

WRITER SAYS WAR HANGS ON GRECO-BRITISH

By DEWIT MacKENZIE

The decisive engagement of the battle of the Balkans still has to be fought, and as matters now stand it likely will hinge on the Greco-British main line of defense which is being forged across northern Greece, from the Bay of Salonika to the south Albanian Port of Chimara on the Adriatic sea.

Even this may demonstrate that the Balkan upheaval is merely a phase of a far greater project which is staggering in scope. Hitler's goal after he has smashed Yugoslavia and Greece (he hopes and not without reason) is stated by the government-controlled Italian newspaper Popolo Di Roma to be the Suez canal — an announcement presumably calculated to serve some military purpose.

That is a logical possibility, as I suggested here last Saturday. It would involve the forcing of the Dardanelles by the Germans and a drive through Turkey into the Near East. This being the case, its fruition would depend on the extent of the Nazi success on the Balkan peninsula.

There's still another possibility to which British Premier Churchill called attention yesterday when he warned Russia "there are many signs that point to a Nazi attempt to secure the granaries and the oil fields of the Caucasus." Hitler might strike such a blow in conjunction with a drive into the Near East, or he might simply safeguard himself from attack in the Balkans and concentrate on the Bolsheviks for the time being.

Should the drive against the canal through the Near East eventuate we shall, in my view, find that the present axis offensive along the Libyan coast is hooked with it very definitely, strange though that seem. It is to this aspect of the situation that I wish to direct attention, especially since I have had numerous requests to explain the British Libyan retreat which has permitted an Italo-German force to reoccupy many of the fascist posts so recently conquered by General Wavell in his sensational campaign against Italian Marshal Graziani.

When Wavell early in February took Bengasi—last fascist stronghold in Libya save Tripoli—he had killed and captured so many of Graziani's men, and seized so much war material, as to render the great fascist army impotent. There wasn't a wallop left in the Italian outfit, and the menace against Egypt and the Suez canal had been removed for the time being.

Wavell found himself in the enviable position of (1) being able to go ahead and capture Tripoli, (2) employing his troops in the conquest of the rest of Italy's African possessions, or of (3) sending an expeditionary force to help the Greeks. Actually the cream of his army was sent to the Balkans.

In taking this action the British stripped the defending forces along the Libyan coast down to skeleton garrisons. Wavell did this deliberately, with full knowledge that the axis might take advantage of the position to try for a come-back.

Had he wanted to, he could have kept his troops in Libya and held the posts until the sands of the desert froze over. However, he felt that there wasn't any great menace from the axis at the time—and those troops were needed badly elsewhere.

Actually, as Premier Churchill explained yesterday, the Nazis managed to smuggle a large force of armored troops and planes through the British blockade to Tripoli, even before Wavell had captured Bengasi. Now they have struck in greater strength than the British expected so soon, and we see an axis force of some 20,000 back-tracking and reoccupying posts and cities with little or no opposition.

The only British reply has been that they are concentrating troops and will deal with the enemy when the time and place looks good.

Parents never have any trouble finding a name for a baby who has a rich uncle.

Jolly fellows tell the tale: Wieland's Bear and Wieland's Ale!



Spring Fashions

Here's a dressy sports number, cleverly styled yet inexpensive, modeled by Mrs. Charles Strader at Mode O' Day shop, 835 Main street. This frock is of french crepe, a rich looking yet practical, washable rayon. It is stone blue. The styling features the up-to-the-minute military theme, with tucked sleeve tops forming basis for an epaulet shoulder. Blouse is shirt-waist style.

Draft Headquarters Gets Big Volume of Fan Mail

SALEM, April 11 (P)—Hundreds of letters, ranging from the funny to the tragic, have been received by state selective service headquarters here, many of them written by persons who either want to locate strayed husbands or who give advice as to why there should be no draft.

In spite of many announcements that it cannot act as a missing persons bureau, selective service headquarters still gets lots of letters from persons who want to locate friends and relatives.

One of the most unusual letters was from a woman who wanted to make sure that her son-in-law would be drafted. She said he belongs to the Silver Shirts, with the result that he can't keep a job long enough to support her daughter. The lady also wanted to find out how her daughter could get her husband's army pay if he is drafted.

The woman, after saying that the Silver Shirts are fascists, said a year in the army would "free him from these insidious doctrines. He, like many others, will not want to take the medicine that will effect the cure. He has lost many jobs because of his perverted ideas.

He's willing to enlist if he gets a (officer's) commission, very typical of him to always want to start at the top."

But Lieutenant Colonel Elmer V. Wooten, state director of selective service, said he was sorry he couldn't help her. Matters of that nature are up to the local boards.

And then there was the fellow who signed up in an Oregon city for three years in the army. After three days at Vancouver barracks, he decided he didn't like it well enough to stay three years. So he went to another Oregon city and volunteered for a year, and was sent back to the army. But the local draft board, having its fingers crossed, thinks he might change his mind again, and end up in the navy.

There are many letters from wives, whose husbands have deserted them, asking that the buddies be drafted and the money turned over to the wives. A girl wrote to Wooten asking if she could join the army ambulance corps, but Wooten told her that is a man's job. Another girl wanted to be a pharmacist in the army. One woman wrote that her husband disappeared, and that

the police of many states, federal officers and newspapers were looking for him. She asked Wooten's help, but four days later, she wrote that her husband had been found.

Another woman, very much worried, asked, and got, Wooten's cooperation in preventing her neighbors from finding out that her husband was not the father of her two sons.

In 1911, the woman, who had two small sons, divorced her husband, and remarried. The sons, although not adopted by the new husband, used his name.

Wooten made the woman happy by saying the sons could register under their adopted names, rather than by their real names.

Many cards and letters, mostly unsigned, come from persons opposed to selective service.

One anonymous writer sent evidence that soldiers at Fort Lewis and Camp Murray are unpatriotic. His "proof" was that the kind of measles many of the soldiers had was German measles. A good American soldier, he reasoned, might get measles, but if he were patriotic, he wouldn't get measles of the German variety.

Whenever a newspaper prints a story about sickness at an army camp, a soldier being killed or injured in an automobile accident, or a soldier getting into difficulties with the police, Wooten gets an unsigned epistle asking him "what do you think of the selective service law now?"

Wooten still thinks that the law's all right, but even if he didn't, he couldn't do much about changing it. Congress passed it, he didn't.

HIGH SCHOOL ON WHEELS

LENZBURG, Ill., (P)—Doors to the Lenzburg high school will be locked Monday until—

The entire student body (seven boys and four girls), and the entire teaching staff (two instructors), begin a 2000 mile automobile tour of eastern states Monday for educational and recreational purposes.

"It is one of the things only a small school can do," commented Principal E. D. Stahlman.

English manikins arriving in New York preferred onions to orchids. Fortunately, the peace and quiet of America probably will take their breath away.

KLAMATH 2ND IN UTILITIES PROPERTY TAX

SALEM, April 11 (P)—Public utilities in Oregon will pay \$6,915,816 in taxes during 1941, or 16.6 per cent of the total property tax bill in the state, the state tax commission said Thursday.

Electric companies will pay \$2,699,496, steam railroads \$2,594,565, telephone companies \$905,602, water companies \$77,529, electric railroads \$77,781, tank car companies \$54,407, gas companies \$397,066, telegraph companies \$43,029.

Multnomah county will receive the largest amount from the utilities, \$2,744,390. Klamath county is next with \$425,886, followed by Clackamas with \$417,920.

Other county totals: Baker \$168,910, Benton \$53,340, Clatsop \$164,846, Columbia \$126,633, Coos \$196,485, Crook \$8210, Curry \$3984, Deschutes \$85,618, Douglas \$162,862, Gilliam \$52,108, Grant \$12,159, Harney \$40,322, Hood River \$104,862, Jackson \$232,371, Jefferson \$25,938, Josephine \$105,400, Lake \$11,362, Lane \$271,900, Lincoln \$41,736, Linn \$135,382, Malheur \$122,324, Marion \$236,498, Morrow \$77,736, Polk \$51,249, Sherman \$30,954, Tillamook \$71,791, Umatilla \$192,540, Union \$125,264, Wallowa \$30,508, Wasco \$175,649, Washington \$124,342, Wheeler \$2400 and Yamhill, \$61,720.

The country wants to defend itself, aid Britain, and stay out of the war.—President Hutchins of Chicago university.

Save 20% On Memorials

By Calling at Klamath Falls Marble and Granite Works—116 So. 11th St.—and Making Your Own Selection.

Matsu and Musso Smile Bravely



As if he had not a care in the world, Italy's Mussolini, right, does a balcony scene in Rome with visiting foreign minister from Japan, Yosuke Matsuoka. This picture was transmitted from Rome to Berlin and radioed to New York.

INCREASE ARGUED PORTLAND, Ore., April 11 (P)—A wage increase offer 50 per cent lower than demanded by 4000 CIO loggers halted negotiations yesterday between the union and the Columbia Basin

Loggers' association. The association's offer was for a 74 cent increase. Loggers had asked 15 cents.

Happiness is a state of mind your own business.

ARMY MEN PASS MILLION NUMBER

WASHINGTON, April 11 (P) The war department announced the land forces had reached an estimated strength of 1,185,600 officers and enlisted men Thursday—just 232,400 short of its June goal.

The present total represented an increase of 182,100 officers and men in the last 30 days. The army passed the million man-mark on March 10.

The announcement said the combined strength of the army was made up as follows: Regular army, officers and men, 487,000; national guard, 286,600; reserve 38,000, and selective service trainees 374,000.

MOCK BATTLE CAMP MURRAY, April 11 (P) Six thousand 41st division fantrymen rushed to battle positions at dawn today and plunged into the biggest mock battle staged since the former national guard troops were called to active service last September.

SEE MRS. HARNEY AT WHYTAL'S FOR ALTERATIONS AND REMODELING

Whytal's

ENTIRE NEW STOCK Just in Time for Easter

Coats, suits, dresses, millinery and sportswear . . . everything a woman's heart desires to make her look her finest for Easter . . . are to be found here at Whytal's, Klamath Falls newest Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Shop.

Put Your Best Face Forward In One of Our Brand New EASTER BONNETS

You will find your hat in our millinery department . . . no matter what your budget! An intriguing collection from the country's leading stylists.

\$1.95 to \$2.95

Frills Make Costume Changes! Lovely New NECKWEAR

Embroidered voiles and piques. Ornaments and sailor collars. Some with matching cuff sets. Just unpacked! \$1.00

Blilk Hosiery at 79c to \$1.15

Only \$1.35

This Easter You May Control Your Curves in Perfect Comfort!

GOSSARD Corsets

Featured at WHYTAL'S

... the garments that make the most of your figure and eliminate discomfort!

The Gossard-Dab . . . smooth as silk for the Juniors.

The MisSimplicity . . . raises the bustline, flattens the diaphragm, gracefully molds the hip.

Front Lace Corsets and Combinations . . . for the heavier figures.

Juniors at \$1.00 up Foundations \$5.00 up

Emphasis on Youth!

Striking New DENIM SLACK SUITS

A suit for every sport occasion! A material that stands a lot of roughing! The jacket has short sleeves and patch pockets. Nicely tailored, with fitted back. Color? The popular pastel blue!

Vertical Stripe SKIRT Tailored With Varsity

Kick pleats front and back. In beige and blue with gray-toned stripes. Match it and mix it . . . you have a new costume!

\$3.95

Other skirts . . . \$1.95 up

The Denim JACKET Long sleeves with the same style carried out as in our Slack Suits. In pastel blue or navy. \$1.95

The Denim SLACKS Popular belted style! Zipper side fastener. In the pastel blue or navy. \$1.95

Wooden Box

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Colognes of Quality and Distinction Opening Night\$2.00 Care Free\$2.00 Straw Hat\$1.00 Tigriss\$2.00 Je Reviens\$1.50 Intimate Hour\$2.50 Apple Blossom\$1.00 Morning Glory\$1.00 Colliwog\$1.00 Tropical Spice\$1.00 Safari\$1.00	Eau Florale by Houbigant Wisteria, Quelques Fleurs, Ideal, Carnation, Cyclamen, Gardenia Presence, Sweet Pea Only \$1.00 Ask For Your Gardenia Lelong Tic-Tac-Toe Lipstick — 3 in a Leather Kit\$1.00 Peggy Sage Color Guard Nail Polish Set, \$1.45 Value\$1.00
Colognes - Toilet Waters and Bath Powders by Richard Hudnut Yankee Clover - Violet Sec. - Threeflowers - Debut - Deauville and Carnation Just \$1.00 A Special Lelong Easter Package Containing a Dram Each of Carefree, Indiscret and Mon Image Perfume Just \$5.00	Savon Exquisite Nicely Scented Soaps 12 Bars for \$1.00
JUST RECEIVED Madame Schiaparelli's Latest Creation 3 Shocking Scented Coat Hanger Sachets 1 Dram Shocking Perfume All for \$3.75	

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