

Raid-Shelters Foil Jap Bombs In War Capital

Chinese Take to the Hills
Around Chungking
For Safety.

By GERALD WILSON
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)
NEW YORK CITY.—Attempts to bomb Chungking out of existence become more hopeless with every bombing, showing that, as a national capital, Chungking can endure indefinitely, according to Mr. Ronald Rees, secretary of the National Christian council, who recently arrived in New York from China. Chungking was the last stop in a six-weeks' trip made by Mr. Rees throughout China in the interest of work and relief projects being financed by American churches through United China Relief.

According to Mr. Rees, residents of Chungking are 16 times safer today from air-raids than they were two years ago, and there had been a drastic decline in air-raid casualties until the recent accident that caused several hundred deaths from suffocation inside an underground shelter.

"This accident does not detract from Chungking's effective air-raid precautions, its alarm system and its shelters, which make Chungking the safest war capital in the world," said Mr. Rees.

"When Japan first struck at Chungking in May, 1939, the city had very little defending air force, and few anti-aircraft guns or air-raid shelters. In May and June of that year, over 4,000 people were killed.

Thousands in Caves.
"During the first breathing spell, 7,000 stone cutters of Chungking got busy with dynamite and crowbars, and blasted hundreds of roomy shelters from the sides of the sandstone hill on which Chungking sits. Today, the steep sides of the hill are honeycombed with underground shelters, and most of Chungking's population can be accommodated inside them. Some of the tunnels house several thousand people."

Here is the picture of China's wartime capital as given by Mr. Rees: When the Chinese government moved in during 1938, Chungking was a quiet, picturesque, almost medieval village, without electric power development, without railroad connections with the rest of China, and with no modern highways. Today, by contrast, Chungking is a beehive of activity, the dynamo that directs all the human and mechanical energy that is developing free China. A large part of the relief work for Free China is directed from the war-time capital. Chungking has become the center of a network of highways fanning out to all parts of China, and the center of air transportation connecting with Europe, and with the Western world via Hongkong.

The Chinese capital's most publicized air link with the Western world is its Hongkong-Chungking service, maintained daily by two companies: the Chinese National Aviation corporation and Erea Asia. Both planes leave Hongkong secretly, shortly after midnight, so as to fly undetected over Japanese-held territory. The CNAC line continues beyond Chungking to Kunming and on to Rangoon. Another airline runs from Chungking through Chengtu and Lanchow, on to Russia and Germany. Chungking's airport has been built on a small island in the Yangtze river.

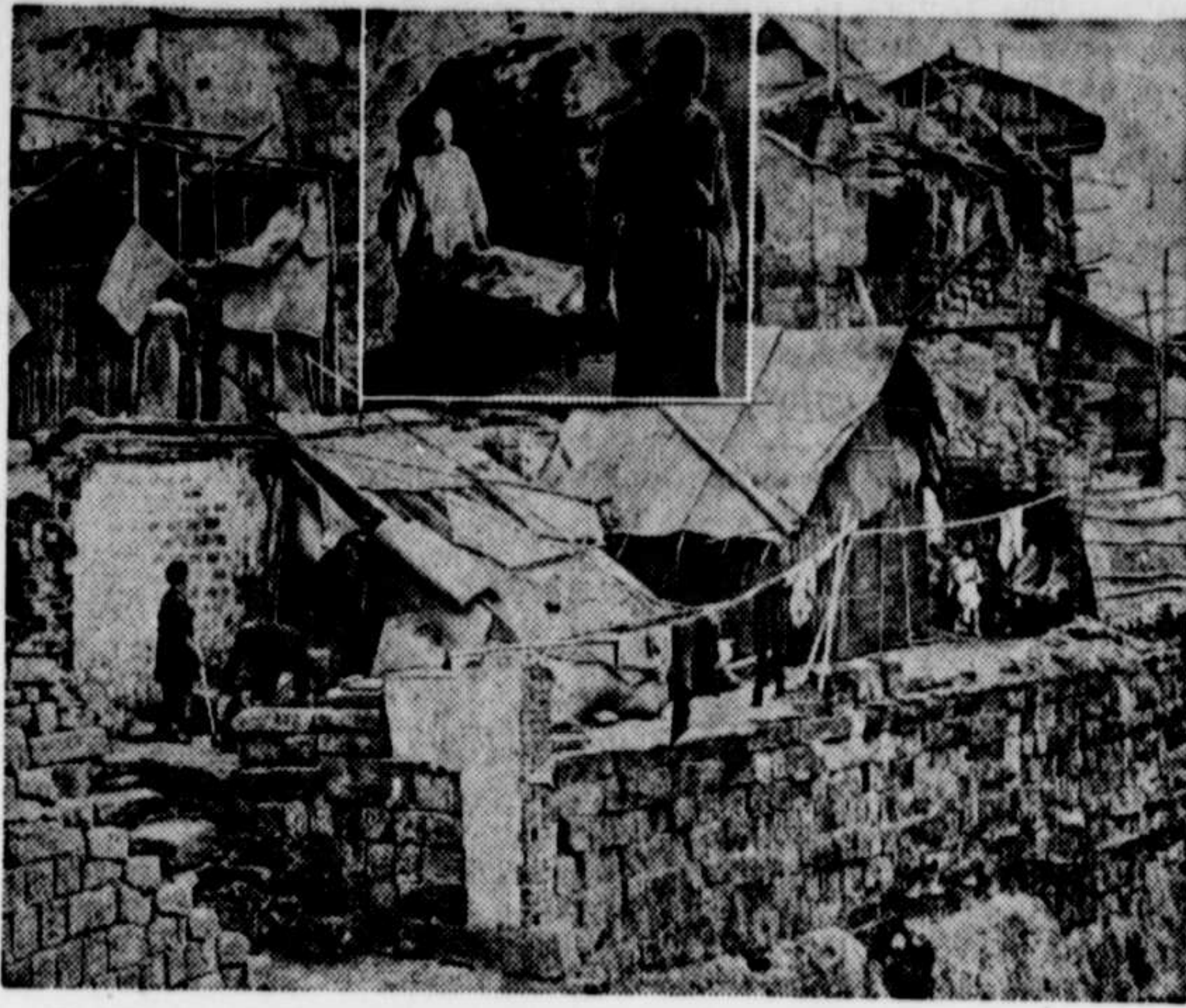
The now famous Burma Road, which connects with two highways leading from the south into Chungking, is only one road link now used to take medical and military supplies into China. Others are the Marco Polo road, running from Chungking northward to the Trans-Siberian railroad at Udinsk; and the Northwest route from Chungking to Sergiopol on the Trans-Siberian railroad.

Population Increases.
Chungking proper is spread out on a promontory of solid rock between pine hills and valleys, with rivers on two sides: the Yangtze and the Chialing. Since the war has closed the Yangtze to Shanghai, both rivers are filled with small steamers, launches, junks and sampans, many of which did yeoman service in transporting dismantled machinery from Hankow and the industrial coastal regions before the Japanese advance. Because of the war, the normal population of 100,000 has been swelled by refugees, government officials, and war workers.

Some of the most vital industries have taken up their quarters inside the cave dugouts, so that they will not be forced to discontinue operations during air raids. One of these is the publishing plant of Ta Kung Pao, China's leading newspaper, which has moved five times since the war drove it from its original home in Tientsin.

Some of the dugouts have wooden walls, electric lights, radio connections and telephones. One of Chungking's most modern hospitals, consisting of operating rooms, laboratories, operates underground.

China Rebuilds as Japs Destroy



Residents of Chungking, war capital of China, dodge Japanese bombs daily and crudely rebuild their homes between raids, using bamboo poles for walls and straw mats for roofs. Above, inset shows native doctors carrying a war stricken victim into one of the underground hospitals, blasted out of solid rock in the hills about Chungking. This one has 20 cave-rooms, joined by tunnels and equipped with operating room, research laboratory, wards and kitchen. Medical equipment and drugs are being sent there from the United China Relief campaign fund, now being collected in this country.

German-Americans Form Organization To Oppose Hitler

NEW YORK.—Formation of the "Loyal Americans of German Descent," a militant pro-democracy, anti-Nazi organization to act as center of practical guidance "for the 10,000,000 Americans of German descent, on whom the Nazis have been working for the past eight years," has been announced. The organization has directors, sponsors and charter members in 18 states.

Headed by Robert F. Wagner Jr., state assemblyman of New York, as president, and Dr. George N. Shuster, president of Hunter college, as chairman of the board, the organization has secured the support of nationally known political, management and labor leaders.

The "Loyal Americans of German Descent" stated: "Every American, whether native born, naturalized or prospective citizen, must take a clear-cut stand today. Any sympathy with Nazi-Germany is completely irreconcilable with Americanism. Through forthright action, if necessary by the ultimate sacrifice of life, we shall meet the challenge with which destiny confronts us in the shape of Hitler and his henchmen. "We consider it our duty to meet the Nazis wherever they may have enjoyed even partial success among the 10,000,000 Americans of German extraction. The misled must be guided back to the American way of life from which they have strayed through ignorance, misinformation or lack of guidance. We shall convince them that their own well-being, this country and democracy are worth a fight to the finish. "We challenge Adolf Hitler's

claim that the 10,000,000 Americans of German descent are bound by ties of blood to follow him as leader. We warn our fellow citizens not to be deceived by clever Hitler agents, alien or native, or by anybody else who, blindly or willingly plays into Hitler's hands.

Ideals Stated.
"We urge every loyal American of German descent—citizens and prospective citizens—to join us in notifying Adolf Hitler, his agents and the world at large: that Hitler is dead wrong; that men and women of German descent in America despise the slavery and tyranny and inhumanity which his terror imposed on the German people; that we are ready to fight for freedom and independence here and everywhere; that side by side with all our fellow citizens of many origins we shall uphold American unity by proclaiming our unalterable faith in democracy; that we shall not be fooled by traitors of Quisling or whatever stripe; that far from finding us a stepping stone into America, Hitler's followers shall founder against the rock of our opposition!"

Directors of the organization include: Karl Brandt, economist, Food Research Institute, Stanford University, Calif.; Gotthilf P. Bronisch, executive vice president, New York; Elisabeth Christman, secretary-treasurer, National Women's Trade Union League, Washington, D. C.; Carl Holderman, regional director, Textile Workers Union (C. I. O.), Newark, N. J.; Clara Leiser, writer, New York; Mrs. William Allan Neilson, Falls Village, Conn.; F. Wilhelm Sollmann, Wallingford, Pa.; Edward J. Volz, president, International Photo Engravers union, New York; Felix Wittmer, professor, N. J. State Teachers college, Montclair, N. J.

Expect 1941 Record Farm Crop



Major factors in present and expected farm prosperity are climbing food prices and a big harvest in prospect. Purchasing power increases as wheels again hum busily in factories over the nation.

By L. G. ELLIOTT
President La Salle Extension University.

CHICAGO.—The upward trend in farm income continues, with prices now averaging higher than any time since 1930, except for a short period of 1937. The growing season to date has been very good for nearly all crops, and if the weather continues favorable, the harvest this year is expected to be the largest on record.

Markets for farm products are becoming better each month as the greatly increased industrial production of both military supplies and consumer goods has made pay rolls larger and has added to the purchasing power of workers in the cit-

ies. The total income is the largest in history, and still rising. In addition to having their income increased by the greatly improved domestic market, farmers are also benefited by the government agricultural programs which are constantly being expanded and made more effective. These programs include payments for co-operation in soil conservation and control of acreage planted to major crops, higher loans on basic products, and government buying for relief purposes as well as under the lease-lend program. Government payments are about the same as last year, and account for a little over 6 per cent of the total cash income received by farmers.

A new ruling of the U. S. department of agriculture governing excess acreage tax on wheat makes it possible for farmers to avoid the 49-cent-per-bushel tax on wheat grown in excess of their 1941 marketing quotas. The department has announced that farmers who have exceeded their 1941 quotas may send less than their 1942 acreage allotments, and secure permission to sell their 1941 excess acreage without penalty. Farmers are urged to produce more dairy products, pork, beef, fruits, vegetables, tomatoes and beans.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by
CARTER FIELD

**Power Supply Is
Toughest Problem in
Defense Production . . .
Panama Canal Protec-
tion Worries United
States Officials.**
(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

WASHINGTON.—The toughest nut to crack in the national defense picture, so far as production is concerned, is admittedly electricity. The point is that it takes longer to construct a power plant than almost any of the defense plants for which such power will be needed.

It takes longer to construct a hydro plant than a steam plant, but even the steam plants require more time than airplane factories, motor factories, or even plants for manufacturing explosives.

Hence the need for conservation already manifested during the recent drought in the Southeast, and expected to occur in almost every section of the country.

To meet this situation, while waiting for the new electric plants to be completed, an elaborate conservation system has been worked out by J. A. Krug, head of the power division of OPM, and Leland Olds, head of the Federal Power commission.

**Pool Arrangement
Is Fundamental Idea**

The fundamental idea of the conservation plan, leaving out details for the construction of new plants at strategic points, is the grid or pool arrangement. Obviously, every power system in the country, whether privately or publicly owned, maintains a reserve. In other words it seeks to have a capacity well in excess of any reasonable demand which may suddenly occur.

Assuming that in an ordinary distribution system this reserve is 10,000 kilowatts above whatever is the peak load, there would be this huge block of power which might be made available for national defense production. So the idea is to tie all the systems together, then reserve of 10,000 kilowatts might do for 10 systems, say, while the reserves of nine of them, or 90,000 kilowatts, would be available for defense production.

It is not as simple as it sounds, of course. One difficulty is the heavy loss of power if electricity is conducted a long distance. But the pool system takes care of this.

**Atlantic Outposts
And Panama Canal**

President Roosevelt would like to do something about the Cape Verde islands, the Azores, Canary islands and Dakar, especially if and when Washington really leaves out the "if" in this connection, leaving only "when"—Germany moves into Spain and Portugal. But there is no certainty that anything WILL be done. There are many difficulties, not the least of which is the obvious reluctance of congress to permit the use of the army outside the Western hemisphere.

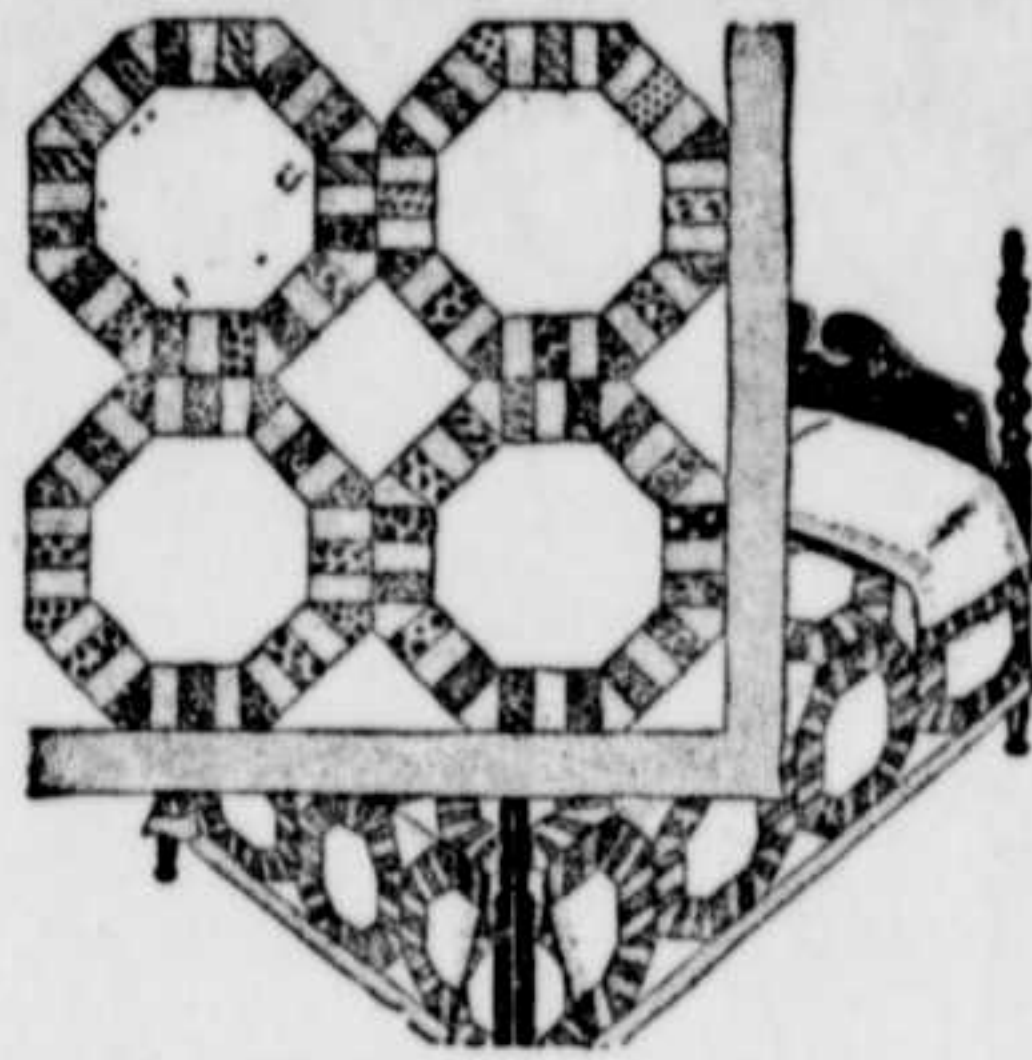
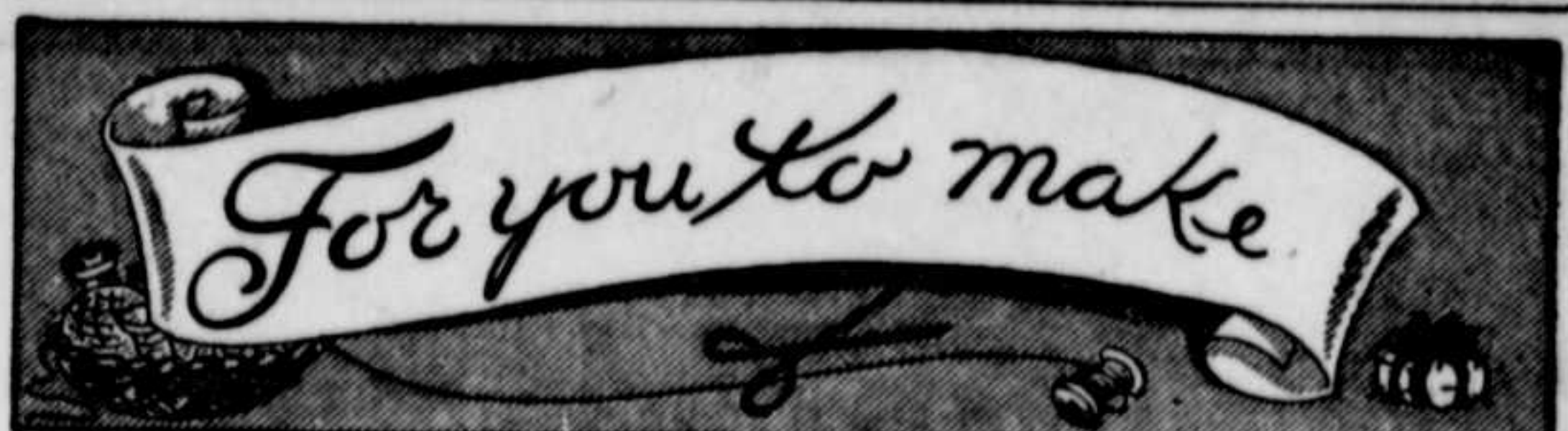
Obviously there are two reasons for the President's desire; one is that occupation of these islands and Dakar by the Germans (Vichy is already hinting for German help in "defending" Dakar) would provide just that many more points of attack for the Nazis in the battle of the Atlantic. It would increase the problem of keeping Britain supplied with munitions, food and planes. Incidentally the supply of planes is gradually fading out of this problem, as more and more of them are flown over.

The other, and perhaps even more important reason, is the Nazi menace to South America which thereby would be intensified.

Wrapped in the same bundle is protection for the Panama canal. Officials here have been worried about the canal for some time. It is part of the whole Latin American problem. Destruction of the Canal, or at least its temporary blocking by explosions in the locks, is one of the important elements—to this country—of the various Nazi moves with the object of taking over the governments of certain South American countries.

This also goes for Central American countries. It is known, for instance, that Guatemala has been told by Nazi agents that if Germany wins the war Guatemala can have British Honduras. If you will examine a map of Central America it will be obvious, even without knowing the complicated history of that part of the world, how tempting a prize this would be for Guatemala.

One may remember that Poland was eager to seize part of Czechoslovakia when Germany was looting that country, that Russia took part of Poland later under similar circumstances, to be followed by taking part of Rumania later. One might think Guatemala would fear to get British Honduras, if the Germans won, because all Guatemala would later become a German colony. But for some reason hard to explain it does not work that way. Most nations seem to look only at the immediate next step, and figure that in some way they can prevent history from repeating itself.



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