

Mon. Jan. 12th

The question being tossed about but never answered is still "Where is the U.S. Navy?" We wonder - so, too, do Hitler & the Saps.

The reports of grief for Hitler are growing. Cold, disease, hunger and dissention are taking toll from Hitler's strength. One is afraid to believe too much.

The war in the Pacific still goes badly. The P. I. are expecting an all out attempt to invasion momentarily. Singapore is in danger. The richest rubber & tin-producing sections are being invaded in Borneo, & Malaya. Genl Wavell is moving to that section, I hope that changes things somewhat.

Russia goes ahead; so the Allies in Africa.

There are many reports of Hitler's placing troops, etc. etc. along his "invasion coast" also along the routes to Spain.

Ireland still holds out against granting any bases to Allied forces.

There is a report that Lindbergh will go to the Whitehouse for a talk with F. D. R. at the invitation of some F. D. R. Family - Jimagin giving the guy any time or attention.

Even in the cause of unity, I doubt its value. Most of the Lindbergh followers are not the type our cause can depend on.

Knorr today said that the battle of the Pacific is still secondary to the war of the Atlantic. He warned that no big moves in the Pacific could be hoped for in the near future. If Hitler can be beaten, the whole Axis force will crumble, he believes.

The Chinese & Dutch continue to get in their good licks.

The Pegg's had letters from Gene, finally. They were mailed the 14th - 21st of Dec. & arrived Saturday, Jan. 10th.

There are many warnings to coastal towns regarding possible "terror incursions" before this is over. Well — we'll see.

Dad is much depressed over the prospects of Bud & Warren's entering the service.

Mon. Jan. 19th '41

During the past week many reports have come (mostly out of Sweden) of friction between Hitler + his generals. Another one (general) has been withdrawn from his duties. Apoplexy killed another. Then — we are warned ~~that~~ Hitler himself is planting these reports, especially for benefit of the Allies. Again, we are warned that if Hitler did lose out to his military, the result would not mean much to us. The military machine also plans to dominate the world. The differences between H. + his military men are only differences of ideas as to when, + just how to accomplish the same end.

The war in Malaya isn't going well. The Australians have come to help, also some of our fliers, but Japs are swarming in by thousands, + the Allies are still moving slowly backward in many places. The P. I. are still holding out valiantly.

The Allies have been told that the main enemy is still Hitler, + the main war, in the Atlantic. China takes

issue with this view, China, by the way, is doing o. k.

Burma is endangered, and it becomes obvious that her Saronged Shah has been dealing with the Japs. He is now in custody, I think.

Saturday ~~night~~ there was an Air transport (T. U. A.) crash, killing 12 lieutenants in the air corps, as well as the crew, Carole Lombard (Gable) her mother and press-agent. She (C. L.) had been on a Defense-bond selling tour. The plane burned, after crashing into a mountain.

Then, the next day an army bomber crashed at Pendleton, killing 9 army fliers.

Reg wrote in to hdq. asking concerning the possibility of regaining his commission.

Bud was in this aim. to tell me he is on his way to Bend for a visit with Charlie. After that, he'll join the Army, he thinks, we that it'd be the Navy.

Germany claims a victory in Russia today - the first in a long time.

A very disturbing thing that is being tossed at us these days. It seems that, with the advent of Spring, Germany may be able to regain all she has lost in Russia this winter.

Churchill is once more safely in England.

A Mr. Nelson has been put in charge of all War production, thus streamlining for speed and efficiency (we hope.)

A letter to Dad from Charles says "I wish there was some provision for taking care of married men's families. I want to get into this. The way I see it, I have just about 5 times as much reason for fighting as a single man."

Reg bought a \$75 bond today. That's
$$\begin{array}{r} 75.00 \\ 37.50 \\ \hline 2.50 \end{array}$$
 \$112 we've bot so far.

Friday, Jan. 23.

New Guinea "Yesterday the Japs took a British-owned island group 800 miles off the coast of Australia. It seems likely they want it for a base for operations on Australia & the Indies.

The Allies crying need is still for planes. Nelson has abolished the C.P.M.

and thereby eliminated some time-wasting quibbling. No passenger cars for civ. use are to be made after Feb. 1st. Oh — the slowness of us!

Our men — many of them — have been sent abroad. We don't know just where, except for the H. Isds. but it seems likely that some have gone to Australia.

Reg wrote to inquire about regaining his commission, the answer was to the effect that appointments, except in certain categories, had been discontinued since Nov. 1st, '41. He was sent a blank to fill in for the purpose of his being considered when appts are once more being made.

The aluminum plant, already begun at Troutdale, was sent to Spokane instead. Great indignation in Oregon, but I'm pleased. I think it might as well be built further inland, for strategical reasons, & besides (selfishly)

I don't want this to become a metal-making community. Too many people, labor troubles, smoking chimneys etc.

Russian winter — is even worse

than it was. Russia seems to be doing o.k. but the Nazis not so well, if one may believe the news given out.

In the Crimea Germany seems to be attempting to make a stand.

How long the P.I.s. can hold out seems problematical.

A new "all out" attempt was launched against them yesterday. Thousands of troops, planes & machines were thrown in to the war against Gen. MacA's brave men.

I'm curious about B's attitude and motives as regards the service. Time will reveal, I guess.

Mon. Jan. 26 '42

The report on Pearl Harbor has been given to the public. It's a case of petty rivalries etc. between the brasshats in the two services. It is shown that the War Dept. at Wash. D.C. sent 7 separate warnings to Short and Kimmel, but they never once met to confer, and had no system for defense from air-raids worked out. It's a sorry mess.

Something that annoys me is Fish shouting for court-martial, & Fish congratulating MacArthur on

This, his birthday. Fish — who would like to have people forget the investigations started (what became of them? The evidence was very damning!) regarding his tie-up with distribution of Nazi Propaganda. He is dragging a red herring, methinks.

Today 7000 Troops from the U.S. landed in Ireland (Not Eire). Just what they're to do isn't known.

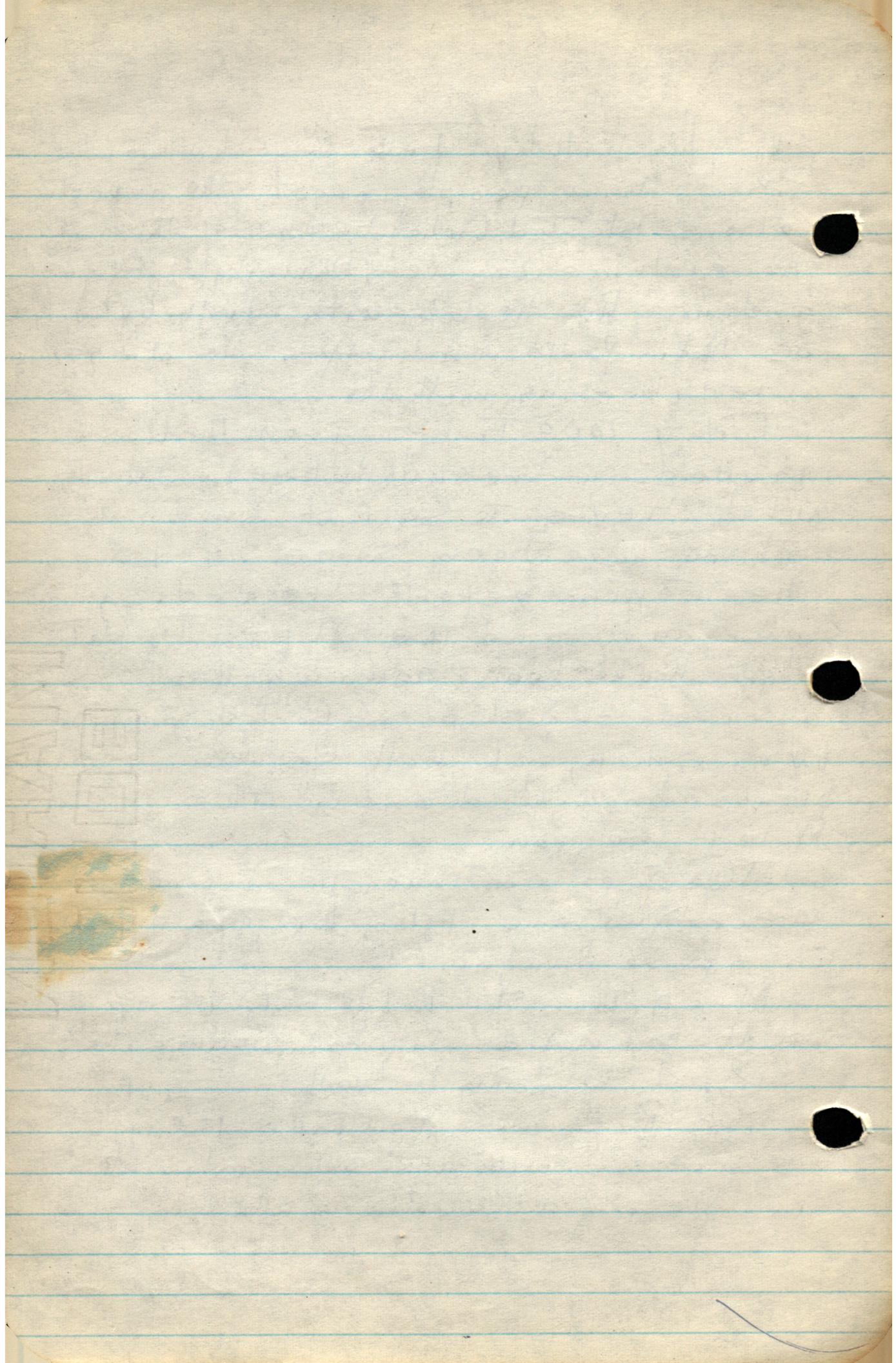
There have been some very heartening reports regarding our navy and the Japs. To date there have been somewhere around 30 J. ships reported sunk by our men, as well as many planes brought down, in the Malaya region.

The Japs continue to move in near Australia. Also, Singapore is in grave danger.

MacArthur still holds out, in spite of the tremendous Jap reinforcements.

Rommel is doing too well in Egypt.

The Russians continue their successes, with the severest winter in a decade as a strong ally.



Thurs. Feb. 5, 42.

The war news all seems crucial, to me. Singapore is the object of an all-out attempt at invasion; The Dutch East Indies, also, Java is being bombed, the Br. isls. off Australia are being invaded, and Mac Arthur is still being battered. In Russia, with the possible exception of the Crimean sector, the Reds are still slowly but steadily pushing the Nazis back, the Nazi resistance is stiffening. In Africa, Gen. Rommel seems to be showing the English around some. Russia is criticizing the U.S. for its pokiness in getting down to business — a justified criticism, I feel sure.

China still does pretty well.

A washougal boy — 18 yr. old kid — was killed. He only signed up in the navy 5 weeks ago. That makes me wonder about Ward Hoxie who signed up about that time. He's shipped out somewhere.

U.S. reinforcements are said to be arriving at Singapore, tho' in what numbers isn't known.

Congress voted itself pensions, and is being bearded by "Bundles for

Congress. It seems likely they will repeal the pension soon. They aren't happy about the public attitude.

Japanese public was warned by its leader via radio this a. m. to prepare for a 10 - 20 year war in the Pacific. I hope they're wrong! One year is enough to appall most of us.

I'm afraid Germany is pretty strong yet. I dread Spring.

Sunday Feb. 15th 42.

Singapore fell last night. Its fall has been expected momentarily for days. This weakness at Singapore, which the world has regarded as a strong fortress, is a great shock to the allied peoples. This blow, coupled with the escape this week of a small German fleet from Brest, through the channel, has brought a deluge of criticism onto the Churchill regime.

We're really waking (I hope) to the fact that we're in a serious war, and we're losing it! Both Eng. & the U.S. seem so 'damned slow and clumsy. Shake-ups, reorganization, appointing committees etc — I'm afraid it isn't winning a war so far.

McC Arthur still holds out — but
Why? Fighting for time? Is
time so precious as to be
bought with the lives of our
men on the P. I? If so —
why are we still being
permitted to have strikes,
business as usual etc. etc.
in the U.S. proper?

Hell! I think a large percent
of the people are still reaching
to grab rather than give. We
are still being told what will ^{begin to}
happen in 3 or 4 months in
the way of converting factories
to war production. Why 3 or 4 months?
If days are worth lives in the
P. I. they are worth sacrifices
of a few dollars and comforts
here.

Australia is mad, & expecting to
be attacked. Batavia is being invaded
we're losing everywhere. Only the
Russians — brutal as their enemies
are getting anywhere. I think we'd
better get tough — & soon!

The slogan — or epitaph — of this
war will be "too little & too late."

Congress fusses over pensions (the
the car manufacturers squabble over a month's

profits, welders & shipbuilders
fight over "over-time", who they'll
pay dues to etc. etc.

Oh Nuts! The wrong people
are being killed in this war!

Saturday, Feb. 21 '42

The president has authorized the army
to clear any district of all Enemy
aliens, charging the army with feeding
& transporting them.

Raids are still rounding up
aliens with contraband.

American fighter planes & Bombers
are getting in some good licks of Java

Tues. Feb. 24 '42

Last night F.D.R. spoke to the nation.
While he was speaking, a large submarine
shelled an oil refinery near Santa Barbara,
California. It was a sort of
exclamation point to the speech.

Java is being prepared for
invasion. Bali is taken. The fighting
is going badly for us at Burma,
and Gen. Rommel is showing
strength again in Libya. The Japs
are using fire-bombs on Gen. Mac
Arthur's positions, and are believed
to be getting ready for a new offensive.

Sub damage in the Atlantic is becoming increasingly bad.

Our tankers are being sunk all up & down the coast. In fact, nothing looks good tonight but Russia. She's still doing ok. The naval battle off Bali is reported to have resulted in our sinking or badly damaging about 30 sea craft, as well as dropping some air-craft. We lost some air-craft too.

Java will fight - hoping for reinforcements - but I've no idea she'll get any - or enuf to enable her to hold.

Fri - Feb. 27th '42

One night this week - Tuesday, - planes (still unidentified) caused anti-aircraft guns to go into action in Los Angeles. The whole coast of Southern Cal. was blacked out. No bombs were dropped, & no planes were shot down.

Java seems to be getting reinforcements from the U.S. Planes of all sorts are making themselves felt among the Japs preparing to invade Java.

The fighting isn't going well at Burma. Allied lines are being forced back.

Russia is doing well. Litvinoff is urging the Allies to force Germany to fight on at least one more front this Spring. He holds out the hope of "finishing off" Germany if Russia gets proper cooperation this summer.

The pension-for-Congressmen bill was repealed, definitely.

MacArthur not only holds out, but did a little offensive work on the Bataan peninsula yesterday.

Sat. Feb. 28

The news from Java continues good. One invasion attempt was frustrated by allied action. Of course, another will be made soon.

Stanton went for his P. Exam. today. I'm eager to hear the outcome.

Shorty Repman has been shipped overseas — but no one knows where. He phoned his mother to say "So long".

Short + Kimmel will be court-martialed "when such action is compatible with the public good".

The bill to eliminate time & a half pay for the duration didn't pass. I wish this labor mess could be straightened out. It seems horrid in view of the fact of

military conscription etc.

English paratroops invaded German-occupied France last night. Their project was entirely successful, we hear. They destroyed a radio station and other objectives, aided by troops landed on the beach, and embarked on craft sent for them, reaching England safely. So the report goes.

Today's reports all were fairly good. I hope it can last. Even H. Haltenborn seemed a bit optimistic.

Vichy & America? French fleet?

Vichy & Germany?

India & England?

Germany & Spain?

Japan & Russia?

New fronts on Germany?

Spring's Offensives?

Sunday, Mar 8 '42

Java is probably lost to the allied powers. Communication has been cut, but last word was to the effect that Jap conquest of this last stronghold was accomplished.

Burma is in danger of being completely taken, too. Already the feeding railway to the all-important Burma Road has been severed.

McCubbin still holds out,
even taking the offensive once
in a while.

An attack upon Australia's
mainland is expected soon.

Work by the Japs has already
begun on India. Even if Eng.
gants India her freedom (if
she ever gets around to it)
it's doubtful if the Indian
leaders will be kindly disposed
toward the Allies. She has been
badly treated at British hands,
and most of her leaders hate
the British. The Japs have
already launched propoganda
campaigns there. Britain's chickens
are coming home to roost, and
it seems the whole Allied Cause
will be in a position to be splattered
by their droppings. (original, bigosh)

We can't know when our
troops or fleets are being sent.
There's a general cry for a
Spring offensive on our part.
But whether we're in a position
to start a drive seems doubtful.

I'm afraid the whole Pacific
must remain lost to us until
after Hitler's definitely

beaten. After that, will concentrate
on the Japs, I imagine. But oh!
The waiting, losing of men and ground,
is hard, + will grow harder. Will
probably be all split up internally,
with people shouting "Out with
Roosevelt + In with MacArthur" or
someone like that, such as is
going on in England regarding
W. Churchill + Scurpps. I'm
afraid this business of changing
horses in midstream, is a
sinful waste of time + energy.

We aren't good waiters, or
good losers, and this is espec-
ially true when (as is necessary)
we are kept more or less in
the dark regarding the aims
and activities of our military
leaders. Sometimes I think we're
too smart for our britches. Everyone
has a better idea how things should
be done. Everyone has a fear
of being "gullible" so he doubts
everything handed out by officials,
+ believes every damn' rumor which
emanates from Heaven. Know-when.

The labor situation still drifts on in
endless kicking loss of time + efficiency.
Why doesn't the Gov't step in with

a pair of spurs? Nelson + Roosevelt
have copped it to their blue in
the face. C. I. O. and A. F. of L,
as well as many employers dis-
regard their pleading & warnings,
still holding out for their own small, selfish
demands. It's a damned shame, with
the boys giving their lives, that the
home front can't at least settle
down & go to work to give them guns
planes & ships to fight with, I'm
not proud of us. We're a greedy
people who have to be forced
to do the right thing. But the forcing
had better start, & soon!
Russia marches on.

England still has small raiding
parties messing up plants in occupied
France. Vichy protests, of course.

Tues. March 17th '42

MacArthur is in Australia, taking charge of all forces there. There, we are led to believe, will be the next great battle of the Pacific. Just what will happen in the Philippines, I can't guess. It seems that we just couldn't afford to keep a man of MacArthur's calibre on that small peninsula at this time.

Sunday's news was bad. The Allied forces were defeated in a naval engagement off Java. Our losses were very heavy. Casualties haven't yet been given out — but they'll be dreadful.

Mon. March. 23 '42.

Today we learn that about 22 Jap planes were ruined, and a small fleet of ships, too, off Australia.

Activity to remove the resistance from the P. I. is expected hourly. Gen. Wainright will do his best.

The Japs are bombing cities on the coast of Australia:

This morning's news commentator stated that Japan is massing land troops for an attack on Siberia. It is beginning to look as if Japan will concentrate her land forces there, and her air & sea fleet at Australia this spring.

Germany is throwing in heavy reinforcements to try to turn the tide in Russia. So far ~~no~~ no luck.

The worst thing in the daily news is the sinking of ships in the Atlantic. It's awful! About 68 since the 1st of February, I think. 3, just over Sunday.

Tues, Mar. 31 '42.

Today Stanton left for Tacoma, and went from there to Monterey, California. He wired from Tacoma.

Ward Hoxsie was home last week. He has already been to Australia on a cargo transport. He's very much the young sailor home on his first leave.

The general war news seems fairly good. India has been offered dominion status, & has not yet answered. Much anxiety over her decision.

This week the air wardens are to distribute rules for raid protection.

Sunday, we heard a discussion group, with Dr. Chang, John B. Hughes, a Dutchman and an Englishman. Hughes and (I think) the Britisher honestly believe the U.S. will be attacked by the Japs within the next 6 weeks! ~~RAF~~ raids have raided the big munition works in Germany and Occupied France.

A commando group also attacked the huge locks at Nazarre, with telling results. They report that the locks are ruined. It was the base

for large submarines. Also, it was
the only berth safe and suitable
for the huge battleship "Schornhorst" and
"Torpedos".

I think the service men are to
be given \$42 a mo. instead
of \$21.

We continue to lose too many ships
in the Atlantic.

Japs are being sent to camps.
In Portland the Alien curfew went
into effect Friday.

Sat. Apr. 4th

Most of today's news is not
favorable. Another bomber fell
in a training flight from Utah
to Idaho, killing at least 6 men.

The Allies are getting the
worst of the fight around
Burma.

The loss of 4 more ships in
the Atlantic was officially
announced today. Also
the loss of the Pecos & Langlie,
off Java, was announced.
It happened sometime ago.
Hal Wade, a New York lad who
was a member of the Langlies
crew, later put aboard the
Pecos, & rescued from it, too.

told of the incident. The Japs
really do machine-gun floating
survivors, & set fire to oil
sticks in' order to burn them.
I spose it's just a part of
war.

Russia still keeps the
offensive, but is meeting with
stiffer resistance.

England & India are still
dickering. India demands
complete freedom Now. She'll get
it I think.

Bulgaria is expected to line up
with the axis at any moment.

R.A.F. continues to bomb Germany
& occupied France. Germany
bombs England's coast.

Free French have set up a hdq. of
some sort in Africa. We seem to be
dealing with them. I hope it's all on
the level.

More r.r. trestles in California were
burned today.

I think last night's news reporter
said somewhere around 700
U.S. men were killed in the sinking
of the Langlie & Pecos.

I wish we'd hear from Stanton.

H. Kallenborn says 12 ships were sunk in the Atlantic
this week.

Thurs. Apr. 9, '42

Bataan fell today.
The brave little army,
short on rations and shorter
on rest, with no hopes of
help from the mainland,
finally was forced to give
up. What becomes of the
survivors is still problem-
atical. Corregidor still
holds out, but it can't
last long, now.

I can't realize that this
had to be.

Today I had a card from
Stanton. He is at ~~Camp~~ Mathew Field,
near Sacramento & is in the
Air Corps, much to everyone's
surprise. He's very pleased
with the situation.

Sunday - Apr. 12 '42

3500 Americans + Filipinos have been moved to Corregidor. Just how long C. can hold out - I don't know. But I figure they, too, must be darn' low in food. The poor devils on Bataan hadn't had eggs, fruit or vegetables for months - & had been eating their mules. No wonder the Malaria + fatigue. Then - wholesale slaughter.

India has refused England's offer. No hard feelings - & we won't hinder Allied efforts to defend us!

Russia feels optimistic - with April being $\frac{1}{2}$ done - & no great Nazi offensive anywhere.

Both Kaltenborn + Close found things to be grateful for today. Me - I find it hard. Things look very Feyorish to me since Bataan. The Burma situation is certainly no Hunch, either.

Or the Indian Ocean set-up.

Bulgaria shows traces of kicking over the Nazi pot. If she flatly refuses further aid, Turkey will, too, I guess.

Today was the day at

Norwegian Clergymen were to be imprisoned for their wholesale resignation in protest at the imprisonment of their head bishop. I doubt if Quisling dares to do it. Too much rebellion already, and the Norwegian is deeply religious.

Sunday - Apr. 19 '42

Night before last Tokyo reported that American planes bombed the capital city. There's something funny there. No report or confirmation of any such activity has come from any Allied Nation. All reports come from Tokio & Berlin. Several things keep me wondering. The Tokio radio never went off the air while the raid was supposed to be going on. Again, the news was immediately broadcast from Tokio in English & Chinese. Why? I've a feeling there's more to this than meets the eye.

A Camas boy, Bob Tracy, was killed when a training plane crashed, early this week.

Joe Ulowetz has already received his classification in the last draft. He is in class

3. Just what that means, I don't know.

The Burma situation looks hopeless. The Allies are already destroying the rich oilwells, as the Japs take over.

Gen. MacArthur has been made Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific, and has been ordered to prepare an offensive.

Last week American bombers flew from 'way over at Australia to put bombs on the Phillipines. Also, they took some passengers back with them. Now - this week, (maybe,) it was Tokio. from where? No one pretends to know - but the guess is - carriers.

Upton Close thinks the raid was genuine. He's feeling pretty high. He thinks the Aleutian islands are soon going to be very important.

I guess we may expect retaliation in attacks from Japan.

Mon. Apr. 27 '42.

Lalmeese → American troops have occupied the French island of New Caledonia. Laval (but of course!) protests. This occupation is probably only a forerunner of following moves, since Laval's appointment leaves no room to hope for help or neutrality from France.

Hitler made a long speech on Saturday. He didn't say much that was new, but betrayed his worry regarding the home front. The overwhelming disasters wrought by the RAF bombing, the most continuous and gigantic in history, is having its effect on Germany.

There are signs that Hitler is not entirely satisfied with Goering and his air-force.

We continue to lose too many ships in the Atlantic.

"Butch" phoned from San Diego yesterday, and caught Melba here. Pure luck.

No sugar will be sold after midnight tonight, until rationing is in effect, about a week hence.

McArthur's men are doing some air-work on the Jap-held isds. off Australia.

Burma (the Burma Road) is in a bad way. I guess the Japs are going to get the road, oil wells etc. Poor China, & poor Allied Cause.

Corregidor still holds out.

Also, small groups on several of the islands.

Russia still hammers & shores the Germans slowly backward. The past week saw huge air reinforcements brought in for the Nazis, but they still lose, we hear.

Russia is getting awfully eager for an invasion, by G.B. & U.S., into Germany. Give us time, Stalin!

The mystery of "from where, and whence?" still holds. Russia says she interned a 4-motor bomber's crew, when it made a forced landing after the Tokio party. 4-motor bombers don't travel on carriers.

The general outlook seems a little brighter this week.

Thurs. Apr. 30

Burma seems a lost cause.
There's still fighting, but no hope.

Hitler & Mussolini are to have
a meeting this week, we hear.
Some new move? Or just
more starvation for the Italians.
It seems Mussolini is definitely
on his way out. Even King
Victor Emmanuel can hold
meetings and count him out.

RAF raids still hammer
hell out of German plants in
occupied France & Germany.

Russia still wins on her
fronts.

Pres. F. D. R. made a
fireside speech Tues. eve.
It dealt largely with his plans
and hopes for avoiding undue
inflation. I hope he gets
cooperation.

There seems a dangerous
movement in England. Certain

groups are demanding an invasion immediately or else changes in govt. in places. When any part of the public sets itself up as authority on military tactics, and brings pressure to bear, I'm afraid no good can come of it.

Stanton's letter today told of his first leave. He can't see any gal but the girl in Nebraska. He also tells me that James Stewart is at Mather field, where he is.

← Tonight's paper says there seems little likelihood that the West coast will have to be rationed on gasoline. I hope the same is true of fuel oil.

(Sat. May 9th)
Corregidor fell last week end. Several thousand prisoners were taken. Food, ammunition and medical supplies ran out, and the Japs launched a continuous attack. So Corregidor with the other forts (Orum + ?)

finally surrendered. Casualty lists
haven't come out, but we are warned
of very heavy losses.

This week seems to have
been an important one for
the Allied cause. We are just now
getting news of a gigantic naval
battle in the Coral Sea. The way we
hear it, we came out on the
big end. We are told that our
own losses were light, while
those of the Jap fleet were very
heavy. About 17 ships are said
to have been ruined by our
navy. Tokio & Berlin both claim
that the Japs won. MacArthur
says the victory was ours. It
was an invasion fleet, presumably
on its way to Australia, or
to cut off our life lines in
the Far East.

The Burma news has been
bad all week, until today. Some
Chinese troops got in some good
licks today. But Japan really
is entering both Free China &
India.

Russia still claims to be
winning, with impressive
numbers of dead to her (verbal)
credit.

RAF raids ^{with some American planes,} continue on Occupied France & in Germany & Holland, always centering on ~~defense~~ ^{war} industries. The raids on large-scale operations and do great damage. Of course, their losses are high, too.

This week we began actual use of sugar-rationing books. I registered but haven't yet bought this week's sugar. 1/2 lb. per person per week to begin with.

Gasoline rationing will begin on the east coast this week, I believe, allowing not more than 3 gallons per week to civilian users.

Ray Borigo, who left a week after Stanton did, has already been shipped to parts unknown.

India's Congress has decided on a policy of passive resistance to the Jap invasion. Fine thing!

There was (or is) a strike in one of the Bethlehem Steel works. I'd thought that nonsense was finished for the duration. 'Sa Hanni' shame.

France continues to have trouble. Sabotage attacks on Nazi soldiers go on in spite of wholesale murder of Frenchmen for every German killed.

MacArthur has never ceased to bomb all the nearby invasion bases of Australia. We are told that many Jap planes were destroyed on the ground. Air support seems to have been lacking to support the Jap ships involved in the big Coral Sea battle. It is all easy to hear the real facts of this battle, and more of its meaning in the general scheme.

Mon. May 25, '42

The early part of the week, a wave of optimism swept the U.S. The later part of the week destroyed it.

Russia is finding tough going on that peninsula leading to the oil lands. In fact, I guess that section is in the hands of the Nazis. The fighting is severe around Karkov - ~~or~~ fighting is increasing around Moscow. We are told that Hitler plans to take Moscow soon.

Burma is lost, Chinese troops cut off from Allied help. Stillwell & his men are now in India. Indications point to a probably successful effort on the part of the Japs to finish off China soon, thus freeing soldiers for other attacks - Probably on Siberia; since Hitler needs another

front in Russia.

We are repeatedly told that our rubber gasoline & general transportation problem is a very serious one — one which may lose us the war unless a solution is found. Reg & I argue too heatedly as to the actual seriousness of this situation. I feel that it is impossible to over-emphasize the seriousness; he disagrees, and sees politics, mismanagement, ulterior motives, propaganda etc. in the warnings we hear in this matter.

The bill adding women's auxiliary to the Army & Navy is finally passed, and officers'-training schools opened.

Sometimes I think ignorance is a good thing. For example - I, as many others - want to have faith in our leaders, and to follow and believe their advice & information. But golly! Every columnist is in a position to get the "inside" dope on some man, group, situation etc; the dope discloses pettiness, personal spite & greed, politics, hypocrisy — in short, feet of clay. It makes me doubt everything, & wonder just how much we sacrifice is being used properly; just how big & many "Juckers" we are. I wish I didn't

have to doubt. This uncertainty doesn't add a thing to the efficiency and unity of our war effort, that I know.

Mexico is expected to declare war on the Axis this week, following the sinking of two of her ships by Nazi subs.

Today the pres. of Argentina (I think) received birthday congrats from Roosevelt & Hitler. Also, an Argentina freighter was sunk by a Nazi sub.

Everyone is now predicting a very long war. Boys 18 to 20 will soon be eligible for military draft.

Gen'l Doolittle was cited by the President for his successful bombing-raid on Tokyo some time ago. It now develops that nearly all the fliers taking part in that raid were Westerners, recently stationed at Pendleton. Much amusement over Axis broadcasts repeating as serious F.D.R.'s statement that the bombers were based at Shangri-la. Evidently Hitler & Hiro Aito haven't read "Lost Horizons".

June 7, '42

Things have happened!

Wednesday of this week there was a Japanese air-raid on Dutch Harbor, military base in the Aleutians. We are told that there were two trips; the first contained 19 bombers & fighters, the second was smaller, & dropped no bombs. We hear that the raid was not unexpected, damages and casualties light.

Then, on Friday, an attack was begun on Midway Island. This attack, we read, has turned into a decisive Allied victory. All our activity so far was in the air. We sank at least two carriers, with all planes on board, & damaged badly other carriers, cruisers, transports etc. This activity is continuing, with the crippled Jap fleet in full retreat, we are told. The battle is hailed as a major victory for us.

The R.A.F. has staged the biggest air offensive in history, which still continues. The invasion coasts,

industrial centers etc. are the targets. The British have averaged 1000 planes every 24 hours, ~~that~~ have roamed over Germany, occupied France, + even the lowland countries. German resistance has been astonishingly weak. I don't understand it.

The Libyan battle seems to be going in favor of the Allies at present, tho' no decisive action has taken place. It's hot as Hell down there now.

Russia + Germany are still locked in fierce battles all along the Eastern front. We understand the Reds have the edge.

China's news is not so good. In fact, it is very bad. The routes by which the Allies had been sending help have been shut off, + unless some very definite amount of help goes to China soon the Japs may have them out of the war, thus clearing the way for an invasion of Siberia, rendering useless any bases we may have used there for attacks on Japan. China needs

planes — needs them badly
& very soon.

McArthur's planes continue to
batter invasion bases off Australia.

Melba contacted Butch, thanks Heaven.
He hasn't yet gone, nor she returned.

Stanton sent me his picture in
uniform. Oh — so stern!

Today, on the 6-month anniversary
of Pearl Harbor, 125 men took
mass oath of allegiance to the
U. S. N. at Portland. I think Garon
Dunn was one of them.

The rumor that Germany will
invade Sweden still persists.

Today's darkest spot is China.

Mon. June 22nd

Exactly 1 year ago I wrote my first
entry in this book. On looking back, I
realize how wrong was the general
impression of Russia's chances in
this war. It was a year ago that

Germany went to work to lick ~~Germany~~ Russia.

Today they're still at it, and altho it may
be that Germany will take Sevastopol
at huge costs, their Russian campaign
would still seem far from over.

About Saturday, Britain acknowledged
the loss of Tobruk, with many
casualties and prisoners among

British forces. This is a tremendous blow to the Allied cause.

A serious attitude is developing toward the occupation of our outlying "Rocks" in the Aleutians by the Japs.

Saturday Vancouver Island was shelled (probably by a submarine); and last night, at about 11:30, a spot near Astoria, Ore., was shelled. I'm curious to know about that particular shelling. I can't help wondering if there's any tie-up between the fuss over Stimson's "ruining motorale in the West" by his statement regarding lessening of danger to coast, Govt. urging motorists to save tires, gas, cars, stay off road etc. etc. and a beach being shelled, where no damage was, or could be done.

Right now - nothing looks very good.

Subs still take large Allied tolls.

China is failing fast.

India continues to cause trouble.

Russia is hard-pressed.

African brawl goes against us.

Japs in the Aleutians.

People distrust Congress in U.S.

Great criticism of Churchill in England.
(He, by the way, is in U.S. Talking,
about "2nd front"?)

Summer may have arrived
today. At least, the sun did.

Vance seems to have joined
the Coast ~~Guard~~ — both he + his
boat, in fact.

Wed. July 15. '42

This is an awful lapse. And
much has happened, too. I find
in myself a deplorable tendency
to not write, read, listen to or
discuss the news when it's
bad. And nearly all of it
is bad, these days.

Russian Front: The Reds are
very hard pressed by a 6-prong
offensive by the Nazis. Huge German
reinforcements, etc. The Caucasus,
with their vital oil supply, is
about to fall to Germany, thus
cutting Russia's vital supply for
her war machine, and giving
Hitler the oil he needs.

Russia is crying for help,
mostly in the form of "2nd front,"

but it seems we aren't prepared yet. The general public of both Britain & U.S. is clamoring for an Allied offensive, and much disgust & impatience is being expressed. My personal conviction is that we must be thoroughly prepared before any offensive on the European continent is begun, or such action will result in wholesale slaughter of our men, and loss of vital war equipment. I prefer to believe the "big-shots" know what they're doing.

Lybia: Very bad. The British (reinforced by Australians & Americans) are being pushed backward toward Alexandria, their last stand, and once lost, a vital port to aid the Axis in getting supplies. All in all, a terrible crisis seems to have come there, & things look very black for us.

China: Awful! Those poor devils are being slaughtered, starved, & what-not, but they fight on. Of course, they're crying for

help, & they need, deserve, & have been promised our aid but it seems we must do ^{the} European chores first.

The Aleutians: Two or 3 far-flung islands are actually occupied by Japs. Just what is being done up there seems a little vague in the news.

Last night the official communique (Naval) on the Midway action of June 4, 5, 6th was issued. Seems as tho' we actually raised hell with quite a sizeable invasion fleet, thus saving Midway, and possibly the Hawaiian Ids, as well. (About 250 officers & men of ours were lost)

In Australia, we keep bombing the Japanese invasion bases, & they keep bombing our coastal forts etc.

Butch R. has evidently been shipped out. Melba has had no word for at least 2 weeks. Before that, daily letters.

Reg got a letter from the War Dept re his commission. "Too old for recommission in your rank". Hard on his ego.

San Diego has become the workin'-girls Mecca. Every single girl in town tries to get there on her week-vacation-with-pay. Of course, practically everyone has friends or relatives stationed there.

I signed for our Canning Sugar yesterday - & got 32 lbs. The maximum for 2. 'S funny Oregonians get more. Seems it would be uniform.

Guess Sue is on her way to Sacramento to take Bud's car down to him. I hate to see Dad lose it. Also, I'm afraid Bud is leaning a little heavily on the funny side of his job these days. Guess the boys relative, it's coming to, Thomas, tho:

Our ships continue to be sunk in the Atlantic, Caribbean, etc. Of course we're being "sold out" by people inside who give information on sailings etc.

8 Nazi Saboteurs are now on trial, & are involving many others. The 8 came in on a Nazi sub with plans & equipment to raise hell. They had accomplices already here, of course. It's a wonder a great deal more harm isn't done, in the way of explosions etc. J. E. Hoover deserves a great deal of credit on this score.

I'm afraid the general public is becoming very distrustful and a bit contemptuous of Congress. They do seem a greedy, shortsighted lot. It's a bad time for distrust, tho'.

The rubber situation continues grave. Much scandal over log-rolling, profiteering, string-

pulling a general mismanagement
in getting started on synthetic
rubber. Also, more smell
on the Standard Oil - German
tie-up on that score. We've
been sold short plenty of
times, even in '38, & later.
That looks like treason.

More marriages, more babies
than ever in history of U.S.
What's that thing about "Breed & Die"?

Aug. 10 '42.

Word is coming in of big naval battles
being fought in Solomon Islands, off
Australia, and up North in and around
the Aleutians. Both places, now occupied
by Japs, must be cleared if our
supply-lines are to be kept open.
Nothing definite yet, as to who's winning,
casualties, etc.

The Germans have gotten thru'
to some of the oil, grain
sections of the Caucasus.

That's very bad, and is causing
heightened interest in this much-discussed
"2nd Front", if, & when.

Kaiser, Shipbuilder, has talked the big-shots into trying big air-transports "The Mars" for carrying men + supplies to the various fronts. It should eliminate some of the damage and waste caused by enemy subs.

6 saboteurs (Nazis) were electrocuted last week. 2 others were given 30 yrs. + life, resp. for helping the govt make its case. We don't often ~~kill~~ "kill" in large numbers, and so fast.

I wish I could be sure that everything that can be done, is being done to win this horrible war. We read + hear so much of politics, stalling, grabbing + business-as-usual that its pretty hard to have confidence.

Melba got word that Butch has safely reached his overseas destination, wherever that is. We wonder if he's taking part in the Solomon Is brawl.

Aug 19, 1942

Last night a sustained raid was made on the coast of France - at Deippe. It was quite a large-scale operation, the first where U.S. men (Rangers) Canadians, English and Fighting French worked together. Everything went according to schedule, we are told. Planes were lost on both sides, of course. Land equipment such as tanks were used. Planes protected the landings, operations and withdrawals. The thing lasted 9 hours. Much is being made of this "first." Hope is expressed that it may be an immediate forerunner of the badly-needed 2nd front.

Russia is in a bad way, with some oil-fields already taken (tho' the installations were first destroyed) Stalingrad threatened seriously, and huge reinforcements being sent in by the Nazis. Oh Lord - if Stalin can only hold off a while longer, till winter hits the country. But things are very bad!

A shake-up in Britain's desert command is taking place. Fuckincheck (or whatever) is being replaced by a Sir Something-or-other Alexander, I believe. Several other brass-hats are being replaced, too. It seems that W. Churchill paid a visit there on his way to or from Moscow, (where he saw Stalin) and little liked what he saw.

Kaltenborn returned from a 5 day visit in England, + says that there he saw a nation intent on winning a war. On returning here, he saw a nation intent on winning an election. It seems the big-shots want to take time out to bla-blah a bit, & assure their re-elections. Important action & decisions can wait.

Even F.D.R. is doing some fooling around with N.Y. elections, also Texas (is that where "Please Pass the Biscuits Pappy" is from?). Nuts!

If Ham Fish gets back in, I give up. The people "is", indeed, an ass.

In the Solomon Islands, we are in control, I guess, with bases established. Now we must keep the supply-line open, or we have an Allied Dunkirk.

No news of casualties yet. No letter from Butch yet.

Stanton will probably go to Nebraska on his furlough, and marry Marjorie. So he tells me. Well?

We're still hittin' 'em where we find 'em in the Aleutians.

Damn it all — The men in the service do all they can, while the big-shots brawl, stall, squabble, dicker + grab at home. Also, at this date, there are still strikes in defense industries. Right now the Reynolds Metal Co. is having a jurisdictional squabble. Result — needed plane parts are lacking.

Quite a large contingent of flying fortresses, with escorts, bombed Aboville, Fr. last night. All returned safely.

I think Reg will be "in" by Autumn. Also, I think Warren plans on joining the Infantry.

before this month is over. Coast Guard refused him because of his forefinger. Picky.

Aug. 24, '42.

Brazil declared war on Germany and Italy the latter part of the week. I think a total of 19 Brazilian ships had been sunk by the Axis subs. Uruguay and Chile may follow suit that would leave only Argentina. And Argentina is said to be almost run by Nazis — big concerns in Argentina are owned by Germans, etc. etc.

Russia is in a bad way. I'm afraid both winter + the 2nd front are going to come too late to help her, + us. Right now, bombing parties in Germany meet almost no resistance. Every man, machine etc. Hitler can draw is over fighting Russia. Poor Russia — + poor us, when she's licked.

In the Pacific, the picture is brighter. We hear that the Solomons was just a starting place for regaining all our islands and Allied Possessions. Last week

a party of Marines took an island in the Gilbert Is. — Macon, I think. Jimmy Roosevelt, president's son, was 2nd in command.

Nimitz issued a communique stating that on one Marine-held island, a landing party of Japs invaded. There were 700 of them. 670 were killed. 30 were taken prisoner. 35 (I think) of ours were killed. 80 (?) wounded. That sounds pretty Communique-ish.

So far, no word of Butch. Melba read that many tiny unoccupied islands had been taken over by the Marines, too. She is hoping Butch landed on one of these dots — where there was no one — not even a "dusky maid".

Fred Rosentreter goes into the Coast Guard this week, I think.

Wed. Aug. 26 '42.

The Duke of Kent, youngest brother of the King of England, was killed in a plane crash yesterday. He was on his way to Iceland. Everyone in the plane was killed.

A battle of huge proportions is probably going on on & near the Solomons. The Japs are trying to take back the islands taken from them by the Marines. It is a major sea-battle, & much depends on it.

English reporters send word that it is going in our favor. I hope that's right. So far, we have had no official news to that effect.

China seems to be doing much better lately. There is a "mysterious" withdrawal of Jap troops in parts of China. Probably they are either (1) going to help out in the Solomons, or (2) preparing to strike somewhere else now that so much of our Pacific strength seems to be occupied down there.

Stalingrad is in a state of siege, with street-fighting

going on. Poor Russia! Seems like they deserve more help than they're getting! However, we hear that Churchill's visit with Stalin last week was all sweetness & light, & ended in plans agreeable to all concerned. Unless he promised an immediate 2nd front, I doubt that. I think plans are being made to handle Hitler after he goes thru' the Caucasas — but heck! He'll have all the oil, etc, & can prevent Stalin from oiling much of a war-machine, I'm afraid.

We aren't hearing much of India the last few days. That's a pretty bad mess, with Ghandi in jail, & his followers raising hell. It looks like an awful lot of countries are going to pay for Britain's neglect (for generations past) to educate the Indians & prepare them for self-rule.

Sunday, Sept. 13 '42.

The past week saw the British take Madagascar, with little trouble. I wish they'd take Dakar, too, right now. Also, seems to me (an ignorant bystander) that we should grab Martinique. But the big-shots should know their business.

Speaking of big-shots - F. D. R. made a speech telling the people we need farm-price ceilings, labor legislation to keep men on their jobs, and wages at a level. He went on to point out that he had asked ^{repeatedly} Congress for such legislation, but with no results. So, says F. D. R., they must act by Oct. 1st, or "I will." Tsk! Tsk! Such an outburst from Congress! Just when they were all set to stall diplomatically until after election, too?

In the Solomons, the Japs still do battle. They're attempting to reach Port Moresby by an overland route, too. On the Islands held by the U.S. forces, the Japs manage to sneak in once in a while to raise a bit of hell.

Stalingrad still stands, but I guess it's a matter of time. Hitler reported

a week ago that it would fall inside 48 hours. If winter could only come to Russia a month early!

U. M. Fliers still batter Occupied France, & Germany, with little air-resistance.

China is doing nicely, thanks to the fact that Japan is withdrawing her strength from that area to send it somewhere else, probably to the Siberian border, for an attack there.

India is still boiling.

So are many of our Columnists. Not much is happening in the desert scrap. Rommel's offensive there met with disaster.

No word from Butch.

Many industries are having their labor "frozen" in their jobs, to cut down loss of hours, & efficiency by men running from one job to another.

Gas-rationing is very near.

Sept. 16th '42
~~Aug.~~

Warren was just in to tell us of the arrival of his order to report for his physical exam. He took his local, and passed o.k. He's very jubilant over everything, full of plans for a last hunting-trip in Oregon, storing of his boat & car, etc. etc. Well — I'm glad he's so happy over it. I feel pretty boggy. It all seems so — — — well — what's the sense?

Increased activity, heavy fighting in Solomons. Japs trying to regain islands held by our leathernecks. Hold that line! Russian lines on the west of Stalingrad gave a little.

Navy announced loss of "Yorktown" air-plane carrier June 7; in Midway scrap. Also U.S.S. Hammond.

Tokio broadcast told Jap people that Asia theatre of war was about to enter a new phase. India or Siberia? @r what?

A bomb (incendiary, I guess) was dropped by (probably) a sub-carried air-plane of Jap origin, on the Oregon coast Sept. 9th or 10th. It (the plane) passed several populated and industrial areas to park the bomb in a forest area. The fire was immediately put out. First their shelling an unoccupied beach, & now, their bombing a forest (1 bomb, with high-humidity weather) stumps me.

We're really in a tough situation where rubber is concerned. Drastic steps must be taken, & soon. The Baruch committee report makes that clear. It'd be awful to be licked by our own carelessness, greed and politics. So far, the rubber situation has been aggravated by just that.

I've been seriously considering what's best to do when Reg goes. It's hard to know.

Sun. Sept. 20, 42

Street-fighting in Stalingrad.

Hitler announces that he has destroyed a huge Allied Convoy on its way to Russia.

+ another large contingent of American troops has landed in England, after a safe + uneventful crossing.

Madagascar is practically in the hands of the British.

Vichy has made prisoner a Roman Catholic Cardinal, for his protests at mistreatment of Jews in France. Laval has ordered his people to work for Hitler, wherever they may be needed.

Quisling is having his troubles in Norway. His people refuse to cooperate, Hitler is indignant at his (Q's) helplessness.

Renewed battling in Solomons. A fleet (Esp) was met approaching the Guatacanal region, & sent off, but is expected to return.

The Dieppe raid, we now hear, took about 27,000 Canadian lives as its toll.

Congress is giving F. D. R. The Powers he demanded, with which to fight inflation.

Manpower shortages are showing up everywhere, and especially in the less remunerative industries.

This week sees the beginning of an intensive scrap-metal drive.

We haven't heard from Bud for quite a while, but I imagine he's just busy.

A letter came from Butch, but was an old one, dated while he was still at sea, so we still know nothing of his well-being or whereabouts.

Frances Hoxsie's husband got a short "reprieve" from the 21st to the 5th, by which time he hopes to be a Papa. Francis & the baby will live with the Hoxsies.

Sept. 23rd, 42.

The Repman's had a letter from Butch on Monday. It was very brief. Dated Aug. 18th he said "If you've been reading the papers, you know where I am". So ————— he's in the Solomons, as we feared.

No word from Bud for too long. I'm afraid he has been moved out of the country. He's never waited so long to write before. Hope I'm wrong.

The Gigners had a note ^(one piece of paper bag) from Don the same day Repman's note came ————— so he's probably down there, too. Also, the Arvidson who is in Butch's outfit.

Golly ————— Kaiser is bringing a bunch of Easterners out to work in his yards. Thousands of them. I hope they all plan on returning after the war is over.

Roberta (Stayton) Gillis' husband will leave Friday for a Marine officers training school.

I hate the uncertainty about whether or when Reg will go. Every day seems doubly precious now — and I hate to waste any of my time with him. ~~It~~ mean — I want to spend as much as possible of my time with him. But, on the other hand, there is so much work needing done. There is great need of teachers, clerks, mill-workers etc. etc. I feel guilty not taking a job. I don't know what to do! Reg doesn't want me to go to work — & I don't want to — but I know darned well I should.

I do wish I'd hear from Bud. Hoxsie's haven't heard from Ward in a very long time. Everyone has someone to worry over, and the war isn't well started yet.

Stalin grad is still holding out. There is some talk of a "changing tide" here. I hope there's something to it.

The British are meeting some

resistance as they approach
the capital of Madagascar.

The Navy is expecting a renewed
Jap drive ^{attempt} to take back the
Solomons. Be careful, Butch et al.

Sun. Oct. 4 '42.

Melba had a letter from "Butch"
this week — dated & postmarked
"Sept. 8". He's on Tanambogo Is.
on the Solomons. Beyond that,
little information. He didn't say

"I'm well", or "safe", or "o.k.". I hope
that isn't significant.

This morning's paper tells us
that the anti-inflation bill has been
passed & signed, that Byrnes, of
the Supreme Court, is anti-inflation
Czar, & that all wages & prices
are frozen for an "emergency
period" of 60 days, during which
time various factors can be
investigated & adjustments
planned.

Also we learn that the U.S.
has landed & made bases on
an Aleutian Is. near the
Jap-held Kiska.

Stalingrad has not yet surrendered,
tho it's in ruins.

We had a get-together at
Bend last week, Bud & Warren
getting together for perhaps the
last time for the duration. Everyone
was there except Vance, who had
a Coast-guard patrol to make.

The Descamps had a letter
from Mike, in a Japanese
prison-camp, this week.

Reg got a thing from the
War Manpower Commission regarding
his Elec. Engineering. He
feels they've made a mistake, since
he's had so little experience in
that field since earning his
degree.

John Klowetz is visiting next
door. He is being drafted, in
spite of the fact that he ran
a huge wheat-ranch, which will
now lie idle & non-productive
for the duration. That's not
so good, I'm afraid.

The paper-mill workers are
now frozen in their jobs.
Harold works at his regular office-job
& works from 6-12, & 4 nights a
week in the mill. Reg works

straight 8-hours, 7 days.

Jack Christopher will leave this week, as will Don Carey, I believe.

Mrs. Russell (sr.) is now an Airplane Spotter. Men are scarce & overworked, so women are joining the force.

Churchill announced that $\frac{1}{2}$ of those participating in the Dieppe raid did not return.

Hitler made his customary Party-speech last week - initiating the Nazi Winter-Relief Campaign. It is said to be his weakest speech to date.

The slaughter on the Russian front is stupendous.

Many Americans in France have been taken. Nazi prisoners. Among them was Charles Bedeau, efficiency expert. He was French-born, American by naturalization.

35 mile limits have been made law in most states, at Pres. R's request. The rubber situation is very serious. Also, the metal situation begins to be acute - hence a huge "scrap" drive.

Roosevelt visited defense industries in the west this week. Many local people saw him at shipyards, aluminum plants, etc.

Many strange-looking people are arriving in Camas, also license plates from every state. Thurs. I saw a lad in well-worn hi-heeled boots + sombrero, with a grimy-looking individual in a coon-skin cap (tail + all) sauntering up the street with the workers coming-off shift. Every 2nd woman on the street is hugely pregnant, + most of them are shabby + untidy. I think every pregnant woman in the U.S. has come to Camas for the duration.

Sun. Oct. 11, '42.

A Berlin broadcast announced this week that it was no longer necessary to take Stalingrad. Everyone is wondering what Hitler has in mind for winter activities, since Russian winter makes that theatre of war more or less inactive during the next few months.

The Solomon Is. continues to be scene of action. So far, small landing-parties have come in on some islands at night, tho' no large numbers. Our bombers are still busy on Jap bases on New Guinea.

~~Sun.~~ Wed. Oct. 14 '42.

Warren was inducted yesterday. It seems strange to have him gone. His clothes still hang in his room, his hunting-shoes are on the back porch. His guns still set where he left them. His car is here, too — but he's gone. The Army — "You can't take it with you."

Pres. F. D. R. led the way, the Army followed suit, & I dare say 18 yr. olds will be drafted soon. It's sickening! If they could only

be assured of a 2-year military training course before being sent into action, it wouldn't be so bad. But, it seems to me, it's pretty tough on the average 18 year old H. school kid, to put him thru a short training period, and have him fighting by the time he's 19. Hell — they're just babies at that age, often!

Heavy battling seems to be taking place again in the Solomons. Ching says a large sea force is on its way there from Japan, too.

A tanker was sunk off the coast of Oregon within the last week.

German armies seem to be "digging in" on the Russian fronts. Winter has come, already a month early.

It doesn't seem possible that the human race can endure thru' this horrible thing.

Wilkie is back in the U.S. Why didn't the Chinks keep him?

Sun. Oct. 18 '42.

This has been a bad week.

Russia is taking a beating, and will probably lose Stalingrad.

There's a huge battle on in the Solomons, + we can't get any news on it. We do know that the Japs have landed reinforcements on Guadalcanal, and that strong naval forces are converging on the Solomons. How many people we have, or what fleet, we don't know.

We've occupied another island in the Aleutians, and bombed Kiska again.

The 18-19 year old draft bill has passed both houses.

The scrap-metal drive is on. I cleaned out the garage, woodshed, etc.

Cecil leaves for some Naval Station at Pasco, tomorrow.

Warren sent a card, but knows nothing of where he's to be sent, or anything like that.

Bud made a couple of "Touches" this week in an effort

icipation of a furlough he hopes to get about the 1st of Nov. He will probably get married.

We've been able to get no bacon all week. Golly — breakfast is a flop.

We're about due for another shift in the family: Lois & family to town, Dad onto the farm, & everyone in a mess. @ Lord! If Mom were only here to straighten us all out. I wonder what's wrong with us?

Charlie will probably enlist in Jan. His place would seem to be at home.

Vance will try to get in during December.

Lois & Pierce aren't happy. In fact — they never were! So it's a perpetual howl, change & hubub there.

Sarah & Robert squabble all the time.

Cecil enlisted because he was sore at Sue.

Warren went into the army without going to see Kathleen —

Oh nuts!

Dad won't lift a hand to help on the farm, but wants to come here, & hire out to do odd

jobs around town. That smells!
but "my hands are tied".

And Bud thinks he'll marry a
gal who's only 17 _____ or will be
the 28th of this month. And he
isn't sure it's the thing to do - et. et.

And Harold & Mabel howl poverty,
& he's working at two jobs, & doesn't
look fit to hold down one.

And I could be relatively happy
if it weren't for all the above and
foregoing.

Sat. Oct. 25th '42

This week saw the slowing-up of the
Nazi offensive in Russia. Rain, wind
mud and cold are working for the
Reds.

R.A.F. bombers have given
Genoa & Turin, Italy, a couple
of goings-over.

Today's news announced that
the United Nations' offensive in Egypt
has begun.

Darlan (or Laval) has gone
to Dakar, in Africa, to inspect
French defenses. Germany has
been saying for weeks that the
Allies were about to strike
there.

The Japs claim to have 4 or 6 American fliers who took part in the Tokio Bombing. War Dept. acknowledges the possibility.

The big offensive in the Solomons, sure to come, has not yet begun. Several sporadic attacks have been made, but are probably only "feelers" or "red herring" to distract from an intended attack in another section.

Eddie Rickenbacker is overdue on a trip in the Southern Pacific.

No word as to Warren's whereabouts. I hope he hasn't been sent out of the country, as Ray Borigo was, immediately on induction.

The new dim-out rules go into effect tonight at midnight. I certainly hope my section complies nicely.

Mon. Nov. 2 '42.

The past week saw the Allied Nations giving & receiving blows.

The navy announces the loss of another of our Air-craft Carrier in the S.W. Pacific. I believe this makes the 3rd acknowledged lost, and so we have but 4 left, at most. Japan has many more.

We are told we destroyed many Jap craft down there. MacArthur's fliers a rebuy.

In Egypt the Allies are doing o.k. with their offensive.

In Russia, the Reds are on the offensive in & around Stalingrad, but the oil wells are in very grave danger.

Turkey's leader (is it a president?) told his parliament or whatever, in a special session called Sat. that Turkey is nearer to being at war than they have been during the whole conflict.

We still hold Guadal Canal, but there's no optimism on that score.

I listened to Lupton Close yesterday. He is very grim. He anticipates a new attack by the Japs — somewhere else — very soon. He quoted Tojo's speech

BK LSK

Stanton C. Raley

Stanton C. Raley
 Marjorie E. Ahlstedt
 Marjorie E. Ahlstedt
 // Marjorie E. Louise Ahlstedt
 M. Marjorie Marjorie
 Marjorie Louise Ahlstedt
 Miss Marjorie Louise Ahlstedt
 Simon Fritiof Emanuel Ahlstedt
 Dorothy Jane Ahlstedt
 Douglas Jean Ahlstedt
 E. Elving Lenus Ahlstedt
 Nova Durbin Ahlstedt
 Nova Durbin Ahlstedt
 Nova Durbin Ahlstedt
 Stanton C. Raley
 Stanton C. Raley
 Stanton C. Raley
 Stanton Chester Raley
 Stanton Anthony
 Stanton Raley Stanton
 Stanton
 Here I go leading with my

wherein he said "We have now laid the foundation for the complete subjugation of the United States." Close reminded that Tojo has never strutted or boasted, and warned that he has good reason for his statement. No conqueror in the world's history has conquered such huge territory in such short time. Close went on to say that "We're winning the war of production. But we're losing the war by our strategy — or lack of it".

Warren wrote that he was asked to give 3 choices as to placement in the air school. He gave

1 st	choice	— Aerial Gunner
2 nd	"	— Aerial Armor (or whatever)
3 rd	"	— " mechanic.

Personal:

Dad married Mrs. Shraeder on Monday.
They came a-calling yesterday.

Chuck Moe, who grew up with us in Oak Park, is a Japanese Prisoner, taken in the Battle of the Philippines.

Action of some sort is expected in Dakar, very soon.

Loot to date:

Wake Isd.

Dutch Ea. Indies

Malayan Peninsula

Burma

Much Chinese territory, inc. Burma Rd.
New Guinea

Some of the Aleutians

Java, Bali, other Islands.

Sun. Nov. 8, '42.

Well — News!

A huge invasion force, under the direction of Eisenhower, commander of Am. forces in Europe, landed on the coast of French Colonial Africa yesterday. Thousands of 'em! This, coming on top of the tremendous success of Montgomery's forces up in the upper end of Africa, makes us feel better, the Nazis worse, and the Italians worried.

This week has seen what is considered a complete victory for the Allied forces over Rommel's forces in Africa.

A confused retreat, amounting to a rout , on the part of the Afrika Korps.

Also, Mas Arthur has almost complete possession of New Guinea, now. Only two Jap beachheads remain, & they're being softened by constant bombings.

In the Solomons, our valiant soldiers, sailors and **MARINES** are still holding Henderson Field, & have withstood numerous attacks, even gained a mile or two here & there. Oh, Lord — the casualties must be high.

Russia is holding the Nazis on all fronts.

Stalin made his big anniversary speech Friday & more than poured it into the U.S. & British for their failure to establish a 2nd Front. Apologies are in order, Brother Stalin!
And Pipe Down, Mr. Wilkie!

Well — Hamilton Fish got back in! How lovely!

Golly — back into harness for me. Teaching again.

Reg will try to get into action very soon. He's afraid there'll soon be a ruling against enlistments — so he won't even wait til the 1st of the year, as planned.

Warren is going to a Radio-school in Illinois. Quite a hop from Texas.

Ward Hoxsie phoned from San Diego this week.

Shorty Pepman is home on leave.

There is talk of production in the local mill being curtailed soon. Only talk, so far, but we are no longer considered an essential industry.

Sun. Nov. 15 '42

All sorts of conflicting rumors + reports regarding France, Darlan, the Fr. fleet, and the Fr. African situation. But we do seem to know that the tough resistance will be met in Tunis, where the Axis is sending all sorts of reinforcements, many Italian planes + men, too.

Rommel + his army are still fleeing. They are expected to try to make some sort of stand soon.

We had indirect news of Butch this week. A local boy — Meiser, I think — wrote his folks he had talked to Butch the preceding day, which was Nov. 1st + Butch was o. k. Also — both of them were to be moved to Tulagi for a comparative rest. There's hope for a U.S. rest, but we won't count on it.

Right now there's a big naval fight going on in the Solomons area. We are told that both sides are sustaining big losses.

Eddy Rickenbacker + all but one of his crew (missing since Oct. 23) were

picked up alive this week. That's quite a miracle.

Word was received in Camas that Lyle Karnath, bombardier, was seriously wounded in the Med. area. Also, the Fine boy died this week. He was in the Pearl Harbor fight, & was later honorably discharged, due to a physical disability. Details lacking.

Maas is raising quite a fuss over the Solomon Is. situation. He says we're losing down there, but are being grossly misinformed by the Navy. He ought to know — he was acting colonel, Major or something in the Marines down there. Anyway — we seem to have taken the offensive down there, with larger naval units moving in.

Sun. Dec. 6 '42.

A year ago tomorrow (but it was on a Sunday) we were all shocked by the awful news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Today, a year later, we are told the actual damage done at that time. It was awful. But what no one can understand is why Japan didn't immediately follow up that first attack. We were in a

Very vulnerable position, then.

Nuts — Wheeler, who was such a helluva isolationist right up to Pearl Harbor, is today howling his head off about "Why weren't we given the real facts of Pearl Harbor at the time? We can stand the truth!" That, from that particular louse!

Big news on the manpower front. Mc Nutt was made virtual dictator of manpower. Result, all 38-yr. olds will henceforth be exempt from military service. All enlistments have been halted. Everything goes thru' sel. service, from here out. Also, men will be put in whatever job, in civilian industry, the manpower board decides to put him. This news means alot in our household.

There's a tough scrap ahead before we get Tunisia. Right now, we're getting the worst of it, but large reinforcements are on the way. O Lord — let us win!

The Russian advance is

slowed down to a walk, but the Germans are admittedly on the defensive.

On New Guinea, we are slowly closing in on the remaining strongholds of the Japs, at Buna and Gona(?), but it's a tough job, and our casualties are, no doubt, high. This week's big news down there was the flying of huge Howitzers, in planes, to the New Guinea scene of action.

We haven't heard from Batch, yet, & much is happening down there. We broke up several attempts at reinforcing the Japs on the Solomons, and in New Guinea, too.

There seems to be quite a lot of bickering going on, regarding Darlan. 'Sa Helluva time to split hairs.

I almost forgot to say that a week or two ago, the French fleet, so long an enigma to both sides, was scuttled by its french

staffs. It was about to be boarded by German officers, so, at a prearranged signal, 60 ships blew up, burned, sunk, etc. 3 or 4 subs got out, & have gone to U.S. bases in Africa. So — that's what happened to the much-discussed French Fleet.

Coffee & Gas have both been rationed, during the last 2 weeks. We'll miss the former more than the latter.

Snow today — beautiful, but it will be gone by morning, I'm afraid.

Dec. 30, 42.

A lot has happened. Today Russia made her most important conquest in a month. It helps to cut off the Axis forces in Stalingrad.

The African situation is very complex. Darlan was assassinated, his assassin executed ver'y quickly, & today 12 men were arrested for the alleged crime of conspiring to kill Giraud, successor to Darlan, and Murphy, who belongs to us.

The Tunisian fight still seems to be in favor of the Axis, at least the ground fighting. No large scale battle has begun, due to this being the rainy season.

We still aren't thru' at Buna. We have to kill 'em off one by one. Ditto on Guadalcanal.

U.N. activity has begun in Burma, tho' not on a large scale. The air is

On the home front, we are told that all canned, dried + frozen fruits + vegetables, as well as meats + fats, will be rationed on the point system. Everyone seems to be taking this news well.

If figures given in various papers are dependable, we can expect to pay about \$400 income tax. I can scarcely believe it will be that high.

Beginning Jan. 1st we pay a 5% Victory tax from every check. I hope it helps substantially to bring Victory.