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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1942

Side Glances



Don't forget your packages, folks—I don't know where you people would be if I weren't for me telling you everything!

What About Dieppe?

By Dorothy Thompson
WASHINGTON
Whether the attack on Dieppe was a success or a failure depends upon how the question is put. If one takes the initial line adopted by the German High Command, the answer is obvious: It was a failure. No foothold on the continent was gained, and the troops withdrew.
That answer depends upon the following questions: How much damage did we inflict on the enemy? To what extent did we disrupt existing enemy plans? And, what did we pay?
The reports indicate that the raiders inflicted considerable damage. They destroyed a six-gun battery, blew up an ammunition dump, and destroyed a radio beacon station. They killed some scores of Germans and took a few prisoners.
More was accomplished in disrupting enemy plans. It has been obvious from the conduct of the Luftwaffe in the past months that it was German strategy to engage in major air battles, but preserve intact their small air force in France. The raid forced the Germans to fight, and in fighting to deplete a large part of their western air force. Some critics estimate that the Germans lost a third of their fighter force for occupied western Europe.
By that we are forcing the Germans to bring up reinforcements: either from their reserves in Germany itself, or from the Eastern front. As we ourselves have air superiority in western Europe, the attrition of the German airpower in this theater of war is obviously a success.
'Was it worth it?' We do not know our exact losses, but may assume that the German claims are exaggerated. Nevertheless our communications admit heavy losses in men, that we had to destroy our landed tanks before withdrawing, that we lost one destroyer, and nearly a hundred airplanes.
From this we conclude that the land fighting was too costly and the damage to coastal defenses overpaid. Only the air war was completely successful. There are explanations from the Allied side for that. One of our landing forces was discovered earlier than calculated so that in that sector we lost the element of surprise. The German coastal defenses were alerted too early and welcomed our forces with a hail of combined fire.
But such misfortunes belong to the risks that we are incurring in attacking a strongly fortified area as the French channel ports.
But there is a fourth question to ask about this raid.

Serious Offense

Gun and Badge Constitute No License To Steal
You'd scarce expect police officers, of all people, to plead ignorance of the law, particularly the law against taking other people's money. Yet that has been the only excuse offered by the two city policemen whom Chief West suspended for pocketing \$7,000 in a Negro game of 'skin'—ignorance and the statement that skinning the skin-gamblers was a common practice in the Police Department.

cut off the hot water. Too much coal and fuel oil went up in smoke in his bailiwick, anywhere, have the city's army of landlords dispense with hot water except during certain specified hours of the morning and evening. He would ration showers, shaves, home laundering, baby and puppy-bathing.
It was only, he proclaimed, a fuel conservation measure. He said he was not enough in some kind of hot water himself. The city's realtors, in one of those actions passing as a virtually unanimous vote, dealt rudely with the proposition. They vowed to give tenants hot water so long as it was legal to do so, and discontinue it when the city says that cutting off that water would drive many people to drink elsewhere.
You may, if you wish, see it as a dream. Manhattan a deserted village, populated by 1,287 chill-shower lovers—a fraction to a block—and ruled by the little Loricor of the Lavatory, with only cold water for himself and for his scheme.

It's a weird business, mates. There is a law against gambling, to be sure, but nobody has been able to enforce it, so long as a decent decorum is observed and there is no breach of the peace, the law has any moral ground to stand on in denying individuals the right to wager their own money in the manner of their own selection. Gambling can be a besetting sin, but in its private form it is not a sin against the commonwealth.

Lost Armies

U. S. To Escape Great Toll Paid By a World at War

A learned calculator, one Professor Atwood Townsend of New York University, estimates that a minimum of 14,000,000 souls have been killed since war began with the Jap invasion of Manchuria in 1931. Since 1937, in China alone, the Professor figures that 2,300,000 soldiers and 6,300,000 civilians have been sacrificed.

Civilian casualties, in fact, represent the majority of the great army of the dead. Almost ten million casualties have come from civilian populations. In Russia, for example, some 1,500,000 soldiers have died, and between two and four million civilians.

These, too, are the minimum figures, gathered carefully through the years after sifting reports. If Townsend allowed himself to use maximum figures, he says, the total would run to 22,000,000 war dead.
The grim toll is more than a milestone of death and suffering in the entry book of war. It shows that, against the terrible toll in China and Russia, the United States has lost but 7,000 dead. More than four thousand are certain to come, but Americans, unless we are doomed to wage a losing war, will suffer only military losses, with comparatively few civilian deaths.

Our national position, indeed, is as fortunate by comparison as it was in 1917. In the end of the American power of men and machine that strikes the decisive blow, and in that thrust many Americans must die. But, when that day comes, our population will be protected, and our casualties, insured by superior equipment against the declining potency of our enemy.
The Townsend figure of the 14,000,000 lost is for us only as we are a globe-minded people. The price is not indicative of the scale in which we must pay.

Run-Aways
Every Month, Some 7,000 Americans Dodge the Draft
Men of fighting age, by a healthy three per cent, believe in this war more than they believed in the last one. More than a million of them are the draftees of the first World War were guilty of draft evasion. To date, only a fraction of one per cent have attempted to run away from a uniform. Because the U. S. was treacherously attacked this time, apparently, the rank and file of men are itching for a chance at revenge.

The national escutcheon, however, is not unblemished. Already 100,000 men have attempted to dodge the draft, and have been nabbed by the FBI. New cases are bobbing up at the rate of 7,000 every month. The FBI has said that those apprehended settled everything by joining the Army; 1,200 of them have been shipped to Federal prisons; and some 40,000 cases are still pending.
Those figures are the result of an American Magazine survey, based upon official FBI records. Through the police is reassured by the decline in delinquency in comparison with that of the last war, the losses of manpower and the unwillingness of all Americans to fight is disheartening.
In our books, indeed, those 7,000 who desert every month are not American deserters at all.

Nelson Needs It Fire-Power

By Paul Mallon
WASHINGTON
CIO MEMBERS of the War Production Board Labor Advisory Committee have publicly called on Mr. Nelson to fire his dollar-a-year men from the business world in his housecleaning. They said these business men had not performed efficiently their jobs of handling war materials.

If this CIO-recommended basis for the housecleaning is adopted, Mr. Nelson will also have to fire the men who made it, the whole Labor Advisory Committee, AFL as well as CIO. They have not performed their jobs efficiently either.

The latest report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a strictly New Deal, pro-labor branch of Miss Perkins' Labor Department, says there were 350 strikes in June and 275 in May, the months when our war production was supposed to hit stride.
These 350 strikes in June compare unfavorably with an average of 290 strikes in that month during the peacetime period of 1935-49. In short, there were 60 more strikes this year-time June than the average June before the European War broke out.

Thus it may be seen that the Labor boys, who are telling their boss, Mr. Nelson (he is their boss in name at least), to fire business men for failure, have similarly failed to keep Labor's contribution to the war effort at the required efficiency level.
The Labor boys probably heard the inside news going around town that the Truman Committee has been preparing a report calling on Mr. Nelson to fire incompetents, particularly his dollar-a-year men—men who are not doing their jobs. They are not doing their jobs. It will put a little more fire in his fat for getting tough, as he promised.

As pointed out recently, there are four classes of officials there, deal business men, business hangers-on or marginal business men who are in the New Deal left-wing, and officials who are not doing their jobs as well as they should. They are the ones who are to be fired. They are the ones who are to be fired. They are the ones who are to be fired. They are the ones who are to be fired.

Mr. Nelson was going to be made on the basis of efficiency in group. Mr. Nelson will rid himself, not only of the incompetent dollar-a-year men, but the incompetent reform elements as well.

Mr. Nelson seems to have fairly well worked himself out of the impasse. He is personally the only one responsible for disappointments in our production. But he can make out an even better case for himself if he will get tough.

He could say there was not time in the last six months when the Army and Navy could ship as much material as he produced. He could say the Army in its own M-Day report, which was the original plan in this, called for civilian control of production as essential.

He could say the public eye has been so centered on Army and Navy production by the Government that the question of sustaining consumer business and civilian business has not been properly attended to, and that Germany's collapse in this respect caused it to lose the last war, according to the critics in production which would cause us to fall short of Mr. Roosevelt's goal.

These problems involved in these concentrated mass raids are legion, and infinitely detailed planning is necessary. Says Mr. Michle: "As many as 5,000 different pieces of machinery, with their own specific instructions as to targets and routes) and provided with weather receiving, recognition signals, radio codes, landing instructions."

At least 60 different fields must be carefully calculated schedules for sending their bombers off and additional fields must be ready to receive returning planes in case weather conditions close down in the fields they started from. For 1,000 raiding bombers some 300-000 gallons of gasoline must be brought up to the 60 starting fields.
Before this year is over, in his opinion, the RAP can go far to increase the efficiency of our production and transportation, and some of the fine art of the German people. "The aerial front is the only one on which the British, with their superior resources, are still ahead of the Germans at present. Mass raiding is the one form of offensive in which the British have a capacity to make itself felt in the shortest possible time."

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT
It is silly of men to set themselves against God. Yet we do this daily. Through the moral laws, which are unchangeable as his physical laws: It is God's will that the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers.

Reminder



Now Is the Time We Need Leadership

By Raymond Clapper
WASHINGTON
ANYONE who has read the dispatches about the raid on the French coast must now begin to realize that this war will be long and bloody. The continuation is so complete that to the same effect. Neither Germany nor Japan is likely to crumble except under the impact of hard fighting.

These two actions are sufficient to put everything here at home in its proper relationship. When men are paying with their lives the price of victory, the price of the bare start toward victory, how can anyone at home be doing anything but help sustain those men who must carry the real load?

This is the time to translate that obvious generalization into practice. We are all concerned about the war but we haven't converted completely to it.
Last week in New York taxicabs were racing through the streets, making jackrabbits start and crash stops, and the driver was shouting: "Get out of the old days. You feel a long way from the war around New York."

Henry J. Kaiser is meeting considerable resistance in his cargo-plane program, as was to be expected in view of the weak, folded-arms attitude toward his project in Washington. He went to the West Coast to see the men who are in charge of the program and he will need more help from Washington if he is to do the job without unnecessary loss of time.
Bernard Baruch and his rubber committee, appointed months after they should have been put to work, find that they must do a good deal of primary research before they can recommend a program. Our Government has more than 2,000,000 people on the payroll and yet some of the most obvious information is being overlooked. Mr. Hoover, who is the man in charge of the program, has probably

No Complaints

Our Forces in China Fight From End of the Line

To those millions of us at home who vigorously prosecute the war in our streets corners and buses, across bridge tables and drug store booths, working, playing or loafing, Commander Joseph W. Stilwell has a word.

From his U. S. Army Headquarters in China he sent a letter home to civilians. It was realistic, rather than reassuring, it should be for all the people:
"We are doing our best, in a small way, to try and crack a hard nut. It would be easier if we had more tools, but the demands are great, and we are on the last stop on the line. So keep that in mind when you think, as you must, that our performance is rather sad."

The end of the line is Stilwell's, and that is just as yet, our scattered forces at the head of the line are receiving only a thin trickle of the help they must have to win battles in the field. Armchair strategists whose warring plans have been laid upon the immediate bombing of Japanese cities from Chinese bases must, apparently, wait awhile.

Water, Water

La Guardia Cools It Off In a War-Winning Stroke
The other day, thousands of sweltering New Yorkers (we presume they were sweltering) came home and found The Water in the bathroom. Few of us registered surprise, having followed the news of the hot-water supply cut-off from the start. But a great many of us were wrath. This, they figured, was no place for their duly-elected mayor. It looked like a poor ballyhoo to defend civilians.