

WASHINGTON

Calling

A Weekly Sizeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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transportation facilities have been remarkably effective. They point to signs that Turkey will enter the war; to German peace feelers; to indications of German panic.

SECOND SCHOOL: Germany still has very powerful armies. They are taking a beating in the East, of course, but the Russian supply lines are being drawn out longer and longer. That's bound to tell on the power of the Soviet drive.

The time it took allied armies to capture Caen is proof of the Germans' fighting power. We have been in France a little over a month and are behind schedule in our drive toward Paris.

It may take from three to five months for allied armies to reach the French capital. We have Cherbourg, but our forces must have another deep-water port—say Brest.

They sum up: It will not be this year but well into next spring before Hitler falls—say April, May or June.

Japanese Believed in Tough Spot

CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES, pointing out that in the Pacific we're not waiting for Hitler to fold, say our subs are sinking Jap ships in numbers far in excess of the enemy ability to replace them. Jap forces are thinned and extended even more than Hitler's.

We have absolute domination of sea and air in the Pacific. The Japanese fleet won't or can't come out, therefore it cannot supply or protect its far-flung garrisons such as Saipan, where Adm. Nimitz's forces just took control.

Next move after Saipan? Guessers here guess as follows: Why not Guam and Palau, then on to the Philippines and Formosa? Gen. MacArthur can be presumed to want to try the Philippines first, but Adm. Nimitz is on record as aiming for the coast of China.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION next week will be livelier than the Republican, but the anticipated fight over the vice presidential nomination may turn out to be significant.

ODDS now favor Wallace. (As of edition time Saturday.)

President Roosevelt's preference for the vice president as his running mate will be made known in a communication to one of the party chiefs, probably National Chairman Hannegan or Senator Jackson of Indiana, permanent chairman of the convention.

FDR's Word Powerful

WHILE the President is not expected to insist on Mr. Wallace... but to give the impression that the decision is up to the convention... it is believed his word will be powerful enough so that state leaders will hesitate to buck. Meanwhile, other hopefuls will get their trial runs, entertain their friends at fancy headquarters, get some advertising, and have their vanity tickled.

The weighting of many ambitions probably will confuse the opposition, playing in Wallace's favor. It's Wallace against the field, and some think the President cleverly arranged it this way by letting the race apparently become wide open for a time. Wallace has some 300 delegates to start with, and strength elsewhere that will uncover itself if the bandwagon gets going.

The President is said to have ruled out all southerners on this theory: If a traditional conservative of the Old South were nominated, Negro votes would be lost in southern strongholds; if a liberal southerner were selected, this would strengthen the southern revolt.

South Is Big Worry

CONVENTION will have plenty of trouble with southerners in any case. They'll make platform writing a real problem when it comes to planks on poll-tax, Negro voting, etc.

Also there are the Texas and South Carolina delegation squabbles revolving about "white supremacy," and involving the complicated electoral-college problem posed by Texas.

Leaders are expected to try, while at Chicago, to work out some solution of this problem.

Best guess on Negro plank is that it will be at least equal that of 1940, which said: "We shall continue to strive for complete legislative safeguards against discrimination in government service and benefits, and in the national-de-

Bombers Flying Beer to France

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, A. E. F., July 15 (U. P.).—Thirsty airmen in Normandy look forward now to the frequent arrival of the beer barrel bombers.

To replenish meager supplies available at the front, pilots of nonoperation fighter bombers are slinging full beer barrels onto bomb racks and flying them across the channel.

The regular barrels as they come from the brewers are equipped with a special streamlined nose to cut down wind resistance.

ROTARIANS TO HEAR COL. IRVIN TUESDAY

Indianapolis Rotarians will hear Col. George A. Irvin, infantry officer and region VI field officer for the war manpower commission, speak at 12:15 p. m. Tuesday at the Claypool hotel.

Chairman Charles I. Kenney of the Rotary sports committee has announced that the July frolic and golf tournament will be held Thursday at the Highland Golf and Country club beginning at 12:30 p. m. A dinner at 7 p. m. will conclude the festivities.

City-Wide BRANCHES Fletcher Trust Co.
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RUSS OPEN NEW POLISH DRIVE

Push Toward Lwow; Nazis Warned 'Day of Great Storm Is Here.'

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new offensive. Karl Heinz Sieghold was warning his countrymen in domestic broadcasts that the "great storm" had arrived.

"For him," he said, "it is a question of 'do or die' now to end this war. He wants to suggest to us that we are on our last legs. It is true that we have our anxieties and there are a good many things which we wish could be different from what they happen to be at the moment by force of circumstances.

"But we still are far away from throwing away the trumpets we are holding in our hands, or even from showing the hand prematurely."

Luck was captured by the 1st Ukrainian army at the climax of its thrust deep into old Poland from Kiev last winter.

Push Toward Brest Litovsk

The southeastern invasion route to Berlin runs from Lwow along the northern rim of the Carpathians to Krakow, Poland, and thence into Germany through Oppeln and Breslau to Berlin.

On the central front, the Russians launched the battle of the eastern frontiers with columns pressing directly along roads leading to Konigsberg and Warsaw.

While three columns converged on Grodno, others pressed on toward Brest Litovsk in a frontal advance from liberated Pinsk that was expected to collapse the enemy's entire defense triangle before the Bug river, Moscow dispatches said.

(Reports reaching Madrid by way of Vichy said Adolf Hitler's supreme war council had decided to evacuate Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, London broadcasts recorded by FCC monitors reported that the Germans had begun to dismount installations in the fort of Konigsberg. Civilians are crowding East Prussian railway stations and blocking roads, the broadcast said.)

Expect Grodno to Fall

Grodno, 150 miles northeast of Warsaw and 400 miles east of Berlin, was expected to fall within possibly a matter of hours.

Other Soviet armies along the embattled 450-mile front drove to within a little more than 45 miles of Bialystok and less than 55 miles from Brest Litovsk; rolled to within 26 miles from the pre-war Lithuanian capital of Kaunas, and broke into the streets of Opoczka, 29 miles north of Idrissa and 22 miles east of the Latvian border.

Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's 1st White Russian army began a frontal advance on Brest Litovsk after capturing the Pripiet marshes citadel of Pinsk, 108 miles to the east, yesterday.

On the Baltic front, Cherniakhovsky's 3d army captured Aloua, on the west bank of the Nieman river.

CITE ADMIRAL REEVES

WASHINGTON, July 15 (U. P.).—Rear Admiral John W. Reeves Jr., 56, has been awarded the legion of merit for his services as task group commander on the carrier raid on Truk atoll in February, the navy revealed today.

Mandel Killed, Vichy Asserts; Was Nazi foe

Georges Mandel

LONDON, July 15 (U. P.).—The German-controlled Vichy radio said last night that Georges Mandel, 59, anti-Nazi former French minister of the interior, had been killed while being transferred from prison to an internment camp.

The broadcast said the car in which Mandel was being transported was attacked on the road and in the scuffle that followed he was killed. The "attackers" were not identified.

Mandel, chief aid to Georges Clemenceau, France's "Tiger" of the first world war, had been imprisoned by the Germans and eventually was released to French police who ordered his transfer to the camp. He served for three years as chief cabinet secretary in Clemenceau's government.

In 1932 he became a member of the chamber of deputies and in 1938 he served a short term as minister of colonies in the cabinet of Premier Edouard Daladier.

He became minister of interior in the cabinet of Premier Paul Reynaud in 1940 and served until France fell to the Germans. He fought hard to keep France in the war against Germany and, after he failed, went to Morocco where he attempted to set up a French government.

The Nazis arrested him in Morocco and returned him to France.

PLANE CRASHES IN N. Y.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., July 15 (U. P.).—An Army C-47 transport plane crashed in a gully at Blockville, N. Y., eight miles west of here, today and several of the occupants were reported killed.

Hoosier Heroes: Lt. Kitley Killed; Robinson Missing

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Sgt. Henry E. Hapner, 433 S. Warman ave.

FIRST LT. EDWARD T. KITLEY, son of Mrs. Gladys Kitley, New Palestine, was killed in action over England July 1, after completing more than 71 missions as a pilot of a P-47 Thunderbolt.

Fifty-seven of the missions were flown as escort to huge formations of B-17 Flying Fortresses and B-24 Liberators. After the invasion started Lt. Kitley helped maintain a fighter cover above invasion troops by strafing and bombing the enemy.

On D-day he started out before dawn and flew until nearly midnight to help cover the landing of paratroopers on the coast of France and attacked ground targets near the allied beachhead.

Holder of the distinguished flying cross, the air medal, three oak leaf clusters and a number of citations for bravery, Lt. Kitley has been in the service since May 15, 1942. He received his training at Keeler field, Biloxi, Miss., and left for overseas duty in December, 1943.

He is a graduate of Warren Central high school and attended Purdue university and the Roscoe Turner Aeronautical school. He was formerly employed by the International Harvester Co.

Twenty-two, he was born in Washington, D. C., but had lived in New Palestine 19 years, since the death of his father. Besides his mother, he is survived by a twin sister, Mrs. Mildred Hendryx of Cincinnati.

CAPT. FLOYD I. ROBINSON, operations officer of a B-24 Liberator squadron in Italy, has been missing in action over Romania since June 24.

The first pilot attached to a Liberator group in Italy, he had flown over 41 missions over Regensburg, Weimer-Neustadt, "Brasov, Budapest, Toulon, Floesti and other targets.

He is a graduate of Technical high school and the U. S. Military academy, N. Y. He received his commission May 29, 1942, and arrived overseas Jan. 24, 1944.

Capt. Robinson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alva M. Robinson, 1417 N. La Salle st., and the husband of Mrs. Charlotte H. Robinson, San Antonio, Tex.

A brother, Cpl. Earl Robinson, is stationed at the marine barracks at San Diego, Cal.

HOSPITAL APPRENTICE 1-ERNEST CHARLES BUNHEING was wounded while serving on an invasion carrier. His family has received no details of his injuries but yesterday he telephoned his aunt, Miss Carrie Bunheing, 2033 Shelby st., with whom he made his home before entering the service, telling her that he had arrived in Boston.

The son of Ernest Walter Bunheing, Caden st., he entered the service last Labor day, received his boot training at the Great Lakes naval training station and went overseas in March. He is 18 and graduated from Technical high school in 1943.

SGT. HENRY E. HAPNER, air force infantryman who entered France on invasion July 1, received serious leg and shoulder wounds on June 10 and is in a hospital in England.

He served in New Guinea and Sicily about a year and was sent to England about six months ago. He is the brother of Mrs. Audrey Shiel, 433 S. Warman ave., and the son of Mrs. Nora Hapner, Hutsonville, Ill. A brother, Frank, is stationed with a radio detachment in the South Pacific.

S. SGT. JOHN W. KINNAMAN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Porter Kinnaman, 2154 N. Illinois st., has been awarded the air medal for his participation in 7th army air force attacks against Japan. He is nose turret gunner of a Liberator based in the Marshall Islands.

He has two brothers in the service. Sgt. Joseph Kinnaman is a member of the signal corps, and David is in the navy.

S. SGT. WALTER S. PARK, who has been in India for more than six months as an armor-gunner of a 10th army air force heavy bombardment group, has been awarded the air medal for meritorious achievement while participating in heavy bombardment missions totaling more than 100 hours.

Sgt. Park is the husband of Mrs. Kathleen Park, 342 Davidson st.

SECOND LT. HENRY WEBB, co-pilot of a Flying Fortress, has been awarded an oak leaf cluster to the air medal for "exceptionally meritorious achievement" in combat operations over Europe.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Webb, 5142 Madison ave., and the husband of Mrs. Violet M. Webb, also of Indianapolis, Lt. Webb has been in the service since Feb. 15, 1943. He was formerly employed by the Allison division of General Motors.

A brother, Seaman 2-c Lloyd W. Webb, is stationed with the coast guard in New York City.

TWO INDIAN MEN today were listed as dead by the navy, and one was listed as wounded. The dead are Lt. (j.g.) Joseph Wayne Oberlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Oberlin, Butler, and Cpl. James R. Sedler, husband of Mrs. James R. Sedler, Lawrenceburg. Ship's Cook Donald Arthur Lee, husband of Mrs. Margaret Louise Lee, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Rose Lee, Decatur, has been wounded.

SEVENTEEN HOOSIERS were included in today's war department list of 778 U. S. soldiers wounded in action.

Those wounded while serving in the European area are 2d Lt. Charles R. Christian, son of Charles L. Christian, Lafayette; 4th Gr. Edward J. Dobrowski, son

of Mrs. Marie Dobrowski, Whitlatch; Pvt. Albert E. Fields, son of Charles Fields, Crawfordville; Pfc. Ernest E. Lindstead, son of John Lindstead, South Bend, and Sgt. John R. York, son of Robert W. York, Hymera.

Listed as wounded in the Mediterranean area are Pvt. John M. Mallory, son of Mrs. Mary E. Mallory, Plymouth; Pfc. Kenneth L. Manuwal, husband of Mrs. Marcella Manuwal, Plymouth; Pvt. Arthur Ruiz, son of Mrs. Elodia Samano, East Chicago; Pvt. Roger K. Sammons, son of Mrs. Pearl K. Sammons, Muncie; Pvt. Sylvester W. Sayo, son of Mrs. Pauline Sayo, Michigan City; Pvt. Edward S. Varro, son of Mrs. Nancy Varro, Knox; Pvt. James E. Wicker, son of Mrs. Lelah Wicker, Greenfield; Pfc. Clifford J. Woodward, son of Charles Woodward, Evansville, and Pfc. Charles E. Woolley, son of Mrs. Cora Woolley, Monon.

Those wounded in the Southwest Pacific area include Sgt. Ernest C. Chappelow, son of Mrs. Milda Chappelow, Shelbyville; Pvt. Arthur J. Day, husband of Mrs. Margaret Day, Evansville, and Pvt. Leo E. Wheeler, husband of Mrs. Frances Wheeler, Evansville.

T. 4TH GR. WILBERT E. STOPPENHAGEN, Decatur, has been awarded the silver star for heroism on Feb. 6, 1944, when he was in command of a tank in the vicinity of Cassino, the war department announced today.

A United Press release related the story as follows:

"German infantrymen were crossing streets about 100 yards from the tank. Stoppenhagen raised his head out of the turret in face of comparatively close enemy fire and, although his helmet was pierced by a bullet, succeeded in locating and destroying an enemy machinegun which had been breaking periscope sights on the tank."

"On several occasions he emerged completely from the tank to dislodge rounds jammed in the tank gun, each time exposing himself to sniper and machinegun fire for approximately five minutes."

T. SGT. JOHN H. HILL, husband of Mrs. Wilma Jean Hill, Bloomington, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Zeke Hill, Charlestown, has been awarded the distinguished flying cross for outstanding achievement in aerial combat over Europe.

Engineer and top turret gunner of a B-17, he has participated in many major 8th army air force bombing operations ranging from attacks on industries at Berlin to assaults on military objectives along the French coast.

Before entering the service Sgt. Hill was employed by Kingman & Co., Indianapolis.

S. SGT. DOYLE L. BYERS, radio operator-gunner on an 8th army air force B-17, has been presented an oak leaf cluster to his air medal for meritorious achievement while participating in heavy bombing assaults in Europe.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Noble Byers, Bedford, Sgt. Byers was formerly employed by the Reliance Manufacturing Co., Bedford. His wife also lives there.

S. SGT. RALPH A. NILES, husband of Mrs. Betty Niles, son of Arthur Niles, both of Rockport, has been awarded the second oak leaf cluster to his air medal.

He is a tail gunner with an 8th army air force Flying Fortress group.

T. SGT. JOHN R. KNOX, engineer and top turret gunner with the 8th army air force B-17 group, commanded by Col. William B. David, Calhoun, Ga., has been awarded an oak leaf cluster to the air medal for his part in bombing attacks supporting allied invasion forces in France.

The flier is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Knox, Perryville, and before enlisting in the service, November, 1942, was employed by the Wabash River Ordnance plant.

CREWMEN OF B-29'S EXECUTED BY JAPS

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of the Japanese. The Japanese in effect was a reiteration of the earlier threat by Tokyo that any airman participating in an attack on Japan was taking a "one way ticket to hell."

Some of the B-29's, in crashing, he said, brought death to their "plundering crew," adding that other airmen had "parachuted to meet with the same fate which was meted out to the raiders of Tokyo some two years ago."

FCC monitors recorded nothing directly from Tokyo to compare with the Singapore broadcast. FCC reports of the broadcast said the speaker, unidentified, was introduced by a woman, apparently one of the Singapore station's regular announcers, who said merely that "there is a special talk."

They said the speaker probably was a Japanese and had a tendency to be oratorical, which made the speech difficult to transcribe.

FORBES TO AIR WAR AT FRONT

WFBM Newscaster Leaves For England on War Dept. Project

Gilbert E. Forbes, 4409 N. Pennsylvania st., commentator for WFBM, has accepted a European war correspondent's assignment and left Indianapolis yesterday by plane. His duties will include interviewing Indiana servicemen in France.

One of six U. S. news broadcasters chosen for front-line assignments by the public relations division of the war department, Mr. Forbes will leave New York today in a plane for England, where he expects to remain two weeks before starting his new job.

YANKS GAINING ON FRENCH LINE

Storm St. Lo, Lessay and Periers; Nazis May Be 'In Bag.'

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ing at the now quiet British end of the French front, in which Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery hoped to inflict a telling defeat on the enemy. Details were lacking.

United States assault units bending back the coastal end of the German line advanced about a mile on a four-mile front, overran five outlying villages, seized the entire north bank of the river Ay from the sea inland beyond Lessay, and hit the edge of the town itself.

At the center of the American front, other assault forces moved forward up to two and a half miles on a four-mile line, seizing four fortified villages and snatching within two miles of Periers.

A headquarters spokesman said a fierce battle for St. Lo was raging from the east, northeast and northwest.

100,000 Nazis Engaged

An estimated 100,000 German troops and tankmen along the American front faced the threat of precipitate withdrawal to more solid defenses.

Lacking details of the new drive against St. Lo, headquarters said, however, that "strong action" had been started to capture the town.

Varying their tactics of the last few days, the Americans struck out at 5:15 a. m. (10:15 p. m. Indianapolis time), in a surprise attack without the customary artillery preparations at St. Lo.

Other American columns in a general advance along a 40-mile front from St. Lo to the west coast threatened to split the German line into three segments.

CAPT. NEFF MOVED TO KENTUCKY SCHOOL

Capt. Albert Neff, former assistant professor of military science and tactics for Indianapolis high schools and for eight years an R. O. T. C. instructor at Shortridge high school, has been transferred to Owensboro, Ky., where he will be P. M. S. & T. of the city schools there.

With 29 years service in the regular army, the infantry officer has included duty at Ft. Harrison. His wife lives at 342 N. Meridian st. and will join him later at Owensboro.

FIRE DAMAGES DWELLING

A fire of unknown origin burned one room and did considerable smoke damage to a two-story frame dwelling at 728 N. Delaware st. early this morning. No estimate of the damage has been made.

Big Demand Here Develops Sellers' Market in Homes

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since the war. They brought the vacancy rate close to zero. And, because so many of these new people got good war plant jobs, they could afford, and did buy, homes.

As the "For Rent" columns in the newspapers shrunk to almost nothing, it became increasingly harder to rent apartments or homes where children were permitted. Landlords whose profits were limited by rent ceilings wouldn't rent to families with children because maintenance costs were higher. The result was that many families had to buy a home to have a roof over their heads.

Jump at Chance

Others who had always wanted to own a home of their own, or to have a better one, but had always been a little short of cash, jumped at the chance to buy. Some figured they might break even, or better, by buying instead of paying rent, hoping to get out of their house as much as more than they put in it when the war boom ends.

Another source of demand comes from tenants who have had the house they were renting sold from under them. Some of these were "spite" sales, done to get rid of a tenant. But many were traceable to the refusal of the OPA to allow the owner to raise the rent.

OPA records show that out of every 10 cases where a property owner is denied permission to raise the rent, a petition for eviction follows in seven or eight cases. Many tenants don't want to fight an eviction notice in court, just hunt for another place instead.

Some of the demand has been increased through changes in OPA regulations obtained by real estate organizations. For example, in the beginning of OPA control, a buyer was required to make a one-third down payment on a home. After vehement protests by real estate boards who realized this would prevent many sales, the down payment was reduced to 20 per cent.

Recording of Deeds Up

If the peak has passed, it has not shown up yet in the number of deeds being recorded, which is probably the most accurate measure of sales. More deeds have been recorded in each month this year than in the comparable months of last year.

That many homes are selling for cash is shown in the number of mortgages being made. Although 1434 homes were sold this May, only 788 mortgages (under \$20,000 each) were recorded, a smaller proportion than earlier in the war.

What will happen from here on is anybody's guess and few will venture an opinion. The National Association of Real Estate Boards expects "prices to stiffen further in 78 per cent of the 376 cities surveyed and maintain the present level in 98 per cent."

Some government officials are viewing the situation as one leading to trouble. In a recent visit here, FHA Commissioner Abner H. Ferguson said, "With over-lending and over-buying at high prices, it is hard to see any result but ultimate crash, wholesale foreclosures, new mortgage moratorium laws, a new HOLC to bail out lending institutions, with the final losses paid eventually by the taxpayer."

Enthusiastic realtors, however, see a continuous good demand for homes, basing their hopes on a belief that post-war building costs will be higher, and on the likelihood of sales to returning servicemen assisted by government credit and a prosperous era in general for several years.

More Changes Made

Further changes were made in the law recently. The director may order an eviction with less than the previous three-months waiting period, depending on the individual merits of the case and the landlord's request. Moreover, the waiting period starts when the owner files the eviction petition with the OPA, not from the date the certificate of eviction is issued by the OPA, which is often several weeks later. The 20 per cent down payment no longer need be in cash although it must be secured by real estate and cash equal to the sum.

If the real estate salesman can get the property vacated sooner, it will be easier for him to make favorable sales.

Real estate brokers are making good money. Sales are good, so are prices. "But why shouldn't we?" one salesman said. "We had some mighty lean years in the depression."

Deny Responsibility

They are quick to deny, however, that they are responsible for the increase in prices. The majority make 5 per cent commission. Selling a higher-priced house means a higher commission, of course. "But if our list price is very far out of line with the general market, it takes more time and effort and expense to sell it," one broker said.

"And with sales the way they are today, it just isn't worth the trouble. It's more important for us to get out and get the houses listed for sale. Getting customers is easy. We have to get the houses."

Landlords here are using the OPA virtually as a rent collection agency, according to OPA officials who cite figures to show that more evictions are sent out here than in cities of comparable or even larger size. In March this year 1876 evictions notices were sent to local landlords. OPA records show that during the same month Cleveland landlords sent out only 674, Cincinnati 714, Columbus 407, Grand

Nazi Laments at Size of Materiel

By B. J. McQUAID

Times Foreign Correspondent

WITH U. S. FORCES, in the La Haye-du-Puits sector, July 12 (Delayed).—"It is unbelievable what quantities of ammunition the American enemy employs to prepare his attacks. It puts to shame everything we have seen, including those of us who served in Russia."

You can feel almost sympathetic understanding for the German officer who wrote these words in a letter home after you have spent a day wandering about our artillery positions on this fluid La Haye front.

You also have a new insight into the reasons why the Germans fear American long tons and howitzers more than any other weapon.