

A War
Reporter's
Notebook

By Don Whitehead

NOTE—Hal Doyle has been temporarily assigned to other duties on the Mediterranean front by the Associated Press. In the meantime Don Whitehead, and other members of the AP staff, will contribute the material for this column.

WITH FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, Nov. 12—(Delayed)—(AP)—A lot of legends are growing up around American soldiers of World War II and one of those men likely to become a legendary character is Chaplain Delois Marken of the Cottage Grove Avenue Church of Christ, Des Moines. He believes his place is in the front line with the combat troops, and that is where he stays most of the time.

"There is no greater place for worship than a fox hole," the chaplain said.

During one intense enemy barrage Marken scrambled into a slit trench with an infantryman who trembled as he prayed aloud.

"I guess you think I'm a daisy," the soldier said, "but I lost my best pal yesterday and I guess it sort of got me down."

"That's okay, son," Marken told him, "I pray, too. Let's pray together." And that's what they did.

When the German collapse came at Cape Bon in Tunisia, Marken was watching Allied troops trying to handle thousands of prisoners marching in to give themselves up. Everything and everyone was confused.

An official little German major, noticing Marken's lieutenant insignia, approached. Apparently he

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Fear Clash
Made Upon OPA
In Lebanon

CAIRO—(AP)—"The situation in Lebanon is potentially grave," and a real clash between the natives and the French "might come at any time—no one knows when," said a British official.

Richard G. Casey, British Minister of State in the Middle East, who returned from Beirut last night, explained British policy in the Franco-Lebanese dispute today to Gen. Georges Catroux, commander of the French Command in Lebanon.

Casey, who entered in Beirut yesterday with Sir Edward Grey, British Minister to Lebanon and Syria, urged Catroux to reach Beirut quickly. Catroux in 1931 promised Lebanon full independence.

The British Government, which has expressed concern over the situation and indicated a protest with the French, also made representations to the French Committee against an attack by French troops in Beirut Saturday against students waiting outside the British Consulate to see Sir Edward Grey.

The Governor said last week that his action in other states would be determined by events as they come to pass.

Reynolds Sees
Gerald Smith

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(AP)—Senator Reynolds, Democrat, North Carolina, and Gerald L. K. Smith, former minister and backer of the America First movement, conferred together today but the Senator declined comment on the nature of their conversation.

"We just had a chat," the Senator said. "I don't know what he would say about the Senator's active participation in a special campaign in behalf of America First."

Smith mentioned the Senator as a Presidential possibility and Reynolds said he was "flattered."

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Probably Gen. Sir Bernard Paget will be one of the major field formations likely to be thrown against the German defenses in the West. As commander-in-chief of home forces, Gen. Paget built up the British Army in the United Kingdom and has been closely associated during the last year with planning for the western offensive of the campaign to be launched in the coming year.

Woman Burned
To Death In
Car-Bus Crash

Man Found Unconscious Near Scene; May Be Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Watson

Ambulances and Mecklenburg County police cars rushed from Charlotte to investigate a report that an unidentified woman was trapped and burned to death in an automobile immediately after this machine and a Greyhound bus were in a collision about 2 P. M. near C.R. station, on Stateville Rd., near here.

The report of the rural police headquarters was telephoned by Mrs. Ford Watson, wife of the rural police desk sergeant.

Officers immediately arrived at the scene of the crash, where they found the body of a white woman, burned to death, within the automobile wreckage. The body was taken to the headquarters at 310 P. M. A truck crew from the Charlotte Fire Department

Blistering Attack
Made Upon OPA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(AP)—The Office of Price Administration was roundly assailed today by a Congressional Committee which accused it of having promulgated "illegal, absurd, useless and conflicting" regulations and of having "construed its power to authorize it to sentence citizens of the United States to starvation."

Bricker Hat
Is In Ring

COLUMBUS, Ohio—(AP)—Governor John W. Bricker announced formally today he was a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination.

His statement also renounced any bid for a fourth term as Governor.

"In view of the great needs, confident of the fact that the Republican Party will be called upon to lead our nation at the next election, I shall be a candidate for the nomination of the Ohio primary and before the Republican National Convention in New York."

His only reference to delegates in any state was that he would seek to win support of the Ohio delegation.

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Balkan Air
Offensive
Is Opened

Italian Ground
Fighting In Lull

By NOELAND NORGARD
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGERS—(AP)—American 3-25 Mitchell medium bombers ranged in force over Sofia yesterday, making the first air attack on the Bulgarian capital from this theater in a blow designed to dislocate traffic over the whole Balkan rail system, while ground in Italy the battle lines remain virtually unchanged.

Other bombers went into France for their third crack at the important Ardennes railway viaduct near Comen the night before, and light bombers shot up the harbor of Chivitevechia on the west coast of Italy.

Accurate reports described the bombing as "extremely accurate," with explosives missing down squares on a locomotive repair shop, and down last night's depot, and ripping up the tracks in the yards.

This accurate opening of the Balkan offensive has a far-reaching consequence, an official announcement said.

"Through this immensely important rail center German troops are transported to Greece and down into the Balkans and also to the western Balkans. The Balkan railway yards link up with rail routes through Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria. The effect of dislocating traffic over the whole Balkan area is incalculable."

In all the day and night air operations, including fighter sweeps over the Adriatic, the British and American bombers hit targets, camps and motor transport lines, and the Allies listed one plane as lost.

Concerning the ground fighting

see BULGARIAN on page 2

Dire Nazi
Threat Made

LONDON—(AP)—The Germans in an ominous effort to impress Bulgaria, located for Bulgaria, have urged Britain today for what was called a "naked and unadorned" ultimatum to Germany.

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Gripsholm At Rio
RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil—(AP)—The repatriation ship Gripsholm, arriving here today, has been ordered to take aboard American troops from Japanese internment camps, docked here this afternoon. The ship will be a route from Marmagao, Portuguese India, to New York.

Post-War Work
Camps Possible

BUFFALO, N. Y.—(AP)—Work camps patterned after pre-war Federal camps, to be operated by the Government to alleviate a serious problem of unemployment after the war, the 28th meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Charities has decided.

"We shall likely see a type of work camp incorporating the features of the pre-war camps," the conference decided. The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Youth Administration, with some 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 unemployed youth taken off the streets, are the main forces now used by the military, the Rev. Paul P. Tanner, director of the conference, said. The Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, said in a prepared statement.

British Improve
Leros Positions

CAIRO—(AP)—British troops improved their positions in central and northern sectors of the Dodecanese island of Leros yesterday, inflicting substantial casualties on the Germans and capturing a number of prisoners, a Middle East communiqué announced today.

The fierce fighting for the island, important in the strategy of the Aegean because of its position as a base for German submarines, was accompanied by continued aerial blows in which long-range fighter sweeps and bomber assaults were carried out over the German positions.

Explosions and fires were started at Gurnia Bay, Alinda Bay, Cape Praxi and a Heinkel-III was destroyed.

Nazis Shut
Frontier

MADRID—(AP)—The Germans have closed the French-Spanish border to all but a few diplomatic travelers and are busily strengthening the coastal defenses against the threat of an Allied invasion, dispatches from Paris said today.

Labor gangs are working day and night on the fortifications, travelers said, and German engineering units are feverishly manning the beach and mountain defenses behind the coastline. The work was said to be going on particularly between Narbonne and Cerber, along a 50-mile stretch comprising the extreme southeast tip of France.

Another Berlin broadcast according to the German evacuation of Zhitomir, rail junction on the Nazis' last north-south railroad artery out of the old Polish border, whose fall threatened to cut the central Nazi forces off from the drive against German armies from the forces of the center front.

The broadcast reported new Soviet attacks northward from the Crimea, and fresh Soviet attacks in the Dnieper basin.

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Germany Beset
With Inflation

LONDON—(AP)—Germany is beset with inflation, the British Ministry of Economic Warfare indicated today, with the amount of money circulating in the Reich skyrocketing from 8,000,000,000 marks at the start of the war to 100,000,000,000 marks today.

The inflation was attributed to borrowing Government borrowing to finance the war effort as well as recent extensive repair work.

Impending Rabaul Loss Believed
Inspiring Jap "Victory" Claims

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
WASHINGTON—(AP)—Japan's vaunting victory in the South Pacific, it now turns out, may be intended by Tokyo propagandists to lead into a bold new offensive against Allied forces closing in on Rabaul.

Noted analysts who advanced this possibility noted that it would not be the first time the enemy has used a resounding victory in the Pacific to inspire a new offensive. The books by claiming that a key position had accomplished its purpose and no longer was needed, they said.

Soviets Make
42-Mile Gain
From Zhitomir

Drive Through Hole West Of
Kiev Carries To Baronovka

MOSCOW—(AP)—Masses of Red Army infantry, cavalry tanks and self-propelled guns pouring into the hole west of Kiev to Baronovka have reached a point only 25 miles from the pre-war borders of Russia and Poland.

A 42-mile advance took the plunging Soviet columns into Baronovka since the capture of the rail junction of Zhitomir on Saturday.

Thirty-eight miles in the northwest of Baronovka is the town of Gerasimivka, just inside the old Russian border. Fifty-five miles directly west of Baronovka is Ostrog, just inside the old Polish frontier.

The line of demarcation slanting to the northeast from Ostrog comes within 35 miles of the present Red Army line.

Gen. Nikolai (lightning) Vatutin's First Ukrainian Army which had rushed into the 130-mile-long salient west of Kiev in a mighty breakthrough of German defenses had 100 miles to go, however, before reaching the nearest point of the German-Soviet demarcation line through Poland that existed in 1941 when the Germans began their invasion of Russia.

The Red Army was surging through the salient in a series of attacks north of Zhitomir that would give control of a 20-mile stretch of the Lemberg-Ostrog line.

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Review For
Pay Case

Supreme Court Will
Take Action

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