

IT SEEMS TO ME
By Charles F. Sprague

The current guessing game (aside from dating the second front) is whether Roosevelt will run for a fourth term. It is hard to see at this date how he can decline to run, any more than Gov. Dewey could now say, "Boys, I'm not a candidate for president and will not run if nominated."

If the president's physician should veto Roosevelt's running, that might make him decline to be a candidate. Otherwise he is virtually forced into running by his obligations to his own political associates who would be left quite adrift if he were to refuse on the eve of the convention.

So while guesses are a dime a dozen in politics, it does look as though the contenders would be Dewey and Roosevelt; and don't think such a contest would not be a horse race.

There have been many who regretted the necessity of holding a national election in a critical war year. They say it affects decisions relating to the war, both military and political decisions, which ought to be settled without any reference to domestic politics. Great Britain, they say, has held no election and does not expect to while the war is on.

Our constitution, however, calls for a presidential election every four years, and there hasn't been even a suggestion that the (Continued on Editorial Page)

Longer Jumps Toward Japs Due, Stimson

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—Longer jumps by American forces toward the heart of Japan's defense may be expected in the future, Secretary of War Stimson said today, as a result of the pattern set by the 500-mile hop by General Douglas MacArthur's troops up the New Guinea coast to Hollandia.

In a press conference review, the war secretary also pointed to history to suggest that defeat for Germany may not be far off. He said the allied air operations out of Italy against Balkan centers in effect complete a junction with Russia's southern armies.

Then, drawing a parallel, he noted that Union armies of the north and south battled to effect a meeting in the American Civil war, and once they did "not long after, the war came to an end."

Other major points of Stimson's review: 1. Allied plane losses in the air assault on Germany are declining although more planes than ever before are being thrown against the enemy. But the Nazis are still putting enough planes into the air to make each allied mission a battle and they probably are hoarding reserves.

2. While the allies have gone over to the offensive in the Burma-India theatre, one last, desperate Japanese thrust on the Imphal plain is possible. 3. Army casualties for the war through April 15 total 148,425—25,582 killed, 60,166 wounded, 32,727 missing and 29,950 official reported prisoners of war. Of the wounded, 33,077 have returned to duty. Reported deaths among prisoners total 1879. (Unofficially many more deaths of those in Japanese hands have been reported.)

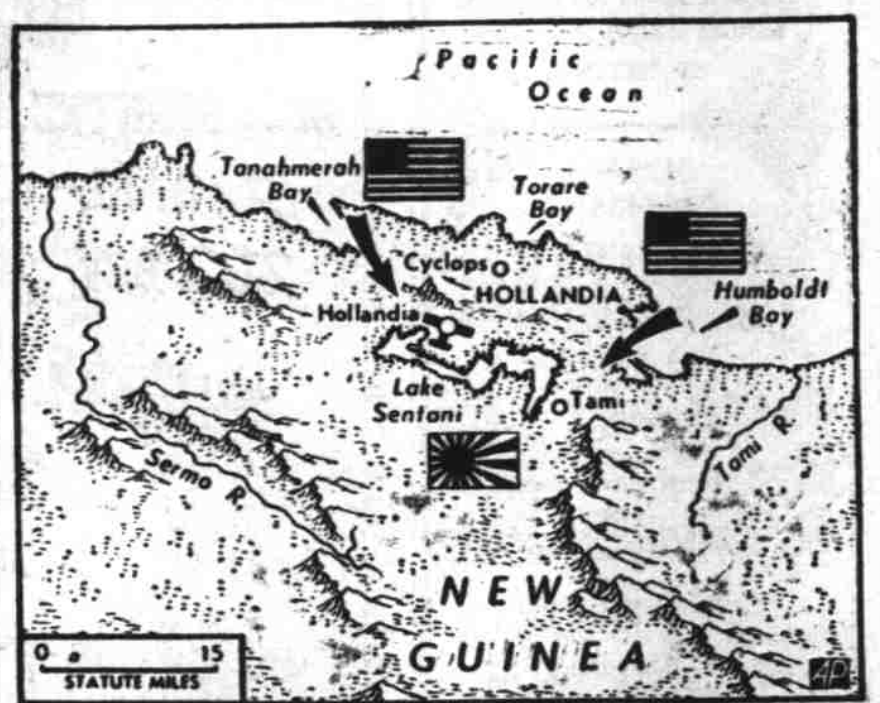
The office of war information reported later the casualties in all branches of the armed forces since the outbreak of war now total 192,836 including 44,497 dead, 72,030 wounded, 41,923 missing and 34,386 prisoners of war. Navy casualties are 18,915 dead, 11,864 wounded, 9196 missing and 4436 prisoners.

Nazis Displeased With Turk Move
By the Associated Press
The Berlin radio bluntly told the Turks last night that a German foreign office spokesman considered Turkey's suspension of chrome shipments to the reich a breach of contract and that Nazi Ambassador Franz von Papen, called home to report, would not return to Ankara "for the time being."

US Forces Close Hollandia Drive

Allies Take Third Airfield To Complete Fast Invasion; In Short Time of 6 Days
By FRED HAMPSON
ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Friday, April 28—(AP)—United States invasion forces closed the Hollandia campaign Thursday in six days, capturing the third Japanese airfield.

Americans Take Hollandia



US forces closed the Hollandia campaign Thursday by capturing the main Hollandia air base (plane symbol). The allies had already taken air fields at Tami and Cyclops.

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anease airfield and putting all three into immediate use within bombing range of the Philippines. End of Japanese resistance to an undertaking, which entailed leaping 500 miles up the New Guinea coast under the guns of a powerful naval armada and sending thousands of soldiers slogging over muddy jungle terrain, was announced today by Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

The main Hollandia airfield was the last to fall to pioneer forces which last Saturday opened drives from Tanahmerah and Humboldt bays, overrunning more than 350 square miles of Dutch New Guinea and crushing the feeble opposition.

The light Japanese opposition at Hollandia was attributed by a headquarters spokesman to feints which prompted the enemy to send 3000 of the sixth Nipponese south seas detachment of combat marines southeast to Wewak. Many other Japanese service troops were removed to mountain bivouac areas before the invasion.

More than 400 miles to the southeast, the Australian forces (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

German Defeat Will Hasten Civilian Goods
WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—A 35 per cent drop in war production will follow the defeat of Germany, freeing that much manufacturing capacity for civilian goods, Charles E. Wilson of the war production board, told the automobile labor advisory committee today.

Until Germany collapses, the executive vice chairman of WPB said, "only very limited civilian production will be possible." When Japan is the only major enemy in the fighting, however, "35 per cent of the productive capacity now tied up with war work will be available for peacetime production," Wilson informed the newly-named group of seven CIO and AFL leaders in the automobile industry.

Earlier, the labor spokesmen were notified by Chairman Donald M. Nelson, that he "saw no chance" of making passenger automobiles this year. The labor men were summoned by Nelson to help lay plans for ultimate reconversion of the industry, following a meeting of nine automobile company presidents and government officials here last week.

RAF Over Germany 14th Day

US Force Makes Record Smash In Doubleheader
By W. W. HERCHER
LONDON, Friday, April 28 (AP)—The allies' merciless pounding of Nazi military installations winged into its 14th straight day today with an RAF attack "in strength" on Friedrichshafen.

This smash by Britain's big night bombers followed a record doubleheader daylight blow at Nazi targets in France by the US eighth air force, which sent out more than 1500 heavy bombers during the day.

In the 18 hours preceding the RAF's penetration deep into southern Germany more than 400 allied planes hammered the continent with approximately 10,000 tons of explosives, a new high for such a period. Friedrichshafen, site of an aircraft components factory and also a large plant manufacturing radio location instruments, is located on Lake Constance just across from the Swiss frontier.

It was the sixth major attack on the manufacturing center, coming after a heavy daylight attack by Flying Fortresses last Monday, when the Americans also hit airdromes near Munich.

Previously it had received a one-two punch from US heavy bombers March 16 and 18. It generally has been fiercely defended and one of the most savage aerial fights of the war occurred on the mission of Liberators there March 18. That day the Americans lost 42 big bombers and it was indicated most of them fell in the Friedrichshafen raid.

An official announcement of the operation early this morning said, "the aircraft bomber command of the RAF was over Germany in strength last night, with Friedrichshafen as the main objective."

The daylight forays into France were made against what a communiqué described as weak opposition. Nine American heavy bombers, three Marauders and six fighters were lost by the US and allied air forces while three enemy aircraft were shot down.

The night was clearly lighted by the moon, keeping Nazi squadrons squatting on their bases and giving England a (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Mercury Hits 77 Yesterday
Temperature mounted to 77 degrees at the official Salem weather station Thursday and the mercury hung in the 70's through much of the day. Second in maximum heat only to Sunday, April 2, when a peak of 78 degrees was reached. Thursday was by other standards the "warmest" day of 1944 to date to the working population. The Sunday record was based on a brief period of early afternoon heat, which came at a time of leisure for many capital city residents.

1000-Airplane Pacific Raids Not Uncommon
HUTCHINSON, Kans., April 27—(AP)—Artemus L. Gates, assistant secretary of the navy for air, disclosed today that "We have been having 1,000-plane raids in the Pacific."

Here for the graduation of the first air crew from the navy's big new operational base, Gates said: "I don't think the public realizes that we've been having 1,000-plane raids in the Pacific. The new coordinated training here is part of the navy's expanding offensive."

Judge Serves Ward's Injunction

CHICAGO, April 27—(AP)—Federal Judge William H. Holly tonight issued a temporary injunction restraining Montgomery Ward and company and Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of the huge mail order house, from interfering with government operation of the Chicago stores.

Judge Holly's rapid action climaxed a day of dramatic developments which had seen Avery forcibly ejected by soldiers from the north side plant.

Attorney General Francis Biddle filed a petition for the restrainer late this afternoon, asking the court to enjoin the company from interfering with government operation and to order the officers to make available corporate records to the government director, Wayne Chatfield Taylor, assistant secretary of commerce.

Earlier in the day Silas H. Strawn, a Ward's director and member of the law firm representing the company, said the firm would file injunction proceedings within a few days in an effort to halt government operation. This step and the government petition generally were expected to be the first of many legal maneuvers that may eventually lead to a determination of the powers of the government to seize a private business during war time.

The temporary injunction was made effective for 10 days. Judge Holly was summoned from a meeting at the Hamilton club, exclusive downtown businessmen's association, for the hearing, which was held in the court chambers. Ten deputy (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

Red Front Still Quiet
Sevastopol Gets Russian Shelling But City Holds

LONDON, Friday, April 28—(AP)—Moscow said last night the lull on the eastern front continued through its sixth day yesterday but the Germans declared the Russians still were attacking in northern Romania and in the Carpathian foothills.

The night soviet communiqué said again there were "no important changes at the front." A supplement to the communiqué said the Germans lost 400 men killed and 15 tanks and four armored transports destroyed in a futile attempt to find weak spots in the soviet defenses southeast of Stanislawow in the Carpathian foothills.

A dispatch from Moscow during the day described continued heavy shelling of the German-Romanian positions in besieged Sevastopol, a Red Star correspondent declaring, "The enemy still holds the dead streets and squares but soviet guns have reached the Germans and Romanians in their last shelters." The date of the story was not given.

The German communiqué said there was only local attacks in the Sevastopol area today, and a German "international information bureau" broadcast said cryptically, "the three-day defensive battle in the area of Sevastopol can be regarded as completed."

'Mac'-Nimitz Plot Trouble For Tokyo
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, April 27—(AP)—The joint announcements at southwest Pacific and central Pacific headquarters today that Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Adm. Chester W. Nimitz have integrated war plans in the Pacific fore-shadowed more powerful blows against Japanese armies in New Guinea, New Britain and the northern Solomons.

One result of the conference, which was held at MacArthur's headquarters late in March, may well mean the virtual wiping out of lines of latitude and longitude which for two years had defined the respective spheres of operation of the two higher commands and the intermediate south Pacific command of Adm. William F. Halsey.

Heavy units of the Pacific fleet, which Nimitz commands, provided support for the invasion of Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, which was under MacArthur's supreme control. The next step in the exertion of the "maximum of cooperative effort against the enemy" might place equally strong units of MacArthur's army and air forces under Nimitz' command.

Chinese military authorities announced today that Japanese troops had occupied the strategic railway junction of Chenghsien in a new offensive they have been pressing in northern Honan province to clear the north-south Peiping-Hankow line. The announcement said that enemy troops had entered the city the morning of April 22. Previous dispatches from the front had indicated the possibility that Chenghsien might no longer be in Chinese hands but there had been no confirmation of its fall.

McArthur Inspects Landing



Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme allied commander in the southwest Pacific (second from right) is in animated discussion with an unidentified officer (right) at the beach at Tadji, 1800 yards from the airfield where American and Australian forces landed on New Guinea island in their assault on Hollandia. An LST is on the beach in the background. (AP Wirephoto via signal corps radio)

Stillwell's Forces Break Jap Resistance in Burma

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, April 27—(AP)—With the monsoon rains less than three weeks away, Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese and American forces appear to have broken the back of Japanese resistance in northern Burma.

In a spectacular six-mile advance yesterday, "Uncle Joe's" infantry and tanks swept through the Mogaung valley jungle into the village of Manpin, only 10 miles from Kamaing and no more than 45 miles from Myitkya, the enemy's main base of operations north of Mandalay.

The campaign to open a land supply route from India to China—Stilwell's pet project—already had carried his mixed force some 120 miles into Burma, nearly halfway to a junction with the old Burma road at a point inside China.

The enemy's counter-invasion of India, meantime, appeared to be rushing toward a bloody climax in the 6000-foot hills ringing the allied base of Kohima. Report that a major battle had begun there was expected almost hourly.

Dispatches today said allied reinforcements of men, tanks and guns continued to stream into Kohima along the 35-mile highway from Dimapur and the Bengal-Assam railway, and that an assault to break the Japanese and send them reeling back along the trails toward Burma was imminent.

The Japanese held the highest points around Kohima, and just outside the town allied reinforcements were confronted with a large white sign that said: "From this point you are in view of the enemy."

British and American staff (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Army Ejects Avery From Office; Firm Does Not Give Up

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Civilians Face Serious Cotton Goods Shortage
WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—Swift, concerted action has been urged on price and production authorities to head off a serious shortage of cotton textiles for civilians this year.

Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson, Chairman Donald M. Nelson of the war production board, and Price Administrator Chester Bowles are scheduled to confer tomorrow on means of coping without clothes rationing.

WPB's commitment to avoid rationing can be kept, an interagency "task committee" reported unanimously, if machinery is quickly set up to permit government scheduling of production from cotton mill to finished garments.

The report said the disappearance of low-priced goods from dealers' shelves threatens the entire economic stabilization program.

A 50 percent deficiency in the supply of fabrics for low priced clothing such as house dresses, infants' clothing, men's shirts, underwear, and children's school clothes was predicted by the committee which is composed of two members each from WPB, OPA and the office of civilian requirements.

The committee's recommendations called for "firm allocations" of unfinished cotton goods for civilian use, in the same way that (Turn to Page 2—Story H)

China Situation Still Critical
CHUNGKING, China, April 27—(AP)—The Chinese said tonight the battle area in northern Honan province is constantly expanding and that the Japanese have captured the town of Mhsien, but they declared a Chinese counter-offensive had won back six to eight miles and eased the enemy threat to the railway city of Loyang, a major Japanese objective.

In nine days of the Honan province offensive, in central China below the Yellow river, the Japanese have overrun about 1,800 square miles in the heart of a region where famine-ravaged millions have been hopeful of gathering a bumper wheat crop. Whether the Japanese offensive is intended merely to take this crop from the Chinese or has a broader objective remains obscure, but Chinese field dispatches said the Japanese had thrown another 10,000 troops into the fight, making a total of about 70,000.

Chinese Admit Key City Fall
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