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FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1943

A New Attack Setting Up Asia Theater Means Circling of Foes

We cannot believe that Adolph Hitler shoo in his boots, at least no more than usual these days, at the so-called Axis. From Franklin Roosevelt that he'd better surrender and save his land from destruction. We suspect that the contempt in which Der Fuehrer holds the President has not changed since the peace talks of 1919-20, though he must realize by now who holds the winning hand. But Hitler, of necessity, cannot heed the warning. What he must heed, and accept with fear, is the launching of a new front against the Axis, the so-called Asia Command.

That move, called at Quebec, was a signal to be seen all over the world. The Allies are getting ready to move, and when they do, they'll have men enough and munitions enough to mop up all over the world at once. There will not only be great drives into Europe from all sides; there will also be drives against Japan from at least four directions. Now, there is no doubt everything to move forward everywhere.

The selection of Lord Mountbatten as Chief of the new theater of operations will be popular, if only for the fame he has won as Commando leader, and the glamour of his career. That he is an Englishman is also of importance. His assignment is a big one; it will take a great deal of power to force the way through Burma from India and Ceylon. That from, with new resources drawn from Britain and America, definitely commits England to fight an active, aggressive war against Japan. That should bring satisfaction to those suspicious Americans who have so typically forgotten their losses in the Pacific area have been far, far greater than our own.

The push against Japan may not be so long in coming as the world has expected. Apparently, Mountbatten takes over a command which already comprises considerable forces; as soon as reinforcements are plentiful, aggressive action will be forthcoming. If timed with the blows from the Solomons and Australia, and with the attacks on the Aleutians, the advances in Burma will cause Japan real alarm. With planes in China already more active, and a threat to Burma and Thailand growing, her sea communications down the China coast into Malaya are already endangered. No matter how strongly Japan has fortified herself in the new positions, she is vulnerable to these planned attacks from all sides.

The arrival of Mountbatten in India will mark the start, in effect, of a reverse piecemeal movement of gigantic proportions. It was once planned against India and the whole British East, by Japan and Germany. Now, with the returning the other way, the same kind of sweeping movement will suffice to carry the Japs back toward their own islands, and to hustle them, protesting, fiercely, toward the doom. The Southeast Asia command almost closes the circles on the enemy. There is only the gap along the Russian border, far to the North.

A Good Remedy Habitual Drunks Feel Chastening of McDougle Act

We can't speak for the other 99 cents, but in Mecklenburg the act passed by the last Legislature against habitual drunkenness is a "gripping" success. Here, when County Solicitor Charles H. Bundy suspects a defendant charged with drunkenness of a previous appearance, he asks questions and turns the unfortunate over to the process of the new law, and getting the judge. Mr. Bundy says that it is necessary to make only a few such points in the courtroom to set a sight of people to thinking.

The Solicitor reports that he has had but one or two such cases, since he first pulled the McDougle Act (so called because Rep. H. I. McDougle introduced the bill) on a defendant from Gaston County. That man, Solicitor Bundy has been up on a similar charge in the past, got the works. The Solicitor told defendant and a packed courtroom of the McDougle Act, and Judge Vance Howard handed down a six months' road sentence. The courtroom, so Mr. Bundy says, was very quiet at that. The full house knew it had seen something new. The law, something, and business now, so, from our point of view, it may be surmised that the habitual drunkenness bill is working a great good in North Carolina. If other courts are making use of the power, and getting such examples for drunks and ex-drunks, then we are making progress. This, rather than all

the little bans and prohibitions, is going to be the answer to the problem of drunkenness in the court system. There is still a step to be taken: The McDougle Act should some day have a companion—a bill aimed at habitually criminals. There is precedent in the statute books of other states. And there is no superior method of control. A few words, spoken at the right time, have proved that in County Recorder's Court.

No U-Turn Teachers Rail at Anti-Strike Bill, Recall a Broken Pledge

The American Federation of Teachers, perhaps speaking only because of its connection with the American Federation of Labor, comes out strongly in opposition to the Smith-Connelly anti-strike bill. The teachers, banded together in national session, speak up and call for the repeal of this law, which was passed by public demand and ran down the President's throat after a veto. The bill, passed after hundreds of painful strikes had followed Labor's "no-strike pledge," has a place in the affections of most Americans.

It has been lauded as the most vicious anti-labor bill in a century. It has been maligned as the forerunner of a series of laws to cripple labor unions, and to destroy all their gains. It is not that. It is a device, and a very strong one, to bring to a halt strikes in wartime. The American people were forced to that wish by irresponsible Labor leaders and their followers. The Congress was forced by its passage by public wish. The President was forced to sign it by a rebellious Congress that wanted no more pampering of Labor.

The bill was passed in a time of high employment figures, and record high wages, when the nation thought Labor was not doing its part. Most of the millions of laboring men who made America's great production possible had no part in the galling strikes. It is true. And over a command which already comprises considerable forces; as soon as reinforcements are plentiful, aggressive action will be forthcoming. If timed with the blows from the Solomons and Australia, and with the attacks on the Aleutians, the advances in Burma will cause Japan real alarm. With planes in China already more active, and a threat to Burma and Thailand growing, her sea communications down the China coast into Malaya are already endangered. No matter how strongly Japan has fortified herself in the new positions, she is vulnerable to these planned attacks from all sides.

The Victories As Losses Go Up, Allied Bombers Are More Effective

Daily stories indicate the growing ferocity of German anti-aircraft defenses over the remaining strongholds of industry. New devices are reported, more and more fighter planes are going up after the bombers. In the attack on Berlin, the RAF had a fortune in planes and trained men, in widely scattered raids in other sectors, the Allies have paid a terrible price. This is the result of Germany's switch from offensive to defensive warfare. The first stage of the great struggle for domination of the air over Europe.

In the early phases of this struggle the costs will be high in men and planes. As the defenses are battered, however, the ratio should flatten out, and decrease. The pounding of Berlin, for example, should continue for night after night, would soon greatly decrease the number of aircraft sacrificed. Out numbers of guns, and over a period of time make the city untenable—or not worth the holding. The night fighters, though less vulnerable, will be ground down in the same fashion. The more often they go up, the greater will be the losses, the lower will go the morale of survivors.

The test is on, and it is to be hoped that Allied commanders will continue to throw every resource in the bombing program, despite crop losses. Even if the costs reach the point of apparent prohibition, the giant raids should be continued as the means of sacrifice in the air could approach the price which would be paid later, on the ground, if the Nazi defenses are not crumbled from above.

Now, despite all reported losses, we begin to make real progress in the air. A few months of this, and invasion will be comparatively simple. Every day's operations by the big bombers brings the end nearer.

Even in the thick of the August heat, we'd soon not live in a shaded portion of the war maps.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON The President has just made a major decision, a similar little Wallace-Jones showdown, by which he is ousting one of his most loyal supporters. This time it is Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles. For exactly ten years Welles has been the President's chief adviser and administrator on the diplomatic front. He helped Roosevelt's highly successful Good Neighbor policy, took the rap on a lot of things he didn't initiate, and like Henry Wallace, never made a move without knowing the President, thoroughly approved.

But like Wallace, Welles is now being ousted. As with Wallace, Welles was in complete agreement with the conservative, or Southern wing, of the Democratic Party. Where the President picked between Jesse Jones and Welles in relation to Economic Warfare, he has now chosen between Cordell Hull and Sumner Welles.

Hull's Showdown

Inside story is that Secretary Hull, spurred on by Mrs. Hull, called for a showdown with the President, declaring that either his Undersecretary of State must resign or he, Hull, would get out. The President has known Welles since the latter was a boy in knee breeches. Welles and Mrs. Roosevelt had the same godmother. Welles was a pageboy at the Roosevelt wedding. Later, when Roosevelt was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, he got Welles his first appointment to the diplomatic service. Welles had virtually grown up under Roosevelt's tutelage.

Faced with the Hull ultimatum, however, the President went on his Great Lakes cruise, with Jimmy Byrnes and Harry Hopkins, to think it over. When he got back he cast his choice with the conservative wing of the party. He accepted Welles' resignation. To get the full significance of this decision, it is necessary to go back and understand the relationship between Welles and Hull.

Actually, no two men appeared to be more ideally suited for diplomatic work. Hull, now over 70, not in good health, away from the State Department six months last year, needed a young, vigorous undersecretary. He has always stated that he was not an administrator, did not want to be tied down with details, wanted to devote his time to trade treaties and major policy.

Mrs. Hull's Role

But the two men did not pull apart, partly by the President himself, partly by Mrs. Hull, partly by the sympathetic career diplomats who played up to Hull's pride and poured in poison against Welles. The President, a very busy man, found it difficult to listen to Secretary Hull's rambling, indelicate diplomatic presentations; so got in the habit of calling Welles to the White House. Welles could summarize a situation in France, Germany or the Argentine in five minutes and recommend action. So Welles and the President, always his own Secretary of State, grew closer and closer in handling foreign policy.

This was one of the things which especially grieved Mrs. Hull. And had it not been for the resentment which she and the career clique poured into the old gentleman's gullible ears, it is doubtful

if the State Department feud would have developed. One series of incidents which particularly rankled was over the Good Neighbor policy. Welles has been in the State Department under Charles Evans Hughes, and Welles really developed the first seeds of the Good Neighbor policy. He was the one who suggested the withdrawal of American Marines from the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, and who first told down the policy that American troops should not land on Latin American soil.

Good Neighbor Welles

Later while Roosevelt was still Governor of New York, Welles was one of the Good Neighbor policy and helped write the Democratic platform adopted at the Chicago convention. It was Secretary Hull, however, who attended the first Pan-American conference in 1933 at Montevideo to carry out the Good Neighbor plank, at which time he argued privately that the United States must reserve the right to land troops on Latin American soil if necessary.

Hull even approached the Chilean and Argentine delegates and thought he had their support for the American position of intervention. But when they surprised him by speaking publicly against intervention, he finally came round to the original Welles policy of no U. S. troops in Latin America. Since then, Latin American diplomats usually have come to see Welles, not Hull, when they wanted to get things done—another fact which has disrupted relations.

More acid was poured in the wound during the State Department row over European refugees. The President appointed a committee of distinguished citizens including the Catholic Archbishop of New Orleans to select German, Czech and Austrian refugees, many of them Jewish, for admission to this country.

Refugees Blocked

The committee was set up under the supervision of Sumner Welles and it selected 651 professors, churchmen, and ex-Government officials to get U. S. passports. Months passed with nothing happened. Finally it was discovered that the chairman of the State Department which takes orders from Hull had blocked the visas.

Meanwhile Mrs. Hull had authorized the admission of 500 Bata shoe workers from German-occupied Czechoslovakia despite the fact that the Bata firm was on the British blacklist. Later the firm was placed on the American blacklist and the shoe workers who had already entered the country were expelled. This and many another problem where Welles was doing a job at the personal direction of the President, and usually by faring for a more liberal policy, have smarted at the State Department relations intermittently.

So now, in the same way that Hull demanded the resignation of Raymond Moley as Assistant Secretary of State, and of George Peek as economic adviser, he had now demanded the exit of the most important and liberal pillar in the State Department—Sumner Welles.



Mr. Willkie: "It's a swell coat, but I wish you hadn't shown it to Dad before I hit him for a boost in my allowance—now I'm helping to pay for it!"

Mr. Willkie A Simple Man

By Samuel Graham

RUSHVILLE, IND. WHAT follows in this piece is my feeling about Mr. Wendell Willkie as of this date, gained from several days of talking with him under good circumstances. It is my belief that sitting in the local grocery store and opening pasture gates and watching little piglets are good circumstances.

Mr. Willkie is in no way responsible for what I say here. I waited Rushville usually, on no particular business. So please keep in mind that what I say here is offered as what I think, not what Mr. Willkie thinks. Certainly I am not going to pick any tidbits, directly or by hint, out of informal conversations.

I came away with the feeling that there are two fixed poles in Mr. Willkie's political life today, an interest in civil liberties and an interest in international collaboration. It seems to me highly unlikely that he can ever be shaken in his adherence to both. Would he accept political oblivion, if he had to, as the price for sticking to these concepts? I am certain, as of this moment, that he would.

Several times in my life I have met men who have impressed me by their ability to navigate in deep waters (perhaps waters that are even fundamentally too deep for them) by the use of very simple reference points. These men will check problems against a bit of remembered philosophy, or even an anecdote, or perhaps some personal experience, and will act accordingly. I have also known many men who seem to love complexity, almost for its own sake; men who like a rich, juicy situation, filled with specific and concrete difficulties, personalities, obstacles, and who love also to invent a rich, new, complex set of solutions for their problem.

Mr. Willkie belongs to the first type. He rests complexities. He likes to simplify, and then simplify some more. The second type of operator sometimes likes to make a situation even more complex than it is, to add elements and to change the water of hope of creating new permutations and combinations that will give him more to work with.

The Willkie way, I think, is to strip situations down, instead, to abstract and without elements from them. So please keep in mind that the Willkie way is to strip situations down, instead, to abstract and without elements from them. So please keep in mind that the Willkie way is to strip situations down, instead, to abstract and without elements from them.

In the other view, this is a world of one particular premier, who as an antipathy toward red-baiting, and another premier who hates Bolshevism, and a particular foreign minister who was kept mollified on the Pazo-Pazo question, and 23 million people who are enemies who are opposed to desecrating, and even million people who think the moon is made of green cheese, and how best a policy which will satisfy all these men and groups and still work well.

The trouble with the second kind of approach is that all these wonderful faculties keep changing while the policy is being built on them, so that the new scheme sometimes turns out to be higher than the house, or else down in the cellar. The strength of Mr. Willkie's strength lies in this: this is a world of farmers, workers and managers, and this is what keeps him so straight on foreign policy, at a moment when the hard-fact boys are holding their breath and muttering pitifully.

No Line Here Heroes Of Color

(Carl Garner, Writers' War Board)

SOMEWHERE "down under" beside a little river a fighter-pilot swung about and scanned his ship. He gathered speed as he neared down the curved runway. A sudden gusher hurried into the air, and the pilot skimmed the ground and struck a log that lay just outside the field. There was a tearing, crackling sound and the plane started down like a bird, and the bird Water flung into the air and the water fell. Then there was another crackling sound. The stream had burst into flame.

Pvt. Julius Franklin of Charleston, S. C., was resting beside the river when it caught fire—just as he had rested beside the Ashley—and the Edison—and the Cooper ever since he was a pickaninny. But when this foreign fire caught fire he stopped resting. He slipped his shoes off and jumped into the fire. Before he heard two splashes and guessed what they meant. Pvt. James Scott, who learned to swim down on the Tomblighs in Alabama, and Pvt. Harvey Cranley, who used to paddle the waters of the Tar in North Carolina, were going to take the hot bath, too.

Pvt. Franklin took a huge gulp of air, up-ended, and swam under water until he wondered if maybe he had not already drowned. When he came up again it was in a bubbling inferno of blazing gas. It was hard to catch air this time but he saw the blazing plane and dove for the spot where the pilot would be. His big, brown hands worked away over the fire's limp body, seized and unlocked the safety belt.

Getting back to shore was worse than the swim out. A swimmer can't dive far when he's losing a man. But after Pvt. Julius Franklin had got the pilot clear of the plane, there was Pvt. Scott to take him over and herb him along toward land. And just when Pvt. James Scott could stand the flames licking about his head, any longer, there was Pvt. Harvey Cranley to split him with his heavy burden.

Eager hands of the Umptreth Engineers (colored) lifted the unconscious pilot (white) from the water. A doctor bent over him, needed encouragement. Then the men on the bank dragged their fellow-engineers ashore. All five were dazed and unconscious. All three were happy.

I am telling this story because I think more people ought to know about it—more people like some mistaken citizens, afraid, not to think a man's color determines his merit.

Bible Thought Quote

The laboratory method alone will demonstrate your hidden gifts. Power, prayer, faith, love will bring them forth. The natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him.—1 Corinthians 2:14.

Getting a Palm-Line On the Old Boy

By Dorman Smith



JUST AS CLEAR AS MUD! IT MUST MEAN SOMETHING—BUT WHAT?

A Hull Cause? The War Needs A Shot

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON TWO men with the political spark of Roosevelt and Churchill once could have produced something more electrifying than the "Declaration of Queen Elizabeth" which was finally needed. Politically the war is going stale.

In England people are turning their thoughts more and more toward resumption of peacetime normal activities. Everybody was taking a vacation this year. Air raid precautions were being relaxed and a campaign, thus far unsuccessful, has been carried on against the blackouts. Here in America you find people, more every day, who think the war is almost over. Manufacturers are going in for the Department asking to be relieved of war contracts so they can resume making baby buggies.

Women war workers, their lust enthusiasm gone, are dropping out. Yet Paul McNulty wants two million more war workers by the end of the year. Draft Director Herzog wants 446,000 fathers for draftees by Dec. 31 and people of America are about to be asked for fifteen billion dollars for the Third War Loan.

We are asking to raise that much money. If those fathers are to be taken from their families without leaving a trail of burning resentment, if the two million war workers volunteering to do hard manual work after leaving well-paid office jobs, everybody has to feel deeply that a hard war is yet to be fought and that victory is not a puppet's show.

It has to do with keeping the people of occupied countries alive to the meaning and intentions of the democratic Allies, so they can help us. At Quebec Churchill and Roosevelt said it would be a long, hard war. A long, hard war for what?

Day after day we delay recognizing the only group of Frenchmen who are ready and able to help rescue and restore France. The declaration of Quebec might have liberated them and other occupied peoples whose liberation may come within the next few months. The declaration might have given us some idea of what we hoped to see come out of victory. Are we to continue to butter the miserable little King of Italy, or will we encourage democrats in Italy? Are we ready to make way for those who have throughout been the enemies of our cause?

Or are we going to protect the Fascist Dictator Franco? His friends and defenders seem to be on top in our State Department too. A rather sorry, non-union crew having around Secretary Hull, the whole place beset by feuds and small-minded prejudices at a time when vision, teamwork and skill were never more needed. Sumner Welles has been pushed out of the State Department and the service of an exceptionally able diplomatic technician are being sought.

This Administration may have wasted billions of dollars, but when you look back at the things that have gone on, the waste and abuse of the brains has run into large figures, also.

There is a frightening succession of political bankruptcy comes out of the side air here. Quebed might have revitalized all of us and our tired friends abroad, but it was an opportunity lost.