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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1942

The Beginning Of The End

American Occupation of North Africa Seizes Hitler's War By The Forelock For Offensive-Minded Allies

The thundering news that an American expeditionary force was pouring into French North Africa was the biggest news of the war for the people of the United States. It marked a turn in the tide of war, seized the initiative from the Axis for the first time on a big scale. It was the end of retreat to victory tactics. Henceforth, the enemy may be forced to fight at hand and place of our choosing. But the offensive does not, as an anxious Hitler would have it, mean the end of vital import as an end in itself and a means to an end. Vichy's future resistance or lack thereof is of little matter. It can scarcely be decisive, and Germany's means of retaliation are limited. We see the immediate effects as these:

- 1. The retreat of Rommel is effectively cut off, his doom almost a certainty.
2. The supply routes to Egypt and India are shortened considerably, so that the Allied pool of shipping was by one blow tremendously increased.
3. Egypt and North Africa were combined into one theater of war, dominated by Allied forces.
4. An all-weather supply route to Russia is opened.
5. The British action in French or Italian Italy in the back is eliminated.
6. Axis plane and submarine bases on the Atlantic and Mediterranean are eliminated.
7. The route to U. S. bases in Eritrea is shortened.
8. Vichy France is brought out in the open, must now declare for Germany or the Allies.
9. British forces in Iran are freed from the responsibility of fighting a possible rearward action for Egypt.
10. It is a short cut to Germany, essential in itself to prevent our fighting two wars on widely separated fronts.
As a means to an end, the African occupation accomplishes these things:
1. With Britain as the first, it affords the second base from which to pound at the Continent.
2. It forces Germany to heavily reinforce three new fronts: Unoccupied France, Italy, and the Balkans. Hitler is now forced to occupy Southern France.
3. Only garrison forces may now be held in the occupied countries, because of new demands upon German troop strength.
4. The Russian front must be weakened to some degree.
5. It affords a comparatively easy thrust across the narrows at Italy, with Sicily and Sardinia in the path of probable invasion.
The action in French Africa itself, however, will be largely shadow-boxing for a time. Unless Hitler has the courage to make a desperate bid to cross the Mediterranean himself and challenge the invasion forces. As in the lesser operations in the Solomon, the U. S. offensive has thus far struck only the periphery of the Axis sphere.
But as sound strategy the occupation has everything in its favor. The already established air routes over Africa will quickly supply and reinforce the invasion army. Within a few weeks it will soon be forthcoming, and when it comes invasion of the Continent is the next step. After consolidation, the well-trained troops can turn upon Rommel's rear, and with Africa safe for the Allies, Hitler may expect the terrible die which will be the beginning of the end.

Saddest Day Another Plant

Grandeur That Was Rome Has No Place in Desert Retreat

In the one-way surge of death and destruction of Egypt's inferno, the humans will find only compassion for the suffering and dying. But the relentless fate that pursues the warriors of Italy can bring to us only the long agony of the realization that in a series of grins which started with the war, Napoleon's nation of buffoons still stumbled through the battle scenes as if clud in motley.
As the British curtain of fire fell upon the Mussolini to their fate.
While the vehicles of war swept by, anguished Italians tried to hitch-hike their way to safety in the rear. But Germans, utilizing better equipment, made their mechanized way alone. Whole Italian divisions were stranded like broken tanks and artillery, many quickly succumbed to the advancing enemy.
Among the captives, Italian officers complained at the outrage of being held as prisoners of war when they were sent only to observe. They were just looking, they said, not fighting. The British view was that such a statement might cover the activities of all Italians.
And the scolding Germans, having long realized the unfitness of their allies for real combat, had little time to look back and reflect upon the plight of those they had left behind. In the end, a large portion of the spoils of victory in British hands will consist of Italian prisoners. They won't be used; for they were about as potent in the field as in prison.

Behold the Black Shift, soldier of destiny. His masters deserted him, and he fell, helplessly, into the hands of a victor disdain him. War is a mockery.
Accounts of a track mishap in the East have a racehorse "turning turtle." Those who carry our \$2 have a dash of the tortoise.
About the hardest thing seems to be working enthusiasm, music and good syntax into the same war song.

Thanks entirely to the International dateline, and due to no prophetic power of ours, the press goes on printing today what happened in the West Pacific tomorrow.

Presidential Prospect? Neither Wilkie Nor Dewey

By Paul Mallon

MR. WILKIE'S endorsement of DEWEY for the New York Governorship was somewhat like Mr. Roosevelt's endorsement of Bennett—only even longer delayed.
Both the President and the leader of the Republicans in name, at least know how to swallow unwanted medicine with consummate ease. But both have done it better than they did this time, and the results are likely to have important effects upon the rising question of the Presidential nominations in 1944.

The Dewey people have let no one around the Republican sound table here suspect they consider Mr. Wilkie an ally. Neither Dewey nor Wilkie has any close connections among Republicans in either House of Congress, but their prevailing contacts are sufficient to dispel any expectation here of joint Wilkie-Dewey leadership.
In fact, the most cleared of Republican politicians doubt that either of these most discussed candidates will be at the top of the roll call at the next Republican national convention.
Dewey has followed a course so far of a lone ranger in Republican politics. Unless he builds up controlling contacts with the Republican state machines, which will rise up under the administration of the 22 Republican Governors in the most populous states, his position in the party cannot be dominant, and, of course, his administration as Governor will largely make or break his popular national appeal.
Neither could get the nomination on the basis of his standing with the organization today.
The fourth term question is in even a more doubtful state. The Roosevelt endorsement of Bennett was not soon enough or strong enough to win back Farley, who now controls the New York State democratic organization, and who can expect to go to the next convention as its delegation leader.
Inasmuch as Mr. Farley disliked the third term

enough to resign, he will decline the fourth at least 25 per cent more. Southern Congressmen already are grumbling about fourth term talk. They think it hurt the party in the election, and that any moves are made further in that direction, they will suffer further.
As of today, therefore Mr. Roosevelt would have far more trouble getting the nomination than he had at Chicago, although no specific challenger is yet in sight. But if we win the war next year, the situation may change. The President no doubt would gain heroic prestige from victory.

Many wise Democratic leaders have quietly smiled at the results of this election. In anticipation of a victorious turn of events before their next roll call with the people. Therefore, an attempt is made either to pre-empt, or combine events will decide.
There is not much the Republicans will be able to do about war methods immediately—except to let the moral effect of their victory sink in upon the administration leaders.
Most of the important economic legislation already has been adopted. (The anti-inflation, the war powers act, passing unprecedented authority to the President.)

Manpower draft is about the only outstanding issue scheduled for consideration after the first of the year. Most of the war appropriations already have been made, but a new budget will be offered, in which the Republicans will have an opportunity to whittle. Investigations will no doubt be made by Congressional committees to keep the administration in line.
The eighteen-nineteen-year-old draft will be out of the way in a few days. No doubt it will be adopted without the Senate restriction requiring training of troops for a year before being sent overseas, because the War Department will insist. War authorities have already let the Congressmen know Mr. Roosevelt will veto the bill if that amendment is not made suitable.

The Master Race

—By Herblock



After The Barrage Congress Examines Itself

In post-election sessions Congress had a field day sifting the results and studying the reasons for the Republican landslide. Though neither party saw the returns as beneficial to our enemies, they found the occasion suited to a complete examination of the war effort. These highlights, including a little Democrat-Republican by-play, are selected from the Congressional Record—Editors, The News.
Representative Knutson (Minn. Republican) AFTER more than ten years of social experimentation, reckless spending, waste, and bungling the American people on Tuesday weighed the New Deal in the balances and found it wanting. It has taken a long time for them to catch up with the galloping hounds of waste, but they finally rode it and like the proverbial rains from the heavens, their wrath fell on the just and the unjust alike. Some good men went down to defeat on Tuesday—men who will be spared—but when the people raise their sword in anger they do not always stop to separate the good from the bad. The particularly true when applied to political revolutions such as we had on Tuesday.
The past ten years of the New Deal are almost like a lightning bolt. There has been disregard for constitution and law that at times threatened to undermine our form of government; there have been social experiments that can only be compared with those carried on by the Communists in Russia, while a debt burden has been placed upon our shoulders that has sold future generations into economic bondage.
Representative Rankin (Miss. Democrat) WE have just gone through an election. It has been pointed out that it was almost a landslide, in some respects, because that men telling of unchastity that lurks in the breast of patriotic Americans walked up and said: "We want to put a stop to some things." I am going to give my administration some free advice. I want you to understand I am not only an American but I am an Anglo-Saxon; I want to that race the fully nur civilization, the Christian civilization that we now enjoy and the only one that mankind has ever enjoyed.
I'm tired, the American people are tired, of the Frankfurter Congress. I want to see the United States is the keeper of this Republic—do not forget that. The Congress is mentioned first in the Constitution of the United States. It is the only power on earth that can remove a member of the Supreme Court or that could under any circumstances remove a Commander in Chief. We represent the American

people, and they do not expect us to be rubber stamps.
Representative Rich (Pa. Republican) THIS election was won by the Jeffersonian Democrats and the sound-thinking Republicans. It is a flag waving to this Administration—the New Deal Administration—telling them, "You have got to pursue another course. You cannot go on the way you have and save America and win this war and continue to follow the policies that you have been following during the last two or three years."
I am not here this morning to give a lot of satisfaction because we elected so many Republican members. I am worried for the responsibilities that go with such an election. I want the Republicans and Jeffersonian Democrats to stop waste, throw out the incompetent in government, get rid of the radicals, and get back to constitutional government.
Mr. WHITE, Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?
Mr. RICH: Yes, for one question.
Mr. WHITE: To what does the gentleman attribute the conditions that brought on all this unemployment and financial prostration in this country about 1932?
Mr. RICH: That is enough. I do not want any more questioning from the gentleman because he has been one of the New Dealers. He is one of the fellows to whom I want to address my remarks here this morning. All the gentleman has been doing is following the New Deal in everything they wanted, a real rubber stamp.
Mr. WHITE: We were trying to correct the bad situation brought about by the Republicans.
Mr. RICH: I do not yield any more. You got us into this mess with bad laws and radical administration.

Senator McNary (Or. Republican) THE Administration has made enough mistakes and errors in the last two or three years to justify the American people in cutting it to task and to account for those errors and omissions. I too, have not been uncritical along that line at all times. I have said here, when appropriations bills were before the Senate for consideration that I was astounded and abashed and shocked by the waste of public funds. One can see it from a car window, Mr. President, or from an automobile seat, whether it be a seat in a Ford or in a Lincoln; one can see it as he walks about the streets of any city or as he walks in any country, far from Maine to far-off Oregon. Any one who has the time and the desire to visit our public buildings in Washington can see the waste of money for the Senate for consideration that I was astounded and abashed and shocked by the waste of public funds. One can see it from a car window, Mr. President, or from an automobile seat, whether it be a seat in a Ford or in a Lincoln; one can see it as he walks about the streets of any city or as he walks in any country, far from Maine to far-off Oregon. Any one who has the time and the desire to visit our public buildings in Washington can see the waste of money for the Senate for consideration that I was astounded and abashed and shocked by the waste of public funds.



The Mediterranean Winter Theater

By Raymond Clapper

FORTUNATELY no Winter will intervene to prevent our side in following up the important victory in Egypt. During the next two or three months we can put an entirely different face on the war now that the British victory is being exploited boldly.
Europe is fenced lightly around in the north. The English Channel will be hard to cross—harder perhaps for us than it is for Hitler. The French coast is heavily fortified. But the African victory opened the possibility of getting at Europe from the south, where it is more exposed. To capitalize fully on the defeat of the Axis in Europe, our side has moved in also from the western Mediterranean and is taking over the whole north coast of Africa from Casablanca to Tripoli.

That meant riding roughshod over Vichy and counting on the co-operation of French colonies in North Africa. Our theory of supply is to French North Africa has been the same throughout. It might be helping Vichy, it was a friendly move to sustain the French North Africa colonies until our side could come to their assistance.
Laval has openly expressed hope of a German victory and he is playing Hitler's game, bargaining of course to get what he can out of it. He has withheld his fleet and merchant ships, not through any desire to help our side but to get the best bargain he could from Hitler. Possibly our playing with Vichy has had some effect in stiffening Laval in his bargaining with Hitler.
But whatever fears did have had the effect of Vichy turning over its fleet to the Axis are forgotten today. Our strength has reached the point where it had become no longer necessary to fear the final move by Laval to turn his force over to Hitler. It had become too important, regardless of that consideration, to deliver the blows that would open the Mediterranean, and it became less and less important how far Laval goes into direct aid to the Axis.
The defeat of Rommel forces did not automatically clear the time to the Middle East from 60 days down to about 20, by eliminating the long trip around the south cape of Africa. While our air supply line across the desert, the belt of Africa, is still being planned, the long supply line across the sea, is short cut over the sea route around Africa, it is 2,500 miles or more longer than is now necessary since we have moved up and gone directly along the north coast of Africa.
If we can establish a Mediterranean drive the Axis out of it, and begin giving Italy something to think about. It will also give Spain and Portugal something to think about. We will find that our better friends where we once had neutrals who have been thinking the Axis would win and who have been playing their cards that way.
The defeat of Rommel forces did not automatically clear the Mediterranean. The western end had to be cleaned up and bases established for air. The British in Egypt have opened up this new opportunity by removing the menace to Alexandria and Sicily, and insuring that the eastern Mediterranean can be held safely.
Now that the western end also is cleared, we are in a position to make our best count for success in the north. Turkey, caught in the squeeze but undoubtedly friendly to our side, will be safe from any threat. Iran, Iraq, and the Levant, which our side people have been fighting since the war began, will be on us and countless difficulties will melt away. For in that part of the world; even more than elsewhere, nothing succeeds like success.

Italy is the first really soft spot we have found in the Axis frontiers and we have open weather ahead. If we use this opportunity and this time to full advantage, Germany will come out of Winter quarters next Spring facing trouble all around, any way she looks.

Flower Trouble Conversation Piece

THE life of little mayor Fiorello La Guardia is no cherry bowl these days. Uneasy runs the course of his affairs; more so, in fact, than usual. He happened upon a conversation last week with the Mayor, Ediel Epstein, whom he recently fired as his labor secretary. At a chance meeting in the City Hall, this ensued (reported by New York Times):
Mayor: Hello, Eddie dear.
Mr. Epstein: Hello, I don't know what to call you.
Mayor: Wait a minute, Eddie. I want to see you. Stay around.
Mr. Epstein: I'm sorry, I can't stay. If you want to see me, you see me right here. I'd like to know—why did you fire me?
Mayor: I had a bigger job in mind for you, but you spoiled it by giving out my letter to the newspapers.
Mr. Epstein: I'm not a newspaper man. Just give me your fire me. Why didn't you call me down here, instead of sending a letter? You didn't have the guts to tell me.
Mayor: You should not have criticized my administration in the radio speech you made Monday night. You and my first term was my best. No, Eddie, it wasn't. This is my best administration.
Mr. Epstein: You are causing an open scandal by your failure to fire me. I haven't any funds to set up the kind of an office you're giving me.
Mayor: Oh, Eddie—how can you be so unfair?
Mr. Epstein: You have lost all your friends.
Mayor: I'm more popular than ever! I have a lot of friends!
Mr. Epstein: Name one!
Mayor: You know the newspaper man hate me.
Mr. Epstein: Who's fault is that? Why in the world do you handle newspaper men like that? Give me one instance in which you were misquoted.
Mayor: You know the newspapers are all prejudiced against me. Besides, I haven't any funds to set up the kind of an office you're talking about.
Mr. Epstein: Well, somebody in the Comptroller's office told me that there is a cushion of funds over there that can be used.
Mayor: They don't know what they're talking about. I will give you \$100,000.
Mr. Epstein: That's the trouble—one one knows anything around here but you. You have too many yes-men around you and too many rubber stamps. You appointed a rubber stamp in your place of Ediel Epstein, the Commissioner.
Mayor: I'll be seeing you around, Eddie.
Mr. Epstein: Oh, no you won't.

Visitin' Round Bible Thought

The Bereaved (Daily & Stateville Daily)
Mrs. B. M. Hayes had the misfortune to lose her cow. She died Sunday night.
Trials are a part of life, do not fear in the hour of trial, show yourself pure gold; I will try them as gold is tried.—Sachariev 11/8.