The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

BIG DAY FOR NEWS MEN

Twenty newspaper men leaned forward around the long blue baize table in the ante-room of the secretary of state. At the extreme end stood tall, austere acting secretary, Sumner Welles. On his face was an expression of grim-lipped intensity. In his hand was a typewritten statement. He read it aloud. It was a scathing, carefully worded blast against Japan.

At the opposite end of the table stood three Japanese news men, short, affable, eager. For months and years they had been attending press conferences, given the same privileges as any American news men. For months also they had waited for some such bombshell.

Now it came.

One split second after Welles finished reading his statement, the Japanese were out the door, pattering down the marble corridor to the press room telephones. It was a big day for Japanese news men.

Finally Ickes Wins.

It was also a big day for certain members of the Roosevelt cabinet. For months and years they also had been waiting. For months and years also they had been urging Roosevelt to embargo oil shipments to Japan.

At a cabinet meeting just before Japan moved, Secretary Ickes, as new oil administrator, raised the embargo question again. He proposed to stop oil shipments to Japan. But the acting secretary of state said no. Japan, he said, was going to make a move toward Indo-China and it would be wiser to wait.

Once before, Ickes had stopped a shipment of oil to Japan and aroused the wrath of the state department. Last June a Philadelphia manufacturer complained to him that a Japanese ship was loading 240,000 gallons of lubricating oil.

"I can't get oil myself to speed up my own defense orders," wrote the manufacturer, "and yet I see in front of my nose this shipment of oil going to Japan. To hell with defense, if the government is as screwy as that."

So Ickes called the coast guard and asked them to act before the oil was loaded. They did.

Then things began to boil. It did not leak out at the time, but the state department complained to the White House that Ickes' action had interfered with the policy of appeasing Japan so she would not go south to the Dutch East Indies.

However, Ickes held his ground. He insisted that he was not meddling in foreign policy, but that it was nonsense to ration oil and gas on the Atlantic seaboard and at the same time let Japan ship oil away from the Atlantic seaboard.

In the end Ickes won.

Bombard Tokyo.

Naval strategists make no secret as to what they would do to curb Japan. They consider it foolhardy and suicide to send a lot of U. S. warships across the vast expanse of ocean to Singapore or the Dutch East Indies.

They figure we are going to get into the war anyway, and it is good strategy to deal knockout blows in the very first round. They favor sending waves of U. S. bombers from the Philippines to raze the paper and bamboo cities of Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe and Osaka. They also favor sending the fleet, plus airplane carriers to the coast of Japan.

They favor doing this immediately. There is no use, say the navy men, of punching at a man's legs when you can strike for his heart.

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CLOSING PANAMA TO JAPAN

Secretary Stimson was telling the absolute truth when he denied that the discovery of a time-bomb was responsible for keeping 10 Japanese ships out of the Panama canal. For this was not the reason.

Real reason why the canal was barred to the Japanese was the discovery that two of their ships were floating bazars being rushed to the east coast of South America to grab off the trade which Axis operators were forced to abandon as a result of the U. S. blacklist.

Apparently the Japs had a tip that the blacklist was going to be issued, because the two ships hastily left the west coast and were waiting to go through the canal, when suddenly the blacklist was published. Equipped with elaborate merchandizing displays, and carrying high-powered, Spanish-speaking salesmen, the ships were literal arsenals of economic warfare. With them, the Japanese would have invaded the most lucrative markets in Latin America before either the U. S. or the Latin Americans could have moved to block them.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND

U. S. authorities are quietly keeping an eye on Andre Maurois, well-known French writer, who has departed on a mysterious "private mission" to South America. Maurois is strongly pro-Vichy and is suspected of going south for the purpose of plugging the Nazi-controlled French regime.

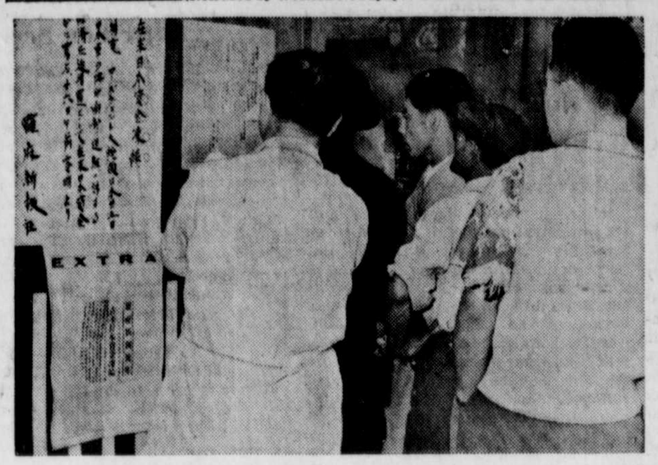
The army's new heavy tank is equipped not only with machine guns and a 75-mm. gun, but also with a nice shiny horn to keep soldiers themselves from getting in the way.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS — By Edward C. Wayne

Japanese Movements in Far East Bring Freezing of Assets by U. S. Plus Philippine Troop Mobilization; Nazis Claim Gains on Three Fronts

(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.)



LOS ANGELES, CALIF.—Japanese are shown intently reading "extra" news bulletins posted at a newsstand in Los Angeles' "Little Tokyo" telling of President Roosevelt's order freezing all Japanese assets in the United States.

(For other news of Japan . . . See Below.)

JAPAN:
Shows Hands

Dwarfing even the Russo-German war, with all its action, the Japanese situation because of its closeness to involvement of the United States, stole the world spotlight.

While there were indications that the Japanese were to continue the war with China, perhaps on even a more vigorous basis, and that Nippon was attempting to strengthen its hand on the Russian front, the main move was the military and naval occupation of French Indo-China.

While this had been foreseen as a major Japanese objective, and even regarded as a probable one during and after the period of the change in government in Tokyo, the actual occurrence fell with a sense of considerable shock on the United States.

For once the nation began to feel the hot breath of actual war blowing upon it, and the feeling that "all that" was far, far away began to be a distinctly shaky sort of thing.

For the action taken by this government was swift, drastic and met with complete collaboration by Great Britain, Canada and Australia. It consisted of this, as the first steps:

The freezing of Japanese assets.

The limiting of all trade with Japan under special license.

The mobilization of the troops of the Philippines.

In addition to the British empire's collaboration with the first two plans, Britain's far eastern troops were on the qui vive for action and a request by Thailand for British aid in case her territory was violated was met with instant assent.

In fact, it seemed extremely likely that Britain would move into Thailand in order to create a buffer state that might prevent Japanese attempt to cut the Burma road, which lies only a short distance, relatively speaking, from Hanoi in the northern part of Indo-China.

REACTION:
And Results

The immediate reaction of Japan was what amounted to a "sparring for time." Nippon was caught with several ships tied up at American wharves, automatically, by this government's declaration, prevented from moving.

Some 40 additional ships were en route here, and were hove to at sea. And if the Pan-American republics were to take similar action to the United States they might find it hard to make a port where they would be able to unload. One of the vessels was carrying a $2,500,000 silk cargo and nearly 500 passengers bound for the U. S.

Most serious result, however, was seen as the immediate stoppage of oil exportation to Japan from American sources. Utterly dependent on foreign supplies of petroleum, and for much of her scrap metal as well, Japan was visualized as practically forced to move on the Netherlands East Indies for the former and for supplies of tin as well.

Most observers felt that if and when such a move was made, it would find the United States taking some sort of direct naval action of a preventive nature.

Tokyo, immediately after President Roosevelt's outline of American action with regard to the Indo-Chinese incident, broadcast an appeal to the United States to "reconsider."

The government took immediate retaliatory action, freezing all American, British, Canadian and Australian assets, and Ito, head of the Japanese Board of Information, said:

"If the United States refuses to understand Japan's real intentions and is now bent on taking measures to exert pressure on Japan, the conclusion is inevitable that it is the United States that disturbs the peace. The responsibility rests entirely with that government."

Thus Japan, and this was recognized as the most militant statement against this government that had been made in the history of the relations, many times strained, between the two nations.

NOTICE:
Served on Japs

The reaction of Tokyo, as expressed by Ito, was coupled with a none-too-veiled threat in the newspaper Nichi-Nichi as follows:

"The United States may be confronted with a perilous situation fraught with the danger of war."

The newspaper Asahi said:

"This is no longer an economic problem which could be dealt with economically, but provokes the fundamental determination of the Japanese people."

These words were particularly significant, because they bespoke the nation's inability to face the withdrawal of the exports of the United States and Britain and her dominions, or to replace these missing goods without going to war to get them.

Thus observers saw in the Philippine mobilization order that this government was serving notice on Japan that the United States is getting ready to defend her territory in the South Pacific and her trade lifelines to that part of the world with armed force.

Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur, former chief of staff of the United States army, was called out of retirement to take command of all the far eastern forces. The handsome, socially debonair general, still vigorous for all his years, immediately went to work.

The forces involved total now in the neighborhood of 150,000 trained or partially trained men, and with draft machinery already at work in the islands, and equipment ready to be rushed there, an armed force considerably larger was a possibility.

RUSSIA:
Holding Hard

While it was still practically impossible to make any definite sense out of the German and Russian claims, the consensus was that the Russians were making a surprisingly good fight out of the war.

As time wore on the battles were admittedly severe according to both sides, and the main objectives were clarified as Smolensk, Kiev and Leningrad.

There was nothing definite to indicate that any of these three German claims had actually been carried out.

This lent general credence to the belief that if the Germans were not stalled, they at least were able to make only thin forays past these points, and were probably having a hard time of it.

German dispatches tending to prove this to be so told of "bad roads" and "unfavorable weather," plus "stiff resistance" of scattered units of the Red army as making it difficult to advance.

The Finns were more frank, and stated "there can be no talk of a blitz campaign. We are advancing but have to take one bunker after another."

From time to time there were indications that Moscow was taking the offensive, certainly at some points in the front.

COINCIDENCE:

It so happened that the sudden move by Japan and the counter-moves by this government were timed exactly to coincide with congressional consideration of the measure to keep draftees, guardsmen and reservists in the armed forces for the duration.

There was no question but that the back of the opposition to this measure was badly bent if not broken by the quick change in the international situation.

Special Envoy

Harry Hopkins, administrator of the Lease-Lend bill, serving again as President Roosevelt's special envoy to London, is pictured here at the American embassy in London. In a speech broadcast to the British empire, Hopkins promised the British that the "tools" needed for victory are on the way from American production lines.

PAN-AMERICA:
Having Troubles

While the governments of the Pan-American republics were standing firm on their solidarity pledges with the United States covering hemispheric defense, they were beset by many troubles, some of them reportedly generated by a Nazi diplomatic and fifth column offensive ordered from Berlin to occupy America's attention on this side of the Atlantic.

However, the close of hostilities between Peru and Ecuador, in which it was thought that the Nazi-Japanese hand could be seen, finally were halted, and neither the casualties nor the fighting apparently had been heavy.

Bolivia nipped an attempted Nazi coup d'etat in the bud and dealt drastically with the reputed author.

The Herald Tribune came out with a story from Buenos Aires telling of the seizure of some 400 pounds of packages of spy material, messages and the like uncovering a very definite Nazi plot against the government of Argentina.

One German embassy fled the capital by plane, carrying 440 pounds of excess baggage, presumably afraid of having it seized and examined. He finally got it all into safe-deposit vaults in Lima, Peru, after great difficulties en route and after arrival, but there was doubt whether the mysterious baggage would be permitted to remain there.

This doubt was quickly resolved by the Peruvian authorities ordering the whole baggage to be shipped back to Buenos Aires. There it fell into the hands of an investigating committee which found the baggage to contain a radio transmitter and a large number of walnuts, which, when opened contained the plot evidence in the form of messages.

RED:
Defense Technique

Still another described the military technic near the front. The plan was somewhat similar to that of Weygand in his attempted halting of the Germans in France, except that it was implemented by better mechanized equipment.

The Russians give way before the German mechanized advance, which finally, however, meets a "wall of Russian tanks," which at least temporarily halt their advance.

Then the Russian artillery in the rear, already trained on the roads behind the advance German lines, batters away at the supporting columns. When these are sufficiently disrupted to prevent refueling of the tanks and motor-fighting-cars, these have to fall back and the attack is broken up.

The Russians, when this point is reached, military observers were reporting, then attempt to put the "pincers" on the German advance force. This, it was said, was the detail back of the three divisions destroyed, according to Russian claims.

Some let their minds drop back to the Russo-Japanese war of 37 years ago and recalled that the modern Russian army was giving a very different account of itself today against sterner than Japanese opposition.

One of these stated, as a matter of course, that "five Nazi attempts to bomb Moscow had been frustrated in succession," told of seeing two Nazi bombers wrecked 38 and 52 miles west of Moscow, and of watching "peasants calmly tilling their fields" near the wreckage.

INVASION:
By Stratosphere

Huge American-made Boeing "flying fortresses" yet not the largest ships soon to be sent overseas, made British aviation history by participating in the first "stratosphere" raids.

They were sent, with heavy cargoes of bombs, to a height of 33,000 feet, at which point, according to the British, they were practically invisible in the daytime, and apparently inaudible.

GRASSROOTS

by WRIGHT A. PATTERSON

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

MORE PRODUCTION NEEDED NOT A VICIOUS CIRCLE!

WHAT AMERICA needs now and for the future is more production. More production should start on the farms. It should supply for us those farm products we are now importing to the extent of a billion and one-half dollars a year and which can be raised in the United States. The science of chemurgy must be encouraged to find new commercial uses for farm crops and for present farm wastes. Doing these things means increased revenue for the farmers, more jobs for workmen, more opportunities for the investment of capital in business—a higher standard of living for all.

America needs in its national legislative bodies men of vision, men who will strive for the general good, rather than for partisan advantage, men who will think of all groups, plan legislation to benefit all, instead of laws that take from one in order to give to another.

We cannot establish and maintain that degree of prosperity and well-being to which we are entitled by any policy of appeasement of minorities. To give the farmer more for his wheat by charging the workman more for his bread but creates a vicious circle which inevitably leads to inflation and the ruin of all. Through a policy of increased production that leads to increased demand and consumption, we can benefit all, the farmer, the workman, business and the general public.

There are in America men capable of solving our production problem, and they are the men needed in congress. Who in your town, your country, your district would measure up to such standards?

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EVERYBODY CLIMBS ABOARD NATIONAL SPEED WAGON

IT IS A SWIFT WORLD in which we are living, and there is no place in which new speed records are being established more frequently than in congress.

When I first began taking notice of what happened in Washington, it would take a whole session of congress, with days and weeks and months of talk, to spend the from five to seven hundred million dollars then needed to run the governmental machine. In that there would be the customary "pork" that might account for as much as 25 or 30 million, but to make up for it, there would be a few dollars cut out here and there. One year, I remember, they even refused to buy pocket knives for the senators.

It is different in these days of speed. To keep pace with, or exceed, the speed of those fighting planes we are sending to Europe, the senate recently passed out 10 billions—billions, not thousands or even millions—in just 80 minutes, and they did it unanimously, every senator was on the speed wagon. That little item was on top of 22½ billions that had been spent during the present session before the last small item came along. And the session is probably only half over, another half year in which to establish new and greater speed records.

What that 32½ billions mean to you and me and to our wives and children is just about $250, which each one of us will have to pay.

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CONSIDER YOUR MERCHANTS, TOWN ASSETS

WOMEN OF THE neighborhood patronized the food chains for their light packaged goods on which they saved a cent or two. The chains did not deliver, but the women could carry the light packages.

For the heavier staples, patronage went to the independents because they delivered. They were used as a convenience. The independents could not deliver and live on sales of staples only and in time many went out of business.

Because we could not get food deliveries, we had to sell our home and move, but selling was a problem. People did not want to buy for the same reason that we wanted to sell. Lack of delivery conveniences forced down the value of real estate.

All of that was in a large city, but exactly the same thing happens in any rural community where people use their local stores only as a convenience, but go to other centers to make their larger purchases. Local merchants cannot live as merely a convenience and when the local market place is gone, real estate values are gone and the social and cultural center goes.

It pays to consider the future.

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EGG PRICES

AMERICA IS SHIPPING vast quantities of eggs and egg products to England for which this country pays. England would pay cash for eggs from Canada. For the eggs we consume, we are paying about 10 cents a dozen more than the Canadian people pay for theirs. We have an egg shortage, Canada has not, but our poultry raisers are profiting and those of us who buy pay for eggs which go to England and also pay the increase on those we consume.

Things to do

Pattern 7004

LOOKS like applique doesn't it? But it's just easy cross stitch cleverly used and set off by other quick stitchery. Put these varied motifs on many linens.

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Pattern 7004 contains a transfer pattern of 30 motifs ranging from 6¼ by 5 inches to 1½ by 1⅜ inches; materials needed; illustrations of stitches. To obtain this pattern, send your order to:

Sewing Circle Needlecraft Dept.
82 Eighth Ave. New York
Enclose 15 cents in coins for Pattern No.....
Name.....
Address.....

INDIGESTION
what Doctors do for it
Doctors know that gas trapped in the stomach or gullet may act like a hair-trigger on the heart. They set gas free with the fastest-acting medicines known—the fastest act like the medicines in Bell-ans Tablets. Try Bell-ans today. If the FIRST DOSE doesn't prove Bell-ans better, return bottle to us and receive DOUBLE money back. 25c. at all drug stores.

Personal Confidence

The confidence which we have in ourselves gives birth to much of that which we have in others.—La Rochefoucauld.

Nervous Restless Girls! Cranky? Restless? Can't sleep? Tire easily? Because of distress of monthly functional disturbances? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Pinkham's Compound is famous for relieving pain of irregular periods and cranky nervousness due to such disturbances. One of the most effective medicines you can buy today for this purpose—made *especially for women*. WORTH TRYING!

We Are One

Of a truth, men are mystically united; a mystic bond of brotherhood makes all men one.—Carlyle.

So You've Tried Everything?
and are still miserable with stomach gas! Spoils your sleep, and you hardly dare eat. ADLA Tablets bring QUICK relief. Your druggist has ADLA Tablets. Get them today.

That's Discontent

Discontent is seldom satisfied with plenty.

"Black Leaf 40" KILLS LICE
OUR "Cap-Brush" Applicator makes "BLACK LEAF 40" GO MUCH FARTHER
JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS.. OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS

WNU—4 32—41

Register of Ills

History is only the register of crimes and misfortunes. — Voltaire.

THE TRUTH SIMPLY TOLD

Today's popularity of *Doan's Pills*, after many years of world-wide use, surely must be accepted as evidence of *satisfactory* use. And favorable public opinion supports that of the able physicians who test the value of Doan's under exacting laboratory conditions. These physicians, too, approve every word of advertising you read, the objective of which is only to recommend *Doan's Pills* as a good diuretic treatment for disorder of the kidney function and for relief of the pain and worry it causes.

If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove waste that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole body suffers when kidneys lag, and diuretic medication would be more often employed.

Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warn of disturbed kidney function. You may suffer nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feel weak, nervous, all played out.

Use *Doan's Pills*. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won world-wide acclaim than on something less favorably known. *Ask your neighbor!*

DOAN'S PILLS