

Secret Orders

BY
ELEANOR
ATTERBURY

Chapter 12 Planes in the Night

DOWN at Headquarters that morning, excitement raged like a prairie fire. Stephanie answered telephones, enrolled volunteers, recorded subscriptions, ran errands, grateful for the intense preoccupation that kept her thoughts away from the details of the carnage at Pearl Harbor that were gradually sifting back to the mainland. And Kurt, where was he?

But she wouldn't let herself go on. Instead, she drove her mind ruthlessly to the work piled high before her. Work in terms of mountains of sliced bread to be made into sandwiches for the boys posted on the bridges, guarding the docks, the power stations, the nerve centers of the great, busy city.

Stacks and stacks of sandwiches, gallons of coffee, hundreds of trips to the string of cars and station wagons Red Cross workers would drive bearing food to boys patrolling cold, lonely beaches. Stephanie herself would have taken her place at the wheel of one of the cars but for Henri.

"My dear girl," he protested, meeting her at the doorway as she staggered under the burden of a huge carton of food. "You look so fatigued. You must get some rest."

"Can't, Henri," she muttered. "Too much to do."

"But you will not be able to help if you wear yourself out, Stephanie," he argued reasonably. "You cannot do everything in one day."

"He's right, Miss Merrill," one of the older women agreed. "You've done your part for today, certainly. And to Henri, 'Take her home, young man.'"

Stephanie smiled wearily. "Okay, Henri. And let him lead her to his car. How did you happen to be down here anyway, interfering with the work of the Red Cross?" she asked as they drove across busy Market Street, headed for the hilly residential district.

He smiled. "I had an idea you would be there, working too hard. You must not do so much."

"But—there is so much to be done and so few—" She stopped as the rising wail of a siren swelled from an ominous whine to a heart-chilling scream.

"What's that?"

Street lights winked off giving her the answer before Henri's cool, "Air-raid signal, Stephanie. This is a blackout."

They had reached the crest of the Sonoma Street hill. Henri pulled the car to the curb, snapped off the engine. Instantly, Stephanie climbed out, stood watching the lights in the City below disappearing in whole blocks at once stroke. Lights on the Bridge below, on the shores across the throat of the harbor, all blotted up now by darkness.

"A blackout!" Stephanie whispered, appalled. "San Francisco—blackout out for an air raid! It can't be happening!"

"But it can be," Henri said quietly at her shoulder. "It is happening."

Her fists curled deep in the pockets of her warm coat. "They wouldn't dare!"

She felt rather than saw him shrug. "But they are daring!"

"Come on. Let's walk the rest of the way to the house. We can watch the Bay better from our porch," Stephanie suggested and started off without waiting for his answer.

For a while as she stood leaning against a porch pillar, looking out over the so-familiar scene that darkness was gradually covering with its pall, Stephanie forgot about Henri. And suddenly, tears were streaming down her cheeks. Bitter, angry tears of furious defiance.

"What can they do to us?" she heard her own voice blurt angrily.

"Not much," Henri soothed calmly. "This coast is well-fortified."

Red, besides, no invading army could get close enough to do any serious damage. Not with all the big guns clustered around this harbor, for example. And down there, he pointed to the narrow opening of the Gate, "there are submarine nets under the surface, secret guns hidden on the banks. Out there," he pointed toward the vast black chasm of the ocean, "are hundreds of scouting planes, destroyers, cutters all patrolling these waters."

"Let's hope so."

"You have nothing to worry about. A country as wealthy as ours, as great as this one could not be seriously damaged."

"I wonder," Stephanie shook her head. "Maybe we have been too sure." Then—"Listen!"

Only a murmur at first, so faint that it could be something one's imagination dreamed up. Then stronger, steadily stronger. A roar of planes flying high. And flying nearer every moment.

"Planes!"

Henri laughed. "Probably American planes."

Fingers of searchlights played now against the black curtain of the night. Slim, stabbing shafts of light dwarfed by the overwhelming darkness.

"What if they are foreign planes?" she demanded. "What if?"

Henri's hand touched her arm reassuringly. "Don't torture yourself by fancied dangers. If they were enemy planes, don't you suppose American Army or Navy planes would be shooting them down? This is only a precautionary measure, Stephanie."

Still unconvinced, Stephanie's chin notched higher. Peering up at the overcast skies, she knew Henri was only trying to be helpful. This was no mock raid. This was war!

"Let's walk down to the end of the garden. We can see the foot of the bridge from there," she suggested, starting down the steps.

"Take care. You might stumble. Perhaps it would be better—"

The Light

BUT Stephanie didn't wait for his remonstrance. A moment later, she heard him following her down the gravelled path. Then, even as she shuddered with the eerie sense of being in a strange world, she was aware of a light. Leaping like a beacon ray, it stabbed the darkness from behind her.

"Where is that light coming from?" she called to Henri.

"What light?"

"There!" She ran back up the path. "It looks like one of our own bedrooms. Maybe Tsong forgot to—"

"Probably. Anyway, one light won't matter."

"Of course it matters!" She brushed past him. "It stands out like a lighthouse."

But it wasn't Tsong's forgetfulness. At the top of the slope, she stopped, staring. That light came from the Miller house! A skylight window from the attic blazed with a white light.

"Look!" she called over her shoulder to Henri. "It's at the Millers. I'm going to tell them."

Again, Henri tried to detain her. "One of the servants will discover it in a moment."

Stephanie faced him. "What's the matter with you? Don't you want that light off?"

"Certainly, if it matters that much to you," Henri smiled disarmingly. "Only I think you are making a great deal of trouble over an insignificant—"

"Maybe! And again, maybe one of those Japanese servants over there didn't leave that light on by mistake!"

Henri chuckled. "Stephanie darling, you've been seeing too many movies. Those things don't happen in these United States!"

But Stephanie didn't stop longer to argue. She raced down the drive, ducked through the hedge, across the darkened garden.

To be continued

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1230, Portland
KEX (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1510
Spokane: KGO (NBC-Blue) 810
San Francisco: KGO (NBC-Blue) 810
Portland: KJR (NBC-Blue) 820
1000, Seattle: KRX (CBS) 1070
Los Angeles: KGA (NBC-Red) 830
Denver: KOIN (CBS) 970, Portland: KOMO (NBC-Red) 930
Seattle: KPO (NBC-Red) 680
San Francisco: KSL (CBS) 1160
Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Wednesday
8:00 p. m.—Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KOW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO; Ken Stevens, KOIN; Brewster Boy, KSL.

8:30 p. m.—Dr. Christian, KSL; It Happened in the Service, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Eyes of the World, KOIN; News of the World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Harry W. Flannery, KNX.

9:00 p. m.—Eddie Cantor, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Basin Street Chamber Music, KGO, KEX, KJR; Shirley Temple, KNX, KOIN; Sports, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Dr. Cab Calloway, KGO, KEX; Mr. District Attorney, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Ransom Sherman Show, KNX, KOIN; News, KJR.

10:00 p. m.—Glenn Miller's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Kay Kyser's Musical Quiz, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Time to Relax, KJR.

10:30 p. m.—News of the World, KSL; Jean Carroll, KGO, KJR.

8:00 p. m.—Quiz Kids, KGO, KJR; KEX; Amos 'n' Andy, KPO, KGW, KOMO.

8:15 p. m.—Lanny Ross, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

8:30 p. m.—Dr. Christian, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Uncle Walter's Dog House, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Manhattan at Midnight, KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KSL.

9:00 p. m.—Paul Martin's Orch., KPO, News, KEX, KJR; That Brewster Boy, KNX, KOIN; News, KGO; Most Honored Music, KGW; Highlight Hour, KOMO; Hymn Service, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Henry King's Orch., KGO; Fred Waring's Orch., KOMO, KGW, KPO, News, KJR, KSL, KEX; William Winter, KNX; Northwest Neighbors, KOIN; Off the Record, KOMO.

10:00 p. m.—Reporter News, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Ran Wilde's Orch., KGO, KEX; News, KNX, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL; Chamber Music, KJR.

10:30 p. m.—Sonny Dunham's Orch., KGO, KOMO; Howard Beckler's Orch., KSL; Al Donahue's Orch., KPO; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Serenade, KJR; War Time Women, KOIN.

11:00 p. m.—Organ, KPO, KGW; Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KOIN, KSL; This Moving World, KEX; News, KNX, KGO; Folk Music, KJR; Evening Reveries, KOMO.

Thursday
5:00 p. m.—Death Valley Days, KSL; Eyes of the World, KOIN; Dance Orch., KOMO; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KGW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.

Use Mail Tribune west ads.

DIFFICULT DECISIONS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



WONDERING WHETHER TO GO PICK UP YOUR BASEBALL BAT FROM THE STAIRS AND THIS REVEAL THE FACT THAT YOU HAVEN'T GOT TO BED YET, OR TRUST TO LUCK THAT FATHER WON'T STEP ON IT WHEN HE COMES UP IN THE DARK, WITH DIRE RESULTS ALL AROUND

(Reprinted by the Mail Tribune, Inc.)

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Launter
2. Deep river
3. Failure
4. Gravel
5. Heraldry
6. Not strict
7. Easy exit
8. Oil of roses
9. Variant
10. Algerian sea-port
11. Dealer in race
12. Dryden clothe
13. Nine
14. Sew
15. Anything strictly true
16. Segment of a curve
17. Floor covering
18. Indian of Tierra del Fuego

DOWN
1. Title of a monk
2. Britton
3. Given to meditation
4. Decorate
5. Animal's foot
6. Guided
7. Cotton fabric
8. Rugs
9. Depend
10. Evergreen tree
11. Concerning
12. Light carriage
13. Half animent
14. Not profane
15. Mandar
16. English river
17. Character in "The Rhinegold"
18. English letter
19. Gaudy comb
20. Parody by Louis

33. Old time
34. Dismayed
35. Withstand use
36. Architectural pier

37. Male deer
38. Kind of cookie
39. Masculine name
40. Witty person
41. Foreign
42. Small blossom
43. Learning
44. Irrelevant gem
45. Writing
46. Hunting tool
47. Siberian river
48. Sava
49. Pertaining to a central point
50. Positive pale
51. Church dignitary
52. Limit
53. Chiefman's mule
54. Swamp
55. Carpenter's tool
56. Pertaining to regions near the equator
57. Ballad
58. Frequent use of a word
59. Recruit
60. Rejoice
61. Artificial language
62. Musical character
63. Rodent
64. Assistant
65. Variegated
66. Decade
67. Rugged roof
68. Summits
69. Poetic
70. Fencer
71. Slender

5:30 p. m.—News of the World, KGO, KJR, KEX; Harry W. Flannery, KNX; People's Platform, KSL; Masters of Music, KPO; Afternoon Dances, KNX; Leon F. Drews, KOIN; Streamlined Pair Tales, KOMO.

6:00 p. m.—Music Hall with Bing Crosby, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Major Bowes Original Amateur Hour, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Voice of Victory, KGO; Old Timers, KJR.

6:30 p. m.—Big Town, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Music by Bovero, KGO, KEX; Armchair Cruises, KJR.

7:00 p. m.—Al Pearce's Gang, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Rudy Vallee, KGO, KEX, KJR; Glenn Miller's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL.

7:30 p. m.—Red Ryder, KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Dorothy Thompson, KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Sur Les Boulevards, KGO, KJR; Lanny Ross, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Flowers for the Living, KEX.

8:30 p. m.—Death Valley Days, KNX, KOIN; Fanny Brice, KPO, KOMO, KGW; News, KSL.

9:00 p. m.—Buddy Franklin's Orch., News, KEX, KJR; News, Dick Rogers' Orch., KOIN; Aldrich Family, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Maudie's Diary, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Ellery Queen, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Maudie's Diary, KNX, KOIN; News, KEX; Home Offensive, KGO.

10:00 p. m.—America's Town Meeting of the Air, KEX, KGO, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KGW; News, KNX; Masterworks of Music, KSL; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Stan Kenton's Orch., KSL; Ozzie Nelson's Orch., KPO, KOMO; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; War Time Women, KOIN.

11:00 p. m.—Swing Your Partner, KPO, KGW; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KOIN; Evening Reveries, KOMO; News, KNX, KGO.

Effect of the action will be to double the production of material required for sand bags, camouflage cloth and food and agriculture bagging.

Washington, April 22—(AP)—The government ordered the cotton textile industry today to convert approximately half of its facilities to war production within the next 60 days.

Under terms of the order, cotton mills must convert specified percentages of their looms, now making various cotton fabrics commonly used in clothing and home furnishings, to production of bag Osanburg—a coarse bagging material—and bag sheetings.

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Use Mail Tribune west ads.

COTTON MILLS TO AID WAR EFFORT

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When Tokyo Played "Air Raid"



Smoke from a practice incendiary bomb rises from the plaza directly in front of Tokyo's main railway station in the pre-war Japanese air raid demonstration. Japanese civilians for several years have been trained through such demonstrations for the "real thing" in air raids, which, according to reports, came to Japan when enemy planes bombed four cities.

Air Fighter For Men "Down Under"

A deadly United States fighter plane is unloaded from a transport at an Australian port after it crossed the Pacific in a convoy which brought American troops and war supplies to bolster United Nations' forces "down under."

O'Hare, Navy Air Hero, Given Promotion and Medal by Roosevelt

Washington, April 22—(AP)—Lieutenant Edward H. O'Hare, the intrepid naval aviator who destroyed five Japanese bombers and damaged a sixth in five eventful minutes, received from his commander in chief, President Roosevelt, Tuesday, the Congressional Medal of Honor and a promotion to the rank of lieutenant commander.

Standing at attention, with his eyes blinking rapidly, O'Hare heard the chief executive read a citation which called his feat "one of the most daring, if not the most daring single action in the history of combat aviation."

Then, while the president clasped his hand, O'Hare watched his bride place the medal around his neck.

Almost inaudibly, O'Hare acknowledged his promotion, "that is very nice," "thank you very much."

Then the chief executive read the citation, which he said was more important than awarding the promotion.

48 REACH SHORE FROM TORPEDOED FREIGHTER

Norfolk, Va., April 22—(AP)—Forty-eight crewmen reached shore safely after their medium-sized cargo ship of Panamanian registry was blasted by two tor-

pedoes from an axis submarine off the Atlantic coast early on the morning of April 12, the fifth naval district announced today. One man whose name was not available was reported missing.

BRITISH RATION FUEL

London, April 22—(AP)—Hugh Dalton, president of the board of trade said today the government had decided to institute household fuel rationing with the hope of reducing domestic consumption of coal by 10,000,000 tons a year. Coke, gas and electricity will also be affected.

Burmese crude oil production in 1940 was about equal to that of Germany and almost triple that of Japan.

Oregon Delegation Finds Southerners Put Fast One Over

Portland, April 22—(AP)—The Washington correspondent of the Oregonian reported today that a \$3,000,000 phosphorus plant, tentatively located at The Dalles, apparently would be built instead at Mobile, Ala.

The newspaper's dispatch said that war department favored The Dalles' site because it had an idle 35,000 kilowatt Bonneville power line and was relatively close to phosphate sources in Idaho and Montana.

But representatives from the south inserted in the independent offices bill an appropriation for the plant to be built in the south. Then the senate passed the sixth deficiency bill and members of the Oregon delegation discovered, too late, that the appropriation had been lifted from the house-approved independent offices bill and inserted in the deficiency bill.

Parliamentarians now must decide whether the appropriation is legal, having passed the house in one bill and the senate in another.

TIRADES BY CLOSE IRRITATE CANADE

Ottawa, April 22—(AP)—The Canadian parliament has received assurances that weekly broadcasts by Upton Close, described by one house member as "offensive . . . tirades against Britain," will be toned down or otherwise dealt with.

The assurances came from J. T. Thorson, war services minister, who informed commons that complaints had been made to the National Broadcasting Co., of the United States.

NBC replied that action had been taken "which, it is believed, will be effective," Thorson said.

(Close, a California author unsympathetic with Great Britain, has been broadcasting each Sunday from an NBC station in Hollywood.)

Portland Feeling Gas Curtailment

Portland, April 22—(AP)—It took only four days for the effect of gasoline curtailment to become apparent here. "Out of gas" signs appeared this morning in several Portland service stations after deliveries to stations were trimmed by a third.

An oil company executive predicted the number of cars on the streets would drop sharply within 48 hours.



CHIEF-N.Y. Rep. Michael Joseph Kennedy is new leader of Tammany Hall, famed cradle of Democratic politics.

M'ARTHUR ISSUES FIRST REPORT ON AREA OPERATIONS

U. S. Army Headquarters in Australia, April 22—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur signaled the establishment of his new southwestern Pacific headquarters and completion of his staff Tuesday by issuing his first daily communique which embraced operations in the Philippines, Dutch East Indies and Australia.

With a staff composed largely of his aides who were in the Philippines, he also highlighted the attention he is devoting to that sector of his command by announcing that Japanese artillery firing upon Corregidor fortress in Manila bay was abating.

The big American guns firing from the island had registered telling hits upon enemy troops, his communique said, and enemy shelling and bombing was having negligible effect.

Announcing a new raid Monday on Salamaua, Japanese foothold on New Guinea, north of Australia, Gen. MacArthur said the Japanese headquarters buildings were smashed along with some hangars.

Gen. MacArthur's headquarters, which said its communique will supplant henceforth those which have been issued by the Australian government, also told of allied air attacks upon Koepang in Dutch Timor and Rabaul in New Britain.

Cuba, which formerly produced from 35 to 40 million coconuts annually now has a yield of only from two to three million.

Plans to revert to horse-drawn delivery of merchandise are being considered by many merchants in Canada.

YES... We Give You 2 Pr. Pants With Cuffs on Them GUS THE TAILOR 419 E. Main

Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen

L.I. ABNER—Step Into My Parlor



THE NEBBS—Surprise Party



By Al Capp



By Hess



By Hess



By Hess