

TROOPS STILL ENCAMPED AT FORT LEWIS

FORT LEWIS, May 28 (AP)—Fort Lewis is not an abandoned army encampment now that 40,000 troops of the IX Army Corps have gone south to chase imaginary enemies over the dry California hills. Far from it!

There will be almost 12,000 troops at Fort Lewis at times during the summer. Compared to past history, the fort is still a bustling military city.

For many years after the World War, Fort Lewis had only a few hundred men—just enough to control a fire if one had ever started in the dried-out old wooden barracks.

Before the arrival of the 15th Infantry from China in 1938, Fort Lewis had only the artillery troops of the 3rd division. From that time to this, it has grown to be the home of a complete army corps of 50,000 troops.

Fort Lewis will be host to 5,000 Reserve Officers Training Corps students coming from colleges in the Ninth Corps area. These future army officers will receive a month of strenuous field training starting about the middle of June.

There were eight outfits left behind when the corps went south. Because of their late induction dates, when the day to move south came, they were found not to have finished their basic training. Many of their men hadn't yet become used to their uniforms.

BEND, Ore., May 28 (UP)—The army's heart is as soft as that of a schoolgirl.

When lead troops of the 41st Division pulled into this eastern Oregon town and piled into their bivouac area in a wheat field, trucks and men covered the area. Just before dark, in a section where mess lines were forming, a member of the 161st Infantry Headquarters Company from Spokane found a cottontail's nest with six tiny, still blind rabbits in it.

While troops crowded around to look at the squirming bunnies, a stake was driven and a yellow flag placed on it to protect the nest from marching boots and the huge wheels of army trucks. The flag will also warn truck troops following along the route to circumvent the nest.

FORT LEWIS, May 27 (AP)—The "aid to Britain" movement received a boost this week from a newly arrived Fort Lewis draftee.

The weekly meeting of the officers' wives Red Cross sewing group was in progress when a private wearing a new uniform walked in to ask if "this is the place where we can aid Britain?"

The women said no, but they were sure they could forward to the proper agency anything he wanted to donate.

Five minutes later he returned with his civilian clothes including a tailored suit in excellent condition.

"Please send these along," he said, "I wouldn't be wearing them for a long while, anyway."

EN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA WITH THE 41st DIVISION, May 28 (AP)—Proudly sporting, on dress occasions, a sergeant's stripes, Jiggs is going to California. Jiggs is not a combat trooper—he is a morale builder.

Jiggs is the 161st Infantry regiment's mascot. He's a seven-year-old, black and white Boston Bull.

The dog has been a member of the regiment since he was whelped on a picket line in the days when the 161st had mules.

"We couldn't drive him away if we wanted to," Colonel C. A. Orndorff, of Spokane, commanding officer, explains. "Jiggs is just the 161st. He's tradition."

Technically, the well-fed Boston Bull is owned by Sergeant M. O. Bonard of Spokane, regimental postmaster.

But he's the regiment's dog. A few years ago, soldiers commissioned him a corporal, hanging the stripes on his harness.

Just before leaving for summer war games, the regiment hung the three sergeant chevrons on Jiggs. The dog minces more proudly than ever now.

177 Oregon Men In 12th Draft

SAN FRANCISCO, May 28 (P)—The ninth corps area will send 2458 men into the army under the twelfth draft call between June 23 and 26.

An announcement from the headquarters of Maj. Gen. Ernest D. Peek, commander of the area, said 1504 men would be called from California, 282 from Washington, 197 from Idaho, 185 from Montana, 177 from Oregon, 71 from Utah and 42 from Nevada.

A man who weighs 200 pounds on the earth would weigh three tons if he lived on the sun.

See Any Signs of a Lost Cause in These Faces?



Grimacing empire forces show fighting spirit of Britain as they arrive at an unidentified port after bitter rear guard battling that enabled their comrades to leave Greece. Only thing seemingly lost is front teeth of chap at right.

Aerial Torpedoes Rise in Esteem As Bismarck Sunk

WASHINGTON, May 27 (AP)—Sinking of the German battleship Bismarck with the aid of aerial torpedoes revived today the controversy symbolized by the late Brig. Gen. William (Billy) Mitchell, apostle of airplane supremacy.

A British cruiser polished off the Bismarck after it had been shelled heavily by other surface craft, but two of the four torpedoes which the British admiralty credited with slowing the nazi battleship to a speed of about eight knots and holding it within range were dispatched by airplanes.

It was General Mitchell's contention that "aircraft can destroy or sink any seacraft coming within their radius of operation" and, although he has been dead since 1936, others have carried along the argument.

General Mitchell was so forthright in his insistence for greater emphasis on aircraft and less on surface vessels that he was court-martialed in 1925 for "outspoken military criticism." Today there are pending in congress resolutions to exonerate Mitchell on the ground that he

was a prophet whose words should have been heeded.

In his experiments Mitchell made targets of several captured German vessels, placing them off the Virginia capes and subjecting them to bomb attacks.

The German ships were sent to the bottom but opponents of the Mitchell school of thought were quick to point out that they were stationary and undefended. Some "big navy" men have argued that no battleship has been sunk by aircraft and that the battleship would always be the backbone of the fleet.

Through numerous congressional inquiries, Mitchell demanded that the United States build up a strong air force. As early as 1919, he told the senate appropriations committee that "an air force will certainly destroy surface navies in the future."

Presently apropos of the British use of torpedo planes against the German battleship Bismarck, Mitchell told the committee:

"We want to develop the torpedo attack. . . First line battleships today cost \$35,000,000. That is about what was asked

last year for the whole offensive air service."

On June 1, 1933, Mitchell told another committee that Great Britain would have to control the air as she did the sea "if they are going to continue to exist."

WINANT RETURNS TO MAKE REPORT

WASHINGTON, May 28 (P)—John G. Winant, American ambassador to Great Britain, will return to the United States this weekend to report, the state department disclosed Tuesday.

No other details were given but it was presumed Winant had been called home for consultation with President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull.

Winant took up his post in London about three months ago. This will be his first trip back to Washington.

SALT LAKE CITY, (P)—Whoever rifled John V. Bollwinkler's car must have grave plans for the future.

The thief took a suit, traveling bag, draftsman's tools and, Bollwinkler told police—

Fifteen sketches of a cemetery.

NAZI WARNING STILL HOLDS, SAYS WRITER

By DeWITT MACKENZIE

Nazi Grand Admiral Raeder's warning to the United States against aid for Britain perhaps would have lacked some of its emphasis had it been delivered today with Germany's proud battleship Bismarck lying at the bottom of the sea, but the issues of the moment still remain those involved in his statement.

Among other things, the admiral declared that American convoys for contraband to England would be an open act of war which would be met by the guns of the German navy if necessary. Such convoys, he said, wouldn't scare the nazi navy—a remark bolstered by the sensation sinking of the British battle cruiser Hood which went down under gunfire from the Bismarck.

Secretary of State Hull in commenting on the admiral's statement accused Germany of trying by threats to induce the United States to refrain from any real efforts at self defense. Presidential Secretary Early thought Berlin was trying to becloud Mr. Roosevelt's fireside chat tonight.

Admiral Raeder's threat was, of course, made under orders from the fuhrer, since he alone can authorize such statements. Obviously, too, it was intended partly to intimidate us and partly to try to create confusion in the minds of the American public.

Beyond this, just what did nazidom have in mind in making such a statement? Here is one case where thought reading isn't very difficult.

First off, it was an effort to stymie our aid to Britain without forcing us into the conflict. Germany doesn't want war with Uncle Sam at this critical juncture. Herr Hitler naturally would

be delighted to see us at war with Japan in the far east, so to dissipate our forces and hamper our aid to the allies, but he has all he wants on his hands already in the European theatre.

The nazi chief recognizes that in all probability he is going to win or lose the war this summer. That doesn't necessarily mean that peace will be signed so soon, but that the outcome will be determined.

He recognizes, too, that the outcome depends on American aid to the allies. Without our help Britain and her supporters cannot win.

As a matter of fact, Britain's position is exceedingly serious as she waits for our production to get going full blast to supply her with sinews of war without which she must go under. We can make it even stronger, and say that if vital supplies do not reach her in the immediate future she will be in grave straits.

No wonder then, that as Hitler presses in for the kill his great thought is to halt the American supplies which are keeping him from victory.

Thus it is that Germany not only claims conveying would be an act of war, but even asserts that our patrol system is a belligerent action. Washington takes the position that such a patrol for the protection of the western hemisphere is within the law.

Looking for Bargains? Turn to the Classified page

Only Kids Care If This Plane Factory Strikes

PORTLAND, May 28 (P)—A strike at an airplane factory here Tuesday brought no reverberations from national defense circles—the walkout was in a plant manufacturing toy planes.

Ralph W. Peoples, executive secretary of the CIO state industrial council, said a majority of

the 60 workers at the American Junior Aircraft company struck at noon yesterday for higher wages and better conditions.

A company official said, however, that plant operations were not interrupted and that not more than 30 workers were on strike.

About 5,000,000 birds once were killed annually in the United States for use as decorations on women's hats.

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