

SUPPLY NEEDS GREAT IN FRANCE

Lack of Equipment Seen As Big If in Winning Campaign.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS
Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—A general German withdrawal both in France and the Balkans—a retreat comparable to that along the eastern front—has become a distinct possibility.

Now that Gen. Eisenhower's forces have broken out of the Normandy bottleneck, the western front may soon be stretched to such a length that the Germans will not be able to find reserves to defend it.

Failure to contain the allies within the Cherbourg peninsula is comparable to the failure to capture Stalingrad. That is why the Nazis fought so desperately.

Unless the Germans withdraw from western and southwestern France to more defensible positions—such, for example, as the old Maginot line—they may soon find themselves exposed to precisely the same sort of blitz as that which overthrew the French, the Belgians and the British when the show was on the other foot, back in 1940.

Turk May Enter War

In the Balkans they face a similar predicament. The Turks may enter the war any time.

A pinched movement, therefore, from the direction of Turkey on one side and Yugoslavia on the other, would imperil the entire front through Europe.

As in France, the alternative would seem to be a retreat perhaps as far back as a line from Trieste, through the Iron Gate of the Danube to the Carpathians.

As in Russia after Stalingrad, however, the Germans will have to be prodded. They will require the same hammering they have been receiving for several months—and then some.

More ships, more planes, more tanks, more munitions of all kinds will be needed.

The war has entered its decisive phase. Our opponent is groggy.

We Can Land K. O. Punch

We can land a knockout of we have the punch.

But if we ease up, even for a single round, he may get his wind back and once more place the outcome in doubt.

It is no longer a military secret that the allies intend to apply the Foch technique—the plan that licked the Kaiser.

In 1918, Marshal Foch hit the Huns on the Marne, pounded them in Picardy and in the Argonne. He shelled their lines of communications and bombed them in their rest billets. He never gave them a minute's peace.

"How," Von Hindenburg complained afterwards in his memoirs, "can you expect troops to fight—even when they are as good as our own lords of the battlefield—if they are never allowed to rest?"

Hard on Attackers, Too

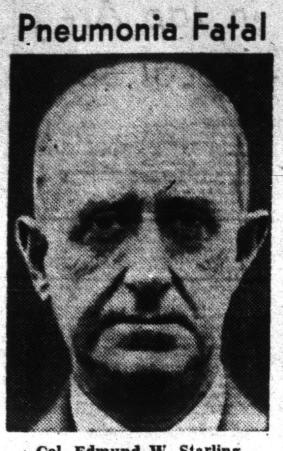
But the Foch technique is almost as hard on the attackers as it is on those attacked. And certainly it requires far more in the way of assault equipment.

On board our LST between England and France, I talked with many of our sailors. In Normandy I did the same with our ground and air forces. Everywhere it was the same. Everyone of them wanted to get it over quickly so they could go home.

To do that, they were working and fighting around the clock, eating their K-rations or whatever food came to hand, and sleeping in their clothes if and when there came a lull.

Now did they have to be driven. Universally and spontaneously, they sensed they had a job to do and the quicker they did it, the better.

The thing that gripped them most was the news of strikes and other production slowdowns over here. They knew that without proper equipment the war would be prolonged and with every extra day it lasted, just that many more of them would never go home.



Pneumonia Fatal

MANNERHEIM IS FINN PRESIDENT

Unanimous Election Is Seen As First Move Toward Peace.

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—The Finnish Riksdag unanimously elected Marshal Baron Carl Gustaf Emil Mannerheim president of the republic today, culminating a portentous government shakeup that was expected to take Finland out of the war.

Mannerheim's election was voted by the Riksdag at a perfumery session that lasted only a few minutes, after which the deputies adjourned until mid-afternoon when Mannerheim was to be sworn in as president.

Members of the outgoing government of ex-President Rytila Rytila and Premier Edwin Linkomies will submit their resignations to Mannerheim at the oath-taking ceremony, after which he may announce the names of his new government.

Reports that Russian and Finnish representatives already have begun peace negotiations appeared premature, since the new government would have no authority until it has been sworn in.

However, reports that small German forces have begun evacuating southern Finland gained more credence.

WITNESS FINED FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR

Walter J. Tharp, 817 N. Decatur, grocery operator, was fined \$50 on a contempt charge yesterday after a hearing before Judge Robert C. Baltzell.

Tharp, who failed to appear when subpoenaed as a witness in a recent OPA case, told Judge Baltzell that he forgot to report in court because of urgent business.

"The fine will give you something to think about before forgetting to appear next time," the judge said.

A request for probation for Homer Jackson Boren of Central City, Ky., was revoked. Boren was sentenced to a year and a day in federal prison several months ago when he was convicted of transportation of a stolen automobile across state lines, but the sentence was suspended. He violated probation recently in Evansville when he was convicted of petty larceny in a purse snatching case.

In other court actions Warren C. Stanley of Dayton, O., who was charged with violation of the national motor vehicle theft act, was ordered removed to the eastern Kentucky federal court for trial.

The case of Forrest E. Smith of Terre Haute, charged with transportation of a stolen automobile across state lines in 1942, was referred to the probation department.

Judgment was withheld on Smith's case in 1942, but later he was convicted on a charge of theft of an automobile in Terre Haute. He recently was released from the state reformatory after serving a two-year term.

Guard for Three Decades

Mr. Hoover had been in touch with Starling's condition throughout his illness, as had leading national officials and other friends including Gen. H. H. Arnold, head of the army air forces, and J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the federal bureau of investigation.

Starling was a White House guard for nearly three decades. He guarded Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Mr. Hoover and Mr. Roosevelt.

Starling was an incredible pistol shot and could keep a tin can tumbling 40 feet in front of him as he shot from the hip. His southern drawl was gently disarming.

To him all men but highest officials were "pard-n'er," and his range of friendships ran the gamut from bootblacks and paperboys to the kaiser.

Talks to King, Queen

When King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of Britain came to the United States in 1939 the king said to him one day:

"I understand, colonel, that you knew my father."

Starling didn't bat an eye.

"I did, sir," he said gravely, "and if you make one-half as good a king as yo' addy, you'll be all right."

Starling had much affection for Calvin Coolidge and referred to him as "the little fellow." He taught him to fish.

HOTEL PYROMANIAC FACES LIFE TERM

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—George Holman, 49-year-old Negro cafe owner, faced life imprisonment today following his conviction on 22 counts of murder as the pyromaniac who set the fire in New Amsterdam hotel fire that claimed 22 lives last March 27 in San Francisco's worst disaster since the 1906 earthquake and fire.

A superior court jury of seven men and five women returned the multiple convictions late last night after deliberating for 7½ hours, and recommended that Judge E. P. Murphy sentence Holman to life imprisonment.

WAR ANALYSIS

Allies Begin to Fight Battle Of France on Own Terms

By LUDWELL DENNY
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

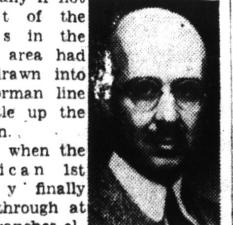
WASHINGTON, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—The coast guard celebrated its 154th birthday today with tributes from Adm. Ernest J. King, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and its own commandant, Vice Adm. Russell R. Wescche, who revealed that 60,000 coast guardmen are now directly opposing the enemy in every major war theater.

The coast guard dates back to Aug. 4, 1790, when Congress created the revenue-marine service, later the revenue-cutter service until 1915, when it was blended with the life-saving service into the coast guard. Its largest regular armed vessels today are 327-foot cutters carrying 5-inch broadside batteries. It is the oldest armed sea force in the western hemisphere.

200 HAWORTH BOOKS GIVEN TO BUTLER

Nearly 200 books from the historical collection of the late Paul Haworth, former head of the department of history and political science at Butler University, have been presented to that school by his wife, Dr. Roy M. Robbins, present department head, announced today.

An author in his own right, Mr. Haworth's collection numbers many volumes on United States and European history, government and world affairs. He was on the Butler faculty from 1922 until his death in 1938. Mrs. Haworth makes her home at West Newton.



Mr. Denny

able not only to swing several columns east to outflank the enemy's Norman line but also was free to hurl two columns across Brittany, one west and the other south.

This westward thrust has sealed off the secondary port of St. Malo and rolled well beyond Dinan on the Brest road. Even more spectacular has been the successful race southward to Rennes, which now continues in the direction of the Loire bases of St. Nazaire and Nantes.

Rennes, as the transportation hub for the Breton peninsula, is of strategic importance whether the fighting swings west toward Brest or south to the Loire or east toward Paris.

The reason American troops are racing in the opposite direction from Berlin—southwest instead of northeast—is clear enough. They of a giant hook toward Paris.

Talk With Stalin Pleases Polish Exile Premier

MOSCOW, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—Stanislaus Mikolajczyk, premier of the Polish exile government, emerged in excellent spirits but non-committal from his first conference with Premier Marshal Josef Stalin early today.

Mikolajczyk carried with him from the Kremlin a batch of typewritten sheets, but there was no indication whether they contained Soviet proposals or merely constituted a report of the conference.

The Nazi request followed Turkey's break with Germany Wednesday. Apparently emboldened by Turkey's successful defiance of Germany, the three Balkan satellites rejected the proposal out of their traditional friendship for their Balkan neighbor, it was said.

Most sources here believed Bulgaria, and ultimately Hungary and Romania, would attempt to withdraw from the axis orbit and make peace with the allies.

Under Artillery Fire

At the same time, it was possible that at this initial session Mikolajczyk only expressed his hope that a solution could be found to the Polish problem and Stalin re-stated his desire for an independent Poland.

There were no indications of the next steps on Mikolajczyk's agenda, but observers here believed he must reach an understanding with the new Polish Committee of Liberation, which Russia has recognized as the civilian authority for liberated areas of Poland, before coming to any agreements with the Soviets.

Mikolajczyk's conference with Stalin began late last night and lasted for two and a half hours.

HERSHOLT TO HEAD MARK TWAIN GROUP

ROCHELLE HUDSON ADOPTED BY INDIANS

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—Jean Hersholt, film and radio player, is the new president of the Mark Twain Association of America, succeeding the late George Ade, Indiana humorist who died recently.

Hersholt recently was re-elected president of the America-Denmark relief and the Motion Picture relief fund of America.

Rochelle Hudson will be privileged to visit the Kawas reservation site in the Jacinto mountains near Palm Springs.

HINT SATELLITE REBUKE TO NAZIS

ANKARA: Hears 3 Balkan Nations Refuse to End Turkish Ties.

ANKARA, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—Private reports reaching Ankara today said Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania have refused a German request that they sever relations with Turkey.

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Nazis Fall Back To River Mile From Florence

ROME, Aug. 4 (U.P.)—Triumphant British troops cracked through the German hill defenses southwest of Florence today and battered the retreating enemy back to their last natural defense line astride the narrow Ema river, only a mile from the city's edge.

Veteran New Zealand infantrymen tore open the bristling Nazi lines late yesterday.

Official reports said the Germans were bracing for a last bloody stand on the Ema line, but allied cannon already were pounding the Arno river crossings behind them and the fall of the great Renaissance art center appeared imminent.

Under Artillery Fire

(The German DNB news agency said Florence had been under violent artillery fire since noon yesterday and asserted allied shells were crashing into the heart of the city.)

Headquarters spokesmen said the fanatical German defense of Florence already had cost the enemy 5000 prisoners, in addition to thousands of killed and wounded, forcing them to bring in strong reinforcements from other fronts, including at least one veteran division from Poland, before coming to any agreements with the Soviets.

Musaffer Goker, Turkish ambassador to Japan, visited Kurhara Wednesday preparatory to departing for Tokyo the next day.

MRS. BRUNO TO HEAD MARGHERITA SOCIETY

The Queen Margherita society has elected Mrs. Philomena Bruno as its new president. Others named

are:

Mrs. Rose Margherita, vice president; Mrs. Anna Neri, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Edith Detraine, financial secretary; Mrs. Frances Navarro, treasurer; Mrs. Rita Redding, publicist; Mrs. Betty Maez, house guest; and Madeline Providence Sansone, Marie Mortacci, Carl Gatti, Josephine Calabrese, Flora Gammaro and Anna Maddalena, trustees.

CARD PARTY SLATED

Sahara Grotto's Revellers auxiliary will sponsor a public card party

Tuesday night at the Fountain Square hall.

BAND AND CHORUS ON BROOKSIDE PROGRAM

Selections by the Murat Temple Shrine band and vocal numbers by the Murat Chanters will feature a program at 8 p.m. Sunday at Brookside park.

The band will play "Stars and Stripes Forever," "Panamerican," "Blue Danube," "Army Air Corps

FRIDAY, AUG. 4, 1944

March," "Light Cavalry," "Sally Trombone," "March Militaire II," "Intermezzo," "Raymond" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

The Chanters will offer "Where My Caravan Has Rested," "This Is My Country," "Annie Laurie," "Lift Thyne Eyes," "Dreamland," "Deep In My Heart," "One Alone," "A Little Close Harmony," "Land of Hope and Glory" and "Service Medley."

A community sing will be led by Earl Davis following the regular program.

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