

Chronology--World War II

Following is the chronology of World War II, as assembled in detail for The Oregon Statesman by The Associated Press.

1939

Sept. 1: Germany invades Poland, annexes Danzig.
 Sept. 2: France mobilizes. Italy proclaims neutrality.
 Sept. 3: Britain and France declare war on Germany. Nazis bomb Warsaw.
 Sept. 4: New Zealand and Australia declare war on Germany. United States proclaims neutrality. Fighting begins in front of Maginot line.
 Sept. 10: Canada declares war on Germany.
 Sept. 17: Russian troops strike into eastern Poland.
 Sept. 27: Warsaw surrenders.
 Sept. 28: Germans and Russians partition Poland.
 Nov. 4: President Roosevelt signs neutrality law, repealing arms embargo.
 Nov. 8: Bomb wrecks Munich beer hall just after Hitler leaves.
 Nov. 30: Russia invades Finland.
 Dec. 17: German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee scuttles outside Montevideo harbor after battle with three British cruisers.

1940

Jan. 16: President Roosevelt recommends further financial aid to Finland.
 Jan. 20: Winston Churchill, first lord of the British admiralty, warns Europe's neutrals to join the Allies.
 Feb. 2: Finland, still resisting fiercely, asks Russia for an "honorable peace."
 March 11: Britain discloses she and France ready to aid Finland if requested.
 March 12: Moscow announces treaty ending Russo-Finnish war.
 March 20: Deladier resigns as French Premier and is succeeded by Paul Reynaud, his Finance Minister.
 April 4: Churchill given general supervision over all units of Britain's military and naval strength.
 April 9: Germany invades Norway and Denmark, Denmark giving in but Norway declaring war.
 April 15: British land troops in Norway.
 May 2: Prime Minister Chamberlain admits the Allies have given up fight for southern and central Norway.
 May 10: Hitler, announcing "The hour has come," sends his troops into Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg while Nazi planes bomb northern France. Winston Churchill succeeds Chamberlain as British Prime Minister.
 May 14: Dutch army capitulates. Allied troops battle Germans on Meuse front in Belgium.
 May 19: General Maxime Weygand replaces Gamelin as Allied generalissimo.
 May 28: King Leopold orders the surrender of his Belgian forces, exposing British flank.
 May 29: Under heavy German attack, 400,000 British soldiers begin to escape from Dunkerque. Allies capture Narvik in Norway.
 June 3: German planes bomb Paris.
 June 4: Allies bomb Munich, Frankfurt and the Ruhr.
 June 10: Britain announces evacuation of Norway. Paris government leaves as Germans strike to within 35 miles of city. Italy declares war on Britain and France.
 June 14: Germans march into Paris.

American Armor Blasts Through Nazi Lines



Tank-paced United States infantrymen knife through German lines on the Normandy front—a feat never before equalled in difficulty of establishment or in courage and brilliance in expanding.

June 17: Marshal Henri Petain becomes premier and announces French surrender. Great Britain says she will fight alone.
 June 20: French armistice with Germany signed at Compiègne.
 June 24: French armistice with Italy signed.
 June 28: Russia occupies Besarabia in Romania.
 July 5: Petain severs relations with Great Britain after British navy attacks French warships at Oran.
 July 14: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania annexed by Russia.
 July 19: Hitler offers Britain "last chance" for peace. Britain says "no."
 Aug. 4: German air force begins heavy attack on Britain.
 Aug. 6: Italians invade British Somaliland.
 Aug. 12: Five hundred German planes raid Britain.
 Aug. 19: British withdraw from Somaliland.
 Aug. 20: Britain disclosed agreement to lease naval and air bases in western hemisphere to the United States.
 Aug. 30: Romania forced by Germany to yield half of Transylvania to Hungary.
 Aug. 31: RAF bombers hit center of Berlin for first time.
 Sept. 3: President Roosevelt announces trade of 50 over-age destroyers to Britain for naval and air base leases in western Atlantic.
 Sept. 6: King Carol abdicates Romanian throne in favor of son.
 Sept. 7: Heavy night raids on London begin.
 Sept. 16: President Roosevelt signs Selective Service Act.
 Sept. 27: Japan joins the Axis, signing 10-year tri-partite pact in Berlin.
 Oct. 3: Neville Chamberlain resigns from Churchill's cabinet, pleading poor health.
 Oct. 4: Hitler and Mussolini meet at Brenner pass. Japanese Premier says U. S. must accept Axis order or face war.
 Oct. 8: U. S. orders citizens to leave the Orient. German troops enter Romania.
 Oct. 18: British disclose repulse of German invasion attempt on Sept. 16.
 Oct. 27: Italy invades Greece.
 Nov. 2: Chamberlain dies.
 Nov. 14: British dig for 1,000 dead and wounded after raid on Coventry. Greeks rout Italians along 100-mile front.
 Nov. 29: Hungary joins Axis.
 Nov. 24: Slovakia follows Hungary and Romania into Axis alliance.
 Dec. 12: Britain reports Italy's invasion armies in headlong retreat from Egypt; 20,000 prisoners taken.

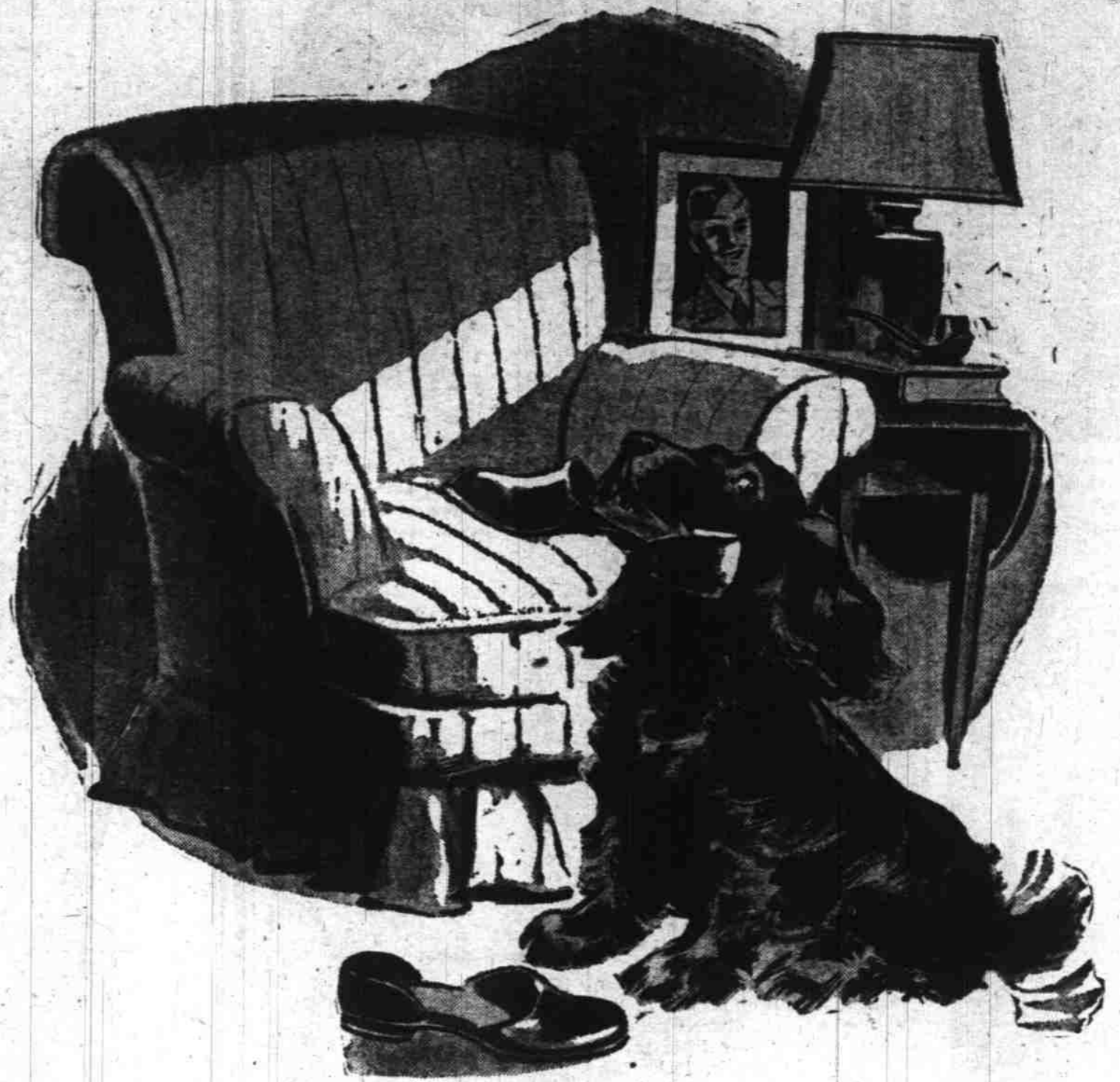
1941

Jan. 3: Ireland raided by German bombers.
 Jan. 10: Germany and Russia sign new friendship pact.
 March 1: Bulgaria signs Axis pact; German troops march in.
 March 10: British troops leave Alexandria for Greece.
 March 11: President Roosevelt signs lend-lease bill.
 March 25: Yugoslavia joins Rome-Berlin-Tokyo alliance.
 March 27: Military coup ousts Yugoslav government which signed Axis pact; 17-year-old Peter enthroned as king.
 March 30: US seizes Axis ships in ports.
 April 6: Germany attacks Yugoslavia and Greece.
 April 17: Germany announces surrender of Yugoslav army.
 April 18: Premier Korizis of Greece commits suicide.
 April 27: Germans take Athens.
 May 10: Rudolf Hess, Hitler aide, lands by parachute in Scotland.
 May 20: Germans attack Crete in first air-borne action.
 May 31: British withdraw from Crete.
 June 14: President Roosevelt freezes Axis credits in US.
 June 16: US closes all German consulates.
 June 22: Germany, Italy and Romania declare war on Russia.
 June 25: Finland enters war against Russia.
 July 7: American naval forces land in Iceland.
 July 13: Britain and Russia pledge joint action against Germany.
 July 24: Japanese troops move into French Indo-China.
 July 25: U. S. and Britain freeze Japanese credits.
 July 26: Japan freezes U. S.-British credits. Roosevelt calls Philippine military forces into U. S. service.
 Aug. 14: Rumored Roosevelt-Churchill sea conference confirmed by announcement of eight-point program later known as Atlantic Charter.
 Aug. 25: British and Russian troops invade Iran.
 Oct. 19: State of siege declared in Moscow.
 Nov. 24: Russians begin counter-offensive west of Rostov.
 Dec. 7: Japanese attack Pearl Harbor.
 Dec. 8: U. S. declares war. Japs attack Midway.
 Dec. 10: Japanese land in Philippines. British lose Battleship Prince of Wales and Battle Cruiser Repulse off Malaya.
 Dec. 11: U. S. declares war on Germany and Italy after earlier

Axis declarations. Japanese Battleship Haruna sunk by U. S. Army airmen. Japanese landing forces attack Wake.
 Dec. 12: Guam occupied. U. S. Navy takes over French ships in U. S., including Normandie.
 Dec. 16: Germans retreating along entire eastern front.
 Dec. 23: Wake falls after 14-day defense.
 Dec. 25: Hongkong falls.
 Dec. 27: Manila bombed despite declaration it open city.

1942

Jan. 1: United Nations pact signed pledging no separate peace with axis.
 Jan. 2: Japanese occupy Manila.
 Jan. 14: First ship is torpedoed off Atlantic coast.
 Jan. 17: Prime Minister Churchill returns to London after visit to US.
 Jan. 21: Five-hundred mile British penetration into Libya checked by Rommel.
 Jan. 23: Rio de Janeiro conference of 21 American republics recommends axis break.
 Jan. 27: First American troops arrive in northern Ireland.
 Feb. 1: US navy raids Gilbert and Marshall islands.
 Feb. 9: French liner Normandie ravaged by fire.
 Feb. 11: American troops safeguard oil refineries on Dutch islands of Curacao and Aruba in the Caribbean.
 Feb. 15: Singapore surrenders.
 Feb. 27: Great naval battle begins off Java; US loses Cruiser Houston and Destroyer Fope.
 March 9: Japanese overrun Java. Rangoon, Burma's capital, falls.
 March 16: War department announces "considerable numbers" of US troops have arrived in Australia.
 March 17: Gen. Douglas MacArthur reaches Australia from Philippines.
 March 31: Japanese begin heavy attacks on Bataan.
 April 3: Announcement says American "Flying Tigers" in China destroy more than 200 Japanese planes.
 April 9: Fighting ends on Bataan.
 April 18: U. S. army bombers, under Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle, raid Tokyo.
 May 6: Corregidor falls.
 May 7: British occupy French island of Madagascar.
 May 9: Gen. MacArthur announces five-day Coral sea battle in which 17 Japanese ships sunk or damaged.
 May 12: Russians launch offen-



Faithful thru to Victory!

The family calls him Blackie. The same time every day, he is ready, tail-wagging, tingling with anticipation, to greet that buck private, seaman or Marine, who's off at war. It gives you a lonesome feeling when Blackie goes chasing through the house for HIS slippers. You look at the familiar setting...the comfortable chair, so disturbingly uncreased...the pipe and book, so long untouched. And Blackie waiting, so dauntlessly. He won't be back today, Blackie. He's in a tough fight... alongside millions of other fellows like him... to wipe out the Jap menace, just as they foiled Hitler and Mussolini's corrupt dreams of world tyranny. These are the toughest days of all confronting him now... days that must seem endless... filled with prayers for Victory and home. But he can't come home until the last cunning Jap has surrendered. That's why we at home still have a tremendous job ahead too... to justify his sacrifices for us... to tug that day of final Victory closer. We've got to strive harder than ever on the production and conservation fronts, and KEEP putting every penny we can into War Bonds! That's the only way we can "wait", Blackie! That's the only way we can make this time every day the heartening, real "welcome home" it used to be!

Rapture Of Victory Recalls Scenes Of '18



THE FRONT

AP Features
JUBILANT soldiers and civilians at the front and in the capitals of the victorious Allies shouted a noisy welcome to Armistice Day and the end of hostilities on Nov. 11, 1918. The tension of more than four years of war broke. Flags waved. Army discipline was forgotten, men and women cheered, and huge throngs gathered for monster parades in the big cities of the new and old worlds.



PARIS



LONDON



NEW YORK

11 A.M., NOV. 11, 1918

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