

WASHINGTON Calling

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

(Continued From Page One)

do we expect to see. United States foreign policy emerge any more sharply and clearly. More improvisation as the occasion arises is our guess.

Chances Good for World League

IF A UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION is formed this year—and we believe the chances are good—we predict Senate ratification. We do not expect Congress to vote for ratification of future treaties by a majority of both houses. It will stand by the old constitutional rule, ratification by two-thirds of the Senate.

Chances are good that something close to the oil industry's version of Anglo-American petroleum treaty will be submitted to the Senate, in lieu of one now pending, which industry vigorously opposes. If industry approves final draft of new pact, chances are the Senate will also.

But senators, government, and the industry all want to know more about Russian oil plans, especially in Romania and Iran. Some effort will be made to get Russia to join international agreement soon.

We look for preliminary conversations on cartels to start this year between the United States and other nations.

DOMESTIC OIL SITUATION will continue tight, probably through the year. Increased commitments in Europe and the Pacific make this inevitable.

Tighter Belts for Civilians

CIVILIANS WILL have to tighten their belts, more than in any of the war years. There will be enough to eat, but not so much of Americans' favorite foods.

There'll be less meat, poultry, butter, evaporated milk, fresh vegetables, and perhaps lard, during the first quarter. But there'll be more fluid-milk, American cheese, fruit other than citrus. There'll be enough eggs and fish.

Food supplies (except perhaps potatoes and butter) will be up to 1935-39 levels, but demand now is greater.

As for rationing it will get worse before it gets better. Don't expect relaxation of any important controls this year. We had our fight before election; now we'll pay.

MANPOWER CONTROLS will be tightened. By-passing of Paul V. McNutt, and resignation of John Lord O'Brian as general WPB counsel are straws in the wind. (New WPB policy will be to crack down on non-essential users of essential manpower.)

But baseball probably will be played as usual in 1945; also football.

Harder to Travel

LOOK FOR steady deterioration in the transportation situation—civilian automobiles, railroads, trucks.

There'll be no change in taxes—and this will be the first Roosevelt year without a new tax law.

We're skeptical about the outlook for a unification of labor agencies in the labor department.

But we look for increased agitation on the question of an annual wage for labor; increased interest from employers—now that Eric Johnson has taken the lead.

Chances are the social security extension program will be split and there's a good possibility old-age and survivors' insurance will be extended.

New Labor Secretary?

PREDICTION by a man who knows them well: Only the Sewell Avery means of locomotion will take Secretaries Ikes and Jones out of their respective cabinet offices.

Perkins' resignation hinges on the fact that no one is particularly anxious to succeed her.

Latest possibilities for that post: Rep. Ramspeck (D. Ga.) and William M. Lelssner. Don't lay any heavy bets on either.

DON'T LOOK for any great amount of harmony in either political party. It's not the cards, despite such efforts as Republican "harmony" meeting, called for next month.

Dewey and Bricker both will be active getting ready for 1946 races, with an eye on 1948. Stassen and, with an eye on 1948.

REPORT GREEK KING TO ACCEPT REGENCY

(Continued From Page One)

conference in Athens was expected later today.

King George conferred last night with Churchill a few hours after the prime minister returned from Athens and immediately after a British cabinet meeting.

Abdication Hinted

Some observers suggested the possibility that King George might abdicate rather than accept a regency. That appeared to be ruled out, however, by the report that he had agreed to the British demand.

What concessions, if any, he obtained in his conference with Churchill were not known. The king was understood to have sought a regency council instead of a single regency.

In Athens, meanwhile, the E. L. A. S. command sent Churchill a message through Lt. Gen. Ronald Scoble. Some reports said the message suggested a truce.

Small Boy Carries Note

The E. L. A. S. note to Churchill was delivered to Scoble by a small boy. He carried it in an unsealed envelope to a barbed-wire barricade, where a British courier took it.

Scoble sent back an acknowledgment of its receipt in the same manner.

United Press Correspondent

'I DIDN'T WORRY AT BASTOGNE...'

'We Were Just Too Busy to Feel Sorry for Ourselves,' G. I. Says.

(Continued From Page One)

with clouds down around your finger tips.

There wasn't a hell of a lot of the enemy in the town, but they were waiting for us on high ground outside with tanks and artillery.

I didn't get a good look at the Krauts. We had to squat there taking plenty of artillery. It got under our skin, I tell you. Those damned Germans can sure use those 88s. We just squatted and swore.

Shells Bounce

That night we crouched in our holes and listened while the Germans came out in a fog and moved about in a circle trying to locate us. Every now and then, a shell bounced our way and some Joe muttered:

"This might be worse than Carpentier or Eindhoven."

We didn't worry because we were too busy to worry.

On Dec. 20 we fell back inside Novelle and those Krauts came after us with their tanks hammering first one way and then the other.

It was plenty tough, I tell you. We looked in the skies for planes but we knew the weather was too bad for them to come.

That night when we went to bed we said:

"Tomorrow we will get some planes and then things will change."

Then the Germans cut in behind our battalion and we became a pocket within a pocket. And it looked like the jig might be up.

But I tell you we didn't worry on account of we were too busy to worry.

Pocket Within a Pocket

On Dec. 21 we figured the first thing we better do is quit being a pocket within a pocket—anyhow I guess that's what our officers figured. Me, I didn't have much to do with it.

We got behind some halftracks and butted our way a mile and a half south into Foy. For some reason those Krauts didn't fight too hard but let us get past.

I guess they figured they would get us later.

On Dec. 22 we really got clicking. The weather still was too bad to get any air support.

We said to hell with it and went ahead.

I got my light machine guns set up firing on Krauts in the woods just outside Foy.

I tell you it was slaughter. I never saw such a thing in my life before.

I guess they weren't the best type of German soldiers because they seemed to know what they were doing and we just sat there and pumped bullets into them.

It made us feel good to see them hit the ground and bounce or collapse holding their sides.

Every Dead Jerry

We ain't too bloodthirsty but we knew we were encircled and every Jerry dead was one less for us to fight later.

Dec. 23 we got our first air support and boy were they beautiful things. We laid there and watched those heavies glinting in the sun and we said:

"We knew you would come."

After that we really felt good despite the fact that Jerry still pounced us with artillery fire. Like I said before, mister, we didn't worry, see, because we were too busy to worry.

On Dec. 24 they really made our noses bleed.

They didn't bother us too much in the daytime but they came over that night and let go with everything they had.

Most of it fell away from the building where I was under cover but you could hear those planes ranging upstairs like they were not planning to go anywhere else all night.

We were not too upset though because we were getting air help, too and we figured we would pay them back when daylight came.

Serious Threat

On Christmas day the Jerries made their last serious threat. They smacked through west of Bastogne and we didn't have a chance of getting out.

We came at them with all we had, sending out patrols and half-tracks. Our artillery bagged four tanks and we felt a little more scared than before. I guess it looked like we might be cooked.

But we just kept popping away and, hell we had air on our side. You should have seen those planes. Boy they were wonderful.

Then on Dec. 26 about 6 p. m. we heard good news. Some guy came through the door saying:

"Hey, you guys, 15 American Shermans and five light tanks just broke through into town. What do you know about that?"

We all sat down and looked at each other and for the first time I realized how much weight we had been carrying around. It lifted all of a sudden and nobody said much but you could tell how light they all felt.

When those armor guys saw us they asked:

"Were you guys worried and afraid we wouldn't come?"

We said:

"Hell, no, we didn't worry. Buster. We were too busy for that."

SEE BIG ATTENDANCE AT SAHARA'S PARTY

More than 1000 reservations have been made for the annual Sahara Grotto New Year's eve party tonight at the Grotto Hall.

The party will be a farewell tribute to Frank Haugh, outgoing monarch, and will begin at 10 p. m., continuing to 2 a. m.

Lydia Williamson and her orchestra will play for dancing in the Persian room and Charles Spoon and his band will play in the Mokhama room.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

'Fearless' SS Troops Quake Under American Artillery

(Continued From Page One)

out and he wound up a prisoner in the hands of S. S. infantrymen, who drove in behind the armor to hold Manhay for the Jerries.

Within 24 hours, however, remnants of the battalion of which Allen's company was a part, had rallied and retaken high ground 2000 yards north of the town. From this point they began directing concentrated artillery barrages on it.

Allen's captors had put him under guard in a cellar in the center of the village. Soon the Kraut was jammed full of S. S. men taking refuge from the shelling.

Terrified Krauts

They were the most terrified lot of Krauts you ever saw," Allen said. "I had often heard prisoners say how terrified they were of our artillery. It was interesting to watch these statements verified under laboratory conditions.

"They literally shook with fear. Every once in a while a handful of men would muster courage enough to go up into the street during a lull.

"But then the shooting would start again and back they would come, quaking.

"I was so fascinated I forgot my own predicament and just sat back and enjoyed the spectacle."

At length, during a rather prolonged lull in the shelling the Germans decided to evacuate the village.

"So I just left him there and wriggled along on my belly, wondering if he would change his mind and shoot me in the back.

"The shelling started again and I looked around and there came the Kraut, crawling along behind the company's facilities in Chicago, Detroit, St. Paul, Minn., and Jamaica, N. Y.; Portland, Ore., and San Rafael, Cal.

The plants were taken over because of the firm's failure to comply with war labor board directives on wages and maintenance of membership.

Meanwhile, Federal Judge Philip Sullivan set Jan. 8 for a hearing on the government's petition for an injunction restraining the company from interfering with war department operation of the seized plants.

Sullivan said, however, that if it was warranted, the government could request an earlier hearing.

Becomes Personal Battle

The fight over the seizure was turned into a personal battle between President Roosevelt and Avery yesterday. The 70-year-old head of the mail order firm accused the President of seizing the property of "some but not others," who defy the WLB.

"If the President can, as he pleases, choose among those who refuse the mere advice of the government and seize the property of some, but not others, the nation no longer has a government of law," Avery said.

Execution of the Doolittle fliers and the "Death March of Bataan" after the fall of the Philippines drew from this country probably the strongest protest of the war.

Chief Clifford Becker and the police promotion board today continued to give fine-tooth comb treatment to applications for seven coveted posts in the reorganized police radio division.

Twenty-nine policemen now have applications before the board. Final choice is expected to be made at the safety board meeting Tuesday.

The positions were created under the 1945 budget which goes into effect Monday.

They carry pay increases to compensate for the disadvantages of radio work, long considered one of the most tedious jobs in the department.

The post of desk lieutenants will pay \$3240 per year, compared with a field lieutenant's salary of \$2875. Dispatchers will be paid \$2820 against the former salary of \$2875.

List Members of Class

Members of a class of 40 police who recently completed a radio course and who are seeking lieutenancies are Sgt. Richard Jacob, Robert Murnan, Michael Smiley, Raymond Gish, Joseph Adams, Erwin McClain, Jacob Alkire, Forest Watson and James Langford, and Lt. Leolin Troutman and Roy McAuley.

Candidates for dispatcherships are Patrolmen Harry Hammond, Howard Owens, Howard Hunter, William Reed, Clarence Lohman, Francis Schmidt, Joseph Bronner, William Gorton, Charles Lawrence, John E. Hart, Roy Smith, Arthur Hueber, James R. Gates, Chester Timmerman, Paul Whiteside, Carl Mitchell, John Jones and Edward Brown.

Draws Armor Back

At most points on the northern and northwestern wall of the salient the Germans were reported replacing their tank units with Elite guards, infantrymen, drawing their armor back into the center of the pocket.

Only on the southern and western flanks and in the Rochefort area were the Nazis believed still using tanks in any strength. In both sectors they were being battered heavily.

United Press correspondent Ronald Clark said a bitter fight was raging on the western edge of Rochefort.

The Germans were trying desperately to prevent an American crossing of the Hienne river that would open up the entire center of the Ardennes front to a 1st army counter-blow.

Patrols Clash

Along the northern and northwestern shoulder of the German salient, observers believed Nazi Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt had concentrated his strongest forces for a possible new drive on Liege. Only limited patrol and artillery clashes were reported on that sector.

American dive-bombers, virtually grounded by bad weather on other sectors of the Ardennes front, flew 450 sorties in support of Patton's forces yesterday.

They knocked out 63 tanks and armored units along with 121 motor vehicles.

The biggest single bag was destroyed on a road near Bastogne, where a formation of Thunderbolts flushed a Nazi convoy moving up to the front.

The dive-bombers dropped scores of 500-pound bombs squarely across the convoy, wiping out 25 tanks and 25 other armored units and 50 motor transports.

City-Wide

TRAFFIC CRASH