

Happening in Hawaii Hints Further Lightning Blows According to War Analyst

By DeWitt MacKenzie
(Wide World war analyst)

"With war a momentary possibility for weeks why U. S. defenses in the Pacific caught flat-footed by Japanese? Did our forces await declaration of war before taking offensive action?"

The above message from the editor of a South Dakota newspaper was lying on my desk when I arrived at my office in Manhattan this morning. It is a burning question—one which must have been in all our minds—and so this column repeats it.

Honestly I don't know the answer to it—and wish to heaven I did. I woke up in the middle of last night and worried over it. But our naval and military authorities alone can tell us what happened.

Second Shock Is Suspected

Still, probably my South Dakota friend will agree that while the answer to his question is vital, it is far more important that we avoid a second shocking experience of this sort. One suspects, indeed, that the chief purpose of his query was to utter a warning.

Warning of what? The writing on the wall clearly indicates that if the early Japanese operations give sufficient encouragement Hitler may strike at us another lightning blow. Put an exclamation point after that.

Mayor La Guardia has told New York that "we are not out of the danger zone by any means." There is little doubt of that, for the Atlantic daily is being spanned by air these times, and this country won't have forgotten the German submarines which prowled off our coasts in the last war. The astonishing reports of Japanese warplanes over San Francisco bay, and off the Aleutians, emphasize this danger.

Hitler's chief aim at the moment must be to spike our war aid to Britain and the other allies. In that direction lies his salvation, for it will be disastrous for him if Russia emerges powerful in the spring and the other allies are all set for action.

Submarine Fleet Actions Seen

Thus far the nazis haven't employed anything like the total fleet of submarines they reportedly have amassed. It would not be surprising to see that armada come into action before long. Should Hitler also be able to force the French into giving him their navy, it would create a grave situation for America and the allies.

Probably the grim experience through which we have passed since Sunday has removed the danger of over-confidence on our part. The tradition has grown up that Uncle Sam could whip Japan with one hand tied behind his back. Maybe he could, if he didn't have other commitments, but the only way to look at the thing now is that we have a man-size job cut out for us.

We shall indeed be lucky if the war with Japan doesn't run long. Moreover, we mustn't overlook that the Japanese conflict is part and parcel of the world war and that knocking Japan out won't end the bigger conflagration. I'm afraid we've got to get used to the idea that there's going to be a lot of blood shed.

It inspires confidence to see Washington jumping in to ensure a vast increase in our armament production. Perhaps our greatest single need is to see that home industry produces every single ounce of war

material possible, both for our own uses and those of the allies, who are leaning heavily on us.

ASHLAND KILTIES MAY GO TO LEGION NATIONAL SESSION

Portland, Dec. 9.—(Sp)—The Oregon state department of the American Legion will be represented at the national legion convention in New Orleans next year by a most unique and colorful musical organization if present plans are successfully completed. Instead of the usual type of drum corps or military band, Oregon's feature attraction will be the famous American Legion kiltie band of Ashland post No. 14. The Ashland group, which scored such a hit at the national convention in Portland in 1932 when it appeared under the direction of Lloyd Williamson, nationally famous drum major, has been a feature of numerous state conventions and is well known to legionnaires throughout the west.

During the past year, the band has been completely re-uniformed with imported Scotch uniforms at a cost of \$150 per man. The band has won many prizes since its inception, the latest being a silver trophy awarded at the American Legion state convention in Eugene.

In 1940, Department Commander Niel R. Allen designated the Ashland Kilties as official "commander's band" during his administration. In 1941, Commander Alfred Kelley followed suit and this year the organization has again been honored by Joseph K. Carson, present department commander. Under the management of Past Commander Herb Moore, the Kilties are practicing diligently in order to be in top form when convention time rolls around next year.

Legislators Pledge Cooperation During War Says Governor

Salem, Dec. 9.—(AP)—Senator Dean H. Walker and Representative Robert S. Farrell, Jr., leaders of the senate and house of the state legislature, pledged to Governor Sprague yesterday that the legislature would give him full cooperation during the war.

They said the Multnomah county tax muddle, for which a special session has been demanded, has been pushed into the background, and that the political campaign would receive little attention in the next few months.

Governor Sprague told them he has not completed estimates as to how much money would be required for defense purposes. Only \$99,500 is available in the emergency board fund, but the

cost of the state guard is estimated at more than \$500,000. Some legislators expect a special session to appropriate the money.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

Star Basketball Dies in Car Crash

Tacoma, Dec. 9.—(AP)—Norman Walker, 21, star basketball

player of the College of Puget Sound, died in a local hospital early this morning from injuries received in an automobile accident last night in the city's downtown section.

The accident, which occurred before the blackout, also caused serious injuries to three other students in the same automobile. Police said the vehicle, traveling at a high rate of speed, skidded 80 feet and crashed into a power pole.

Power Company Man Electrocuted On Job

Albany, Dec. 9.—(AP)—Charles Boyd, 53, Mountain States Power company employee, was elec-

trocuted last night when a telephone line he was repairing in north Albany contacted an 11,000-volt power line. Mountain states officers said he was not on duty at the time of the accident.

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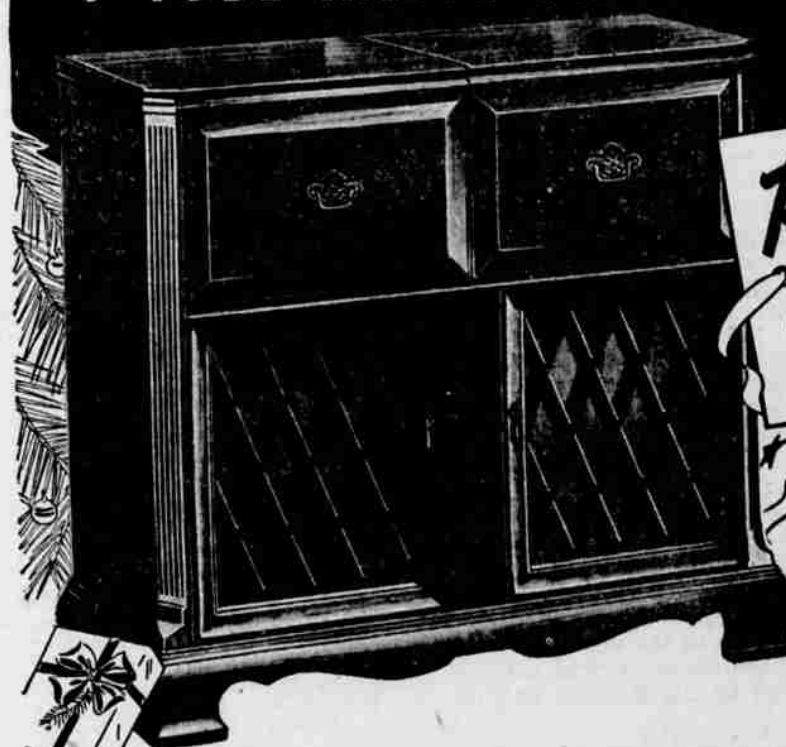
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