

HOME BUILDER ALSO
LOOKING FOR HOUSE

PATCHOGUE, N. Y., May 11 (U. P.)—Charles Bossert was still looking for a home here today. Bossert said he was tired of commuting between Patchogue and Brooklyn but could see no relief for himself.

Bossert is an executive of a company which will start turning out pre-fabricated houses by the hundreds soon—all for lend-lease shipment to Great Britain.

Wild Nazi Prison Break Plot To Capture London Revealed

One of the most amazing "now-it-can-be-told" stories released after the end of the war in Europe was the plot by the Germans to seize London last Christmas when the world thought the Nazis were practically knocked out. In the following dispatch, United Press War Correspondent John B. McDermott reveals the details of the plot as told to him by the American officers who snipped it in the bud.

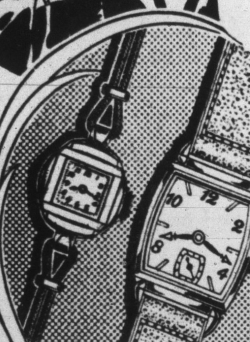
By JOHN B. McDERMOTT
United Press Staff Correspondent
18TH AIRBORNE CORPS HEAD-QUARTERS, Belgium, Dec. 23, 1944

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American intelligence officers discovered the enemy plans.

The officers, Capt. Frank M. Brandstetter, New York City, and Capt. Joseph L. Hoelz, Louisville, Ky., were awarded bronze stars for their work.

As they outlined the plot to the Germans first planned the invasion for Christmas eve, because they called the British and Americans "sentimental fools" who would dream of an attack then.

However, D-day was changed to Dec. 16 to coincide with Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's Ardennes offensive which began that day.

The Germans planned to seize British tanks and planes, then move on to capture London.

Within 36 hours, they expected airborne reinforcements from Holland. Seaborne troops would be standing by on Heligoland light to provide reinforcements.

"It was so fantastic at first we thought we were losing our minds," Hoelz said.

Attack Airfields

The prison break was to be staged at Devizes prison, 100 miles west of London. The Germans planned to seize the prison arsenal, establish key road blocks, cut communications, and storm two nearby hospitals. At the hospitals they expected to take more supplies and motor transport.

Then they would launch a lightning attack on three airfields and the bivouac area of the British 11th armored division which had 2000 tanks parked nearby.

Within four hours the Germans hoped to be attacking London with British tanks and planes to fulfill der fuhrer's fondest dream.

However, the plot was discovered when 10 prisoners escaped from Devizes, made a 48-hour reconnaissance, and returned to give themselves up voluntarily. The men were cross-examined, and the plans came to light. The plot collapsed entirely when 28 leaders were seized.

Planned to Seize Guards

"We were able to follow their every move," Hoelz said. "We learned almost as soon as the prisoners did of the plan to change their D-day from Christmas eve to Dec. 16."

The Nazis planned to liberate all Germans in prison camps within a 60-mile radius of Devizes. That would give the prisoner army 75,000 to 100,000 men.

Here is the plan for the kickoff as the two Americans told it to me:

Twenty hand-picked panzer and S. S. troops in the cellblock nearest the gate were to seize their guards after the midnight roll call. For the initial assault they had a cache of 80 rifles and small arms. When the guards were overcome, selected men would open three adjoining cellblocks.

Would Capture Tanks

Paratroopers in one cellblock were to help storm a nearby barracks. After overpowering the troops there and seizing the arsenal, they would attack the 11th armored division.

Fliers and tankmen from the other two blocks were to join the mission of seizing 200 vehicles from the hospitals. Then they would join the assaults on the airfields and tank division with the idea of manning the captured planes and tanks.

The Germans knew all about each position they were to take, even to the exact number of planes and tanks.

One of the first planes seized was to take off immediately to fly an eyewitness report of the beginning of the uprising to Adolf Hitler.

To cap it all, they had an already-prepared Hitler, order of the day to be read at the start. It said: "Men of the freedom movement: The hour of our liberation is approaching and it is the duty of every German once more to fight with arms in hand against world Jewry."

Nazi Officer Tells Of Invasion Plans

By WALTER CRONKITE
United Press Staff Correspondent
AMSTERDAM, May 11 (U. P.)—

A German officer here said the Nazis planned a mass break by German prisoners in the British Isles and an airborne invasion of Ireland to coincide with the Ardennes offensive at the turn of the year.

A German officer of the Rotterdam garrison told me of the plan. He said it was a sort of "suicide mission" intended primarily to divert the allied effort while Marshal Karl von Rundstedt drove for Antwerp.

The officer said the Nazis hoped the break and airborne landings might succeed so well as to open a way for a seaborne or airborne invasion of Britain itself.

As depicted by the German, the Nazi plan was a measure of desperation concocted to support and possibly capitalize eventually on the results of Von Rundstedt's breakthrough into Belgium and Luxembourg.

Thought Break Made

The officer said he was required to furnish some troops for the projected invasion of Ireland. He believed it was to be aimed at both northern Ireland and Eire.

He also was ordered, he said, to stand ready to seize whatever shipping was available at Rotterdam for "further operations."

The officer stumbled into a disclosure of the plan when he asked me how had the German prison break last December was. I told him "I never heard of it," and he seemed startled.

"I did not expect you to hear of it from the BBC," he said, "but I thought you newspaper people would know."

He said the Irish operation was called off, and no summons was made for the shipping, but he thought the prisoner break was made.

He professed to know no details of the planned break except that the Germans were to seize whatever transport and arms they could and harass the countryside.

It appeared that German troops and Dutch civilians had been told of the plan, perhaps in an attempt to boost morale.

DR. EMENS ELECTED HEAD OF BALL STATE

Times Special
MUNCIE, Ind., May 11.—Dr. John R. Emens of Detroit, Mich., has been elected president of Ball State Teachers' college. He will begin his duties Aug. 1.

The Ball State presidency has been vacant nearly two and one-half years since former President L. A. Pittenger retired. The college has been administered by W. E. Wagner, acting president and controller.

John H. Heller of Decatur, board president, said that Mr. Wagner will return to his duties as controller of the college, the job which he preferred, Aug. 1.

Dr. Emens, who is 43, has been director of personnel for Detroit public schools for the last four years and previously was associated professor of secondary education at Wayne university at Detroit.

A graduate of Michigan State Normal college, he holds the master of arts degree and the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Michigan. He has spent 25 years in the education field.

The new president is secretary of the North Central Association Commission on Research and Service and is president of the Michigan Council on Education. He also is author of a number of bulletins on education and has published articles in education magazines.

Last year Dr. Emens was elected vice president of the Michigan state Y. M. C. A. He was selected by the United States civil service commission as a key civilian in the seventh civil service region to assist regional branch office personnel.

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