

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY ROGER SHAW

Fighting Shifts From Flanders As Nazi Air Force Bombs Paris; Malta Looms as Trouble Spot

(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.



If Italy should move against Great Britain in the Mediterranean she might very likely direct an attack at the great British naval base at Malta. Malta has been on a war footing since the beginning of the European crises. Map at the right shows the relationship of Malta to Italy. Vulnerable perhaps to bombing attacks it would be a tough nut for Mussolini to crack by sea. Top left is a view of the harbor at Valetta with British man o' war at anchor. Below, one of the big coastal guns that ring Malta is blazing away during gunnery practice.

(SEE ITALIC NOTES.)

II GERMAN WAR: Flanders Battle

The Dutch-Belgian-Flanders-Artois battle came virtually to an end, save for up-moppings and kitty-corner operations here and there. The Dutch and Belgian armies had been surrendered or finished, and the First, Seventh, and Ninth French armies were destroyed. Nobody came out of it with any laurels save the British navy, which somehow succeeded in ferrying perhaps two-thirds of the British army out of Dunkirk by means of warships, transports, yachts, barges, and lifeboats—and under heavy aerial fire.

It seemed that the German air force fell down on this debarkation operation, for British losses, in retreat, were smaller than might have been expected. Somehow, the allies secured a temporary air supremacy in the Dunkirk sector, and the British Spitfire machines showed a slight superiority to the German Messerschmitt combat craft. British morale, strangely enough, was reported as excellent, but French morale did not appear in quite so favorable a light. The German general headquarters was strangely restrained in its moment of triumph. Lille, fourth city of France and its "Pittsburgh," was in German hands, along with Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Brussels, Antwerp, Ostend, Calais, Boulogne, The Hague, Liege, etc. Would refugee-choked, hysterical Paris be next, wondered the railbirds?

Even as these railbirds wondered, Hitler's warbirds came out of the skies and rained showers of bombs upon southern France and later upon Paris itself. In the first attacks about 150 German bombers swept over the city, dropping their cargoes of high explosives, setting many fires, inflicting huge property losses and killing at least 45 persons in Paris and its suburbs. The allies promised to repay Germany bomb for bomb in the new air offensive they were launching.

NAMES

... in the news

Former French Generalissimo Gamelin was said to have committed suicide, while General Corap, chief of the French Ninth army defeated at Sedan, was reported as executed. General Bodet of the French Medical corps got six months in jail for abandoning his post in the ill-fated Sedan sector. Thus did la Republique crack down.

General Robert Lee Bullard, distinguished U. S. army officer and patriot, was re-elected president of the National Security league, which favors increased preparedness and is strongly "anti-subversive" in its hawklike activities.

Italic Notes

All private motoring stopped in Italy, due to government conservation of gas and oil. Italy has no native petroleum, iron or coal.

Pro-Italians were jailed in England's Mediterranean naval base, Malta. Possession of this strategic island is a leading Italian objective. The English suspended Italian papers read by the Italian-speaking Maltese. A minority of Maltese talk the ancient Carthaginian tongue of Hannibal and his elephants.

Mussolini said he was too busy to see U. S. Ambassador Phillips, who was toting a message from Roosevelt. Mussolini also broke off a shipping deal with the English, in the matter of illegal contraband control, which put the shivers into London. Italian journalists left Paris.

D. of C. AND—White Housings

President Roosevelt made another request for money. This time it was for more than a billion, for the army, navy and civilian training program, coupled with a fear that all continents may become involved in the II German war (he did not mention Germany by name). Roosevelt asked for specific authority to call up the national guard and army reservists—if and when needed to "safeguard" and "defend." And Roosevelt asked for a corps of dollar-a-year men, to expedite national defense preparations. Also, there came a request for a million dollars, to expand the navy department and munitions buildings in the capital. Talkative young Elliott Roosevelt assailed so-called fifth columns in Mexico. Elliott is a radio executive.

War department plans called for immediate orders to get 2,800 planes, 1,700 tanks, 500 heavy artillery units, and big consignments of anti-tank and anti-aircraft guns.

The senate voted, 55-4, for a new alien control resolution, already passed by the house. The immigration-naturalization bureau would be transferred from the department of labor to the department of justice. Senators Norris and Wheeler, liberals opposed to the transfer, assailed J. Edgar Hoover and the G-men, while Wheeler censured the current American "hysteria."

Archibald Macleash, "radical" librarian of the Congressional library at Washington, said that the II German war was not a revolt of the masses. He said that, instead, it was the revolt of a gang.



Senator Wheeler

Bruckart's Washington Digest

National Preparedness Drive Encounters Political Bickering

Washington Correspondent Sees Defense Program Being Turned 'Into a Vehicle for Selfish Use'; Racketeering Labor Leaders Climb on Bandwagon.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART
WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—It is exceedingly difficult to maintain a balanced viewpoint in the national capital these days. War hysteria is flowing at higher tide than in any other city of the land. Washington is the nerve center of the plans for a great and proper national defense scheme. That is bad. Yet, a calm perhaps would settle down and the serious job confronting the nation probably would be accomplished more effectively and efficiently if some other and more dangerous factors were not horn in on the situation.

It may not yet be so clear to the folks outside of Washington, but I must report that the urgently needed national defense program is being turned into a vehicle for selfish use. There is no longer room for doubt. The tragedy is that many otherwise sincere and honest individuals in places of responsibility are lending aid to this chicanery and boring-from-within.

The cold fact is that while patriotic and far-seeing folks are giving the best efforts available to the development and execution of the national defense program, fumes and stench are beginning to arise from

ed a united people behind the program. The President hinted broadly in various utterances that anyone disagreeing with him was pretty much of sourpuss.

Former President Herbert Hoover disagreed, as did a considerable number of representatives and senators, with some phases of the defense program. The President sought to quiet them all by making another speech—a fireside chat. There were holes in that speech, and scores of newspapers pointed at them, editorially. Mr. Hoover took issue with some of the President's plans in a radio speech.

Two days after Mr. Hoover's radio speech, Assistant Secretary Johnson, of the war department, went on the air with a "reply" to Mr. Hoover. Notwithstanding the President's contention that there was no politics in the defense program, Mr. Johnson's speech was released by the Democratic national committee.

President and His Friends Have Right to Back Plan

At least, the copy which came to me was on the stationery of the committee. I do not mean to say that either the President or Mr. Johnson should not defend the program which is their responsibility. I do insist, however, that there is no excuse for accusations of politics when they, themselves, are playing politics.

In addition to the Roosevelt-Hoover interlude, any observer must have seen the deluge of propaganda coming from various places in the government. The press agents have been working overtime in thinking up ideas that link their department's job with the development of a national defense program. Some of the efforts are pretty ridiculous, as silly as trying to make the love life of a bull frog appear important in the training of a soldier. That sort of thing is going on—the promotion of President Roosevelt's candidacy for a third term.

On top of this situation, comes another request from President Roosevelt for congress to appropriate additional money. He started out by asking something over a billion dollars. One hundred million of this was to be turned over to him, personally. But now, he has asked for one billion more. He told congressional leaders that the terrific debacle among the allies, the surrender of the Belgians by their king, Leopold, and some other successes of the Hitler murder drive necessitated faster spending.

Those needs may be genuine. Army and navy people tell me—and they ought to know—that we have no army that is "ready to go," ready to carry on if we are attacked. But those same army and navy experts said this was not a new condition. They insisted that rebuilding of the army and the navy should have been undertaken a dozen years ago.

Cost of 50,000 Planes Is Ten Billion Dollars

Strangely, the request for additional money did not reach congress until newspapers throughout the country began calling attention to the total cost involved in the President's call for 50,000 new planes. Mr. Roosevelt subsequently had said that the planes ranged in cost from \$133,000 to \$350,000 each. Well, if one takes an average that must be below the minimum and figures the cost at \$200,000 per plane, 50,000 planes would cost \$10,000,000,000. Ten billion dollars is a lot of money in anybody's language.

So, a tax bill is proposed. A decision is made to issue "defense bonds" which would be paid off by the "defense" taxes that have been proposed, and the job will have been done in five years. It all sounds reasonable and logical, but the taxes proposed would amount to around \$650,000,000 a year and it is planned to issue three billions in defense bonds. Which leaves the question still unanswered as to how we are to pay for 50,000 planes that must cost around \$10,000,000,000. It is all so confusing to a country boy, like me.

It remains only to be said that there is no great reason to be confident about the success of our defense program. The program is needed in view of world conditions which cannot be ignored. For the most part, it is a good program. But I still am asking why there is a call for national unity when responsible authorities are breeding dissatisfaction or are permitting confidence to wane.

HERBERT HOOVER
He chose to disagree.

the midst of this very serious business. The condition is upon us and thus far there is no apparent effort on the part of anybody in authority to check it.

One hears and sees how the defense program is being speeded. One naturally offers commendation. But hardly is that applause given when through the cracks and the crevices comes the information that politics is preying upon the whole scheme. Some of it already smells to high heaven. The length to which some men will go to further their selfish political aims at the expense of all of us is beyond comprehension.

And in the midst of these serious endeavors, also, comes the shouts and the threats of some racketeering labor leaders. As usual, that type is simply getting on the bandwagon for the sake of publicity that they can get for their mouthings. It makes them appear important to benighted followers.

Opponents of Democracy Are Boring From Within

Behind and beneath all of these things that are to be deplored is the creeping and gnawing of the termites who would be most happy to destroy our form of government. They are seizing upon the hysteria and the patriotism of the day to worm themselves into the spots where their concealed efforts will attract the least attention until the floor falls in. I have complained about these fellows many times before, and I shall continue to write about the dangers from them. They are in our government to the tune of several thousands. Again, little is being done about those, or the thousands that are at large.

Let us begin with some details of the politics of the situation as it has existed now for several weeks. We should begin at the top. President Roosevelt is not less guilty than many of his supporters in the matter of playing politics.

The President's speech to congress was a good speech, a speech that should have aroused a sleepy nation. It did. But there were some parts of it about which there could be, and was, disagreement. Of those who disagreed, the President immediately said, in effect, that they were playing politics. He wanted



Slipped By

"I was on the stage once."
"Well, the doorkeeper can't be on guard all the time."

"An adult," suggests a school-boy, "is someone who's stopped growing up and started growing out."

BEYOND THAT



"Have you a speaking acquaintance with the woman next door?"
"Speaking acquaintance! Why, I know her so well that we don't speak at all."

Misstated

With a terrific crash, the motor-car shot headlong into the hole in the road.

"Here, you!" yelled the watchman. "Did you see that notice saying the road was closed?"
"I did," replied the motorist, as he started to climb out of the hole, "but I found it wide open."

He'll Fix That

"I'm afraid I really cannot see you just now."
"Good—I'm selling spectacles."

Place for Him

He was relating his adventures to his fiancée.

"I had to hack my way through almost impenetrable jungle," he said. "Chopping, slashing at thick undergrowth and trees."

"Oh, George," said she, "you'll be an expert at weeding the garden!"

2 PRINTS FROM EACH GOOD NEGATIVE 25¢

From your 8 exposure roll. Better Prices than you have ever had before. Send coin. "Made by Portland's Largest Kodak Finishing Co." PORTLAND FILM CO. Box 4213 Portland Oregon

FEEL GOOD

Here is Amazing Relief of Conditions Due to Sluggish Bowels. **Nature's Remedy** If you think all laxatives are alike, just try this all vegetable laxative. So mild, thorough, refreshing, invigorating. Dependable relief from sick headaches, bilious spells, tired feeling when associated with constipation. **Without Risk** get a 25¢ box of NR from your druggist. Make the test—then if not delighted, return the box to us. We will refund the purchase price. That's fair. Get NR Tablets today. **NR TO-NIGHT**

Death No Evil

It is impossible that anything so natural, so necessary, and so universal as death should ever have been designed as an evil to mankind.—Swift.



Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse—but to weigh and consider.—Bacon.

WNU—13 24—40

Miserable with backache?

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer a nagging backache, with dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination and getting up at night when you feel tired, nervous, all upset... use Doan's Pills.

Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS