

ALLIED POSITION NO MORE SERIOUS

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

When you see the epic stand the French poilus are making before Paris in the face of terrific odds, you understand how it is that men can cheer while comrades are dying.

This devotion and sacrifice make it possible still to record that the allied position is no more serious than it has been for days.

Indeed, the French high command having decided to withdraw to positions south of the historic Marne river, which defends the capital to the east, the defense should be considerably easier.

Stronger Line

Generalissimo Weygand's strategy apparently contemplates also utilizing the Seine, which forms a flank for Paris to the west, as a complementary defensive line, although his present front bulges out to the north of the capital.

This Marne-Seine combination would give him the first "solid" front the French have had since the Germans crushed the allied line up on the Somme and Aisne river early in the offensive. Strategically it is stronger, for the terrain makes it easier of defense.

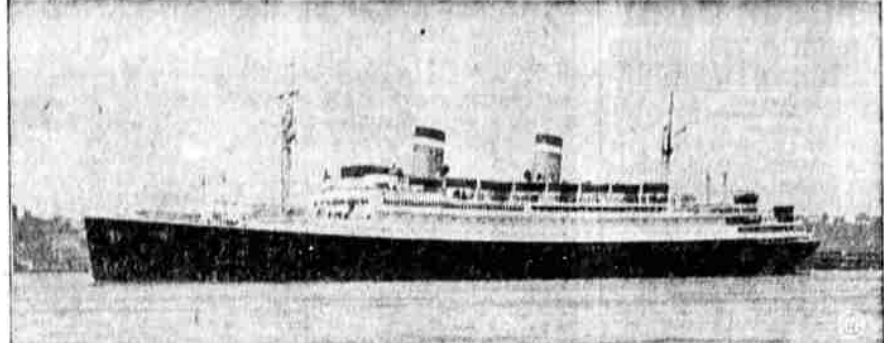
Whether the Germans will be able to force their way into the beleaguered city depends on how much their stamina has been sapped by the fury of their protracted offensive.

Halt Possible

They have the men and materials to turn the trick—but have they the reserve strength necessary? We shall have to wait and see.

If Weygand can hold not only Paris but his lines along the

U. S. Refugee Ship Threatened by "Mystery" Submarine



The U. S. liner Washington, carrying over 1000 American refugees from Europe, was halted by an unidentified submarine off the coast of Portugal and threatened with destruction by torpedoes. Passengers and crew had been ordered to lifeboats before the submarine commander ordered the Washington to proceed on its course.

Marne and Seine rivers it may be the turning point of the war.

If the Germans exhaust themselves in this assault, their position will become decidedly uncomfortable, since Hitler is believed to have thrown into this drive virtually every ounce of strength he possesses.

Even the capture of Paris wouldn't mean success for the German Fuehrer, unless in the process he crushed the French armies. Berlin seems to recognize this from a statement this morning by an authorized source who declared that the capture of Paris isn't the primary object but that "the real purpose is to crush our foes' armies completely."

Different Problem

Obviously if Weygand had to give up Paris he could retire further south to new positions and continue the fight—provided he maintained his army intact.

The generalissimo has on his hands a far different strategic problem than had the allies in 1914 when they performed their "miracle" by throwing back the Kaiser's forces on the Marne. This time the Germans have a powerful right wing which is

smashing at the allied forces from the coast along the Seine river.

Not only is Weygand in danger of having this left flank turned, but he must at all costs maintain the solidity of his right wing which is anchored to the Maginot line. Destruction of this anchor would threaten envelopment of the entire French army.

Suez Threatened

I haven't mentioned the Italian operations because, forsooth, there hasn't been much to say about them.

We shall get action in this southern war zone though, and soon enough.

The closure of the Suez canal to Italian shipping has immediately raised difficulties for Mussolini. He has depended on the canal to reach Ethiopia and his possessions on the Red sea.

One would expect heavy fighting to develop in this area.

From Belgrade and Buenos Aires come reports of student riots against one belligerent or another. Anything will do, it seems, to keep the mind off studies at final exam time.

ROTARY CLUB TO GIVE 273 BOOKS TO CITY LIBRARY

Residents of the city are attracted to take note of the many attractive children's books now on display in the United States National bank building as a part of the collection donated by the Rotary club which gave to the city library 273 new books for the Rotary section.

This is an annual gift of Rotary to the city library, and according to Enola Hawkins, librarian, the books are more attractive, beautifully illustrated, and of greater interest to that group of readers than ever before. They have been placed in the lending library and are available for the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and high school grades.

So enemy planes won't use them for landing fields, England is digging up the fairways on her golf courses. In America, this sort of thing has been going on for years.

Bone has twice the strength of oak.

Passing Through

A column of chat about Klamath visitors.

By BOB LEONARD

CELLULOID collar, gold stickpin and all, 79-year-old David Height stopped in our town yesterday on his annual trek through the western states.

"Just stopped in Chico to see a buddy," he said, "but he's 84 now and a leetle too old to be gettin' around."

Height is a perennial wanderer. He calls Kansas City his home, but spends only a few months of the year there. The rest of the time he just travels.

"Been in every state west of the Mississippi many a time," he asserted proudly. "Got over into Tennessee once, but I didn't like the country so I came back."

Height came west the first time back in the '30s. After roaming for a number of years, he settled in Sand Point, Ida., in 1900, where he pursued his profession, that of bricklaying, for a while.

"Raised a family there," said the old fellow, as he fingered his gray handle-bar mustache, "but that didn't stop me. When I wanted to go, I took 'em along."

The septuagenarian left Idaho

for good in 1925 and "settled" in Kansas City. But he's been footloose the major part of the time since. Two weeks ago a friend in Kansas City told Height he was going to California and wanted company.

"Wait'll I pack my bag," Height told him, and inside of a half-hour was on his way.

The aged wanderer limps a little now. "Was in the hospital for two weeks a couple of years back," he recalled. "Broke my jaw, my nose, smashed both hands and bashed my ankle when I tangled with a car one night."

Height left his friend in San Diego and worked his way up the coast by hitch-hiking. The "buddy" to whom he referred was an old schoolmate whom he hadn't seen for 35 years. "The old fellow wanted to talk all week," Height said, but "I couldn't stay."

Height plans on seeing Portland, Spokane, and the upper Idaho country before returning east. He has to be in St. Louis by the first of July, he said. "Only got to be there a few days, and there'll be a lot of summer after that to do some more 'travelin'."

UNMANNED BOAT MENACES FISHING FLEET AT ASTORIA

ASTORIA, Ore., June 13 (AP)—A derelict fishing boat, its motor running and trolling lines out, menaced the salmon fleet off the Columbia bar Tuesday after the operator apparently fell overboard and drowned.

The boat was checkmated after another boat maneuvered alongside and Fisherman Tapni Pippo leaped aboard the unmanned craft.

Fishermen said the diver went out yesterday morning with Alex Salmimen of Astoria aboard. They said he probably fell while

tending lines. He is the second fisherman to disappear from a boat here this season.

WEATHER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA—Fair tonight and Friday but fog on coast; little change in temperature; moderate northwest wind off coast.

OREGON—Fair tonight and Friday; slightly cooler in interior of west portion tonight; moderate northwest wind off coast.

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| 5.50x17 | 15.35 | 7.68 | 2.10 | 9.78 | 7.67 |
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