The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

AMERICAN POSITION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Behind the President's speech to the American Scientific conference was a very genuine worry over the protection of the Western hemisphere.

The President threw aside a speech which had been prepared for several days before, and during the tense hours just after Holland and Belgium were invaded he dictated a new draft which emphasized the importance of Pan-American unity, plus force, to protect these continents. He even raised the question whether the American nations could stand idly by while dictators conquer the rest of the world.

Behind all this were some very careful studies which the President and his naval and military strategists have been making of Western hemisphere defense.

It may sound like scare headlines, but it is no exaggeration to say that to the strategists who take out paper and pencil to figure on protecting the U. S. A., Nazi activities in Norway, Denmark, Holland and Belgium have meant the very definite scrapping (for the first time in our 164-year history) of George Washington's Farewell Address on American isolation.

Here is how the strategists figure it out. The keystone of American defense has been:

1. A big navy in the Pacific.
2. Friendship with Great Britain, which rules the waves of the Atlantic.

Assuming that the British fleet should disappear from the Atlantic, the United States would then have to maintain two fleets—one for the Pacific and one for the Atlantic. **And it would take at least four years to build a new fleet** for the Atlantic.

• • •

RIGHT ON FOREIGN FORECAST

No matter what they may think of Roosevelt's domestic policies or politics, some of his severest critics give him credit for being absolutely right on foreign strategy.

Exactly two years ago the President told his cabinet in categoric terms that he was convinced war was inescapable in Europe, and that the results would be serious in the extreme for the democracies.

Last summer, also, he informed congressional leaders that war was inevitable in the autumn—and got scoffed at for his warning.

In view of the President's consistent record for accuracy on things international, his present views are very much worth recording.

By nature, Roosevelt is an optimist. But regarding the present allied position he is not optimistic. In fact, he is inclined to think that the allies are in for a defeat, that their situation is much more serious than the American public realizes.

Naturally, the President is not expressing these views publicly. Also they are subject to change. But the close study he is giving to the Monroe Doctrine, the defense of the American continent, and especially to the possibility of enemy air bases in Iceland, Mexico, and around Panama, all indicate that he is figuring on the distinct possibility of a crushing allied defeat.

• • •

RED HERRING

One of the weapons of modern war is the red herring. Honor has departed from warfare. The Nazis used subterfuge to get into Norway, German aviators dressed in Dutch uniforms to land in Holland. Italy maneuvered in the Mediterranean to keep the British from sending too many ships to Scandinavia, Mussolini was the red herring.

Therefore, it is not unreasonable to figure that if Germany ever wanted to land troops in the Western hemisphere, Japan would be the red herring, would send her fleet toward Hawaii. Probably she would not land in Hawaii, but merely maneuver enough to keep the U. S. fleet in the Pacific, prevent it from protecting the Atlantic coast.

At present only four cruisers, plus one small airplane carrier and some decrepit destroyers, guard the Atlantic. Before the Pacific fleet could return through Panama to the Atlantic, Germany could land all the troops she wanted in Trinidad, or Puerto Rico, or the northern tip of South America.

Military minds calculate that German troops even could be landed in Newfoundland, which has, at Botwood, one of the best airports in the world. And from Botwood, they could land in Maine about as fast as U. S. forces could concentrate against them.

Germany, however, is not likely to bother with New England. Far wealthier, far more important are the oil fields of Venezuela, the tropical plantations of Brazil, the wheat fields of Argentina. Here there are large groups of German and Italian settlers.

Important fact: The Low Countries now invaded by Hitler are among the most densely populated in the world, have no raw materials. Outside of Africa, the wealthiest raw material area in the world, also the least populated, lies under the Monroe Doctrine.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY ROGER SHAW

Nazi Drive Into Low Countries Is Marked by Terrific Fighting; Churchill Replaces Chamberlain

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

Released by Western Newspaper Union

THE WAR:
Bigger and Worser

Domestic, presidential politics were driven, pro tem, into second place by the march of Mars. The Germans added Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg—the three little Low Countries—to their list of victims, which now includes Czechs, Poles, Norse, and (according to some) the Austrians.

Against the Dutch and Belgians, Hitler used much of the Norse blitzkrieg buildup. This included the big Junkers air transports (20 men per ship), parachute jumpers all armed to the teeth, aerial bombardment of "enemy" air fields and concentration centers, and mass movements of infantry, against the frontiers, by land. The French came to the assistance of Belgium, as in 1914, and the English crossed the channel to Holland—that same channel that Hitler himself would so much like to cross, for a poke at John Bull's midriff.

'Toujours La Guerre!'

Luxembourg did not resist (again like 1914), but Belgium and Holland did. The Belgian army was considered fairly good, but the Dutch troops did not carry so high a ranking. Nevertheless, the Belgians and Dutch put up a stiff fight against the masses—29 divisions—of oncoming Field Grays, and the aerial hit-and-run tactics up above. The Dutch anti-aircraft shot down close to a hundred Nazi airplanes, almost at the first volley, but poor, peaceful Brussels took a bombing that killed or wounded more than five score citizens.

Simultaneously with the German-Netherlands invasion, came aerial bombing, by the Nazis, of French airdromes, railways, coal mines, and factories. The Dutch East Indies interned all Germans over 16 years old, and seized German ships there. Japan—with surprising decency—announced its respect for the oriental status quo—at least, in that Dutch quarter. Dutch colonies include nearly a million square miles,

GENERAL GAMELIN
"For France . . . courage, energy, confidence!"

and more than 60,000,000 natives, beautifully administered. Dutch East Indian Java and Sumatra are excessively rich in tin, rubber, oil, and other badly needed raw products.

SO THEY SAY:
What They Said

Hitler said, about it all: "The fight beginning today decides the fate of the German nation for the next 1,000 years. Do your duty now!"

Gamelin, French generalissimo, said: "For France and all her allies: Courage, energy, confidence!"

Roosevelt said: "The American people are shocked and angered by the tragic news from Belgium and the Netherlands and Luxembourg."

Sweden's leading newspaper said: "Highly civilized countries, whose love of peace is unquestionable, were brutally thrown upon the sacrificial altar."

The Red Cross said: "$10,000,000 needed."

The N. Y. World's fair said: "We feel that we will have a happy, carefree crowd at the fair, on opening day." (Opening day was the second day of Netherlands chaos.)

BIG ITEMS:
Read 'Em and Weep

Nearly 300,000,000 copies of Stalin's works have been read in Russia, it was announced in Moscow. Lenin's works have totaled only around 130,000,000. And the wage differential in "communist" Russia now is 500 to 1, while in "capitalist" Germany it is only about 100 to 1. The Soviet differential was said to exceed even that of our America.

U. S. DEFENSE:
Yankee Speedup

No sooner had the Germans plunged ruthlessly into the low countries than Washington was bombarded by demands for an American armament speedup. At the top, Secretary of War Woodring (after a cabinet meeting) asked for it. Plans included a congressional grant

SECRETARY WOODRING
He asked for a speedup.

of perhaps $400,000,000—to equip a force of a million Yankee regulars and reservists.

The aircraft factories were to be speeded up, by more shifts of workers, for example. Instead of two shifts, three or more were proposed. Small manufacturers were to be stimulated. Some 25 S-class submarines, now at the Philadelphia navy yard, in fairly good condition, were (perhaps) to be reconditioned. But—"there just is no change in the plans for the fleet." So spoke a high admiral. Congressmen, too, called for quick action all along the arms front. Their comments ranged from the calm objectivity of Senator Thomas of Oklahoma to the florid blasts of New York's Representative Sol Bloom. Senator King of Utah talked about "foulest crimes" and "wickedest assaults" and "democratic peoples."

Roosevelt said in a speech that it was a "mistaken idea" to believe that we Americans were safe from would-be conquerors because of 3,000 miles of comfy goegraphical distance. Roosevelt surprised some of his listeners by calling himself a "pacifist."

ENGLAND EXPECTS:
Better Luck, Perhaps

Nice old Chamberlain finally got the gate in England, umbrella and all, and the loud-speaking Winston Churchill, navy lord in the last war and this one, too, got the prime ministry. Chamberlain, highly capitalistic in his outlook, never could get Labor support, in peace or war. Churchill, though a diehard Tory, for some reason has the affection of Laborites. Other Chamberlain men went into political "exile" as the Undertaker from Birmingham (supposedly Churchill's quip) fell. In France, a couple of extreme conservatives, with semi-Fascist views, were taken into the Reynaud cabinet to broaden the coverage and tighten things up. The British Labor party remains excessively important, not because of its numbers in parliament, but because of its myriads of highly organized trade-unionists in the munitions factories, and in other war industries. British Liberals also endorsed Churchill.

OUR YOUNG DEWEY:
And His Rivals

Tom Dewey, the young presidential go-getter, who sometimes seems to have few friends but many, many votes, got back home to New York from his transcontinental trip. He received Idaho's eight votes, and Maryland's 16 votes for the Republican national convention. Down in Maryland, Senator Tydings (whom Roosevelt once tried to purge) "gained an even stronger position of power in Maryland Democracy." Roosevelt beat Garner by six to one out in California, but Garner won down in Texas by something like 20 to 1. Speaker Bankhead got endorsed as the Alabama Democrats' favorite son!

REORGANIZATION:
Where, the Air?

The President's reorganization plan, to transform the Civil Aeronautics authority to the department of commerce, was approved, 5-3, by a special senate committee on reorganization—after two days' worth of hearings. Thereby, the CAA would lose its vaunted independence and become a mere bureau of the department of commerce, under Harry Hopkins. Flyers do not appear to like this proposed setup.

QUARTER MILLION:
For Consolation

Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania introduced a bill into our upper house. The bill concerned itself with no less a sum than $243,361. This was to console the American ambassador to Poland, Anthony Drexel Biddle, for furniture, tapestries, pictures, and other odds and ends, lost during the Polish blitzkrieg of 18 days, last fall. The Biddle villa, outside Warsaw, also was damaged by German bombs, and it seems that somebody took the Biddles' silver, too. Biddle now is attached to the makeshift Polish government-in-exile in France.

Ambassador Biddle

SCIENCE:
U-235

With a name like a feared Nazi submarine, but with power which scientists believe to be vastly more than any other now known, a newly discovered natural substance has been discovered and named—U-235. Physicists at the University of Minnesota and Columbia university are responsible for most of the progress made in the isolation and extraction of the substance.

U-235 is a powerful source of radiation, resembling radium in this respect, but it is tremendously more powerful than radium. A minute fraction of a gram of U-235 was obtained last February by Prof. Alfred O. Nier in a University of Minnesota laboratory. He sent this to Columbia where scientists placed one ten-millionth of a gram in their atom smasher and brought out the substance's potentialities.

Biggest difficulty confronting development of U-235 is the work and cost involved in extracting it from uranium, a rare substance itself, which first must be extracted from pitchblende, the dark mineral which is also the source of radium.

It is reckoned that one pound of the new substance would be 30,000,000 times as powerful as the same amount of dynamite. Just what uses it could be put to depend upon its development, say engineers who estimate that it may be 10 years before 10 pounds of U-235 can be extracted from its source and put to practical use.

HAWKEYE:
He Never Missed

Senator Lundeen, Farmer-Labor man of Minnesota, is a pacifist and an isolationist of the first water. But he outshot crack military sharpshooters in Washington, turning in perfect scores with the army's new semi-automatic Garand rifle, and also with its rival, the Johnson rifle Senator Lundeen scored 28 bullseyes without a miss, while the eyes of the U. S. regulars nearly popped out. The Garand fires eight shots, without reloading. The Johnson fires 11.

Senator Lundeen

NAMES *in the news . . .*

¶ **Gov. Culbert Olson** of California told **President Roosevelt** that "progressive democracy" in his state "demanded a third-term nomination." Roosevelt third-termites won a 3 to 1 victory in the California Democratic primary, to Olson's delight.

¶ **The Pope,** addressing 5,000 pilgrims in Vatican City, in large part newlyweds, feared the war would spread, and advocated peace by prayer. He added that the world was "poisoned by disloyalty."

¶ **Henry Dixon Cowell,** internationally famous pianist, got out of St. Quentin jail in sunny California. The modernistic composer served only three and a half years of a 15-year sentence. Cowell was paroled. His was said to be a "morals offense."

¶ **Unknown Soldiers & Sufferers** in Berlin were running out of tobacco, beer, wine. Customers stood in line, angry women were "downgeturned," and tobacco retailers were cut to a third of their wholesale purchases. Berliners have been allowed 10 cigarettes and two cigars, per man, per day.

¶ **King Carol** of Rumania seized all Polish gold now deposited in the Rumanian national bank. This, said Carol's mouthpiece, was to pay off Polish debts to Rumania, and to help support Polish refugees in Carol's kingdom. Poles in other lands were enraged.

¶ **Wendell Willkie,** Republican presidential (outside) possibility, received a gold medal from the National Institute of Social Sciences in New York. **James West,** Boy Scouts chief executive, and **Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt,** Woman Suffrage association chief, also were "in the gold." **Willkie** made a speech declaring we should help the allies every way, short of entering the war. He said America ought to hand a "brass-knuckle" to the democracies. One critic answered that perhaps **Hitler** already had handed the democracies a **"Mickey Finn."**

GENERAL JOHNSON *Says:*

United Features — WNU Service

DANGERS PARADED

WASHINGTON, D. C.

A digest of those "thousands of telegrams" drawn by the President's Pan-American speech on Hitler's latest blitzkrieg would be valuable.

Ninety per cent of them were reported by Secretary Early to approve and the other 10 per cent to be from "peace-at-any-pricers." An analysis would be valuable because I can't see how you can approve a speech when you don't know what it means. I have discussed this speech with several informed people. They don't know what it means—and I don't.

From its condemnation of treacherous brutality of Hitler the approval should have been 100 per cent and also for its plea for pan-American unity in defense. This unity the President called "our solution." But then he said: "Is this solution—our solution—permanent or safe if it is solved for us alone? . . . I think not!"

• • •

What does that mean? It may seem a slight phrase to be quibbling about, but no utterance by a President of the United States on our future course in a world at war is a "slight" phrase. This one wasn't intended to be slight. It was coupled with an assertion that too many of us have been deceived by the "false teaching of geography" into feeling safe, "physically, economically and socially," from the impacts of attacks on civilization elsewhere. Then followed statements that, from the point of view of conquest, Santiago, Chile, is closer to Europe than Alexander found Macedonia to be from Persia or than the distance Caesar traveled from Rome to Spain—that is, four or five hours from Africa to South America as compared with four or five weeks it took the armies of Napoleon to go from Paris to Rome or Poland.

I don't know what that means but it sounds like "our frontier is in France." The statement identifying airplane timetables with the pace of conquering armies or from the point of view of conquest is utterly misleading—almost as misleading as it would be to say that the speed of a race horse compares with that of a telegram. An airplane can go from Africa to South America in a few hours. But an army can't. It can't go at all if our navy and air force are efficient and afloat and not chasing boogey-men in the east Pacific. This aspect of the speech was cryptic obscuration coupled with sensational and misleading terrorism.

It creates an occasion to repeat the quotation from Lloyd George's speech that upset Chamberlain. "The nation is ready as long as its leadership is right, as long as you say clearly what you are aiming at, as long as you give confidence to them that their leaders are doing their best for them."

• • •

The President does the deliberate reverse of "saying clearly what he is aiming at." His carefully guarded exterior seems to be full to the bursting point with some kind of interior content he doesn't often reveal but every time a new pressure comes, a little of it squirts out—like "frontiers in France" and "quarantine the aggressors." The whole country is behind him at any cost or effort to prepare this country for defense of this continent. It is 90 per cent against any attempt at "defending" America by attacking in Europe or Asia—with either men, money or materials. It would be a political—as well as naval and military—catastrophe.

For, even for the relative strategical ease of continental defense, Mr. Roosevelt has not prepared the military and naval weapons to make good his position and the whole of recent history proves that bluffing on a bobtail is suicide.

• • •

FAT'S IN THE FIRE

The fat's in the fire and our navy is in Hawaii. Our miniature army is relatively equipped with bows and arrows. It is a pitiful Falstaffian insufficiency. We are quibbling about the design of a rifle already adopted and in production after years of experiment. It appears now that the navy has known the facts of its weakness against bombs from above, mines from below and secret foreign building programs for some time—without admission before the crisis.

Surely there was no ignorance in this government about the absolutely inefficient equipment of our army in almost everything needful for modern war and its own grotesque inadequacy.

• • •

Everybody is now squawking about our lack of tin and rubber and our failure of action in motorizing and mechanizing our army. This column has been squawking about it for five years. Seven years ago this writer had written into the Recovery act ample authority and appropriations to do all these things as a combination measure of re-employment, recovery and defense. That was the year Hitler started. It was the year that the administration gave most of that $3,300,000,000 to Hopkins for raking leaves.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

BABY CHICKS

Continually BLOOD-TESTING and BREEDING for Big Eggs, Fast Growth, Long Life and Rapid Feathering produces chicks of unusual Livability, Growth, Fast Feathering and Uniformity. Inquire about our easy payment plan.
Write today for catalogue and price list
MILFORD BREEDERS HATCHERY Pikesville P O Rockdale Md.

PHOTOGRAPHY

FILMS 6 or 8 Exp. Rolls Developed 8 Prints. One of Each 25c
Non Fade Wide Margin — Deckled Edge Prints
QUICK SERVICE
All Work Received Mailed Out Same Day
HOWARD STUDIO, P. O. Box 1582, Baltimore, Md.

Cheapest Light

The most efficient source of light in the world is the glow-worm. Chemical changes on the sugar absorbed by the insect produce the light from which it gets its name.

In this process only 3 per cent of the potential energy is lost, the remaining 97 per cent being given out as light. Compare this to the 12 per cent given by electric bulbs.

LOST YOUR PEP?
Here Is Amazing Relief of Conditions Due to Sluggish Bowels
Nature's Remedy NR TABLETS
If you think all laxatives act alike, just try this all vegetable laxative. So mild, thorough, refreshing, invigorating. Dependable relief from sick headaches, bilious spells, tired feeling when associated with constipation.
Without Risk get a 25c box of NR from your druggist. Make the test—then if not delighted, return the box to us. We will refund the purchase price. That's fair. Get NR Tablets today.
NR TO-NIGHT TOMORROW ALRIGHT

Evil Is Failure

However things may seem, no evil thing is success, and no good thing is failure.—Samuel Longfellow.

"Black Leaf 40" Kills Many Insects
ON FLOWERS • FRUITS VEGETABLES & SHRUBS
Demand original sealed bottles, from your dealer
4051

Waking Dream

You ask what hope is. He (Aristotle) says it is a waking dream.—Laertius.

THE AWFUL PRICE YOU PAY FOR BEING NERVOUS
Read These Important Facts!
Quivering nerves can make you old, haggard, cranky—can make your life a nightmare of jealousy, self pity and "the blues."
Often such nervousness is due to female functional disorders. So take famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to help calm unstrung nerves and lessen functional "irregularities." For over 60 years relief-giving Pinkham's Compound has helped tens of thousands of grandmothers, mothers and daughters "in time of need." *Try it!*

What You Can

The manly part is to do with might and main what you can do. —Emerson.

Visit New York 1940 WORLD'S FAIR
Stop at The HOTEL HOLLAND
W. 42nd ST., NEW YORK CITY
400 ROOMS BATHS $2 up
Special rates for family groups
Free Swimming Pool and Gym
Write for free World's Fair Booklet W.N.

WNU—4 21—40

Use in Unity

Things worthless singly are useful collectively.—Ovid.

Watch Your Kidneys!
Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste
Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.
Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength.
Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.
There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use *Doan's Pills. Doan's* have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. *Ask your neighbor!*
DOAN'S PILLS