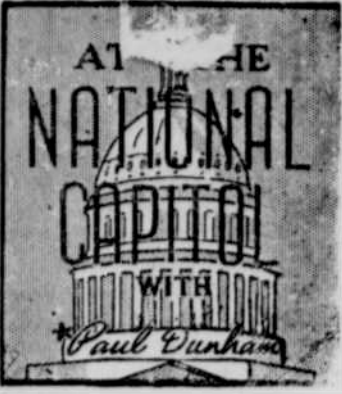




Washington, D. C., Dec. 14--In a manner of speaking, Democrats in the recent campaign made Herbert Hoover the butt of their attack, but out of the Hoover cabinet the Roosevelt administration is now using two members. The first, of course, is Henry Stimson, a Republican, who is now secretary of war, and a good one. The other member of Hoover's cabinet working for the present administration is General Pat Hurley, secretary of war under Hoover and now the ambassador to China for Roosevelt. There are other Republicans, but these came from the inner sanctum, the cabinet itself. Hurley was the war secretary when the bonus marchers converged on Washington, D. C., swarmed over the steps of the capitol building, camped in old buildings on Pennsylvania avenue and on Anacostia flats until they were driven out of town by the District of Columbia police and the troops from Fort Meyer, where two-gun General Patton performed at the society horse show.

The background of Hurley is interesting. An orphan, he grew up in Oklahoma, dabbled in oil and made a modest fortune. When he became a cabinet member the Hurleys were the handsomest couple in official circles. They were especially chummy with Andrew Mellon, the then secretary of the treasury. Mr Mellon, despite his millions (he was head man in the aluminum trust and of one of the oldest whiskey distilleries as well as being a banker), was a lonesome old man who rented an entire floor in an apartment house and there installed his collection of steel armor of knights of old and his fabulously valuable paintings. The young Hurleys delighted him. With the money he had made in oil Hurley purchased a stone building on Pennsylvania avenue and leased it to the federal power commission.

When Mr Roosevelt became president, Hurley opened a law office and once was paid a large fee for telephoning a congressional committee that a client wished to appear and make a statement. The Hurleys bought a horse estate near Bull's Bluff where Colonel Baker, then a senator from Oregon, was killed in his first engagement with the confederates. A bronze bust of Baker is in the rotunda of the capitol, sharing honors with a bust of Lincoln, but an inscription on the Baker bust says he was from California.

Washington was surprised when President Roosevelt resurrected Hurley from the obscurity to which everyone retires on leaving public office. First, Hurley was given a commission as a general and sent to Moscow as military observer but the Russians let him observe nothing. Then he flew to China for a look-see and upon his return there was a vacancy in the diplomatic service with that country and Hurley was appointed ambassador. He is still relatively young, active and enthusiastic, and as handsome as ever.

The Chinese embassy has taken pains to tell the Washington correspondents that all is sweetness and light, peace and harmony in the Chiang family, despite reports to the contrary. Chiang Kai-shek has been having family troubles with his "in-laws," who do not see China as he sees it and who prefer the democracy which the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen planned rather than the one-man rule of the generalissimo. Madame Chiang this time came to America with the statement that he required medical treatment.

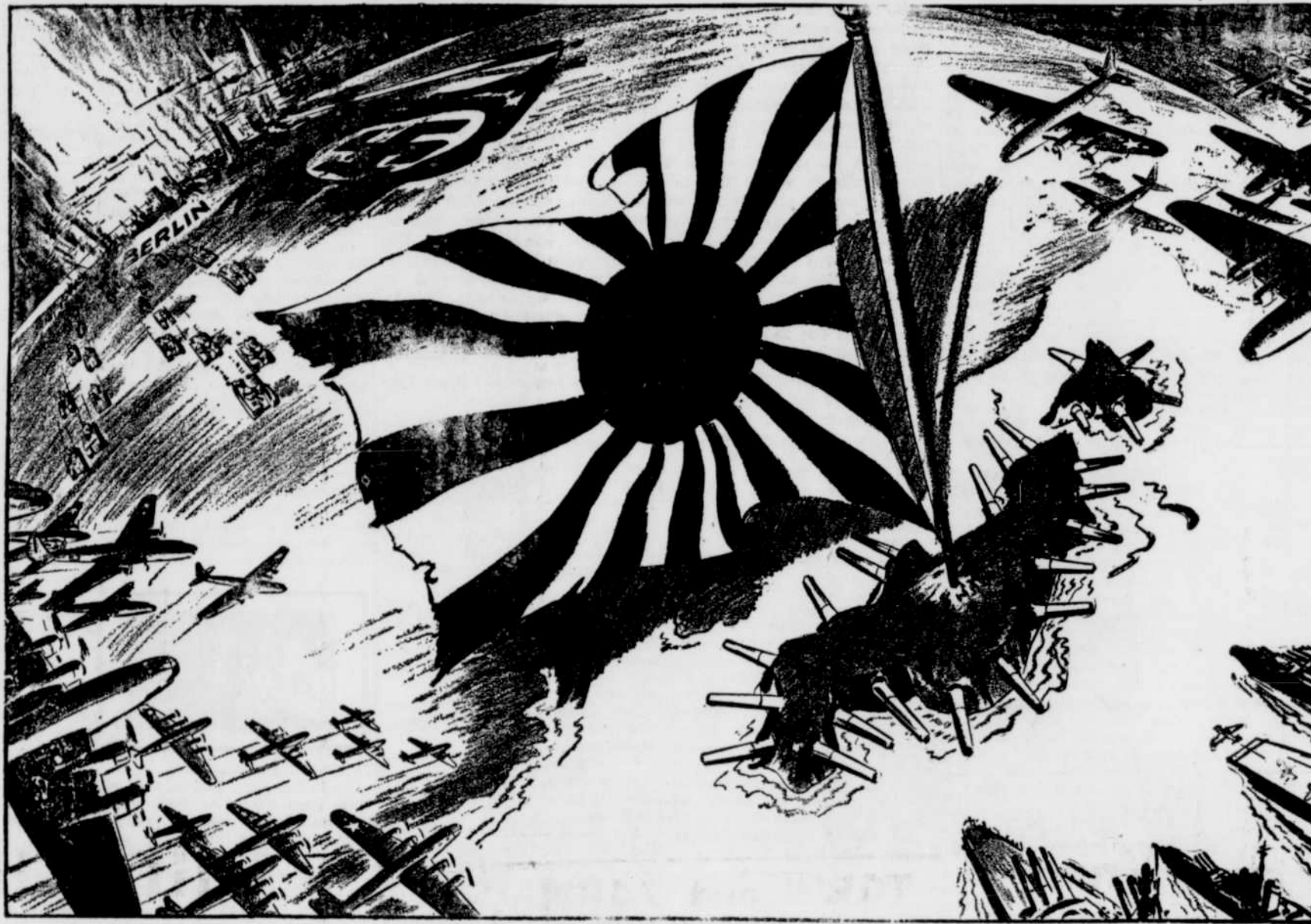
If the Chiangs have split the blanket it is too bad for the generalissimo, for it was Madame Chiang who won the friendship and support of the United States for her husband's cause. In truth, Washington observers have always regarded Madame Chiang as the brains of the family. She is not the traditional type of Chinese wife who must remain silent in the presence of her husband and be a mere chattel. Possibly her American education emancipated her from the fate of the usual Chinese wife.

The house has passed a federal aid highway bill and so has the senate, but not the same bill, and there must be a conference before the measure is fit to be sent to President Roosevelt for his signature. However, there is one feature of the bill which does not appeal very strongly to members of congress from the Pacific northwest. This provides that the federal aid offered a state must be matched dollar for dollar; not 60-40, as had previously been tentatively agreed to. The 75-25 plan was smothered. Under the dollar-for-dollar there would be one billion dollars a year spent if every state accepted the terms of the offer, and of this Uncle Sam would provide half.

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