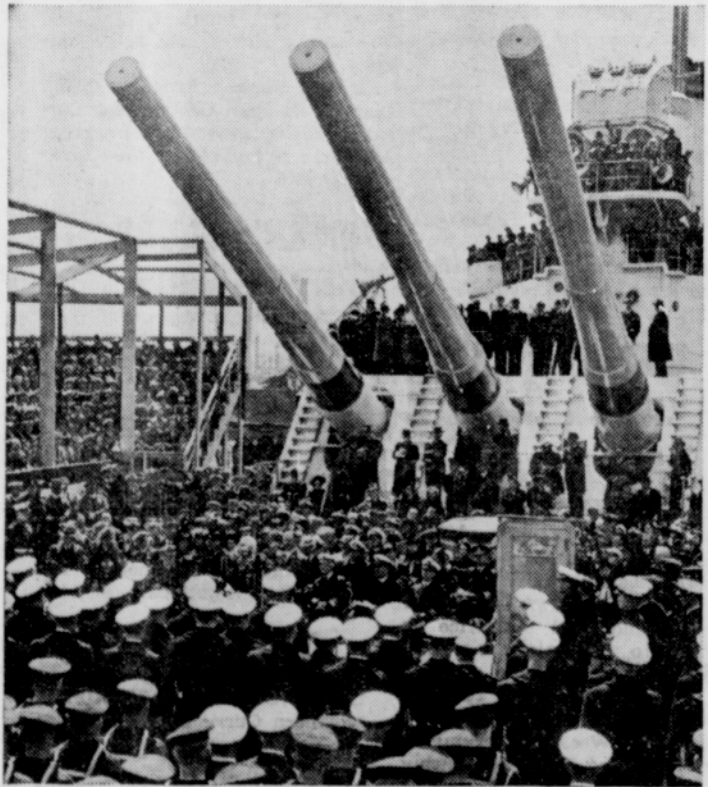
After what is believed to be the worst air raid of the entire war on the capital of the British empire, workers are shown clearing up the debris in London, while the work of digging the dead and wounded out of the ruins was still going on. Material damage was terrific, thousands of high explosive and incendiary bombs having been dropped.

English Lord and Lady Killed



Two of the victims of the great air blitz on London were Lord and Lady Stamp. Both are shown above as they appeared on their last visit to America. Lord Stamp, better known as Sir Josiah Stamp, was Britain's leading economist. Their sons, Trevor and Colin, were married to relatives of Gen. Charles G. Dawes.

Mighty Battlewagon for Uncle Sam



Scene on the deck of the U. S. S. North Carolina, as the 35,000-ton battleship was commissioned six months ahead of schedule. Three of the battleship's nine 16-inch rifles form an impressive backdrop for the ceremonies at Brooklyn, N. Y. The North Carolina is the first of 17 capital ships authorized under the two-ocean navy program.

Capitol Hill Picks a Queen



Eleven girls in a row, and beauties all! From all this pulchritude pretty Bonnie Patton, sixth from the left, daughter of Rep. Nat Patton of Texas, was selected as "Miss Capitol Hill" by members of the "Little Congress." She is pictured with the runners-ups. The "Little Congress" is made up of congressional secretaries.

Found Guilty



J. M. Schenck, (left) board chairman of Twentieth-Century Fox film corporation, leaving the federal court in New York with his lawyer, after being found guilty of income tax evasion. He faces a possible sentence of 10 years in jail and \$20,000 fine.

Fears 'He's Next'



G. Pantaleoni, former head of the Italian tourist information office in New York, who says his life has been threatened three times. All the threats, he claims, were made in the same manner as those received by his friend, John F. Arena, anti-Fascist newspaper editor who was slain in Chicago.

Brazilians



Alzira Peixoto, daughter of the president of Brazil, arriving in Miami with her husband, governor of the state of Rio, in Brazil. They are shown on their way to Chester, Pa., to attend the launching of a ship, "The Rio de Janeiro," for Brazilian maritime forces.

To Leave Italy



Capt. William C. Bentley, assistant military attaché for air, of the U. S. embassy in Rome, whom the Italian government requested withdrawn from Italy, "immediately."



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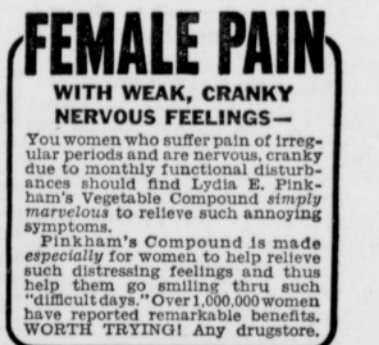
Never scrape kitchen utensils with a knife. Use a stiff brush dipped in scouring powder to remove stains and burns.

Never wash a tea strainer or a teapot in soapy water. Wash and rinse in clear water always.

When running rods through your curtains put a thimble on the end of the rod. It will run through more easily.

To prevent metal salt-shaker tops from corroding, cover the inside of the tops with paraffin.

Winding wool is difficult if there is no one to hold it. Put two flat-irons on a table at a sufficient distance apart to allow the wool to be tightly stretched. Then wind over the irons, just as if someone was holding it.



Real Modesty
When one remains modest, not after praise but after blame, then is he really so.—Jean Paul Richter.



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