WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS—

Allied Drives Menace Reported Nazi Plans for Mountain Stand; Less Meat, Lower Prices for U.S.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Released by Western Newspaper Union. These opinions are expressed by the editors of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.

Deciding to move from town to path of General Patton's sweep into Saar only after it was bombarded, three German women pull cart with belongings along road in search of new homes.

EUROPE:
Fleeting Hope

Faced with the preponderant might of the U. S. and British on the west and the Russians on the east, desperate Nazis were preparing for a final last stand in the mountain mass in southern Germany.

Reported both by reliable military and political sources, the Nazi plans call for the retirement of the cream of the wehrmacht to the forested ranges in Thuringia, where they would then be expected to hole up in strongly fortified positions for heavy defensive fighting.

Object of such a plan, it was said, would be to inflict heavy losses upon attacking Allies, and also increase the internal chaos in Germany proper to such an extent that the U. S. and Britain would consider an armistice to permit the restoration of order in the Reich.

Plan Hobbled

If, indeed, such is the Nazis' plan, Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' drive to the east bank of the Rhine at the Remagen seriously jeopardizes it, since his 1st army has steadily built up strength in that sector to thrust eastward across the waist of Germany **and thus prevent any general Germ**an withdrawal southward to the mountain mass.

At the same time, the Russians have exerted strong pressure against the eastern entrance to the moun-

Supreme Allied Commander Eisenhower (center) confers with Field Marshal Montgomery (left) and Lt. Gen. Bradley.

tain mass in continued attacks in Upper Silesia and Hungary, where the enemy has reacted strongly to the Reds' thrusts.

In addition to threatening to burst into the open plains to the west of the Rhine, the U. S. 1st army also menaced the southern border of the all-important Ruhr industrial valley, while the British 2nd and 9th armies drew upon it from the west. To the southeast, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd and Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's 7th armies closed their vise on 09,000 Germans in the Saar basin, rich source of iron and steel.

In addition to their strong assaults in Upper Silesia and Hungary, the Russians massed against the storied defenses guarding the emasculated Berlin region.

PACIFIC:
Tougher Yet

"God knows, they are tough enough now, especially at Iwo Jima. But they are going to be tougher as we go along."

Thus spoke the marines' fighting Lt. Gen. Holland M. Smith upon his return to Hawaii from the bloody battle of Iwo Jima, in which America's fleet explored the little island with the vital airfields at a cost of nearly 20,000 casualties, including 4,000 killed.

"They are learning all kinds of things by experience," Gen. Holland M. Smith said, "and each of the things they learn makes it harder for us to wipe them out."

Tough as the Japs have proved to be, however, their home front continued to writhe under terrific bombardment, with carrier planes from Vice Adm. Marc Mitscher's famed task force joining in the raids to smash at the enemy's vaunted imperial fleet in the Inland sea, bounded by Honshu island on the west, Honshu on the north and Shikoku on the south.

In addition to damaging warships and freighters and destroying almost 500 opposing aircraft, the attackers plastered airplane factories, plane engine assembly plants, oil fires and workshops of naval bases in the vicinity.

HOME FRONT:
Consumer News

On the home front, record production continued to pile up more war material for civilians, on one hand, and a tighter control over retail clothing, furniture and home-furnishings prices, on the other.

Reflecting President Roosevelt's statement that Americans must pull in their belts to help feed

MEAT

hungry Europeans, the War Food administration announced supplies for April, May and June promised consumers more than the prevailing rate of 150 pounds per year to 155 pounds, or 15 pounds, the level would be about 10 pounds below the 1935-39 average.

At 1,381,000,000 pounds, the military allotment for the next three months will be 4 per cent over the preceding quarter, it was said, with the increase needed to feed some 2,150,000 civilians working for the army overseas, war prisoners, Filipinos, French and other Allied and Italian labor units.

Although lend-lease shipments to Russia will increase to 3**8,000,000** pounds, it was said, deliveries to Britain will total only 25,000,000 pounds, because of the previous buildup of English stocks.

Also in the interest of curbs in civilian allocations Americans will have to do without veal, lamb and pork, although more veal, lamb and mutton will be available. At the same time, the government took steps to channel more slaughtering from the Midwest to the eastern seaboard to assure a free flow of meat to the populous areas in the east.

In tightening control over retail prices, the OPA ordered home furnishings

GOODS

price ceilings, the OPA said, will save consumers 300,000 merchants rolling these items could add to wholesale costs to arS. Patton's 3rd and Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's 7th armies closed their vise on 09,000 Germans in the Saar basin, rich source of iron and steel.

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Postwar Beefsteak Makes Mouth Water

As the scientists picture it, that postwar steak will be tender, juicy and flavorful. Its fat will be creamy rather than pure white and will be distributed or "marbled" through the lean, rather than concentrated in an outside layer. The color of the lean will incline toward cherry red. Cuts will have less bone in proportion to meat.

The steak will come from a relatively young, healthy animal that has grown rapidly, because rapid growth is economical of feed, and generally produces the tenderest meat, it is said. The meat will have been ripened for the proper length of time to allow the natural enzymes to break down the tougher tissues and make it more tender and juicy, and at the right temperature to prevent bacterial spoilage.

—ADVERTISING PAYS—

DRAFT:
Policy Change

More men over 20 faced the draft following the announcement of the government's decision to defer some 165,000 young men under that age in the steel, coal mines, non-ferrous mining, synthetic rubber and transportation industries to avert critical manpower shortages in those fields.

Previously, the government had ruled that no more than one-third of workers in the 18 to 29 age group could be deferred, **but unless other industrial** groups succeed in exerting pressure for similar treatment of **their younger men, the steel,** coal-mining, synthetic rubber, **nonferrous mining and trans**portation enterprises will receive almost half of the total of approximately 250,000 to be reclassified 2-A or 3-B.

In declaring "... we don't get them under the wire, we'll have to take older men ..." a selective service spokesman indicated that local draftants over 30 in the five preference industries would be called for military **service before other less critically rated** fields could be tapped.

MIDNIGHT CURFEW:
LaGuardia Balks

Said Mayor Albert W. Close of Haverill, Mass.: "The government is not going to protect the health and food of Haverill."

His lament referred to New York Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia's defiance of Washington's order to eight closing order of amusement centers, and War Mobilization Director Byrnes' admission that the government could not step in to enforce the order because of a lack of police.

In defying the government, New York's LaGuardia, more colorfully known even as the "Little Flower," allowed the theaters, metropolitan amusement centers to remain open at 1 a. m., and local police even when the government appealed for assistance in enforcing the edict, reversally allowed the establishments to remain open.

Though Haverill's Close's dander was up, masses of many cities and towns, including Chicago and Detroit declared they would observe the curfew. While it was believed the order would be withdrawn after the European war, Byrnes called for present observance of the regulation issued to conserve coal, electricity and fuel. Said Byrnes: "We must conserve the utility forces that the home front is expected to sacrifice for **their support."**

FINLAND:
Swing to Left

With Moscow closely watching the election to observe the extent to which Finland might swing to the left and shy from rightist elements which supported the German alliance, the Communist Democratic People's Union, now aggressively 50 strong in the diet, further participated.

In addition, pro-Russian elements in the normally conservative Social Democratic party, which broke away from the left-wing alliance, led the rest of their anticipation in the election, thus indicating the possibility that they might join the Communists and their group to combine with the Communists and control the government.

Previously the second largest party in Finland, the conservatives, or agrarians, appeared to have lost it all as returns from most of the districts occurring in the north were the first counted. Reason: the Communist destruction of installations on their withdrawal from the area.

BLACK MARKET:
Crack Down

Long criticized for failure to crack down on black market alley racketeers, OPA agents moved against suspected violators on a broad front. Objective: to smash the trade as described as the biggest operation yet undertaken in the country.

As OPA moved against packers, dealers and retailers alike, both federal and circuit courts in the Chicago district entered a series of consent judgments and injunctions against violators.

Investigating suspected operations, OPA agents found a bus driver hauling the trunk of his automobile with 629 pounds of meat without **proper ration points; discov**ered one packing company collecting for a full consignment of meat but keeping back a certain amount as an unauthorized delivery charge; and uncovered a dealer charging over-ceiling prices and retailers paying them to obtain supplies.

In one federal court case, three alleged violators were fined $3,000 each without contesting the government's charge of slaughtering over War Food administration orders and diverting the surplus to black market sales.

POULTRY IMPROVES

Of the vast poultry population of the United States, consisting largely of 500,000,000 laying hens, about 20,000,000 breeding birds in flocks owned by poultrymen participating in the improved poultry improvement plan set the pace for current and future egg and poultry meat production.

Last year these birds furnished hatching eggs to 3,000 hatcheries having a total capacity of about 190 million eggs.

SUPPORT THE RED CROSS.

TIDBITS of Kentucky Folklore

By Dr. Gordon Wilson
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"THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH"
Part I

King Arthur, in Tennyson's "Idylls of the King," is speaking of the old order but adds that we older people should continually make for betterment. "The old order changeth, yielding place to new, And God fulfills Himself in many ways,

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

Right and old people since time began have been the tendency to look back to the "good old days" and the "good old ones." Think of your knowledge of history and you will find that practically every civilized nation has been severely assailed now and then by those who would destroy it in order to have been. Every nation has had to fight for its very life to defend its civilization. Even small things like folk customs have had to be subjected to strife, hostility, to social ostracism.

Suppose we take some things that are commonplace but are bitterly condemned when they are first introduced. Tobacco was late as 1916 a college professor friend of mine was severely criticized because he and his brother presently established a tobacco factory. Then small things like chewing gum