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And Evening Chronicle

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1942

**A Contrast**  
*If Japs Want a War of Extinction, Let 'em Have It*

There is a certain difference between Jap treatment of U. S. prisoners of war as reported recently by the Red Cross and what the gentle Japanese are said to have done to a group of Australian soldiers captured on New Britain Island.

Last week the International Red Cross wired Washington that the 306 Americans captured on Gilbert, Wake, and Guam were living in a beautiful well-heated prisoner camp on the island of Shikoku. They were eating plenty of good food and even receiving a ration of cigarettes a day, so many according to rank. All the prisoners could ask was books, pianos, typewriters, and game equipment.

The Austins taken prisoner by the Japs on New Britain were less fortunate. According to the reports of three wounded survivors, officers were given pistols loaded with one shell and ordered to commit suicide. Enlisted men were divided into batches of ten and, with hands bound behind their backs, taken into the brush and bayoneted to death. It was a bloody business. The closest any Jap officer came to kindness was to grant the request of one man to be shot humanely.

Behind his mask of humanity, it appears that the Jap is waging a war of extinction. And many Americans are beginning to say: If that's the kind of a war the enemy wants, let's fight it that way—with bombers over Tokyo.

**Five Old Men**  
*Narrowly They Uphold*  
*The Code of the Sea*

The only remarkable feature of the Supreme Court's decision in the seaman's sit-down case is that four of the Justices (two of them, incidentally, former New Dealers than students of the law) were moved to dissent. There is in maritime tradition no more primary code than that on board ship; the captain is master absolute and indisputable. A corollary tradition imposes upon the captain entire responsibility for the safety of his passengers, his ship and its cargo. So far, this tradition has not been challenged and taken to court.

The sit-down strike at issue occurred in 1938 and, it is noted, in a Texas port rather than at sea. The seamen were fired and the course petitioned for the National Labor Relations Board for reinstatement in their jobs. The board so ordered, ruling that a strike in port was a lawful privilege of labor under the Wagner Act. The steamship company appealed the ruling and was successful when the Supreme Court held, 5 to 4, that the sit-down strike, though it took place in port, violated a law which has been longer on the books than any Wagner Act. The Federal Maritime Statute.

"A seaman's requirement of obedience throughout the voyage is certainly not without basis in reason," says Justice Brandeis. "We should hope so. And what, pray, say the four dissenting Justices—that a seaman's requirement of obedience throughout the course of a voyage is certainly without basis in reason?"

**Canada's Plan**  
*Overall Wage-Price Fixing*  
*Is Eminently Successful*

In revising the proposal to freeze both prices and wages for the duration, Senator Pepper will be overlooking a trade-to-order opportunity if he does not cite Canada's experience under similar legislation.

Last November the Canadian parliament passed a freeze covering both. Many factions, particularly labor unions, were profoundly skeptical of the plan. Some opponents claimed that in spite of the provision for a wage bonus every time the cost of living index rose as much as a point, the working man would be at a disadvantage.

But the law passed, and for about four months the rigid price control system has been in full effect. And it has been more successful than even the most optimistic had anticipated. Not only has the cost of living not risen widely in the United States it was soaring, but according to a recent official report it has actually declined a tenth of a point.

Canadian labor, it turns out, has been the principal beneficiary and the bill in the States wages and the cost of living are fluctuating independently.

**Burma Oil**  
**At Stake**

By Paul Mallon



WASHINGTON  
THE situation in Burma is serious. Single units of the cracky Japs in the oil fields which is just about the only thing left to the Chinese for this industry, are fighting a series of fighting pitched battles.

Dispositions from the front say "Japs bomb Mandalay." They say they could add to truth that Mandalay has more importance now than before. It is believed to be a refinery in that area. The Chinese have lost their best supply of gasoline. They say the Japs are looking for it.

The dispatches say the British fell back from Prome in West Burma and tried to cut their lines of communications. There are four Jap divisions in that district fighting against one British division.

The odds therefore favor a loss to the Chinese which will give the Japs an opportunity to find new sources of oil.

**JAPS HAVE PLENTY OF OIL FOR THEMSELVES**

The Japs do not need this oil for themselves. They are now sitting on it in Texas and Venezuela. Around Tarakan and Borneo, there is unlimited bunkers, 200 or 300 feet deep, and only a few hundred feet from the docks. The Japs can pump it into their ships with ordinary water-level digging equipment. No special pumps are needed. The product is of such good quality it does not require refining. It can be pumped direct into the tanks of diesel warships.

Thus the Japs have acquired in four months what their Axis ally the Nazis have sought to vain for 2 1/2 years, the indispensable prerequisite for permanent military power.

No way is yet apparent to which the Japs could transport oil to the bombed Hitler, but if a way develops, the British and Americans have lost many more years than even the most pessimistic have calculated.

**ACCEPTING JAP RADIO CLAIMS IS CARELESS**

Open published report of London at China's premature conclusion that the starboard west Burma port of Aka is still under only reflects the carelessness of both Chungking and London in accepting Jap radio claims.

Aka had not fallen when the Chinese announced it, and it appears now the Chinese were led into the trap by the fact the Japs claim it. The matter was vital because it would mean one of the main sources of oil to the Japs was cut off. Like- wise, it would mean the loss of a Jap bombing base that industrial area would be easy.

**TOKYO TECHNIQUE IS WELL-KNOWN NOW**

But the Australians made a similar mistake a few days earlier. They reported London had announced the fall of Port Moresby, mentioning the fact that London said "Moresby had fallen" together. Moresby and the Indians had been listening to it intently to the day end, that is everybody except the British. Tokyo's technique is well known here, especially since last Friday.

The Japs broadcast at that time that a result of their attacks on Cotabato and Batang. They said:

"It is anti-aircraft batteries were ordered to render aid against the Japanese, but Japs were bombarded on March 22 and later on March 23. The anti-aircraft batteries on March 23 shattered the anti-aircraft batteries of Cotabato."

The Japs were as bad as the British used to be in that, or worse. If they had destroyed Cotabato and Batang, what have they been coming back to do when they shatter? If they destroyed the batteries of Cotabato a week ago today, why did they not in their own? Why did they not in their own? Why did they not in their own? Why did they not in their own?

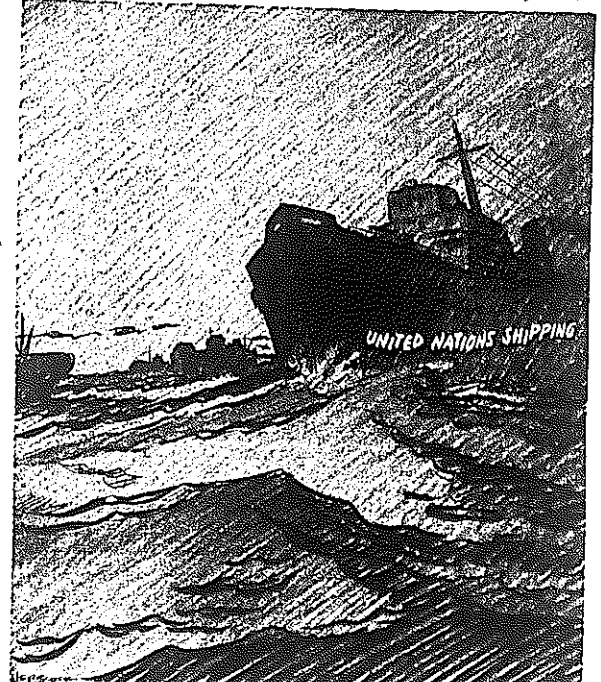
**It All Depends On Who's Asking**

The Nation  
Despite the strict rationing of new automobiles, Patrick Ambassador to London says that the State Department is not going to ration automobiles, complete with tires. A few months after the Spanish civil war, when the tires were rationed, Juan Negrin, former Republican Premier, ordered an American car for his personal use. Permission to buy the car was refused him by the State Department. The result was a bottle of wine and a pair of shoes, which Ambassador excluded such a purchase.

**TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT**

All must drink this cup, but triumphant eternity follows. As a result of drinking the wine, and prayed saying, "My Father, if this cannot pass away, except I drink it, I will be able to drink it."

**It Is Well To Moor Your Bark With Two Anchors.—PUBLIUS SYRUS.**  
**The Battle That Goes on Every Day and Every Night**  
—By Herbick



**Victory Is In The Air**

By William B. Ziff

(Note: William B. Ziff is publisher of several aviation and technical magazines and the author of a new book, to be published in June, "The Coming Battle of Germany." Recently he returned from a visit to Britain, via bomber, at the invitation of the British Air Ministry. The following remarks were made by Mr. Ziff during a recent radio broadcast—Editor, The Nation.)

THE Mightiest Corleau, Napoleon Bonaparte, stated as one of his maxims of war that great strategies are not devised alone by genius and man, but also by geography. This is even more true in this day of the invulnerable flying tank than it was in the latter days of the musket.

It is the element of geography which will keep us from coming to grips with the enemy on his own ground. No decisive outcome involving a great American Expeditionary Force is seen possible in today's terms.

**INVASION OF AXIS STRONGHOLD IMPOSSIBLE**

Even if we possessed the necessary supplies and equipment to attempt such an invasion, it is impossible to transport this vast supply of munitions, guns, medicines and other stores, there is not the slightest likelihood that a great inland invasion of the Axis-occupied land could be successful.

**JAPS FOUL UP THEIR PLAN OF OFFENSIVE**

It would be quite unadvisable to bring up the successful Japanese conquest of the British East Indies, of Singapore, or of Malaya. This reasonable invasion used to be thought to be the simple task that they were so confident of. It is not in the first class of operations, the United Nations was completely unprepared to meet them. Their mistake was making any continuation of this original course a sheer impossibility.

**THE ADVANTAGE LIES WITH US**

Every advantage compares to the other in our hands, which would guarantee the success of such an assault. We have the tactics, we have the tremendous industrial capacity, we have the adventurous spirit. We have a perfect base for our operations in the islands of the Pacific. We have the initiative while we set the pace. This is the element which will win the war. The element which will win the war.

**Gold Is Where You Find It**

Collector's Magazine  
The gold market is a very interesting one. It is a market that is very active and very important. It is a market that is very important to the world's economy.

**HEAVY ODDS ARE AGAINST CHINA**

China is making a magnificent defense. But America hardly realizes how heavy are the odds. The Chinese have small arms, but too few planes, anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns, and heavy artillery.

Japan holds the industrial centers of China. The Chinese moved their arsenals as they retreated, so they are now producing perhaps as much small stuff as before the occupation. But three-quarters of their other industrial production was lost, two-fifths of the population is in occupied China.

**CHINA LEANS ON INDIA**

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**CHINA COULD BE VIRTUALLY SUBSIDIZED**

Above all, India's collapse would be the worst blow to China. Then her Near East source for supplies, as well as the route from America, would be gone. China would be surrounded and left largely to peasant guerrilla resistance.

At least this could only harass the Japanese. It could not drive them back. There would no longer be any prospect of Allied bomber attacks on Japan from China bases, or of the cutting of enemy supply and shipping lines to the Philippines and East Indies, or of the Chinese offensive that is so important to Allied defense in Japan.

**Visitors Around**

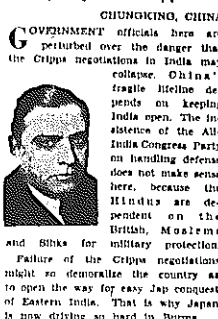
Springing Here She Is!—Hillbush Iron, Wheelbarrow News & Herald  
Hiller would find the weather, too his reception, very pleasant here in Fairford County. At this time he would be quite aware of the fact that all nature is returning to life. Heat and birds are nesting. All members of the staff, both families are having their usual share of good things, but the weather is not so good. Then, too, the known health is now in many places by the bright greenery of the spring. The grass is suddenly springing into more active growth. The warm rays of the sun come gently forth.

**THE DIPLOMAT**

Laurel Iron, Marshall News-Herald  
Walter Wallin mixes his tongue, Mr. Craig Bignami, who was called the "Greatest" in the world.

**China Leans On India**

By Raymond Clapper



GOVERNMENT officials here are convinced of the danger that the Chinese collapse. China's fragile lifeline depends on keeping India open. The insistence of the All-India Congress Party on handling defense does not make sense here, because the Indians are dependent on the British, Moslems military protection. Failure of the Chinese negotiations might so demoralize the country as to open the way for easy Jap conquest of Eastern India. That is why Japan is now fighting so hard in Burma.

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"You don't have to worry about any broken windows—these birds won't set a foul word on you."