OPERATION UNITY

Europe Wants War Goods Faster, But Armament Is Enormous Job

By FARMHAM DUDGEON

(Editor's note: This is one a series of articles prepared the Editor of Western newspaper Union while on a reporting trip through Europe and the Near East.)

In the current build-up of strength against Russia, two major considerations project themselves into the thinking of the NATO leaders who are charged with the awful responsibility of meeting this threat to the peace of the free world. They are:

(1) Are supplies from the arsenal which is the United States reaching the "front" fast enough?

(2) Are the free Europeans functioning to the full extent of their abilities in terms of "self-help" in building up their defenses?

Finding the answers to these vital questions is not an easy job. In the limited time our group of observers had been granted for our survey, we had to rely for the answers on briefings by U. S. military and diplomatic personnel stationed in the countries through which we traveled, and on the official government viewpoint of the nations we visited. We got the latter viewpoint from their top-flight officials.

Progress Being Made

Sifting through the evidence presented by these sources, and supplementing it with our many off-the-record conversations with foreign newspapermen and just plain Mr. Foreign Citizen, we came up with the general feeling that, "all things considered," there is much positive progress being made toward the over-all objectives.

Without attempting to evaluate the current U. S. domestic controversy on the adequateness of military supply schedules, there is no secret about the fact that our leaders in Europe and the Near East would like to get materials at a faster clip.

However, on this point our military leaders are realistic. They are doing the best they can with what they have and can get. A year ago there were probably six fully and properly equipped "free-country" divisions in Europe. Today there are between three and four times that many.

Considering the situation in Korea, the long period of time required to switch production lines from tractors and plows to tanks and planes, and balancing these factors against the ability of certain of our allies to absorb mechanized warfare equipment, these leaders are inclined to describe the rate of incoming supplies as being "adequate in tone."

There seems to be no single item which is needed more desperately than the others. Everything needed to fight a modern war is in demand: tanks, planes, communication equipment, etc. But the record of deliveries already made by United States under the Mutual Defense Assistance Program is impressive.

To attempt a generalization on the strength and vigor of effort of the countries which we visited would be foolhardy, yet you come away from the continent with the net impression that the effort being put forth is far better than might be expected.

Production Is Up

Industrial production is considerably better than it was in the period immediately before World War II. Best figures indicate that production is about 130 per cent of 1938. Military forces are growing in those countries not restricted by treaty regulations.

If the fighting broke out tomorrow, all of the countries we visited, France, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Western Germany, Yugoslavia and The Netherlands, would give good accounts of themselves with their limited military establishments. Not necessarily because of NATO ideals, but surely to defend their own countries.

Unstable governments have hindered arms production and held down military training in some of these countries, of that there can be no doubt. France is usually offered as Horrible Example No. 1 in the non-cooperative sweepstakes. Europeans like to say that the Frenchmen are "dragging their feet." SHAPE leaders recognize France as a special problem but they do not share the dismal viewpoint of the French military effort often attributed to that country by other Europeans.

France is fighting a man-sized war in Indo China. Much of her military strength is being diverted to that sector and while some critics will characterize this as a "Colonial" war rather than a struggle for the freedom of suppressed peoples, the hard fact is that 48,000 of her commissioned and non-commissioned officers are engaged on that battle front.

Our military leaders think the Frenchman will, and has the ability to put up a good fight if called upon. The French economy is rocky and the government is shaky, but when the chips fall, France is expected to do its part.

Italy can't do much about building up her forces until she is released from the restrictions of the World War II peace treaty.

Greece has just finished a horrible and bloody civil war against Communists and is ready to fight Communists again, if necessary. But the Greeks too want peace.

Yugoslavia Will Fight

Yugoslavia will fight Russia if necessary, but she won't fight communism. This country is itself communistic to the core. In fact, the "Jugs" claim a rather superior kind of communism. A good tough partner to have on your side but certainly not a partner to get enthusiastic about when you come to consider idealism and an appeal "to the hearts of men." It is still a police state despite Tito's assurances that he is opening the gates to all types of inquiry and investigation of his country's affairs.

Looking beyond the possibility of immediate war, the people we visited sense that their fate is closely tied to ours. They believe that the only language Russia understands is power. They know that the power Europe has to offset Russia without American help is not enough to deter the aggressor.

From this fact they conclude that there can be no turning back in present efforts to build up Western forces. While the 1951 goals for a unified armed force were not met, they agree with our SHAPE leaders, who contend that 1952 will be a crucial year.

It is upon us, and goals formerly set for 1953 must be met in the next 12 months. This is the year in which the strength of German industrial production within the Soviet zone will make itself felt in the struggle for increased arms.

This too, is the year in which the American people will decide how much further they are able and willing to keep the arsenal running and the checkbook open.

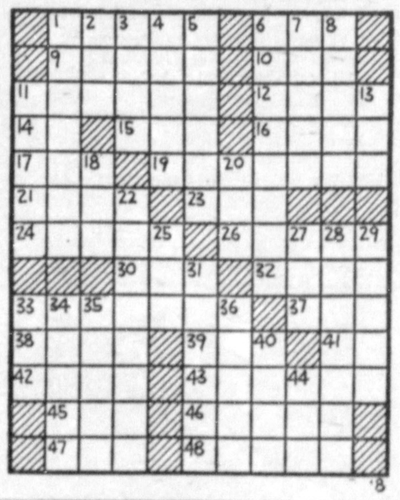
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

NO. 0-6

ACROSS
1. Mend clumsily
6. Juice of a plant
9. Nimble
10. Tint
11. Tallies
12. Scope
14. All correct
15. Consume
16. Masculine
17. Forbid
19. Bites a little at a time
21. Shield
23. Trouble
24. Repulse
26. Instruct
30. Male sheep
32. Foot covering
33. Fresh-water fish
37. Miscellany
38. One's dwelling place
39. Flat, salt-water fish
41. Troop (abbr.)
42. The sun's disk
43. Arranges, as cloth folds
45. High, in music
46. Russian leader
47. Southeast by south (abbr.)
48. Bordered

DOWN
1. Bundle
2. Past
3. Weary
4. Free from soil
5. Goddess of the hearth
6. Scene of great carnage
7. Per. to the ear
8. English dramatist
11. Serious
13. Copper money (Rom.)
18. Pinch
20. Morsel
22. Snakes
25. Lick up
27. Exclamation
28. To compete
29. Listens
31. Center
33. Chinese tea
34. Rosters
35. Soap substitute
36. Having ears
40. Slam
44. A pastry



THE FICTION CORNER

SO NICE

By Helen Langworthy

BRUCE WHEELER looked across the restaurant table at his daughter Avis. He hadn't realized how much he missed her since he had sent her to Grand River to school. "Are you really glad you're going to Grand River? At the time you were determined to stay in Northville with me. Remember?"

3-Minute Fiction

"Remember!" Avis said with fire-alarm emphasis. "I was just a 15 year old baby then. I didn't know about the big wheels at Grand River, and that I'd be a main spoke. You're scrimgrangorgeous!" Avis eyes grew large over the fried chicken placed before her.

"We don't seem to talk the same language," Bruce said slowly. "Please interpret. What's a 'big wheel' and a 'main spoke'? That scrim-something word, is it good?"

Avis smiled. "Dad, I forgot you're of the vintage of the terrific twenties! 'Big wheel' is someone important around High. And I'm important—a 'main spoke'! 'Scrimgrangorgeous' is swooning good." Avis turned to the chicken.

Bruce decided he wasn't hungry. For the thousandth time he wished Avis' mother could have lived . . . To avoid bringing up Avis in a woman-less household he had sent her to Grand River.

Avis finished the chicken and whispered, "Can I have a float?"

"Sure," Bruce answered, "but what is it?"

"This is the $64 business! A float is ice cream and coke mixed. Yummy!" Avis continued, "What are we doing after dinner? Frankie Martin's in town . . . Frankie's a sax man! Can we go, Dad? I mean, can we?"

Bruce nodded and felt dizzy. May-

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It hit Bruce li
hadn't come for
was Avis!

And Avis!—Bruce squ
eyes were downcast. The
was gone. Bruce knew that bas
ten year old's had more personality.
Plainly Avis was mentally swooning over Jim.

Jim asked her, "How do you like Grand River High?"

"Nice," Avis said softly.

"Do they have a good football team?"

"It's—it's nice," Avis answered. She raised her eyes as far as Jim's hands like it was a terrific effort.

Bruce clenched his teeth. Didn't she know anything! If she put one tenth of the gayness of her conversation five minutes ago into talking with Jim, he would be interested.

"Do you like having dinner here," Jim asked, already searching the room for an escape.

Avis took a long time to answer, and managed to raise her eyes to the level of Jim's. "It's so-so nice here," she said.

Bruce knotted his hands. Jim sighed with disappointment and politely asked Avis to dance. He probably expected her to say she couldn't push one foot ahead of the other. As they walked away Bruce closed his eyes—probably she would fall! If only her mother had lived. Maybe she could have taught Avis how to talk!

Then they were back and Avis was drawing on her coat and Jim was walking away.

"He's peachy!" Avis breathed.

Bruce began, "There's something I should tell you. If you want a man to be interested you have to be alive—."

Avis interrupted, "Jim? Oh, we've a date for tomorrow night, another for the fraternity party and he asked me to go to the Fall Prom too! Not bad?" she asked with lifted brows.

"You'll do," Bruce whispered.

Why Nickel Is Used

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chromium-nickel
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GRASSROOTS

Republicans Ignored Nation's Home-Town Voters

By Wright A. Patterson

IN THE 1948 political campaign Herbert Brownell of New York, the manager of the Dewey-Warren campaign, was so confident his candidates would receive the farm vote that he entirely ignored the media of greatest influence with the farm vote, the home-town newspapers.

He confined his efforts to secure votes to the metropolitan centers. As a result the votes of the farm states turned to the President, and that vote re-elected President Truman by a small margin. Dewey and Warren were deprived of a victory that they might easily have had as a result of either ignorance or gross mismanagement on the part of Herbert Brownell.

The farm vote can never be counted in the ballot boxes for Republican candidates, regardless. That vote must be sought, and the one most influential media through which to seek it is the farmer's home-town newspaper. He knows the home-town editor, and has implicit confidence in his political judgment.

He looks to that hometown paper as his source of political leadership. When it is silent, the former must turn to other sources for political information and leadership. In many cases the home-town paper editor is sufficiently interested in the result of an election to take an active part in a campaign without any urging, but in many hundreds of cases they do not do so unless the party asks for his local support, and indicates that he has a local influence.

Brownell did not ask for support from these local papers, or indicate that he thought of them as having local influence. The confidently expected victory on the part of the Republican candidates was turned into defeat by the farm vote in the farm states.

Normally the farmer does not read, or follow the political leadership of the newspapers from the metropolitan centers. The farmer does not know, nor has he that same degree of confidence in the editor of the city as is true of that of the home paper, whose leadership he will follow.

American farmers as a class do not believe in socialism as an American policy. They are not willing to divide their two goats or two cows or acres for which they have worked and thriftily saved; but they can take the socialistic medicine with less of a grimace than they can take being ignored. The farm voter believes his vote is wanted when those opposing socialism, by any name, or in any form, are supported by the home-town papers.

Such support was not asked for by Brownell in the 1948 campaign, and the electoral vote of the northern farm states largely went to the President on his personal appeal to the farmers and his promise of continued subsidies.

Will the Republicans and the opponents of socialism make the mistake Brownell made in 1948 by again ignoring the home-town papers, through which to appeal to the farm vote? Should they do so, I am placing my money on the President as the victor in his race for a third term.

If those in charge of the Republican campaign invite support for their candidates, the chances for success will be much improved, and the chances for the President again succeeding himself greatly lessened. Should that be done, socialism as a political issue will be dead.

Candidates seeking the nomination of either or both parties will do well to realize that the home-town papers can materially aid in securing delegates to the nominating conventions, as well as in providing votes at the November election. In the towns and on the farms, the home-town newspaper exerts a powerful influence as a collective media. The answer is up to the candidates, and to whoever may be named to conduct their campaigns.

"Birds of a feather"—It would not be fair to indicate that President Truman is lacking in integrity and honesty because some of his cronies of former years, whom he appointed to government jobs, proved themselves to be crooks.

—*—

The of bureaucrats contin- will until the votes

the southern states publican nomination.

Star Dust

STAGE SCREEN RADIO

By INEZ GERHARD

LORETTA NORTH, 19, of Sydney, Australia, is touring 32 American cities to publicize 20th Century-Fox's "Kangaroo—quite a tour, as she is accompanied by two young kangaroos, a chaperone, for her, a keeper for the kangaroos and a publicity man. She won out over 80,000 of her countrywomen in a contest because of her personality, charm, looks and education. The tour is semi-official, as she bears a letter of greeting from Prime Minister

LORETTA NORTH

Menzies and the Lord Mayors of various Australian cities to mayors in the United States and Canada. It is also a victory for Loretta, who recently recovered from an attack of polio.

Joan Crawford's Warner Bros. contract still had three years to run, when she decided that she would do better without it. The statement says she is "planning diversified activities in the future", whatever that means.

Kirk Douglas came to New York for an indoctrination course at Lake Success, preparatory to leaving on a tour of seven foreign countries in behalf of the United Nations. He will address youth groups in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Western Germany, France, Italy and Israel. He recently completed "The Big Sky" at RKO; will make "The Left

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hich stars Marguerite
and Cameron Mitchell.
so fast that another 500,-
needed at once.

n McKnight, producer-director
CBS Radio's "Beulah" show, star-
g Lillian Randolph, wears a
ucky" hat all through rehearsals
broadcasts. He took it off once
g a show and the cast began
g lines immediately.

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rcus performers who
the picture. Corne'
who had to use a French
accent, was really up against
it; too many critics were on
hand to scoff if he missed a single syllable. But he was a convincing Frenchman to the last.**

The "Tarzan" series has been so successful for so long that now we are to have "Cave Girl", which RKO hopes will be as popular. "The series will portray a young woman of prehistoric times, pitted against the world in a struggle for survival", says Sol Lesser; it will be his first production in Technicolor. Two pictures will be made this year.

Blue-eyed, blonde Claire Kallen, a fashion model, was chosen as "page girl" on "The Big Payoff", the new NBC-TV weekday quiz. She's 19, comes from Elizabeth, N.J., and thinks this is the biggest break she's ever had.

Richard Whorf, one of the best of the stage and screen directors, produces and directs the television version of "My Friend Irma", which indicates the effort being made to make this show outstanding. Meanwhile Cy Howard, who created the show for radio, is supervising, and also working on another one, "The Three of Us"—husband, wife and brother-in-law.

ODDS AND ENDS . . . Between radio and television, the networks will make a fortune out of the National political conventions next summer; CBS alone will have billings of about four million dollars . . . Terry Doyle, 13, impresses his schoolmates by knowing in advance how each "Mr. District Attorney" script will turn out; his father, Len Doyle, is "Harrington", and Terry sees the scripts in advance . . . Mona Freeman, who has played so many adolescents is sexy blues singer in "Jumping Jacks."

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Grandma's Sayings

NO TWO WAYS 'bout it, there's lots o' folks that are troubled more by the cost o' high livin' than by the high cost o' livin'.

$10 paid Mrs. J. G. Heinberg, Columbia, Mo.*

I MAY BE a Grandma in years, but when it comes to cookin', I'm up to the minute. Yep, I look for the picture o' Miss Nu-Maid in choosin' margarine, 'cause I prefer a **modern** margarine. Yessir, Nu-Maid is **modern** in texture . . . spreads on **smooth**! It's **modern** in taste—full o' sweet, churned-fresh flavor!

DID YOU EVER stop to think how much better it is to trust folks even if you're deceived, than it is to suspect 'em and be mistaken?

$5 paid Frances Meier, Long Island, N. Y.*

THEY SAY A WOMAN allus has to have the last word. Well, I know one Miss who is the last word—that's Miss Nu-Maid. Yes, Nu-Maid is the completely modern yellow margarine. Nu-Maid is sweet tastin' easy spreadin'. Up to the minute in every way!

*$5 will be paid upon publication to the first contributor of each accepted saying or idea . . . $10 if accepted entry is accompanied by large picture of Miss Nu-Maid from the package. Address "Grandma" 109 East Pearl Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio.

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